

TOWN OF MONTGOMERY

FY 2023 REPORT

WENDY HOWARD & JIM ABBOTT



Jim Abbott and Wendy Howard

Jim Abbott arrived in Montgomery in 1973, one of the “Trout Brothers” who came north after graduating from Harvard (where Jim was a varsity wrestler) in search of natural beauty and their next adventure. By this time, Jim had left Cambridge for his native St. Paul, Minnesota, but when his brothers called with plans of opening Kilgore’s Trout Saloon in the old general store, he piled his belongings into an old station wagon (the roof of which was adorned with the head of a moose) and drove cross-country to take up shop in the Saloon’s kitchen, where he earned the title of “Ma Abbott.” Serving hearty, low-priced fair (Jim and his partners served a \$1.25 breakfast), the Saloon became known for its rowdy concerts, staying open from before dawn until well after midnight.

Wendy Howard arrived in Montgomery in 1979. On a family vacation, she immediately fell in love with the small community and shortly after pulled up stakes and moved the family north from Connecticut. Soon after, she opened *Wendy’s Kitchen* in what is now the Coach House. With milk canisters for bar stools, this small space became a staple of Main Street, and the enterprise eventually moved a few doors down (to where Bernie’s now stands), re-branded as *Jamie’s Pub and Wendy’s Kitchen*.

By this time, Jim had moved back to his native Minnesota, but like so many others who have called Montgomery home, he left a piece of his heart here, staying connected and reconvening with his brothers for events like the annual People’s Prom. It wasn’t until 1987 that Jim and Wendy would meet here in Montgomery at the wedding of Tim and Sam Murphy. Wendy accompanied Jim back to St. Paul, but made it clear that they’d be back, setting a deadline of no more than fifteen years for their return. It was in St. Paul that Jim proposed to Wendy over Chinese food, and the two were married at Jim’s brother’s house in Sydney, Australia in 1993. Opting for togas and laurels instead of tuxedos and gowns, the two memorialized their love with tattoos instead of rings.

In 2001, Wendy and Jim returned to Montgomery and took up residence at what would come to be known as *Graceland*. Jim became a stalwart of the Library, where the Jim Abbott Reading Room still honors his commitment to this cornerstone of the community. Jim was also a driving force behind the creation of the Montgomery Recreation Center. A small plaque in his honor still hangs at the memorial pavilion, adorned with hard-carved Viking ships and seven shields, representing the seven Ps (*Proper Prior Preparation Prevents Piss Poor Performance*, a favorite aphorism of Jim’s). An avid beekeeper always willing to share his knowledge, Jim was known for colorful outfits, especially at the annual 4th of July parade. Over the years, Wendy served as a member of the Selectboard, a Lister, a member of the Development Review Board, and a Justice of the Peace. In all these capacities, she was always willing to listen with an open mind and an open heart, described as a calming presence. Wendy also served for many years as the cook for Montgomery Elementary School, where she gained the love of so many of Montgomery’s children who have passed through those doors. When school was out, you could find her cooking for the summer day camp program at the Recreation Center, always with healthy lunches and snacks for the kids. Wendy remains active in the Community Garden, where each year the other gardeners marvel at her weed-free rows. She is also back dedicating her time at the elementary school, helping where needed in the classrooms and after-school program.

Many have said that the first word to come to mind when they think of the pair is kindness. Wendy’s generous, ever-present smile, and the twinkle in Jim’s eye that accompanied his quick wit and keen intellect are forever etched on our community. Thank you, Jim and Wendy, for sharing your love, passion, and commitment to the town of Montgomery.

ANNUAL REPORT

TOWN OF MONTGOMERY VERMONT

FY 23-24

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PLEASE BRING THIS REPORT TO TOWN MEETING

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Montgomery Historical Society
P.O. Box 47/Montgomery, VT 05470

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pratthall@gmail.com
montgomeryhistoricalsociety.org

In April of 2023 the Vermont Historical Society (VHS) invited the State's local historical societies to provide a very brief article from their Town's history with one photo for an online exhibit called "History in the 252", for the 252 Cities and Towns in the state. They wanted to display the breadth and depth of local history throughout the State. You can view it at: <https://vermonthistory.org/history-in-the-252>. A physical display was also made for the Statehouse for the benefit of the legislature.

The Montgomery Historical Society selected the Montgomery mills and what follows is an expanded version of what was provided to the VHS.

~~~~~ **Montgomery Mills** ~~~~~

A major part of Montgomery's past involved an explosion of timber related development following the Civil War and continuing into the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Abundant forests and water power made development possible. Major production included spools and bobbins supplying Vermont's and New England's woolen mills, plywood packing cases use to ship Victrolas and other finished goods, and, most notably, butter tubs as dairy farming supplanted sheep.

One of the first to develop a process to produce tubs by machine was William Stiles who completed his first tub mill in Montgomery 1852. He would sell his interest in that operation and build another mill, also in Montgomery, eventually retiring from active involvement in 1883. Stiles wrote there was some resistance from creameries to use machine made tubs which they said made the butter bitter. He argued this was because of the wood, not the manufacturing process. Some of those mills used inferior timber from logs that were in water for long periods during drives or while waiting to be used. He explained the soaked wood imparted a bitter taste to the butter and said this was not the case in Montgomery where the raw material was just outside the door, cut and drawn by horse and later machines.

The tub mills, then known as the Hutchins Mill and the Nelson and Hall Mill would see their production increase to nearly 1.5 million tubs a year making Montgomery the largest producer of tubs in the country. They were shipped to every state. The Nelson and Hall mill alone boasted a capacity of 3,000 tubs a day in 1905. Over 250 men were employed and numerous support services also required labor, housing, horses and teamsters, and other infrastructure (like covered bridges). Over half the buildings in town were built and owned by these mills. Workers came from throughout the area including an influx from Quebec. Montgomery's population would swell to 1,800 at the turn of the century and by 1920 it was the 5<sup>th</sup> largest town by population out of the 14 in Franklin county.

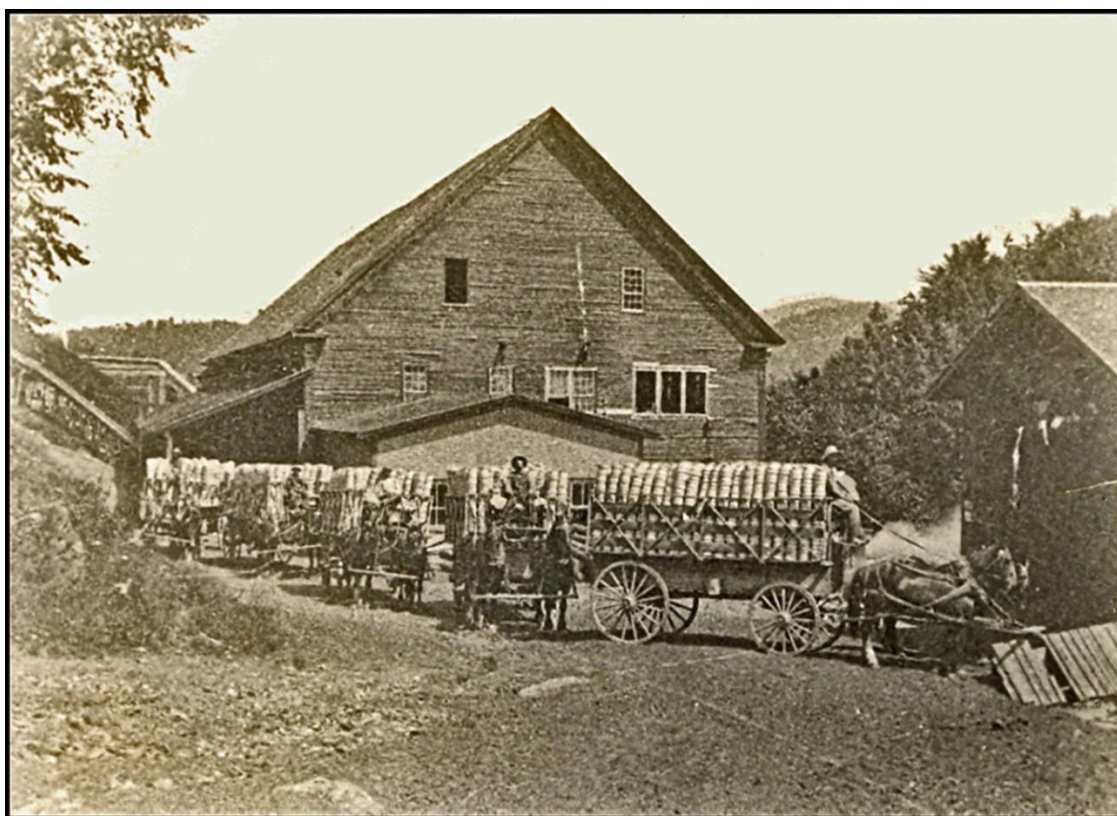
By the 1950s the timber boom had ended and the mills shut down. Major fires at both left few remains. Montgomery would lose population returning to the smallest town by population in 1990 where it remains today. Montgomery has three historic districts, Montgomery Village, Montgomery Center, and the West End of Montgomery Center. The buildings in these districts are a window into our town's, and Vermont's, past.

**Sources:**

Montgomery, The History of a Town, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Taylor and Branthoover  
"How To Develop Vermont's Resources" by Ex Gov. Carroll S. Page, (The Vermonter Magazine, January 1898)  
"Our Butter Tub Industry" by William Stiles, January 24, 1883 (St Albans Daily Messenger)  
Montgomery Historical Society Archival Photos and Real Photo Post Cards



The Nelson and Hall tub mill on Hazen's Notch Rd. (Mill Hill area) circa 1905.  
The company boasted it produced 3,000 tubs a day.



Five wagon loads of Hutchins butter tubs on their way to the train in East Berkshire.  
Note the Hutchins Covered Bridge far right.

Your donations of items from Montgomery's past are welcome.  
The MHS is a 501.c.3 non-profit. Not a member? Why not join us?

The MHS Board is: Patrick Calecas, Bob Cummins, Marijke Dollois, Pat Farmer, Mary Garceau, John Kuryloski, Roger Lichti, Dale Matthews, Bill McGroarty, Patty Perl, Scott Perry, Elsie Saborowski, & Sue Wilson

## MEETING PROCEDURE

### *(Excerpt from Annual Town Report)*

**A distillation of 700 pages of *Robert's Rules of Order*, thousands of pages of Vermont legislation and judicial decisions, and 350 years of New England tradition- edited by Timothy Murphy.**

- Any citizen on the voter's checklist has the right to speak on any debatable subject. Citizens who do not appear on the checklist may observe, but not participate, unless granted permission by 2/3 vote.
- First, be recognized by the moderator;
- Second, rise and identify yourself to the assembly and the Town Clerk for the record;
- Third, speak clearly for all to hear.

Following is a brief summary of those motions most commonly utilized to assure an orderly meeting and complete the work that needs to be done by the assembled citizens of the Town.

**Main Motion:** introduces an article for consideration by the assembly.

**Subsidiary Motions:** alters or eliminates the main motion.

- Lay on the table: postpones consideration until a later time at the same meeting.
- Call the previous question: ceases debate on an item and brings it up for a vote.
- Limit or extend debate: sets the amount of time to debate an article.
- Postpone to a certain time: delays until a specified time or order in the agenda.
- Amend: changes the main motion. An amendment may be amended.
- Passover: the colloquial term that describes two different procedures:
  - a. If moved prior to debate, it is a motion to object to the consideration of a question.
  - b. If moved after commencement of debate, it is a motion to postpone indefinitely.If passed, either motion effectively kills the item being considered.

**Privileged Motions:** takes precedence over main and subsidiary motions, but are not related to any pending question.

- Set the time to which the assembly shall adjourn: Vermont courts have found that a town meeting may not be adjourned while warned articles are pending unless the meeting is adjourned to a certain time.
- Recess: request for a break for a specific amount of time.
- Raise a question of privilege: addresses a matter of some urgency for the assembly.

**Incidental Motions:** deals with procedures pertaining to the business under consideration.

- Appeal: questions the decision of the moderator.
- Reconsider: raises again a question just voted on. Must be moved before the next article is put up for debate. Must be moved by one who voted on the prevailing side.
- Division of a question: divides a motion to consider the parts separately.
- Division of the assembly: following a vote, any individual may request a show of hands to more accurately count the votes. Any seven members may request a ballot vote.
- Point of Order: request the moderator either follow the rules or explain them.
- Suspend the rules: temporarily changes the rules of the meeting for a specific purpose ...

### **GENERAL RULES OF DEBATE**

- The maker of a motion which has been seconded is entitled to speak first on that motion.
- No member may speak more than twice on the same question, not for longer than ten minutes.
- Members do not address each other during debate. All remarks go through the moderator.
- Debate is confined to the question before the assembly. Personal comments and questions of another's motives are out of order. Words like "fraud," "liar," or "cheat" must never be allowed, and the moderator must prohibit such comments or other inappropriate language immediately.
- In accordance with 17 V.S.A. 2659, the moderator is charged with the responsibility of preserving order at Town Meeting. This provision provides that "if a person, after notice, is persistently disorderly and refuses to withdraw from the meeting, the moderator may cause him to be removed, calling upon the constable or other person for that purpose." A \$200 fine may be levied if the person will not leave the meeting.

**NOTICE TO VOTERS- 2024 Local Elections:**  
**NMVUU School District - [Australian Ballot]**  
**Town Meeting Day - [Floor Vote]**

**ELECTION DAY: MARCH 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 @ Town Hall, 57 Main Street Montgomery Ctr**  
**Town Meeting begins @ 9:00am / Polls for School Ballot open 10a-7p**

**WARNINGS & CHECKLIST POSTED:** Town Office, Public Safety Building, Village Post Office, Sylvester's Market, & Jolley Store. Not later than: **February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024.**

**HOW TO REGISTER TO VOTE:** Register online using My Voter Page <https://mvp.vermont.gov/> or in person at the Town Office prior to Election Day or register on the day of the election.

**SCHOOL BALLOTS Available: February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Voting Early/Absentee available in person or via mail. {\*Please note this is for School District ONLY, Town Meeting business will be conducted by FLOOR VOTE}**

**REQUEST EARLY/ABSENTEE BALLOTS:**

-  **Option 1: Request your ballot be mailed to your residence:**
- Request via phone, email, or using My Voter Page <https://mvp.vermont.gov/>
  - Absentee ballots may be returned via USPS, our Dropbox, or you may return your ballot to an Election Official on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, up until the polls close at 7:00PM
-  **Option 2: Pickup your ballot at the Town Office**
- Please Note: You can only pick up your OWN ballot you cannot by law take a ballot for anyone other than yourself--during pickup you may request a ballot for family members, and we will mail it to them.

The *last* day to request school ballots for in person early voting is **March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024, by 5:00pm**

If you have physical disabilities, are visually impaired or cannot read, you may have assistance from any person of your choice. If any voters have disabilities let them know they can have assistance from any person of their choice.

If you know voters who cannot get from the car into the polling place let them know that ballot(s) may be brought to their car by two election officials.

**NO PERSON SHALL:**

- Vote more than once per election, either in the same town or in different towns.
- Mislead the board of civil authority about your own or another person's true residency or other eligibility to vote.
- Hinder or impede a voter going into or from the polling place.
- Socialize in a manner that could disturb other voters in the polling place.
- Offer bribe, threaten, or exercise undue influence to dictate or control the vote of another person.

**FOR HELP OR INFORMATION:** Call the Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-439-VOTE (439-8683). (Accessible by TDD)

If you believe that any of your voting rights have been violated, you may file an Administrative Complaint with the Secretary of State's Office, 128 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633. If you believe you have witnessed efforts to commit any kind of fraud or corruption in the voting process, you may report this to your local United States Attorney's Office. If you have witnessed actual or attempted acts of discrimination or intimidation in the voting process, you may report this to the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice at (800) 253-3931.



# WARNING — VERMONT PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY — MARCH 5, 2024

A statewide Presidential Primary will be held on TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2024 to vote for candidates for the following offices:

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The polls will open at 10 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m. The polling place(s) is/are located at:

Town Hall - 57 Main St

*Clifford Reilly*  
Town (or City) Clerk

## VERMONT NOTICE TO VOTERS AND VERMONT VOTER RIGHTS

EARLY or ABSENTEE BALLOTS: You can request early/absentee ballots at any time during the election year. The latest a ballot can be requested

in Montpelier is 5:00pm - Monday March 4<sup>th</sup> 2024  
(Town) (date and time office closes prior to election)

You or a family member can request early ballots in person, in writing, by telephone, or on your My Voter Page at [mvp.vermont.gov](http://mvp.vermont.gov). An authorized person can request ballots for you in person or in writing.

CHECKLIST: posted at town clerk's office by Sunday, February 4, 2024.

If your name is not on it, then you must register to vote.

SAMPLE BALLOTS POSTED: Wednesday, February 14, 2024.

REGISTER TO VOTE: There is no deadline to register to vote. You will be able to register to vote on the day of the election. **Please register early** by visiting the town clerk's office or going online to [ovr.vermont.gov](http://ovr.vermont.gov).

Methods of voting early/absentee in the 45 days before the election (ballots available by January 19, 2024):

1. Vote in the town clerk's office prior to the election.
2. Voter may take the ballots out of the clerk's office and return in the same manner as if the ballots were received by mail.
3. Have ballot mailed to you and return it to clerk's office before Election Day or to the polling place before 7 p.m. on Election Day.
4. If you are in the military, live overseas, or are ill or disabled you may receive your ballot electronically and utilize our accessible online ballot marking tool, but you must print your ballot and return it by mail.
5. If you are ill or disabled, you may ask the town clerk, on or before the deadline to request an absentee ballot, to have two justices of the peace bring a ballot to you at your home on any day preceding the day of the election (once ballots are prepared) or the day of election.

**Identification Required for First Time Registrants by Mail:** If you are registering individually for the first time by mail or online, you must provide a copy of identification along with your registration: current valid photo I.D., or a utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document showing your name and current address. If you do not provide I.D. or other documentation with your registration and do not have it when you come to the polls, you will be offered a provisional ballot.

**CASTING A PROVISIONAL BALLOT:** If you accept the offer to vote a provisional ballot, you must complete a sworn affidavit on the provisional ballot envelope swearing that you are qualified to vote in Vermont and in the polling place where you are, and that you submitted an application to register to vote before the deadline. You will be given a card explaining how you can find out if your ballot was counted one week after the election by calling the Vermont Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-439-8683.

**If your name was dropped from the checklist in error or has not been added even though you submitted an application:** Explain the situation to your town clerk or presiding officer and ask that your name be added to the checklist. The town clerk or presiding officer will investigate the situation and then either have you complete a registration form and then add your name to the checklist or explain why you cannot be added.

If the town clerk or presiding officer and BCA members present cannot determine that you are entitled to be added to the checklist on Election Day, you may appeal to a superior court judge, who will give you a decision on Election Day OR you may vote a provisional ballot.

**Any voter who wants assistance for any reason** may bring the person of their choice into the voting booth to help or may ask for assistance from two election officials.

Voters who cannot get from the car into the polling place may have a ballot brought to a car outside the polls by two election officials.

**Any U. S. citizen and resident of a Vermont town or city who submitted an application to register to vote on or before election day is entitled to vote regardless of race or physical ability.**

THE LAW PROHIBITS THE FOLLOWING--DO NOT:

- Vote more than once per election, either in the same town or in different towns.
- Mislead the board of civil authority about your own or another person's eligibility to vote.
- Socialize in a manner that will disturb other voters.
- Offer a bribe, threaten, or intimidate a person to vote for a candidate.
- Hinder or interfere with the progress of a voter going into or out of a polling place. Vermont law provides that a person cannot campaign within a polling place but does NOT specify any number of feet that campaigners need to be away from the polls outside. The presiding officer will set reasonable rules for where campaigners can stand.

**The Election Officials at the polling place are here to serve you.**

**If you have any questions, or need assistance while voting, ask your town clerk or any election official for help.**

If you do not understand something, or you believe a mistake has been made that has not been corrected, or you have a question that cannot be answered to your satisfaction at the polling place:

**Call the Elections Division, Office of the Secretary of State  
1-800-439-VOTE (439-8683)  
(Accessible by TDD)**

**If you believe that any of your voting rights have been violated**, you may call the Elections Division at 800-439-8683 or (802) 828-2363. You may also file an Administrative Complaint with the Secretary of State's Office, 128 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633-1101.

**If you believe you have witnessed efforts to commit any kind of fraud or corruption in the voting process**, you may report this to your local United States Attorney's Office, the County State's Attorney or the Vermont Attorney General.

**If you have witnessed actual or attempted acts of discrimination or intimidation in the voting process**, you may report this to the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice at (800) 253-3931.

## VOTING PROCESS--INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTERS

- Go to the entrance checklist table, give your name, and if asked, your street address to the election official in a loud voice.
- Wait until your name is repeated and checked off by the official.
- If you want to use the **accessible voting system** tell the entrance checklist official at this time. An election official will take you to the accessible ballot marking device, enter a security code, and then leave you to mark and print your ballot privately. More details about our new accessible ballot marking device are available on our website at <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/accessible-voting/>.
- You must ask for a major party ballot (Democratic or Republican). This is required by Vermont law for the Presidential Primary. (17 V.S.A. §2704.)
- Take the ballot from the election official and enter a voting booth. Once inside the voting booth, mark your ballot for each race.
- To vote for a candidate, fill in the oval to the right of the name of the candidate. **Do not vote for more candidates than the "Vote for not more than #" for each office. If you vote for more than the "Vote for not more than #," your vote will not count for that race.**
- WRITE-IN candidate(s). To vote for someone whose name is not printed on the ballot, use the blank "write-in" line on the ballot and either write in the name or paste on a sticker, then fill in the oval.
- **If you make a mistake or change your mind, DO NOT try to erase. Return your ballot and ASK an election official for a new ballot.** If you make a mistake again, you may ask for another ballot. Each voter may have up to 3 ballots.
- To cast your voted ballot: either insert your voted ballot into the tabulator machine, or in a hand count town, insert it into the ballot box.
- Go to the exit checklist table, if any, and state your name. Wait until your name is repeated and checked off by the official.
- Leave the voting area immediately by passing outside the guardrail. All voters who are in line at the polling place at 7p.m. will be permitted to vote. No voter can enter the polling place to vote after 7p.m.

| ELECTED & APPOINTED OFFICER LIST                                                                                                    |             |                           |                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| <b>BOLD indicates current term has expired   <i>Italics denotes appts to be Elected to remaining terms or Vacancies to fill</i></b> |             |                           |                |
| <b>Elected</b>                                                                                                                      | <b>Term</b> | <b>Incumbent</b>          | <b>Expires</b> |
| Moderator                                                                                                                           | 1 Year      | <b>Morgan Daybell</b>     | <b>2024</b>    |
| Selectboard                                                                                                                         |             |                           |                |
| 1                                                                                                                                   | 3 Years     | Charlie Hancock           | 2025           |
| 2                                                                                                                                   | 3 Years     | Suzanne Dollois           | 2026           |
| 3                                                                                                                                   | 3 Years     | <b>Mark Brouillette</b>   | <b>2024</b>    |
| 4                                                                                                                                   | 2 Years     | <b>Leanne Barnard</b>     | <b>2024</b>    |
| 5                                                                                                                                   | 2 Years     | Emily Kimball             | 2025           |
|                                                                                                                                     |             |                           |                |
| Listers                                                                                                                             |             |                           |                |
| 1                                                                                                                                   | 3 Years     | <b>James Walsh</b>        | <b>2024</b>    |
| 2                                                                                                                                   | 3 Years     | <i>Merle Van Gieson</i>   | 2026           |
| 3                                                                                                                                   | 3 Years     | <i>Vacant</i>             | 2025           |
|                                                                                                                                     |             |                           |                |
| Collector of Current Taxes                                                                                                          | 1 Year      | <b>Treasurer</b>          | <b>2024</b>    |
|                                                                                                                                     |             |                           |                |
| Delinquent Tax Collector                                                                                                            | 3 Years     | <i>Robert Barnard III</i> | 2026           |
|                                                                                                                                     |             |                           |                |
| First Constable                                                                                                                     | 2 Years     | Brent Godin               | 2025           |
|                                                                                                                                     |             |                           |                |
| Cemetery Commission - Village                                                                                                       |             |                           |                |
| 1                                                                                                                                   | 5 Years     | <b>George Gabuzda</b>     | <b>2024</b>    |
| 2                                                                                                                                   | 5 Years     | JoAnne Lanphear           | 2025           |
| 3                                                                                                                                   | 5 Years     | Lois Lumbra               | 2026           |
| 4                                                                                                                                   | 5 Years     | Penny Lumbra              | 2027           |
| 5                                                                                                                                   | 4 Years     | <b>Sheila Marshia</b>     | <b>2024</b>    |
|                                                                                                                                     |             |                           |                |
| Cemetery Commission - Center                                                                                                        |             |                           |                |
| 1                                                                                                                                   | 5 Years     | Jade Dixson-Boles         | 2025           |
| 2                                                                                                                                   | 5 Years     | Lynda Cluba               | 2028           |
| 3                                                                                                                                   | 5 Years     | <b>Annie Purrier</b>      | <b>2024</b>    |
| 4                                                                                                                                   | 5 Years     | Charlie Purrier           | 2026           |
| 5                                                                                                                                   | 5 Years     | Lyndol Elkins             | 2027           |
|                                                                                                                                     |             |                           |                |
| Library Trustees                                                                                                                    |             |                           |                |
| 1                                                                                                                                   | 3 Years     | Patty Hathaway            | 2025           |
| 2                                                                                                                                   | 3 Years     | Cheryl Wisell             | 2025           |
| 3                                                                                                                                   | 3 Years     | Marijke Dollois           | 2025           |
| 4                                                                                                                                   | 3 Years     | <b>Patty Perl</b>         | <b>2024</b>    |
| 5                                                                                                                                   | 3 Years     | Jane Presler              | 2025           |
| 6                                                                                                                                   | 3 Years     | <b>Claire Draper</b>      | <b>2024</b>    |
| 7                                                                                                                                   | 3 Years     | <b>Rita Kalsmith</b>      | <b>2024</b>    |
| 8                                                                                                                                   | 3 Years     | Christina Suarez-Pratt    | 2025           |

|                                                                           |             |                           |                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| 9                                                                         | 3 Years     | Daniel Khan               | 2026           |
|                                                                           |             |                           |                |
| Fire Commissioners                                                        |             |                           |                |
| 1                                                                         | 2 Years     | <b>William Baker Sr</b>   | <b>2024</b>    |
| 2                                                                         | 2 Years     | Joe Zartarian             | 2025           |
|                                                                           |             |                           |                |
| Planning Commission                                                       |             |                           |                |
| 1                                                                         | 3 Years     | Alissa Hardy              | 2025           |
| 2                                                                         | 3 Years     | George 'Joe' Sherman      | 2026           |
| 3                                                                         | 3 Years     | Peter Locher              | 2025           |
| 4                                                                         | 3 Years     | <b>Vacant</b>             | <b>2024</b>    |
| 5                                                                         | 3 Years     | <b>Barry Kade</b>         | <b>2024</b>    |
|                                                                           |             |                           |                |
| Justices of The Peace                                                     |             |                           |                |
| 1                                                                         | 2 Years     | Parma Jewett              | Feb 2025       |
| 2                                                                         | 2 Years     | Tosca Smith               | Feb 2025       |
| 3                                                                         | 2 Years     | Sue Wilson                | Feb 2025       |
| 4                                                                         | 2 Years     | Patty Hathaway            | Feb 2025       |
| 5                                                                         | 2 Years     | Deanna Robitaille         | Feb 2025       |
| 6                                                                         | 2 Years     | Christina Suarez-Pratt    | Feb 2025       |
| 7                                                                         | 2 Years     | Gabrielle Lumbra          | Feb 2025       |
| {JPs are Elected at the November election prior to their term expiration} |             |                           |                |
| <b>Appointed</b>                                                          | <b>Term</b> | <b>Incumbent</b>          | <b>Expires</b> |
| Water Commission                                                          |             |                           |                |
| 1                                                                         | 3 Years     | Suzanne Dollois           | 2026           |
| 2                                                                         | 3 Years     | Charlie Hancock           | 2025           |
| 3                                                                         | 3 Years     | <b>Mark Brouillette</b>   | <b>2024</b>    |
| 4                                                                         | 2 Years     | <b>Leanne Barnard</b>     | <b>2024</b>    |
| 5                                                                         | 2 Years     | Emily Kimball             | 2025           |
|                                                                           |             |                           |                |
| Development Review Board                                                  |             |                           |                |
| 1                                                                         | 4 Years     | Mary Garceau              | 2025           |
| 2                                                                         | 4 Years     | <b>Sue Wilson</b>         | <b>2024</b>    |
| 3                                                                         | 4 Years     | Lynda Cluba               | 2025           |
| 4                                                                         | 4 Years     | John Kuryloski            | 2025           |
| 5                                                                         | 4 Years     | Parma Jewett              | 2027           |
| 6                                                                         | 4 Years     | Barry Kade-A              | 2025           |
| 7                                                                         | 4 Years     | Mark Brouillette-A        | 2027           |
| 8                                                                         | 4 Years     | <b>Merle Van Gieson-A</b> | <b>2024</b>    |
|                                                                           |             |                           |                |
| Agent To Convey Real Estate                                               | 1 Year      | <b>Barry Kade</b>         | <b>2024</b>    |
|                                                                           |             |                           |                |
| Budget Committee                                                          |             |                           |                |
| 1                                                                         | 1 Year      | <b>Scott Perry</b>        | <b>2024</b>    |
| 2                                                                         | 1 Year      | <b>Mark Brouillette</b>   | <b>2024</b>    |

|                                  |         |                         |             |
|----------------------------------|---------|-------------------------|-------------|
| 3                                | 1 Year  | <b>Vacant</b>           | <b>2024</b> |
| 4                                | 1 Year  | <b>Erin Kopacz</b>      | <b>2024</b> |
| 5                                | 1 Year  | <b>Charlie Hancock</b>  | <b>2024</b> |
|                                  |         |                         |             |
| Director Disaster/Ems Management | 1 Year  | <b>Greg Lucas</b>       | <b>2024</b> |
| Deputy Disaster/Ems Management   | 1 Year  | <b>Doug Kopacz</b>      | <b>2024</b> |
|                                  |         |                         |             |
| Fence Viewers                    |         |                         |             |
| 1                                | 1 Year  | <b>Listers</b>          | <b>2024</b> |
| 2                                | 1 Year  | <b>Listers</b>          | <b>2024</b> |
| 3                                | 1 Year  | <b>Listers</b>          | <b>2024</b> |
|                                  |         |                         |             |
| Fire Warden                      | 5 Years | William Baker Sr        | 6/30/2027   |
| Deputy Fire Warden               | 5 Years | Joseph Zartarian        | 6/30/2027   |
|                                  |         |                         |             |
| Health Officer                   | 3 Years | Tim Snider              | 1/31/2027   |
|                                  |         |                         |             |
| NW Regional Planning Rep         |         |                         |             |
| 1                                | 3 Years | Mark Brouillette        | 2025        |
| 2                                | 3 Years | Leanne Barnard          | 2025        |
|                                  |         |                         |             |
| Animal Control Officer           | 1 Year  | <b>Lynda Cluba</b>      | <b>2024</b> |
|                                  |         |                         |             |
| Road Commissioner                | 2 Years | <b>Mark Brouillette</b> | <b>2024</b> |
|                                  |         |                         |             |
| NW Solid Waste Dist Rep          | 3 Years | Barry Kade              | 2026        |
|                                  |         |                         |             |
| Transportation Advisory Rep      | 1 Year  | <b>Mark Brouillette</b> | <b>2024</b> |
| Transportation Advisory Alt      | 1 Year  | <b>Leanne Barnard</b>   | <b>2024</b> |
|                                  |         |                         |             |
| Recreation Board                 |         |                         |             |
| 1                                | 3 Years | <b>Peg Doheny</b>       | <b>2024</b> |
| 2                                | 3 Years | <b>Nelson Mayhew</b>    | <b>2024</b> |
| 3                                | 3 Years | <b>Lisa Perry</b>       | <b>2024</b> |
| 4                                | 3 Years | Marsha Phillips         | 2026        |
| 5                                | 3 Years | Journey Johnston        | 2025        |
| 6                                | 3 Years | Tiffany Jones           | 2025        |
| 7                                | 3 Years | Brendan O'Shea          | 2025        |
|                                  |         |                         |             |
| Zoning Administrator             | 3 Years | <b>Ellen Fox</b>        | <b>2024</b> |
|                                  |         |                         |             |
| MRBA Wild & Scenic Rep           |         |                         |             |
| 1                                | 1 Year  | <b>Carissa Stein</b>    | <b>2024</b> |
| 2                                | 1 Year  | <b>Cynthia Scott</b>    | <b>2024</b> |
|                                  |         |                         |             |
| NW CUD Reps                      | 1 Year  | <b>Erin Kopacz</b>      | <b>2024</b> |
|                                  | 1 Year  | <b>Vacant</b>           | <b>2024</b> |
|                                  | 1 Year  | <b>Vacant</b>           | <b>2024</b> |



|                                  |         |                             |             |
|----------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|-------------|
|                                  |         |                             |             |
| Community Garden Board           |         |                             |             |
| 1                                | 1 Year  | <b>Remi Gratton</b>         | <b>2024</b> |
| 2                                | 1 Year  | <b>Wendy Howard</b>         | <b>2024</b> |
| 3                                | 1 Year  | <b>Genvieve Lodal-Guild</b> | <b>2024</b> |
| 4                                | 1 Year  | <b>Parma Jewett</b>         | <b>2024</b> |
| 5                                | 1 Year  | <b>Hannah Sorenson</b>      | <b>2024</b> |
| 6                                | 1 Year  | <b>Cassie Krieger</b>       | <b>2024</b> |
| 7                                | 1 Year  | <b>Tiffany Jones</b>        | <b>2024</b> |
|                                  |         |                             |             |
| Conservation Commission          |         |                             |             |
| 1                                | 4 Years | Karen Stanley               | 2027        |
| 2                                | 4 Years | Parma Jewett                | 2026        |
| 3                                | 4 Years | <i>Vacant</i>               | 2025        |
| 4                                | 4 Years | <b>Joan Hildreth</b>        | <b>2024</b> |
| 5                                | 4 Years | Carissa Stein               | 2025        |
| 6                                | 4 Years | Lynn Locher                 | 2026        |
| 7                                | 4 Years | Matt Paggi                  | 2026        |
| 8                                | 4 Years | <b>Sue Baker</b>            | <b>2024</b> |
| 9                                | 4 Years | Patrick Calecas             | 2025        |
|                                  |         |                             |             |
| Town Hall Committee              |         |                             |             |
| 1                                | 3 Years | Tosca Smith                 | 2026        |
| 2                                | 3 Years | Brad Elliott                | 2026        |
| 3                                | 3 Years | Tara Lumbra                 | 2026        |
| 4                                | 3 Years | Shane Mercy                 | 2026        |
| 5                                | 2 Years | Abe Barnard                 | 2025        |
| 6                                | 2 Years | Tiffany Salyards            | 2025        |
| 7                                | 2 Years | Joanne Dennis               | 2025        |
|                                  |         |                             |             |
| Town Newsletter Editor           | 1 Year  | <b>Suzanne Dollois</b>      | <b>2024</b> |
|                                  |         |                             |             |
| Financial Controls Officer       | 3 Years | <i>Vacant</i>               | <b>2024</b> |
|                                  |         |                             |             |
| Inspector of Lumber/Shingle/Wood | 1 Year  | <b>Charlie Hancock</b>      | <b>2024</b> |
| Tree Warden                      | 1 Year  | <b>Charlie Hancock</b>      | <b>2024</b> |
| Weigher of Coal                  | 1 Year  | <b>Emily Kimball</b>        | <b>2024</b> |

## TOWN OF MONTGOMERY ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES – 2023

Timothy Murphy called the meeting to order at 9:00am on Tuesday March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Tim began with article 1, to elect a moderator for the ensuing year. Pat Farmer nominated Morgan Daybell, hearing no other nominations on the floor, Morgan Daybell was elected Moderator by voice vote. Let the record show that Timothy Murphy officially retired and was acknowledged with a standing ovation for his 25 years of service as the Town Moderator.

2. Elect the remaining Town Officers as required by law:

- a. **Selectperson- two (2) year term by ballot.** Sue Wilson nominated Emily Kimball, hearing no other nominations and without objection, Morgan directed the Selectboard chair to cast one ballot to re-elect Emily Kimball to a two-year term.
- b. **Selectperson- three (3) year term by ballot.** Titus Presler nominated Suzanne Dollois. Paul Nichols nominated Arnold Mercy. Hearing no other nominations Morgan directed the candidates to address the body if they were so moved. Arnold Mercy spoke. It was noted that Suzanne Dollois was not present. Morgan directed the voters to assemble in two lines to conduct the vote by ballot. Morgan called the voting to close. Ballots were counted, Suzanne Dollois had 41 votes, Arnold Mercy had 36, and there was 1 blank. Suzanne Dollois was re-elected to a three-year term.

At 9:20am Morgan asked the electorate if there was any objection to allow for visitors not on the voter checklist to address the body, hearing none, a motion was made by Scott Perry and seconded to suspend the rules to allow for the State Representative to speak. Allen “Penny” Demar stood up to speak before those present. Penny addressed recent bills they are working on in Montpelier and discussion ensued.

- c. **Lister- three (3) year term by ballot.** Marijke Dollois nominated Genevieve Lodal-Guild, hearing no other nominations and without objection, Morgan directed the Selectboard chair to cast one ballot to re-elect Genevieve Lodal-Guild to a three-year term.
- d. **Lister- remainder three (3) year term expiring in 2024 by ballot.** Tosca Smith nominated James Walsh, hearing no other nominations and without objection, Morgan directed the Selectboard chair to cast one ballot to elect James Walsh to the remainder of a three-year term expiring 2024.
- e. **Lister- remainder three (3) year term expiring in 2025 by ballot.** Sue Wilson nominated Sharon Youland, hearing no other nominations and without objection, Morgan directed the Selectboard chair to cast one ballot to elect Sharon Youland to the remainder of a three-year term expiring 2025.
- f. **Delinquent Tax Collector- three (3) year term.** Tosca Smith nominated Anita Woodward. Anita respectfully declined the nomination. Suzanne Pelletier asked for a description of the job. Discussion took place. Tosca Smith nominated Deanna-Dee Robitaille. Hearing no other nominations Deanna-Dee Robitaille was elected by voice vote. Charlie addressed the body to acknowledge the 25 years that Anita served as the Delinquent Collector and thank her for her dedicated service undertaking one of the toughest positions in local government, standing ovation was held for Anita.
- g. **First Constable- two (2) year term.** Christina Suarez-Pratt nominated Brent Godin. Hearing no other nominations Brent Godin was elected by voice vote.

- h. **Village Cemetery Commissioner- remainder four (4) year term expiring in 2024.** Merle Van Gieson nominated Sheila Marshia. Hearing no other nominations Sheila Marshia was elected by voice vote to the remainder of a four-year term expiring in 2024.
  - i. **Center Cemetery Commissioner- five (5) year term.** Sue Wilson nominated Lynda Cluba, hearing no other nominations Lynda Cluba was elected by voice vote.
  - j. **Library Trustee- remainder three (3) year term expiring in 2025.** Patty Hathaway nominated Christina Suarez-Pratt. Marijke Dollois nominated Jen Wirth. Morgan asked the candidates if they wished to address the body. Christina Suarez-Pratt spoke. Jen Wirth was not present. Christina Suarez-Pratt was elected by voice vote to the remainder of a three-year term expiring in 2025.
  - k. **Fire Commissioner- two (2) year term.** Christina Suarez-Pratt nominated Joe Zartarian, hearing no other nominations, Joe Zartarian was elected by voice vote.
  - l. **Planning Commission- three (3) year term.** Merle Van Gieson nominated Joe Sherman, hearing no other nominations, Joe Sherman was elected by voice vote.
3. **Shall the voters approve the addition of one (1) Trustee seat, to increase the Board membership of Library Trustees from eight (8) to nine (9) members.** Merle Van Gieson made a motion to approve article three, seconded by Esther Litchi. Brent Godin asked why the trustees were looking to add another trustee seat, Marijke spoke on behalf of the Library Trustees. She explained that the bylaws allow up to nine members which is more favorable for voting purposes and with the need for fundraising they are looking for more help on the board. Article was approved by voice vote.
    - a. To elect a Library Trustee for a term of three (3) years (expires 2026). Brent Godin nominated Jen Wirth. Titus Presler nominated Nicole Landreman. Esther Litchi nominated Daniel Khan. Morgan asked the candidates to address the body. Daniel Khan and Nicole Landreman both spoke. The body agreed to conduct by show of hands. Daniel Khan was elected by a show of hands to a term of three years.
  4. **Shall the voters authorize the Treasurer, pursuant to 32 VSA 4791, to collect Current Taxes.** Scott Perry so moved, seconded by Barry Kade, and the Treasurer was authorized to collect current taxes by voice vote.
  5. **Shall the town vote to approve a half cent increase in the tax rate to be allotted to the Conservation Reserve Fund (established by the voters in 2018) in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2804.** Pat Farmer, so moved and seconded by Titus Presler. Charlie clarified how much this raises with the current Grandlist, roughly eight-hundred dollars. There is currently sixteen-hundred dollars in the fund. Discussion took place regarding the reserve fund allocation, Charlie stated what this reserve fund is for. Article five was approved by voice vote.
  6. **Shall the voters accept a fiscal year 2024 Budget of expenditures not to exceed \$1,399,220.00 of which an estimated \$964,448 shall be raised by taxes and authorize the Selectboard to set a tax rate sufficient to provide the same.** Scott Perry so moved, seconded by Sharon Perry. Discussion took place. Suzanne Pelletier asked for this article to be done by ballot. Voters asked clarifying questions to specific line items in the budget. The article was called by the moderator to ask if there were seven hands to support a ballot vote, the body did not support the call for ballot vote. Article six was passed by voice vote.

7. **To do any other business proper to be done at said meeting.** Paul Nichols asked for an update about the access for Gibou Rd, Charlie stated the public right of way is still open, there were no changes to that request. Barry Kade stood and addressed the body, offering a non-binding resolution and seconded.

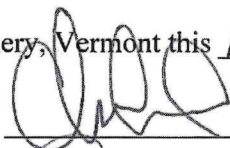
Resolved by the voters of Montgomery at Town Meeting:

1. The "right" and the "Left" are both responsible for the tribalism that is dividing us in to enemy camps and stopping nuanced discussion cold.
2. Democracy is dependent on vigorous and free debate on all matters of public concern
3. No one, especially not corporations and government agencies have a monopoly on "truth"
4. The necessity for censorship is always argued in time of "exigent circumstances."
5. The road to totalitarianism is paved with exigent circumstances.
6. Truth is out there. It takes a little work to find reliable sources of information.

Resolution passed by voice vote. Joe Sherman asked that the Selectboard pursue looking into getting additional microphones setup to address hearing concerns during subsequent meetings. Sarita Khan asked whether the Town had any say regarding the cell tower installation on Begnoche Farm Rd, Charlie clarified that the town is notified of these decisions, but does not have a direct say as this falls within the Public Utility Commissions purview. There is existing infrastructure already on this tower, Verizon is adding on to what is currently there to increase coverage areas. Arnold Mercy asked for a status update on the Streetscape, Charlie indicated there are numerous public meetings that have been held for Wastewater and Streetscape; the board has asked the Engineering firm to revise a design for streetscape which will be review by the board and then there will be public meetings scheduled at a later date for commentary, review, revisions, town approval. Charlie reiterated the point of the streetscaping is to slow traffic and consider the safety issues of pedestrian traffic. Merle encouraged the public to attend Selectboard meetings, join by zoom or in person, and get involved to stay abreast of what is on upcoming agendas. Doug Kopacz, Fire Chief, presented Billy Baker Sr with an Honorary Fire Chief plaque for his extensive dedication and work for the Town of Montgomery on the Fire Department for well over fifty years. There was a standing ovation held for Billy as he accepted the honors and thanked everyone for their support.

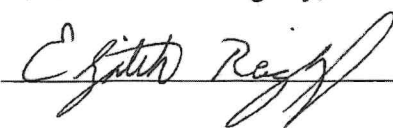
Motion to adjourn was entertained, so moved by Scott Perry, seconded by Remi, closing discussion ensued many thanks to the Highway Department and volunteers in the community, and the meeting adjourned at 10:40AM.

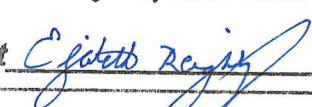
Dated at Montgomery, Vermont this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March 2023 AD

Selectboard Chair, 

Town Moderator, 

Attest: Elizabeth Reighley, Municipal Clerk, Town of Montgomery

 March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023

|                                                                                              |                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| MONTGOMERY TOWN CLERK OFFICE                                                                 |                          |
| RECEIVED FOR RECORD/DISCHARGE                                                                |                          |
| MAR 13 <sup>th</sup> A.D. 2023                                                               | at 10 o'clock - min. A M |
| Recorded in Vol. <u>MI 13</u> Page(s) <u>33-35</u>                                           |                          |
| of Montgomery Land Records                                                                   |                          |
| Attest  | Clerk                    |



With the advent of the 2023 Annual Report, the Selectboard would like to take the opportunity to offer some updates, remarks, reminders, and general thoughts regarding the business of the town.

### **FY25 Budget Summary**

Montgomery remains financially sound and continues to effectively manage its accounts and debts while providing effective service and investment for future needs.

The proposed FY25 Municipal Budget is \$1,330,002 (**down about 5% from FY24**). Approximately \$1,019,446 will need to be raised by taxes, an increase from FY24 of about \$55,000. This will bring the projected municipal tax rate to an estimated \$0.6059 **an increase from FY24 of 5%**. This increase can be attributed to continued inflationary pressure around goods and services procured by the town (which all of us are still seeing on a daily basis in our own worlds) as well as increases in personnel expenses associated with increases in healthcare costs and wages.

While it may seem backward—that the municipal budget can be lower (expenses down) and the tax rate still see an increase—this can be explained in the **Unreserved Funds** figure that we’re carrying forward from FY24. Each year, we budget to carry forward an unreserved fund balance of \$0, because we anticipate using those funds to off-set the tax rate. In other words, this is money in the bank from the last fiscal year which we can put towards this year’s expenses instead of relying on new tax revenue. Some years, we carry forward a significant amount of unreserved funds. FY24’s large figure was due to grant revenue that was expected in FY23 coming in later than anticipated and then being carried forward. This figure (\$164k) was used to lower the tax rate in FY24 (and to make larger reserve fund allocations), which is why it’s not being carried forward (in other words, the money has been spent in FY23). The \$17k that’s planned to be carried forward *now* is due to the reallocation of some expenditures over the last year to appropriate reserve fund accounts (rather than out of the general fund).

The projected Unreserved Funds figure to be carried forward in the FY25 budget is also lower due to a correction that was made to the Conservation Reserve Fund. Each year, the voters approve a \$0.005 increase in the tax rate to fund this account. This is unique among reserve accounts in that it’s not a line item in the municipal budget. The funds are collected and then allocated to the account based on a percent calculation. Turns out, the calculation we’d been using had the decimal point in the wrong place for the past few years. This discrepancy was noticed following the Town Meeting last year and was planned to be corrected this fall following the audit. We’ve now corrected it by moving the funds from the General Fund (where they sat after being collected) to the Conservation Reserve Fund. For the future, the plan is to no longer add the allocation to the tax rate but instead break it out as its own line item on the tax bills.

Below are highlights in changes in projected Revenue and Expenses:

We’re not anticipating any significant changes in **revenues**, which will remain relatively flat, though we are seeing Interest Income up, given the increase in federal rates over the last year. We’re not expecting

any significant Grant Revenue to come into the general fund in FY25, so there is an anticipated decrease there. While we continue to receive grant support on multiple fronts, these funds are allocated to various reserve accounts earmarked for specific projects, such as Infrastructure or Building Capital Improvement.

On the **expense** side of the ledger, we'll note a few changes related to personnel expenses, which are driving modest increases in costs. These include:

- The passage of Act 76, which led to an increase in the payroll tax rate of \$0.44
- An 11.4% increase in Health Insurance rates (accounting for about 40% of the year-to-year increase in personnel expenses).
- Cost of Living (COLA) adjustments

**General Government Expenses** have seen fluctuations in both directions. The fees associated with our annual audit are up about \$5k. We're also seeing increases in service costs associated with NEMRC, the vendor used to manage various municipal systems such as accounting and the municipal Grand List. Our Emergency Services contract also saw an increase of \$800/month. We have seen a decrease in costs associated with the municipal website, as management has been moved in-house, covered by the Town Clerk's office.

On the **Buildings and Grounds** front, costs associated with utilities have all seen modest increases; though on a bright note, we have seen a decline in heating costs associated with the Public Safety Building following the installation of a new higher-efficiency propane boiler. One change to note in the FY25 budget is that we're looking to move all expenditures related to the Town Hall/Grange to a newly created reserve account, following the formation of a new committee that is charged with management of the building and fundraising activities associated with capital improvements.

Looking at **Public Works**, we're anticipating an increase of around \$10k in contracted services associated with planned ditch maintenance on all town roads. We're also seeing some small fluctuations in material costs - specifically increases in salt - but miraculously, we're not anticipating any significant jump in sand or gravel. We plan to carry forward the same budget for culverts in FY25 as we continue to work through a backlog of overdue replacements. On the equipment front, we're anticipating major service work on the loader as well as the installation of a new cutting edge on the grader. We're also looking to replace the bed chains on the two big trucks and replace the long out-dated radio systems.

Some bright spots related to **Debt Service**: FY25 will be the final year of payment on the Fire Tanker (about \$40k annually). We also anticipate paying off the loan on the 2022 CV International Truck in FY26.

Shifting back to revenue, last year saw the first receipts from the **Local Option Tax**, adopted by voters to fund debt service on the construction of the planned Municipal Wastewater system. Revenues have outpaced projection significantly, with approximately \$85,862.35 raised, providing a strong footing for the project (*more on that below*).

### **Municipal Wastewater Project**

This is a bit of a good news/bad news update. The good news is that the proposed system for the Center is on track to go to bid in late 2024, with construction slated to break ground in the spring of 2025 and connections going live during the summer of 2026. The Town has secured the necessary land for the indirect dispersal sites, and our team continues to identify opportunities for value engineering (i.e. cost



savings). We've also been working closely with our partners at the State to identify potential policy shifts around redundancy, which could also greatly reduce the final cost of construction.

The bad news related to the project is that after many months of negotiation, the Town failed to secure the preferred site for the indirect dispersal field that would support the planned project for the Village. Working with our team, we identified a handful of potential alternative sites, but subsequent work and conversations with property owners related to a potential purchase have not resulted in a workable solution. Having exhausted all options, we've now come to the unfortunate decision that work on the Village system must be paused indefinitely. Losing the Village portion of the project necessitated many weeks of scrambling and working with our state and federal partners to ensure the viability of the funding stack that is supporting the project (now focused solely on the Center), but we are now confident that the financing for the project remains viable, with projected user rates meeting the affordability criteria that has always been foundational to the project.

Now that we've determined a viable path forward, we anticipate rescheduling the public meeting that was postponed in November to cover next steps in greater detail as well as provide a forum for continued questions and discussion. Keep an eye out for that announcement.

### **Streetscape Project**

Work continues on the planned improvements for Main Street in the Center, including replacement of the existing sidewalk infrastructure, which will be extended west all the way to the Rec Center, where additional off-street parking will also be created. Our team is now in the final engineering stage, which will allow us to secure all the relevant state and federal permits for the work. With the final design now in hand, we're also turning our attention back to fundraising efforts to offset the cost of the project.

As part of this project, the Board is proposing deconstruction of the former Town Office building and Post Office at 98 Main Street and conversion of that property into an additional municipal parking lot to address the ever-growing need for parking in the Center. In addition to the need for increased parking, a few other things weighed on this decision:

- The current Plan for renovation of the Public Safety Building to fully accommodate the function of the Town Offices means that we no longer require the location on Main St. (*more on that project below*).
- Renovations of the 98 Main Street structure would be significant and costly. These renovations would include filling in the basement to address continued issues with water infiltration and mold as well as moving all utilities upstairs or to a newly-constructed raised attic. Renovations would also need to account for any planned future use of the structure, which is not clear. While national representatives from the **United States Postal Service** have indicated a desire to re-open an office in the Center, we've also heard that Vermont-based USPS leadership has no plans towards that end. We continue to try and engage with USPS on this front but face challenges in getting them to come to the table. Ten years after first trying to engage USPS on a long-term solution for the community, we're unfortunately not closer to a solution.
- TDBank has agreed to construct a stand-alone ATM unit at the site to ensure that we don't lose that amenity in the Center.

Voters will see two articles on the Warning for Town Meeting that relate to the Streetscape project, both added by petition. The articles are non-binding because they aren't within the voters' purview/authority. The Selectboard has sole discretion over road maintenance, and the Selectboard has supervisory authority

over anything not specifically assigned to another officer, to include managing and overseeing town property/buildings. Therefore, the Selectboard is not bound to warn these items for public vote. That said, the Board opted to include them in the Town Meeting warning in the spirit of honoring public engagement and feedback. We look forward to a spirited discussion around this on March 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **Town Office/Public Safety Building Renovations**

Work continues on this front. Having received a number of responses to an RFP sent out to Vermont-based firms, the Town is poised to select a Contractor to move the work from preliminary design to final plans and develop the associated cost tables to advance a more detailed project budget.

Voters will notice an item on this year's Town Meeting Warning concerning this project, related to the installation of a vault. State statute mandates that each municipality ensures the safety and preservation of all land and municipal records. Our temporary solution to use a number of smaller gun safes at the office has worked as a band-aid approach while more clarity around this project advanced; however, we're at a point where we must move to install a large fire-safe vault with the capacity to handle growth in the coming decades (and which also fully meets our legal obligations). The Board is proposing that the installation of the vault be funded through a short-term loan, the approval for which can be found in the TMD Warning. The Board is asking for borrowing authority for this now so that work on installation can advance as early as this fall once the final plans are complete. The amount voters are being asked to authorize is a high-end estimate, with the final cost anticipated to be significantly lower. The plan is to finance the remainder of the renovation work through a combination of grant funding and use of the town's Reserve funds.

### **Website updates**

In January of 2023, the Town launched our new website. Having heard feedback from many residents about the lack of clarity and accessibility of the old town website, the decision was made to overhaul the website, update the features to allow for greater access and search functionality, and clear the digital clutter. This effort has led to a new town website that includes up-to-date and relevant information in a format that works on all platforms. While the bulk of this work is done, we continue to adjust to feedback and look for ways to improve our digital face for residents and visitors alike.

Don't forget that you can sign up for automated notices, warnings, and minutes from the Town by visiting the town website at [www.montgomeryvt.us](http://www.montgomeryvt.us) and selecting "Email Updates" under the Contact tab.

If you ever want to contact the Board, don't forget you can reach us at: [montgomeryselectboard@gmail.com](mailto:montgomeryselectboard@gmail.com). Regular meetings are the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at 6:30pm, held in the PSB Conference Room and via Zoom. We successfully moved into a hybrid environment last year, which allows community members to join Selectboard meetings from the comfort of their home and plan to continue to do so. You can also catch recordings of previous meetings at Northwest Access Television.

We look forward to seeing you on March 5<sup>th</sup>!

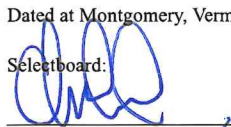
## WARNING – TOWN OF MONTGOMERY – ANNUAL TOWN MEETING – 2024

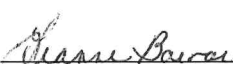
The legal voters of the town of Montgomery in the County of Franklin are hereby notified and warned to meet in the Town Hall in said Town on Tuesday, the 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024 AD, at 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon to act on the following business to wit:

1. Elect a Moderator for the ensuing year (Morgan Daybell-term expires)
2. Elect the remaining Town Officers as required by law:
  - a. Selectperson- two (2) year term by ballot (Leanne Barnard - term expires)
  - b. Selectperson- three (3) year term by ballot (Mark Brouillette - term expires)
  - c. Lister- three (3) year term by ballot (James Walsh - term expires)
  - d. Lister- remainder of a three (3) year term to expire 2026 by ballot (Merle Van Gieson- appointed)
  - e. Lister- remainder of a three (3) year term to expire 2025 by ballot (Vacant seat)
  - f. Collector of Delinquent Taxes- remainder of a three (3) year term to expire 2026 (Rob Barnard III- appointed)
  - g. Village Cemetery Commissioner- five (5) year term (George Gabuzda - term expires)
  - h. Village Cemetery Commissioner- four (4) year term (Sheila Marshia - term expires)
  - i. Center Cemetery Commissioner- five (5) year term (Annie Purrier- term expires)
  - j. Library Trustee- three (3) year term (Patty Perl - term expires)
  - k. Library Trustee- three (3) year term (Claire Draper - term expires)
  - l. Library Trustee- three (3) year term (Rita Kalsmith - term expires)
  - m. Fire Commissioner- two (2) year term (William Baker Sr - term expires)
  - n. Planning Commission- three (3) year term (Barry Kade - term expires)
  - o. Planning Commission- three (3) year term (Vacant seat)
3. Shall the voters authorize the Treasurer, pursuant to 32 VSA 4791, to collect Current Taxes?
4. Shall the town vote to approve a half-cent increase in the tax rate to be allotted to the Conservation Reserve Fund (established by the voters in 2018) in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2804?
5. Shall the Town authorize the Selectboard to borrow up to \$250,000 for a term of 5 years for the installation of a fireproof vault, pursuant to 24 VSA § 1178, inside the Municipal Offices?
6. Shall the voters accept a fiscal year 2025 Budget of expenditures not to exceed\$1,330,002.00 of which an estimated\$1,019,445.65 shall be raised by taxes, and authorize the Selectboard to set a tax rate sufficient to provide the same?
7. To do any other business proper to be done at said meeting:
  - a. Shall the Town vote to install roadside curbs and raised sidewalks along VT Route 118 in Montgomery Center? (*Advisory – added by petition*)
  - b. Shall the Town vote to restore and maintain the Town Office building located on VT Route 118 in Montgomery Center? (*Advisory – added by petition*)

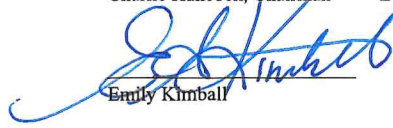
Dated at Montgomery, Vermont this 26th day of January, 2024

Selectboard:

  
Charlie Hancock, Chairman

  
Leanne Barnard, Vice Chair

  
Mark Brouillette

  
Emily Kimball

  
Suzanne Dollois

Attest:

  
Elizabeth Reighley, Municipal Clerk

Date: 2/2/2024

|    | REVENUE                                | ACTUAL FY2022                         | BUDGET FY2023           | ACTUAL FY2023      | BUDGET FY2024      | YTD FY2024         | BUDGET FY2025      |
|----|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1  | Unreserved Funds                       | \$38,508                              | \$409                   | \$409              | \$164,045          | \$164,045          | \$17,175           |
| 2  | Property Taxes                         | \$843,446                             | \$870,263               | \$837,295          | \$964,448          | \$873,129          | \$1,019,446        |
| 3  | Delinquent Taxes                       | \$38,906                              | \$30,000                | \$43,079           | \$40,000           | \$17,497           | \$40,000           |
| 4  | Penalty/Int on delinquent taxes        | \$20,110                              | \$3,000                 | \$23,893           | \$3,600            | \$9,791            | \$15,000           |
| 5  | Taxes on State Owned Land              | \$16,736                              | \$16,000                | \$16,952           | \$16,000           | \$16,952           | \$16,000           |
| 6  | Current Use/Hold Harmless              | \$118,568                             | \$110,000               | \$88,756           | \$88,750           | \$84,760           | \$85,000           |
| 7  | PILOT (State Garage)                   | \$3,156                               | \$3,000                 | \$2,369            | \$2,300            | \$2,502            | \$2,500            |
| 8  | State Aid - Roads                      | \$93,254                              | \$84,000                | \$86,178           | \$86,178           | \$88,738           | \$88,000           |
| 9  | Westfield Plowing                      | \$1,000                               | \$1,000                 | \$1,000            | \$1,000            | \$1,000            | \$2,000            |
| 10 | Federal Excise Tax Refund, Highway     | \$0                                   | \$2,400                 | \$0                | \$4,000            | \$397              | \$7,721            |
| 11 | Rent - US Postal Service               | \$11,454                              | \$4,176                 | \$5,206            | \$0                | \$0                | \$0                |
| 12 | Rent - TD Bank ATM                     | \$1,433                               | \$1,400                 | \$1,461            | \$0                | \$1,491            | \$1,491            |
| 13 | Leased Land                            | \$0                                   | \$1,260                 | \$0                | \$0                | \$0                | \$0                |
| 14 | Recording Fees                         | \$15,454                              | \$10,000                | \$12,077           | \$10,000           | \$8,790            | \$10,000           |
| 15 | Office Fees                            | \$1,871                               | \$1,600                 | \$1,959            | \$1,000            | \$1,399            | \$1,600            |
| 16 | Copier/Fax                             | \$212                                 | \$200                   | \$130              | \$200              | \$208              | \$200              |
| 17 | Interest                               | \$273                                 | \$375                   | \$3,566            | \$700              | \$4,580            | \$6,800            |
| 18 | Zoning Fees                            | \$3,492                               | \$2,500                 | \$2,860            | \$2,500            | \$2,590            | \$2,500            |
| 19 | Other Grants                           | \$98,749                              | \$0                     | \$0                | \$0                | \$86,782           | \$0                |
| 20 | Licenses-Dog                           | \$2,057                               | \$2,000                 | \$2,847            | \$2,000            | \$357              | \$2,200            |
| 21 | Licenses-Hunting/Fishing               | \$685                                 | \$500                   | \$591              | \$500              | \$306              | \$500              |
| 22 | Licenses-Liquor/Tobacco                | \$830                                 | \$1,000                 | \$1,060            | \$1,000            | \$185              | \$1,000            |
| 23 | Licenses-Marriage                      | \$510                                 | \$750                   | \$490              | \$600              | \$400              | \$500              |
| 24 | Vital Records                          | \$765                                 | \$500                   | \$651              | \$500              | \$230              | \$500              |
| 25 | Water Dept Fee                         | \$9,000                               | \$8,000                 | \$8,000            | \$8,000            | \$8,000            | \$8,000            |
| 26 | Miscellaneous                          | \$27,449                              | \$2,500                 | \$3,423            | \$0                | \$37               | \$0                |
| 27 | Judicial Fines                         | \$0                                   | \$0                     | \$0                | \$0                | \$0                | \$0                |
| 28 | DMV/Fleet Permit Fees                  | \$389                                 | \$400                   | \$346              | \$400              | \$13               | \$400              |
| 29 | Lister / Equalization                  | \$0                                   | \$0                     | \$970              | \$0                | \$0                | \$970              |
| 30 | Town Hall Revenue                      | \$355                                 | \$0                     | \$1,160            | \$500              | \$525              | \$500              |
| 31 | Water Department Labor                 | \$0                                   | \$23,150                | \$4,096            | \$0                | \$0                | \$0                |
| 32 | Use of Reserve Funds Projects & Events | \$0                                   | \$152,000               | \$169,851          | \$0                | \$78,941           |                    |
| 33 | FEMA/State Reimbursement               | \$0                                   | \$0                     | \$30,598           | \$0                | \$0                | \$0                |
| 34 | <b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>                   | <b>\$1,348,662</b>                    | <b>\$1,332,383</b>      | <b>\$1,351,274</b> | <b>\$1,398,221</b> | <b>\$1,453,643</b> | <b>\$1,330,002</b> |
|    |                                        |                                       |                         |                    |                    |                    |                    |
|    |                                        |                                       | Total Revenue (line 34) | \$1,330,002        |                    |                    |                    |
|    | <b>Less</b>                            | Total Proposed Tax Revenue (line 2)   |                         | \$1,019,446        |                    |                    |                    |
|    | <b>Less</b>                            | Unreserved Funds (line 1)             |                         | \$17,175           |                    |                    |                    |
| 35 | <b>Equals</b>                          | <b>Total Budgeted Non-Tax Revenue</b> |                         | <b>\$293,382</b>   |                    |                    |                    |

|    | EXPENSES                           | ACTUAL FY2022 | BUDGET FY2023 | ACTUAL FY2023 | BUDGET FY2024 | YTD FY2024 | BUDGET FY2025 |
|----|------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|---------------|
| 36 | TOWN OFFICE PAYROLL                | \$114,296     | \$129,524     | \$131,873     | \$159,826     | \$76,810   | \$168,348     |
| 37 | TOWN OFFICE EXPENSES               | \$19,329      | \$19,200      | \$20,798      | \$21,100      | \$12,394   | \$25,000      |
| 38 | LISTERS                            | \$21,243      | \$30,860      | \$17,274      | \$33,817      | \$7,092    | \$27,300      |
| 39 | ZONING                             | \$4,404       | \$5,744       | \$4,171       | \$7,083       | \$1,663    | \$6,283       |
| 40 | PLANNING                           |               |               |               |               | \$6,395    | \$5,080       |
| 41 | GENERAL GOVERNMENT EXP             | \$121,614     | \$93,672      | \$79,515      | \$89,806      | \$50,991   | \$94,427      |
| 42 | LICENSES & VITAL RECORDS           | \$1,941       | \$2,200       | \$2,586       | \$2,400       | \$1,862    | \$2,800       |
| 43 | EMERGENCY SVCS                     | \$31,826      | \$31,638      | \$35,322      | \$33,100      | \$20,336   | \$42,000      |
| 44 | <b>WATER PAYROLL</b>               | \$0           | \$23,150      | \$4,096       | \$0           | \$0        | \$0           |
| 45 | <b>HIGHWAY</b>                     |               |               |               |               |            |               |
| 46 | HIGHWAY PAYROLL                    | \$222,183     | \$213,542     | \$226,639     | \$276,203     | \$131,405  | \$290,408     |
| 47 | ROAD MAINTENANCE                   | \$32,895      | \$33,850      | \$21,865      | \$56,300      | \$7,994    | \$39,350      |
| 48 | MATERIALS                          | \$117,535     | \$101,000     | \$99,316      | \$119,000     | \$46,092   | \$121,000     |
| 49 | MACHINERY REPAIR                   | \$56,353      | \$22,000      | \$37,905      | \$51,500      | \$24,955   | \$58,000      |
| 50 | PROJECTS & EVENTS                  | \$70,370      | \$152,000     | \$169,851     | \$10,000      | \$78,941   |               |
| 51 | MACHINERY FUEL                     | \$41,450      | \$30,100      | \$34,829      | \$45,100      | \$14,504   | \$40,100      |
| 52 | <b>BUILDINGS &amp; GROUNDS</b>     |               |               |               |               |            |               |
| 53 | B&G PAYROLL                        | \$17,618      | \$12,184      | \$17,403      | \$14,537      | \$6,916    | \$15,556      |
| 54 | PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING              | \$19,569      | \$15,967      | \$25,410      | \$22,100      | \$10,373   | \$25,890      |
| 55 | 98 MAIN                            | \$6,450       | \$6,250       | \$6,774       | \$2,100       | \$1,008    | \$3,260       |
| 56 | TOWN HALL                          | \$6,854       | \$6,900       | \$10,712      | \$8,900       | \$3,772    |               |
| 57 | PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING             | \$17,486      | \$14,110      | \$23,610      | \$18,110      | \$7,386    | \$15,110      |
| 58 | PUBLIC WORKS MISC                  | \$32,055      | \$24,500      | \$39,527      | \$31,500      | \$16,228   | \$32,500      |
| 59 | <b>DELINQUENT TAXES</b>            | \$31,015      | \$45,000      | \$35,642      | \$55,000      | \$90,632   | \$50,000      |
| 60 | <b>DEBT SERVICE</b>                |               |               |               |               |            |               |
| 61 | PWB Bond Pymt                      | \$32,230      | \$30,000      | \$31,424      | \$28,400      | \$28,011   | \$28,000      |
| 62 | Village Water Bond                 | \$13,737      | \$13,737      | \$13,737      | \$13,737      | \$13,737   | \$13,737      |
| 63 | 2018 Int'l Highway                 | \$42,951      | \$40,489      | \$41,712      | \$0           | \$0        | \$0           |
| 64 | 2020 Fire Tanker                   | \$41,324      | \$37,176      | \$40,293      | \$40,500      | \$0        | \$40,000      |
| 65 | 2022 CV Int'l Highway              | \$0           | \$0           | \$0           | \$35,000      | \$36,223   | \$35,000      |
| 66 | <b>DEPARTMENTS</b>                 |               |               |               |               |            |               |
| 67 | Fire Department                    | \$34,000      | \$34,000      | \$34,000      | \$34,000      | \$34,000   | \$34,000      |
| 68 | Recreation Department              | \$10,000      | \$20,000      | \$20,000      | \$22,700      | \$22,700   | \$22,700      |
| 69 | Library                            | \$20,936      | \$20,936      | \$20,936      | \$23,399      | \$23,399   | \$24,630      |
| 70 | <b>RESERVE ACCT APPROPRIATIONS</b> |               |               |               |               |            |               |
| 71 | Listers -Reappraisal \$            | \$8,000       | \$8,000       | \$8,000       | \$10,000      | \$10,000   | \$0           |
| 72 | Restoration of Records             | \$4,000       | \$4,000       | \$4,000       | \$4,000       | \$4,000    | \$0           |
| 73 | Infrastructure Replacemen          | \$30,000      | \$0           | \$0           | \$20,000      | \$20,000   | \$10,000      |
| 74 | Machinery Replacement              | \$27,000      | \$27,000      | \$27,000      | \$27,000      | \$27,000   | \$10,000      |
| 75 | Bldg Cap Improvement & Ma          | \$40,000      | \$50,000      | \$50,000      | \$50,000      | \$50,000   | \$10,000      |
| 76 | Town Hall Reserve                  |               |               |               |               |            | \$10,000      |
| 77 | Emergency Mgt Preparednes          | \$1,200       | \$1,200       | \$1,200       | \$1,200       | \$1,200    | \$0           |
| 78 | Flood Mitigation                   | \$5,000       | \$5,000       | \$5,000       | \$5,000       | \$5,000    | \$0           |
| 79 | <b>ASSESSMENTS</b>                 |               |               |               |               |            |               |
| 80 | NW Solid Waste Management          | \$1,200       | \$1,200       | \$1,302       | \$1,421       | \$1,421    | \$1,539       |
| 81 | Vt. League Cities & Towns          | \$2,561       | \$2,561       | \$2,574       | \$2,561       | \$2,658    | \$2,658       |
| 82 | NW Regional Planning Comm          | \$1,369       | \$1,326       | \$1,326       | \$1,373       | \$1,373    | \$1,415       |
| 83 | County Tax                         | \$12,771      | \$12,800      | \$21,790      | \$14,000      | \$8,232    | \$16,464      |

|     |                                           |                                                  |                    |                       |                                        |                  |                    |
|-----|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
|     |                                           |                                                  |                    |                       |                                        |                  |                    |
| 84  | <b>AGENCY REQUESTS</b>                    |                                                  |                    |                       |                                        |                  |                    |
| 85  | Age Well                                  | \$2,000                                          | \$2,500            | \$2,500               | \$2,500                                | \$0              | \$2,500            |
| 86  | FCIDC                                     | \$500                                            | \$500              | \$500                 | \$500                                  | \$500            | \$500              |
| 87  | Franklin Cty Home Health                  | \$2,522                                          | \$2,522            | \$2,522               | \$2,522                                | \$0              | \$2,522            |
| 88  | Green Up VT                               | \$100                                            | \$100              | \$100                 | \$100                                  | \$0              | \$100              |
| 89  | Missisquoi River Basin As                 | \$600                                            | \$600              | \$600                 | \$600                                  | \$0              | \$600              |
| 90  | Green Mtn Transit                         | \$596                                            | \$596              | \$596                 | \$626                                  | \$0              | \$626              |
| 91  | Montgomery Center For The Arts            | \$1,000                                          | \$1,000            | \$1,000               | \$0                                    | \$0              | \$0                |
| 92  | The Grateful Treads                       | \$250                                            | \$250              | \$250                 | \$0                                    | \$0              | \$0                |
| 93  | Northwest Access TV                       | \$0                                              | \$600              | \$600                 | \$600                                  | \$0              | \$600              |
| 94  | Northwest Unit for Special Investigations | \$100                                            | \$0                | \$0                   | \$0                                    | \$0              | \$0                |
| 95  | <b>Total Expenditures</b>                 | <b>\$1,322,436</b>                               | <b>\$1,331,483</b> | <b>\$1,378,081</b>    | <b>\$1,399,220</b>                     | <b>\$907,204</b> | <b>\$1,330,002</b> |
| 96  |                                           | Total Budgeted Expenses (line 97)                |                    | <b>\$1,330,002.28</b> |                                        |                  |                    |
| 97  | <b>Less</b>                               | Inreserved Funds Balance (rev line 1)            |                    | \$17,174.84           |                                        |                  |                    |
| 98  | <b>Less</b>                               | Total Budgeted Non-Tax Revenue (rev line 1)      |                    | <u>\$293,381.79</u>   |                                        |                  |                    |
| 99  | <b>Equals</b>                             | <b>Total Property Taxes (proposed)</b>           |                    | <b>\$1,019,445.65</b> |                                        |                  |                    |
| 100 |                                           | Total Municipal Grandlist<br>(411 dated 1.10.24) |                    | \$1,682,598.00        |                                        |                  |                    |
| 101 | (Property Taxes / Grandlist)              | <b>Projected Tax Rate =</b>                      |                    | <b>\$0.6059</b>       | Does not include Local Agreement Share |                  |                    |
| 102 |                                           | Previous Year Tax Rate =                         |                    | \$0.5784              | Does not include Local Agreement Share |                  |                    |
| 103 |                                           | Increase/Decrease =                              |                    | \$0.0275              |                                        |                  |                    |
| 104 |                                           | Percent Increase/Decrease =                      |                    | 5%                    |                                        |                  |                    |



| MONTGOMERY TAX RATE SINCE 1993                                                                                                         |                    |                                            |                          |                                      |                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| YEAR                                                                                                                                   | MUNICIPAL TAX RATE | LOCAL** AGREEMENT TAX RATE<br>Vet. Exempt. | TOTAL MUNICIPAL TAX RATE | EDUCATION TAX RATE<br>(Set by State) | TOTAL TAX RATE |
| 2025 Projected                                                                                                                         |                    |                                            |                          |                                      |                |
| Homestead                                                                                                                              | \$0.6059           | \$0.0025                                   | \$0.6084                 | TBD                                  | TBD            |
| Non-Homestead                                                                                                                          | \$0.6059           | \$0.0025                                   | \$0.6084                 | TBD                                  | TBD            |
| 2024 Actual                                                                                                                            |                    |                                            |                          |                                      |                |
| Homestead                                                                                                                              | \$0.5784           | \$0.0025                                   | \$0.5809                 | \$1.3382                             | \$1.9191       |
| Non-Homestead                                                                                                                          | \$0.5784           | \$0.0025                                   | \$0.5809                 | \$1.6165                             | \$2.1974       |
| 2023 Actual                                                                                                                            |                    |                                            |                          |                                      |                |
| Homestead                                                                                                                              | \$0.5271           | \$0.0031                                   | \$0.5302                 | \$1.2896                             | \$1.8198       |
| Non-Homestead                                                                                                                          | \$0.5271           | \$0.0031                                   | \$0.5302                 | \$1.5425                             | \$2.0727       |
| 2022 Actual                                                                                                                            |                    |                                            |                          |                                      |                |
| Homestead                                                                                                                              | \$0.5310           | \$0.0025                                   | \$0.5335                 | \$1.3573                             | \$1.8908       |
| Non-Homestead                                                                                                                          | \$0.5310           | \$0.0025                                   | \$0.5335                 | \$1.5904                             | \$2.1239       |
| 18 MONTH BUDGET                                                                                                                        |                    | 18 MONTH BUDGET                            |                          | 18 MONTH BUDGET                      |                |
| 2021 Actual                                                                                                                            |                    |                                            |                          |                                      |                |
| Homestead                                                                                                                              | \$0.7614           | \$0.0025                                   | \$0.7639                 | \$1.3137                             | \$2.0776       |
| Non-Homestead                                                                                                                          | \$0.7614           | \$0.0025                                   | \$0.7639                 | \$1.5745                             | \$2.3384       |
| 2019 Actual                                                                                                                            |                    |                                            |                          |                                      |                |
| Homestead                                                                                                                              | \$0.5034           | \$0.0025                                   | \$0.5051                 | 1.2816                               | \$1.7867       |
| Non-Homestead                                                                                                                          | \$0.5034           | \$0.0025                                   | \$0.5051                 | 1.5388                               | \$2.0439       |
| 2018 Actual                                                                                                                            |                    |                                            |                          |                                      |                |
| Homestead                                                                                                                              | \$0.4298           | \$0.0016                                   | \$0.4314                 | 1.1881                               | \$1.6195       |
| Non-Homestead                                                                                                                          | \$0.4298           | \$0.0016                                   | \$0.4314                 | 1.5794                               | \$2.0108       |
| 2017 Actual                                                                                                                            |                    |                                            |                          |                                      |                |
| Homestead                                                                                                                              | \$0.4401           | \$0.0014                                   | \$0.4415                 | \$1.2728                             | \$1.7143       |
| Non-Homestead                                                                                                                          | \$0.4401           | \$0.0014                                   | \$0.4415                 | \$1.5429                             | \$1.9844       |
| 2016 Actual                                                                                                                            |                    |                                            |                          |                                      |                |
| Homestead                                                                                                                              | \$0.3792           | \$0.0014                                   | \$0.3806                 | \$1.2103                             | \$1.5909       |
| Non-Homestead                                                                                                                          | \$0.3792           | \$0.0014                                   | \$0.3806                 | \$1.5349                             | \$1.9155       |
| 2015 Actual                                                                                                                            |                    |                                            |                          |                                      |                |
| Homestead                                                                                                                              | \$0.4144           | \$0.0016                                   | \$0.4160                 | \$1.1997                             | \$1.6157       |
| Non-Homestead                                                                                                                          | \$0.4144           | \$0.0016                                   | \$0.4160                 | \$1.5242                             | \$1.9402       |
| 2014 Actual                                                                                                                            |                    |                                            |                          |                                      |                |
| Homestead                                                                                                                              | \$0.3980           | \$0.0019                                   | \$0.3999                 | \$1.1893                             | \$1.5892       |
| Non-Homestead                                                                                                                          | \$0.3980           | \$0.0019                                   | \$0.3999                 | \$1.4833                             | \$1.8832       |
| TOWNWIDE REAPPRAISAL                                                                                                                   |                    | TOWNWIDE REAPPRAISAL                       |                          | TOWNWIDE REAPPRAISAL                 |                |
| 2013 Actual                                                                                                                            |                    |                                            |                          |                                      |                |
| Homestead                                                                                                                              | \$0.4610           | \$0.0029                                   | \$0.4639                 | \$1.4259                             | \$1.8898       |
| Non-Homestead                                                                                                                          | \$0.4610           | \$0.0029                                   | \$0.4639                 | \$1.8564                             | \$2.3203       |
| 2012 Actual                                                                                                                            |                    |                                            |                          |                                      |                |
| Homestead                                                                                                                              | \$0.4449           | \$0.0022                                   | \$0.4471                 | \$1.4407                             | \$1.8878       |
| Non-Homestead                                                                                                                          | \$0.4449           | \$0.0022                                   | \$0.4471                 | \$1.8127                             | \$2.2598       |
| 2011 Actual                                                                                                                            |                    |                                            |                          |                                      |                |
| Homestead                                                                                                                              | \$0.3971           | \$0.0025                                   | \$0.3996                 | \$1.3560                             | \$1.7556       |
| Non-Homestead                                                                                                                          | \$0.3971           | \$0.0025                                   | \$0.3996                 | \$1.7923                             | \$2.1919       |
| 2010 Actual                                                                                                                            |                    |                                            |                          |                                      |                |
| Homestead                                                                                                                              | \$0.4010           | \$0.0027                                   | \$0.4037                 | \$1.4300                             | \$1.8337       |
| Non-Homestead                                                                                                                          | \$0.4010           | \$0.0027                                   | \$0.4037                 | \$1.8721                             | \$2.2758       |
| 2009 Actual                                                                                                                            |                    |                                            |                          |                                      |                |
| Homestead                                                                                                                              | \$0.4162           | \$0.0030                                   | \$0.4192                 | \$1.3048                             | \$1.7240       |
| Non-Homestead                                                                                                                          | \$0.4162           | \$0.0030                                   | \$0.4192                 | \$1.8347                             | \$2.2539       |
| 2008 Actual                                                                                                                            |                    |                                            |                          |                                      |                |
| Homestead                                                                                                                              | \$0.4177           | \$0.0031                                   | \$0.4208                 | \$1.2808                             | \$1.7016       |
| Non-Homestead                                                                                                                          | \$0.4177           | \$0.0031                                   | \$0.4208                 | \$1.7233                             | \$2.1441       |
| 2007 Actual                                                                                                                            |                    |                                            |                          |                                      |                |
| Homestead                                                                                                                              | \$0.3821           | \$0.0025                                   | \$0.3846                 | \$1.1643                             | \$1.5489       |
| Non-Homestead                                                                                                                          | \$0.3821           | \$0.0025                                   | \$0.3846                 | \$1.5704                             | \$1.9550       |
|                                                                                                                                        |                    |                                            |                          |                                      |                |
|                                                                                                                                        | MUNICIPAL TAX RATE | MUNICIPAL SCHOOL TAX RATE                  | STATE SCHOOL TAX RATE    | TOTAL SCHOOL TAX RATE                | TOTAL TAX RATE |
| 2006                                                                                                                                   | \$0.3628           | ----                                       |                          | \$1.1907                             | \$1.5535       |
| 2005                                                                                                                                   | \$0.3623           | ----                                       |                          | \$1.1834                             | \$1.5457       |
| TOWNWIDE REAPPRAISAL                                                                                                                   |                    | TOWNWIDE REAPPRAISAL                       |                          | TOWNWIDE REAPPRAISAL                 |                |
| 2004                                                                                                                                   | \$0.3650           | ----                                       |                          | \$1.0166                             | \$1.3816       |
| ACT 68 +                                                                                                                               |                    | ACT 68 +                                   |                          | ACT 68 +                             |                |
| 2003                                                                                                                                   | \$0.50             | \$0.36                                     | \$1.24                   | \$1.6000                             | \$2.10         |
| 2002                                                                                                                                   | \$0.49             | \$0.44                                     | \$1.20                   | \$1.6400                             | \$2.13         |
| 2001                                                                                                                                   | \$0.47             | \$0.41                                     | \$1.13                   | \$1.5400                             | \$2.01         |
| 2000                                                                                                                                   | \$0.47             | \$0.50                                     | \$1.11                   | \$1.6100                             | \$2.08         |
| 1999                                                                                                                                   | \$0.47             | \$0.29                                     | \$1.19                   | \$1.4800                             | \$1.95         |
| 1998                                                                                                                                   | \$0.46             | \$0.42                                     | \$1.14                   | \$1.5600                             | \$2.02         |
| FLOOD DEBT +ACT 60                                                                                                                     |                    | FLOOD DEBT +ACT 60                         |                          | FLOOD DEBT +ACT 60                   |                |
| 1997                                                                                                                                   | \$0.43             | ----                                       | ----                     | \$1.4500                             | \$1.88         |
| 1996                                                                                                                                   | \$0.35             | ----                                       | ----                     | \$1.4200                             | \$1.77         |
| 1995                                                                                                                                   | \$0.34             | ----                                       | ----                     | \$1.4200                             | \$1.76         |
| 1994                                                                                                                                   | \$0.27             | ----                                       | ----                     | \$1.3500                             | \$1.62         |
| 1993                                                                                                                                   | \$0.29             | ----                                       | ----                     | \$1.1900                             | \$1.48         |
| * Based on Equalized Grand List                                                                                                        |                    |                                            |                          |                                      |                |
| ** Local Agreement rate reflects 2007 Town Meeting approval of increasing the Veteran's Assessment exemption from \$10,000 to \$40,000 |                    |                                            |                          |                                      |                |

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Selectmen  
Town of Montgomery, Vermont

### **Opinions**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Montgomery, Vermont, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town of Montgomery, Vermont's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Montgomery, Vermont, as of June 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### **Basis for Opinions**

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

### **Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements**

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

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

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

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

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of Montgomery, Vermont's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Town of Montgomery, Vermont's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

### **Required Supplementary Information**

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison information on pages 32 – 37, the schedule of the proportionate share of the net pension liability on page 38 and the schedule of contributions on page 39, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

### **Supplementary Information**

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

### **Other Information**

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

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

St. Albans, Vermont  
December 28, 2023

**TOWN OF MONTGOMERY - LIABILITIES**  
**As of 12/31/23**

|                                                                         |                                            |              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------|
| <u>Public Works Building Bond:</u><br>(Final Year – 2030)               | Bank of New York – Principal \$150,000     |              |
|                                                                         | Payment due 6/1/24 (interest only)         | \$ 4,200.00  |
|                                                                         | Payment due 12/1/24                        | \$ 25,000.00 |
|                                                                         | Payment due 6/1/25 (interest only)         | \$ 4,200.00  |
| <br><u>2021 International Fire Truck:</u><br>(Final Year – 2025 (FY25)) | <br>Community Bank – Principal \$74,351.20 |              |
|                                                                         | Payment due 5/30/24                        | \$ 37,175.60 |
|                                                                         | Payment due 5/30/25                        | \$ 37,175.60 |
| <br><u>2022 CV International Truck:</u><br>(Final Year – 2025 (FY26))   | <br>Community Bank – Principal \$66,666.67 |              |
|                                                                         | Payment due 8/22/24                        | \$ 33,333.33 |

**Water Department**

Water Project: USDA-Rural Development

|                              |                                      |              |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Bond #1: Final Year 2041     | Principal Balance - \$101,653.09     |              |
|                              | Payment due 5/13/24                  | \$ 3,758.00  |
|                              | Payment due 11/13/24                 | \$ 3,758.00  |
|                              | Payment due 5/13/25                  | \$ 3,758.00  |
| <br>Bond #2: Final Year 2041 | <br>Principal Balance - \$259,944.32 |              |
|                              | Payment due 5/13/24                  | \$ 10,625.00 |
|                              | Payment due 11/13/24                 | \$ 10,625.00 |
|                              | Payment due 5/13/25                  | \$ 10,625.00 |
| <br>Bond #3: Final Year 2047 | <br>Principal Balance - \$263,509.82 |              |
|                              | Payment due 6/10/24                  | \$ 8,718.00  |
|                              | Payment due 12/10/24                 | \$ 8,718.00  |
|                              | Payment due 6/10/25                  | \$ 8,718.00  |

[illegible]

| TOWN OF MONTGOMERY                                    |                |               |                                                       |                 |              |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| YTD FY24 Report of Reserve Funds                      |                |               |                                                       |                 |              |
| <b><u>Capital Improvement</u></b>                     |                |               | <b><u>Emergency Management</u></b>                    |                 |              |
| <b>Beginning Balance</b> (ending balance last report) |                |               | <b>Beginning Balance</b> (ending balance last report) |                 |              |
| Reserve                                               | \$ 155,613.84  |               | Reserve                                               | \$ 3,287.56     |              |
|                                                       |                | \$ 155,613.84 |                                                       |                 | \$ 3,287.56  |
| Previous Balance                                      | \$ 155,613.84  |               | Previous Balance                                      | \$ 3,287.56     |              |
| FY23 Final Rev-Exp                                    | \$ -           |               | FY23 Final Rev-Exp                                    | \$ -            |              |
| <b>FY23 Actual Balance</b>                            | \$ 155,613.84  |               | <b>FY23 Actual Balance</b>                            | \$ 3,287.56     |              |
| YTD FY24 Rev-Exp                                      | \$ 35,379.00   |               | YTD FY24 Rev-Exp                                      | \$ 1,200.00     |              |
|                                                       |                |               |                                                       |                 |              |
| <b>YTD FY24 Balance</b>                               |                | \$ 190,992.84 | <b>YTD FY24 Balance</b>                               |                 | \$ 4,487.56  |
|                                                       |                |               |                                                       |                 |              |
| <b><u>Flood/Emergency Road Repair</u></b>             |                |               | <b><u>Conservation Reserve</u></b>                    |                 |              |
| <b>Beginning Balance</b> (ending balance last report) |                |               | <b>Beginning Balance</b> (ending balance last report) |                 |              |
| Reserve                                               | \$ 15,000.00   |               | Reserve                                               | \$ 1,623.74     |              |
|                                                       |                | \$ 15,000.00  |                                                       |                 | \$ 1,623.74  |
| Previous Balance                                      | \$ 15,000.00   |               | Previous Balance                                      | \$ 1,623.74     |              |
| FY23 Final Rev-Exp                                    | \$ -           |               | FY23 Final Rev-Exp                                    | \$ 31,119.67    |              |
| <b>FY23 Actual Balance</b>                            | \$ 15,000.00   |               | <b>FY23 Actual Balance</b>                            | \$ 32,743.41    |              |
| YTD FY24 Rev-Exp                                      | \$ 5,000.00    |               | YTD FY24 Rev-Exp                                      | \$ 8,409.39     |              |
|                                                       |                |               |                                                       |                 |              |
| <b>YTD FY24 Balance</b>                               |                | \$ 20,000.00  | <b>YTD FY24 Balance</b>                               |                 | \$ 41,152.80 |
|                                                       |                |               |                                                       |                 |              |
| <b><u>ARPA Reserve</u></b>                            |                |               | <b><u>Wastewater</u></b>                              |                 |              |
| <b>Beginning Balance</b> (ending balance last report) |                |               | <b>Beginning Balance</b> (ending balance last report) |                 |              |
| Reserve                                               | \$ 359,010.15  |               | Reserve                                               | \$ -            |              |
|                                                       |                | \$ 359,010.15 |                                                       |                 | \$ -         |
| Previous Balance                                      | \$ 359,010.15  |               | Previous Balance                                      | \$ -            |              |
| FY23 Final Rev-Exp                                    | \$ (11,994.95) |               | FY23 Final Rev/Rec                                    | \$ 791,603.70   |              |
| <b>FY23 Actual Balance</b>                            | \$ 347,015.20  |               | FY23 Expenses                                         | \$ (748,994.46) |              |
| YTD FY24 Rev-Exp                                      | \$ (12,014.23) |               | <b>FY23 Actual Balance</b>                            | \$ 42,609.24    |              |
|                                                       |                |               | YTD FY24 Rev/Rec                                      | \$ 318,709.61   |              |
|                                                       |                |               | YTD FY24 Expenses                                     | \$ (275,456.50) |              |
| <b>YTD FY24 Balance</b>                               |                | \$ 335,000.97 | <b>YTD FY24 Balance</b>                               |                 | \$ 85,862.35 |
|                                                       |                |               |                                                       |                 |              |
| <b><u>Total Reserve Funds Balance:</u></b>            |                |               | <b><u>1,001,459.49</u></b>                            |                 |              |
|                                                       |                |               |                                                       |                 |              |
|                                                       |                |               |                                                       |                 |              |
|                                                       |                |               |                                                       |                 |              |
|                                                       |                |               |                                                       |                 |              |



| TOWN OF MONTGOMERY                                  |                                                 |                             |                   |                |  |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|----------------|--|
| YTD FY24 Report of Unreserved Funds (as of 1/16/24) |                                                 |                             |                   |                |  |
| <u>General Fund Checking Account</u>                |                                                 |                             |                   |                |  |
|                                                     | Bank Statement Balance 12/31/23                 |                             | \$ 2,935,559.25   |                |  |
|                                                     | Outstanding Deposits                            |                             | \$ 1,318,091.92   |                |  |
|                                                     | Outstanding Checks                              |                             | \$ (2,531,103.63) |                |  |
|                                                     |                                                 |                             |                   |                |  |
|                                                     |                                                 | Checking Balance:           |                   | \$1,722,547.54 |  |
|                                                     |                                                 |                             |                   |                |  |
| <u>Summary of All Reserve Balances</u>              |                                                 |                             |                   |                |  |
|                                                     | Fire                                            |                             | \$ 64,692.11      |                |  |
|                                                     | Recreation                                      |                             | \$ 102,982.64     |                |  |
|                                                     | Library                                         |                             | \$ 74,600.84      |                |  |
|                                                     | Department Reserve Balance: * see budgets       |                             | \$ 242,275.59     |                |  |
|                                                     |                                                 |                             |                   |                |  |
|                                                     | Reserve Funds Balance:                          |                             | \$ 1,001,459.49   |                |  |
|                                                     |                                                 |                             |                   |                |  |
|                                                     | YTD Total of all Reserve Funds:                 |                             |                   | \$1,243,715.08 |  |
|                                                     |                                                 |                             |                   |                |  |
|                                                     |                                                 | Total YTD Unreserved Funds: |                   | \$ 478,832.46  |  |
|                                                     |                                                 |                             |                   |                |  |
|                                                     | Estimated for 6/30/24 Budget Year End           |                             |                   |                |  |
|                                                     |                                                 |                             |                   |                |  |
|                                                     | Budgeted expenses left to spend                 |                             | \$ (571,957.46)   |                |  |
|                                                     | Estimated revenue to be collected               |                             | \$ 110,300.00     |                |  |
|                                                     | Net Estimated Cash Flow                         |                             | \$ (461,657.46)   |                |  |
|                                                     |                                                 |                             |                   |                |  |
|                                                     | Total Estimated Unreserved Fund Balance 6/30/24 |                             |                   | \$ 17,175.00   |  |

# TOWN OF MONTGOMERY

## Officer Salaries - 2023

| <b><u>SELECTBOARD</u></b>                                                                                          |                              |  |                                   |             |                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
|                                                                                                                    | Charles Hancock              |  |                                   | \$1,000.00  |                     |
|                                                                                                                    | Mark Brouillette             |  |                                   | \$1,000.00  |                     |
|                                                                                                                    | Suzanne Dollois              |  |                                   | \$1,000.00  |                     |
|                                                                                                                    | Leanne Barnard               |  |                                   | \$1,000.00  |                     |
|                                                                                                                    | Emily Kimball                |  |                                   | \$1,000.00  |                     |
|                                                                                                                    |                              |  |                                   |             | \$5,000.00          |
| <b><u>TOWN OFFICES</u></b>                                                                                         |                              |  |                                   |             |                     |
|                                                                                                                    | Elizabeth Reighley           |  | Clerk                             | \$57,239.97 |                     |
|                                                                                                                    | Erin Kopacz                  |  | Treasurer                         | \$29,536.26 |                     |
|                                                                                                                    | Genevieve Lodal-Guild        |  | Assistant                         | \$26,418.90 |                     |
|                                                                                                                    |                              |  |                                   |             | \$113,195.13        |
| <b><u>DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR (4% of Delq Tax collected)</u></b>                                                  |                              |  |                                   |             |                     |
|                                                                                                                    | <i>Anita Woodward</i>        |  |                                   |             | \$2,584.06          |
|                                                                                                                    | Rob Barnard III              |  |                                   |             | \$629.41            |
| <b><u>LISTERS</u></b>                                                                                              |                              |  |                                   |             |                     |
|                                                                                                                    | <i>Genevieve Lodal-Guild</i> |  |                                   | \$4,284.21  |                     |
|                                                                                                                    | James Walsh                  |  |                                   | \$428.04    |                     |
|                                                                                                                    |                              |  |                                   |             | \$4,712.25          |
| <b><u>ZONING ADMINISTRATOR</u></b>                                                                                 |                              |  |                                   |             |                     |
|                                                                                                                    | Ellen Fox                    |  |                                   |             | \$3,405.09          |
| <b><u>HEALTH OFFICER</u></b>                                                                                       |                              |  |                                   |             |                     |
|                                                                                                                    | Sue Wilson                   |  |                                   |             | \$300.00            |
| <b><u>CONSTABLE</u></b>                                                                                            |                              |  |                                   |             |                     |
|                                                                                                                    | Brent Godin                  |  |                                   |             | \$1,275.00          |
|                                                                                                                    |                              |  |                                   |             |                     |
|                                                                                                                    |                              |  | <b>Total Town Officers Wages:</b> |             | <b>\$131,100.94</b> |
| <b><u>PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT</u></b>                                                                              |                              |  |                                   |             |                     |
|                                                                                                                    | Scott Ovitt                  |  | Road Foreman                      |             | \$69,571.36         |
|                                                                                                                    | Dave Tanner                  |  | Deputy Foreman                    |             | \$68,882.25         |
|                                                                                                                    | Shane Lumbra                 |  | Highway                           |             | \$42,823.02         |
|                                                                                                                    | Mark Brouillette             |  | Water Operator                    |             | \$11,442.20         |
|                                                                                                                    | <i>William Baker Sr</i>      |  | <i>Road Crew- Backup Coverage</i> |             | <i>\$11,673.00</i>  |
|                                                                                                                    |                              |  | <b>Total Public Works Wages:</b>  |             | <b>\$204,391.83</b> |
| <i>*Italics denotes personnel not currently employed by the Town /no longer elected or appointed to a position</i> |                              |  |                                   |             |                     |

Town of Montgomery Tax Administration  
Delinquent Tax Report as of 12/31/2023  
In Tax Years 2021 to 2024

| Parcel      | Name               | Tax Year | Principal | Interest | Penalty | Other | Total    |
|-------------|--------------------|----------|-----------|----------|---------|-------|----------|
| 00001.005X- | SCHLEY JAMES T     | 2024     | 14151.26  | 283.04   | 1132.10 | 0.00  | 15566.40 |
| 00001.008X- | POGANY MEGAN       | 2024     | 4267.24   | 85.36    | 341.38  | 0.00  | 4693.98  |
| 00001.011X- | PUDVAH KATHY       | 2022     | 996.89    | 119.64   | 79.75   | 0.00  | 1196.28  |
|             |                    | 2024     | 1084.52   | 21.68    | 86.76   | 0.00  | 1192.96  |
|             |                    |          | -----     | -----    | -----   | ----- | -----    |
|             |                    |          | 2081.41   | 141.32   | 166.51  | 0.00  | 2389.24  |
| 00001.038X- | SMITH THOMAS JR    | 2024     | 201.58    | 2.02     | 16.13   | 0.00  | 219.73   |
| 00010.012X- | BANKS SANDRA R     | 2024     | 1472.53   | 0.00     | 117.81  | 0.00  | 1590.34  |
| 00011.034X- | DAVIS STEVEN       | 2024     | 7.18      | 0.07     | 0.57    | 0.00  | 7.82     |
| 00011.038X- | HOME HEARTS REVOKA | 2024     | 2902.77   | 58.04    | 232.22  | 0.00  | 3193.03  |
| 00011.047X- | RONALD J SCHABERG  | 2024     | 3014.83   | 60.28    | 241.18  | 0.00  | 3316.29  |
| 00011.050X- | SYLVESTER MARGARET | 2022     | 334.91    | 16.75    | 26.79   | 0.00  | 378.45   |
|             |                    | 2024     | 554.59    | 11.10    | 44.37   | 0.00  | 610.06   |
|             |                    |          | -----     | -----    | -----   | ----- | -----    |
|             |                    |          | 889.50    | 27.85    | 71.16   | 0.00  | 988.51   |
| 00011.052A- | GENDRON NICOLE     | 2021     | 264.44    | 47.52    | 21.15   | 0.00  | 333.11   |
|             |                    | 2022     | 346.14    | 41.52    | 27.69   | 0.00  | 415.35   |
|             |                    | 2024     | 183.48    | 3.66     | 14.68   | 0.00  | 201.82   |
|             |                    |          | -----     | -----    | -----   | ----- | -----    |
|             |                    |          | 794.06    | 92.70    | 63.52   | 0.00  | 950.28   |
| 00011.098X- | ANDERSON TERJE     | 2024     | 1886.39   | 37.72    | 150.92  | 0.00  | 2075.03  |
| 00012.006B- | LAREAU MATTHEW     | 2024     | 1555.76   | 31.12    | 124.46  | 0.00  | 1711.34  |
| 00012.092X- | GAMELIN JASON      | 2024     | 28.38     | 0.00     | 2.28    | 0.00  | 30.66    |
| 00012.093X- | SCHUCK WILLIAM     | 2024     | 1349.20   | 27.00    | 107.94  | 0.00  | 1484.14  |
| 00012.139X- | FLEMING DANIELLE C | 2022     | 741.55    | 37.10    | 59.33   | 0.00  | 837.98   |
| 00012.168A- | GODFREY TYLER D    | 2024     | 597.69    | 11.96    | 47.82   | 0.00  | 657.47   |
| 00018.005X- | ABRAMOWITZ MICHAEL | 2024     | 3240.14   | 64.80    | 259.22  | 0.00  | 3564.16  |
| 00018.024X- | COTA MARTY & COTA  | 2024     | 1213.67   | 24.02    | 97.09   | 0.00  | 1334.78  |
| 00019.009X- | GREEN JUSTIN       | 2024     | 3010.44   | 60.20    | 240.84  | 0.00  | 3311.48  |
| 00019.011X- | VERMONT PEAK PROPE | 2024     | 1788.68   | 35.76    | 143.10  | 0.00  | 1967.54  |
| 00020.017X- | ORNDORFF JAMES O   | 2024     | 1292.07   | 25.84    | 103.36  | 0.00  | 1421.27  |

Town of Montgomery Tax Administration  
Delinquent Tax Report as of 12/31/2023  
In Tax Years 2021 to 2024

| Parcel      | Name               | Tax Year | Principal | Interest | Penalty | Other | Total   |
|-------------|--------------------|----------|-----------|----------|---------|-------|---------|
| 00020.023A- | MCNALLY CONOR      | 2024     | 383.45    | 7.66     | 30.68   | 0.00  | 421.79  |
| 00020.040X- | BABB STEPHANE      | 2024     | 2630.48   | 52.62    | 210.44  | 0.00  | 2893.54 |
| 00020.046X- | MARSHALL HENRY B I | 2022     | 587.14    | 46.96    | 46.98   | 0.00  | 681.08  |
|             |                    | 2024     | 2430.64   | 48.60    | 194.46  | 0.00  | 2673.70 |
|             |                    |          | -----     | -----    | -----   | ----- | -----   |
|             |                    |          | 3017.78   | 95.56    | 241.44  | 0.00  | 3354.78 |
| 00025.013B- | DOLLOIS SUZANNE    | 2024     | 1053.67   | 0.00     | 84.29   | 0.00  | 1137.96 |
| 00025.016A- | ROSS HEATHER T     | 2024     | 1.38      | 0.00     | 0.12    | 0.00  | 1.50    |
| 00028.029X- | JOHNSTON THOMAS M  | 2024     | 139.33    | 2.80     | 11.14   | 0.00  | 153.27  |
| 00030.062X- | WYNN RICKY         | 2024     | 9.65      | 0.00     | 0.78    | 0.00  | 10.43   |
| 00033.060X- | WEST MARK          | 2024     | 327.41    | 6.56     | 26.20   | 0.00  | 360.17  |
| 00043.003X- | OSTROWSKI MARCIN P | 2022     | 2611.60   | 313.44   | 208.93  | 0.00  | 3133.97 |
|             |                    | 2024     | 2768.72   | 55.36    | 221.50  | 0.00  | 3045.58 |
|             |                    |          | -----     | -----    | -----   | ----- | -----   |
|             |                    |          | 5380.32   | 368.80   | 430.43  | 0.00  | 6179.55 |
| 00058.007X- | MANOSH ROLAND      | 2021     | 491.63    | 118.08   | 39.33   | 0.00  | 649.04  |
|             |                    | 2022     | 588.65    | 70.68    | 47.09   | 0.00  | 706.42  |
|             |                    | 2024     | 624.07    | 12.48    | 49.92   | 0.00  | 686.47  |
|             |                    |          | -----     | -----    | -----   | ----- | -----   |
|             |                    |          | 1704.35   | 201.24   | 136.34  | 0.00  | 2041.93 |
| 00058.009X- | KAJA HOLDINGS 2 LL | 2024     | 2258.93   | 45.16    | 180.72  | 0.00  | 2484.81 |
| 00058.028X- | PATTULLO CHRISTOPH | 2024     | 1004.21   | 20.08    | 80.34   | 0.00  | 1104.63 |
| 00058.053X- | RICHTER-WILDE EVA  | 2024     | 1130.00   | 22.60    | 90.40   | 0.00  | 1243.00 |
| 00058.063X- | SCOTT IAN          | 2024     | 427.15    | 4.27     | 34.17   | 0.00  | 465.59  |
| 00242.026X- | ELLIOTT BRADFORD F | 2024     | 2225.96   | 44.52    | 178.08  | 0.00  | 2448.56 |
| 00242.054B- | FLAHERTY NOREEN E  | 2024     | 3203.81   | 64.08    | 256.30  | 0.00  | 3524.19 |
| 00242.059X- | ELLIOTT BRADFORD F | 2024     | 2387.48   | 47.74    | 191.00  | 0.00  | 2626.22 |
| 00242.109X- | TOUCAN HOSPITALITY | 2022     | 3646.17   | 291.68   | 291.70  | 0.00  | 4229.55 |
| 00242.117X- | JOHNSON KYLE P     | 2024     | 3206.00   | 64.12    | 256.48  | 0.00  | 3526.60 |
| 00303.005X- | BOYLE IAN T        | 2024     | 1525.41   | 30.52    | 122.04  | 0.00  | 1677.97 |

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Town of Montgomery Tax Administration  
Delinquent Tax Report as of 12/31/2023  
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| Parcel      | Name               | Tax Year | Principal | Interest | Penalty | Other | Total    |
|-------------|--------------------|----------|-----------|----------|---------|-------|----------|
| 00303.021X- | GARCIA PAUL        | 2024     | 207.75    | 2.08     | 16.62   | 0.00  | 226.45   |
| 0N118.036X- | MILLS LEO E        | 2024     | 1805.88   | 36.12    | 144.48  | 0.00  | 1986.48  |
| 0N118.046X- | LANTERY TODD       | 2024     | 1801.87   | 36.04    | 144.15  | 0.00  | 1982.06  |
| 0N118.056X- | GREEN JUSTIN       | 2024     | 1773.31   | 35.48    | 141.86  | 0.00  | 1950.65  |
| 0N118.093X- | ROBITAILLE JACQUES | 2021     | 906.71    | 145.12   | 72.53   | 0.00  | 1124.36  |
|             |                    | 2022     | 5574.22   | 668.88   | 445.94  | 0.00  | 6689.04  |
|             |                    | 2024     | 4819.21   | 96.40    | 385.54  | 0.00  | 5301.15  |
|             |                    |          | 11300.14  | 910.40   | 904.01  | 0.00  | 13114.55 |
| 0S118.175A- | MORRELL ROBERT P   | 2022     | 1901.57   | 228.24   | 152.12  | 0.00  | 2281.93  |
|             |                    | 2024     | 1978.87   | 39.56    | 158.31  | 0.00  | 2176.74  |
|             |                    |          | 3880.44   | 267.80   | 310.43  | 0.00  | 4458.67  |
| 0S118.178X- | MANOSH ROLAND      | 2022     | 727.52    | 87.32    | 58.20   | 0.00  | 873.04   |
|             |                    | 2024     | 771.29    | 15.44    | 61.70   | 0.00  | 848.43   |
|             |                    |          | 1498.81   | 102.76   | 119.90  | 0.00  | 1721.47  |

**TOTAL DELINQUENT TAXES AS OF NOVEMBER 13<sup>th</sup> 2023** **\$144,080.99**

**TOTAL DELINQUENT TAXES COLLECTED AS OF DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup> 2023** **\$27,443.15**

**TOTAL DELINQUENT TAXES STILL OWED AS OF DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup> 2023** **\$116,637.84**

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Town of Montgomery Tax Administration  
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| Tax Year | Principal | Interest | Penalty | Other | Total      |
|----------|-----------|----------|---------|-------|------------|
| 2021     | 1662.78   | 310.72   | 133.01  | 0.00  | 2,106.51   |
| 2022     | 18056.36  | 1922.21  | 1444.52 | 0.00  | 21,423.09  |
| 2024     | 84698.33  | 1633.96  | 6775.95 | 0.00  | 93,108.24  |
| TOTALS   | 104417.47 | 3866.89  | 8353.48 | 0.00  | 116,637.84 |

# Montgomery Fire Department

## State of The Fire Department 2023

In 2023 Montgomery Fire and First Response teams responded to a total of 41 calls. For the second year in a row our call volume has decreased. This was a welcome break for our first responders and great news for our community. This year the department purchased ten new Scott SCBA airpacks, twenty carbon fiber cylinders, and seventeen face masks. 95% of the items purchased were paid for via the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant.

We also used a portion of our reserve funds to purchase a 2023 Polaris Ranger 1000 Utility Vehicle (UTV) with Camso Tracks and a Kimtek skid insert. The skid will have a 55 Gallon tank with a pump, suction hose, and discharge hose/nozzle for wildland firefighting and water supply. The skid also has a litter/rescue area for mounting patients in backcountry rescue situations. This equipment will enhance our capabilities for year round search and rescue as well as seasonal wildland firefighting.

In October we did our annual National Fire Prevention Week presentation to the Elementary school kids and taught them about fire safety and prevention measures. As many parents in our community already know, the kids love bringing our homework assignments home for the parents to complete (yes, we tell them to hound you until they are done!).

Montgomery Fire and First Response has a roster of sixteen members ready to respond and serve our community. Any community members interested in joining the department should please contact Chief Kopacz. Once again please keep your chimneys clean and never burn trash, paper, cardboard, or wet wood. Have your heating appliances serviced and inspected, vents clear, and keep your CO/Smoke Alarms in good working order!

Thank you,

Doug Kopacz, Chief Montgomery Fire Department

[mfdvermont@gmail.com](mailto:mfdvermont@gmail.com)

### Total Call Responses: 41

|                            |                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Fire- 7                    | Flooding-2                |
| Motor Vehicle Collision-10 | Wildland Fire-0           |
| Alarms- 5                  | Gas Leaks- 2              |
| Search & Rescue- 1         | Medical/Agency Assist- 14 |



# TOWN OF MONTGOMERY - FY2025 BUDGET

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

|                       | Actual        | Budget        | Actual        | Budget        | YTD            | Budget        |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| <u>Revenue</u>        | FY2022        | FY2023        | FY2023        | FY2024        | FY2024         | FY2025        |
| Town of Montgomery    | 34,000        | 34,000        | 34,000        | 34,000        | 34,000         | 34,000        |
| Town of Westfield     | 4,000         | 4,000         | 4,000         | 4,000         | 4,000          | 4,000         |
| Donations/Fundraisers | 1,235         | 4,000         | 6,947         | 4,000         | 6,837          | 5,000         |
| Grants                | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 74,062         |               |
| Sale of Equipment     | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0              |               |
| Insurance Proceeds    | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0              |               |
| Use of Reserve Funds  | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0              |               |
| <b>Total Revenue</b>  | <b>39,235</b> | <b>42,000</b> | <b>44,947</b> | <b>42,000</b> | <b>118,899</b> | <b>43,000</b> |

| <u>Expenses</u>       |               |               |               |               |                |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| Payroll               | 1,200         | 4000          | 0             | 4000          | 0              | 4000          |
| Social Security       | 92            | 300           | 0             | 300           | 0              | 300           |
| Office supplies       | 35            | 250           | 16            | 250           | 0              | 250           |
| Training              | 1,305         | 1,250         | 1,619         | 1,250         | 1,374          | 1,375         |
| Telephone             | 382           | 400           | 418           | 400           | 125            | 450           |
| Association Dues      | 397           | 500           | 526           | 500           | 0              | 550           |
| Dispatch Fees         | 14,596        | 14,364        | 14,705        | 14,364        | 15,083         | 15,083        |
| New Equipment         | 3,335         | 10,000        | 2,171         | 10,000        | 105,555        | 10,000        |
| Vehicle Repairs       | 602           | 2,000         | 0             | 2,000         | 34             | 2,000         |
| Vehicle Fuel          | 23            | 500           | 40            | 500           | 0              | 500           |
| Radio                 | 0             | 936           | 3,930         | 936           | 0              | 936           |
| Building Maintenance  | 371           | 500           | 937           | 500           | 1,035          | 500           |
| Equipment Replacement | 4,404         | 0             | 3,361         | 0             | 1,263          | 0             |
| Miscellaneous         | 1,178         | 1,000         | 4,251         | 1,000         | 794            | 1,000         |
| Fundraising Expense   | 1,667         | 2,000         | 2,250         | 2,000         | 1,824          | 2,000         |
| Dry Hydrant Reserve   | 4,000         | 4000          | 4,000         | 4000          | 4,000          | 4000          |
| Truck Down Payment    | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             |                | 0             |
| <b>Total Expenses</b> | <b>33,586</b> | <b>42,000</b> | <b>38,225</b> | <b>42,000</b> | <b>131,087</b> | <b>42,944</b> |

### Reserve Fund

#### Beginning Balance (From Last Report):

|                     |               |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Reserve             | 70,907        |
| Dry Hydrant         | 14,000        |
| Capital Improvement | 0             |
|                     | <u>84,907</u> |

#### Final FY23 Balance:

|                            |               |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| Remaining Revenue          | 1,043         |
| Remaining Expenses         | <u>13,069</u> |
| Ending FY23 Reserve Change | -12,026       |

#### YTD FY24 Balance:

|                     |                |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Beginning Reserve   | 58,881         |
| Revenue-Expenses    | <u>-12,188</u> |
| Current Reserve     | 46,692         |
| Dry Hydrant         | 18,000         |
| Capital Improvement | 0              |
| Ending Fund Balance | <u>64,692</u>  |



*"Praise Recreation!" – Jim Abbott*

## **Montgomery Recreation Department Year-End Letter - 2023**

Dear Montgomery Residents,

As we reflect on the passing year, the Montgomery Recreation Department is filled with gratitude for the unwavering support and resilience displayed by our remarkable community in 2023. Amidst the ongoing challenges, your dedication to health, community, and recreation has made this year truly exceptional.

### **Celebrating Achievements in 2023**

*Trail Network Expansion:* Our collaboration with The Grateful Treads continued to flourish, resulting in the expansion of our trail network on town-owned land. These trails, meticulously maintained for winter activities, have become a cherished asset for outdoor enthusiasts and nature admirers.

*Soccer Field Completion:* The realization of the Riverwalk soccer field marks a collective achievement. With the groundwork laid and new nets in place, we eagerly anticipate the upcoming seasons filled with friendly matches and community camaraderie.

*Montgomery Art Auction Fundraiser:* This year, we were thrilled to organize the Montgomery Art Auction fundraiser, a delightful event that not only showcased local talent but also contributed significantly to supporting our recreational initiatives. The success of this event is a testament to the vibrant artistic community we have in Montgomery.

*\$20,000 Tennis Court Grant:* We are excited to share that the Recreation Department secured a \$20,000 grant from the state for the development and improvement of our tennis courts. This grant will play a pivotal role in enhancing our facilities, providing an even better experience for tennis enthusiasts in Montgomery.

*Free Ice Skating at Jay Peak:* Our partnership with Jay Peak Resort continues to flourish, offering the community the opportunity to enjoy free ice skating. This initiative reflects the collaborative spirit that defines Montgomery, providing residents with accessible and enjoyable winter activities.

*Leaps Summer Camp:* Our partnership with the LEAPS crew has been amazing. We will continue to sponsor this program at the rec center and keep free day camp available for kids at the rec center during summer break.

*Summer Sessions:* Free live music at the rec center on Thursday nights during the summer and a band for the fourth of July party.

### **Expressions of Appreciation**

We extend heartfelt gratitude to the individuals and businesses that have been the backbone of our successes in 2023. To the Sylvester's, Avery's, JLB Sound, JD Design, and Jay Peak Resort, your unwavering support has not only been noticed, but has made a significant impact. A special thank you goes to the dedicated volunteers, donors, musicians, vendors, and every person contributing to the vibrant spirit of Montgomery.

### **Embracing the Future in 2024**

As we venture into 2024, the Montgomery Recreation Department is resolute in our commitment to evolving with the dynamic needs of our community. We will continue to



enhance our facilities, explore new opportunities, and cultivate an environment that fosters health, well-being, and strong community connections.

Your continued engagement, attendance at meetings, and sharing of thoughts are invaluable as we collectively shape the future of recreational programming in Montgomery.

**Wishing You a Prosperous New Year**

In conclusion, we extend our warmest wishes for a prosperous New Year. May 2024 bring you health, joy, and abundant opportunities for recreation and community involvement. Thank you for being an integral part of the Montgomery community, and here's to another year of shared adventures and meaningful moments.

Respectfully submitted by the voting members of the Recreation Department Board:

Nelson Mayhew

Peg Doheny

Lisa Perry

Tiffany Jones

Marsha Phillips

Journey Johnston

Brendan O'Shea

# TOWN OF MONTGOMERY - FY2025 BUDGET

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT

|                               | Actual        | Budget        | Actual        | Budget        | YTD           | Budget         |
|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| <u>Revenue</u>                | <u>FY2022</u> | <u>FY2023</u> | <u>FY2023</u> | <u>FY2024</u> | <u>FY2024</u> | <u>FY2025</u>  |
| Town of Montgomery            | 10,000        | 20,000        | 20,000        | 22,700        | 22,700        | 22,700         |
| Projected Activities          | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0              |
| Donations/Fundraisers/Rentals | 93            | 1,500         | 0             | 0             | 5,704         | 0              |
| Summer Sessions               | 12,450        | 8,500         | 9,408         | 8,500         | 1,030         | 8,500          |
| Arts For the Parks            | 0             | 4,000         | 9,269         | 7,500         | 14,796        | 10,000         |
| Grants                        | 0             | 2,000         | 0             | 0             | 0             | 20,000         |
| Use of Reserve / Misc         | 200           | 8,800         | 735           | 7,600         | 0             | 40,000         |
| Guidebook                     | 1335          | 500           | 649           | 500           | 669           | 500            |
| <b>Total Revenue</b>          | <b>24,078</b> | <b>45,300</b> | <b>40,062</b> | <b>46,800</b> | <b>44,898</b> | <b>101,700</b> |

|                          |               |               |               |               |               |                |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| <b>Expenses</b>          |               |               |               |               |               |                |
| Office & Postage         | 0             | 50            | 21            | 50            | 15            | 50             |
| Telephone & Internet     | 1,140         | 1,200         | 932           | 1,200         | 497           | 1,200          |
| Electricity              | 885           | 1,000         | 754           | 1,000         | 345           | 1,000          |
| Heating Fuel             | 752           | 1,000         | 686           | 750           | 115           | 750            |
| Water                    | 374           | 400           | 360           | 400           | 257           | 400            |
| Equipment                | 2994          | 350           | 4003          | 2100          | 911           | 1900           |
| Building Maintenance     | 5365          | 2000          | 3669          | 2000          | 506           | 6000           |
| Port-o-lets              | 1,373         | 1,200         | 2,018         | 1,500         | 1,290         | 2,100          |
| Rubbish Removal          | 675           | 700           | 720           | 700           | 520           | 700            |
| Grounds Maintenance      | 13,804        | 1,300         | 9,297         | 3,000         | 6,252         | 9,000          |
| Tennis Maintenance       | 550           | 600           | 0             | 1000          | 0             | 60000          |
| Lawn Care                | 5,840         | 6,000         | 0             | 6,000         | 0             | 0              |
| Activities               | 250           | 500           | 1,350         | 500           | 0             | 500            |
| Daycamp                  | 325           | 7,600         | 137           | 7,600         | 482           | 7,600          |
| Summer Sessions          | 5,099         | 8,500         | 6,058         | 8,500         | 2,700         | 8,000          |
| Fundraising Exp          | 0             | 500           | 226           | 500           | 2007          | 2000           |
| Capital Improvments/Ctr  | 0             | 8,500         | 1,500         | 10,000        | 0             | 0              |
| Capital Improv/Riverwalk | 277           | 3,500         | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0              |
| Miscellaneous            | 1097          | 400           | 126           | 0             | 86            | 500            |
| Guidebook Reimbursement  | 2982          | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0              |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>    | <b>43,782</b> | <b>45,300</b> | <b>31,857</b> | <b>46,800</b> | <b>15,982</b> | <b>101,700</b> |

### Reserve Fund

|                                              |                            |        |         |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------|---------|
| <b>Beginning Balance (From Last Report):</b> | Capital Improvement        | 23,130 |         |
|                                              | Reserve                    | 58,405 |         |
|                                              | Beginning Balance          |        | 81,535  |
| <b>Final FY23 Balance:</b>                   | Remaining Revenue          |        | 7,981   |
|                                              | Remaining Expenses         |        | 15,449  |
|                                              | Ending FY23 Reserve Change |        | -7,468  |
| <b>YTD FY24 Balance:</b>                     |                            |        |         |
|                                              | Beginning Reserve          | 50,937 |         |
|                                              | Revenue-Expenses           | 28,916 |         |
|                                              | Current Reserve            | 79,853 |         |
|                                              | Capital Improvement        | 23,130 |         |
|                                              | Ending Fund Balance        |        | 102,983 |



## *Montgomery Town Library*

86 Mountain Road - P.O. Box 448

Montgomery Ctr., VT 05471

(802) 326-3113 [montgomery.librarian@gmail.com](mailto:montgomery.librarian@gmail.com)

<https://www.montgomerytownlibrary.com>

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January 30, 2024

The Montgomery Town Library By-laws state the following mission:

"The mission of the Montgomery Town Library is to acquire and make available a variety of up-to-date quality materials, information, resources, and services, which will fulfill the educational, informational, cultural, and entertainment needs of the residents of our community and surrounding area in a convenient, welcoming, and respectful way."

The library has and continues to fulfill this mission which is evidenced by the ongoing increase in patron visits and circulation. Fiscal year 2022-23 saw an increase of 12% for patron visits from 3,444 to 3,847 and an 18% increase in circulation, from 6,992 to 8,267. Already for the first six months of fiscal 2023-24 we are ahead from the previous year. We had 110 new patrons sign up for library cards in 2023! This is a reflection of the town's growth, as well as having really functional hours for people to visit; having volunteers to keep the doors open with late hours on 2 days of the week; and keeping social media updated! These are impressive numbers that indicate the important role the library plays in our community; not only for borrowing books and DVDs, but also usage of computers – public and personal – and attendance at the various programs.

This growing demand on the library does require additional space and to that end an "expansion" committee of 4 library trustees was formed to start the process. Last year the architectural firm of Michael Dugan drew up a plan, which has become the basis for the proposed expansion. A draft survey was completed to establish property lines to avoid any conflict with neighboring properties. The Committee has met with a potential construction company to discuss various possibilities and will continue this process in the coming months. The funding for this project will be by grants, specifically the Vermont Dept. of Libraries Capital Project Grant Funding Opportunities. The Board and Library Director Marlene Hambleton are excited to get this project under way and begin a new phase in the history of the Montgomery Town Library.

The Board developed Library Policies which are posted on the Town Website under the Government tab "Public Documents" – check it out as it gives a great overview of how the library operates.

The annual Silent Auction at Phineas Swann was once again a great success with many interesting and amazing items to bid on. We cannot thank Darren and Lynne Drevik and all the donors enough for helping us out with this event, creating the opportunity for a tremendous fundraising result – all to pay for the operating expenses of the library. Also, thanks to the Eastman Foundation for their continued support and annual donation – the Foundation has been a longtime advocate of the library.

Marlene has done an outstanding job in attracting volunteers to help keep the library open for many hours – we now have 11 volunteers for 40 hours per week, more than many comparable smalltown libraries. She is also instrumental in developing programs for the children, especially in the summer, organizing Building Bright Futures gatherings and activities for adults such as the monthly *Which-Craft* meetups. Marlene has been very effective in obtaining various grants to support programs such as the ECHO Eclipse Kit and others, specific book purchases and library supplies.

The Board thanks the Town, volunteers, Friends of the Library and patrons for their continued support. If you don't have a library card yet, please stop in and check out what there is available – hope to see you soon!

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Trustees: Marijke Dollois, Claire Draper, Patty Hathaway, Daniel Kahn, Rita Kalsmith, Patty Perl,  
Jane Presler, Christine Suagz Pratt and Cheryl Wisell.*

**TOWN OF MONTGOMERY - FY2025 BUDGET**

**LIBRARY**

|                                                   | Actual        | Budget        | Actual        | Budget        | YTD           | Budget        |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
|                                                   | FY 2022       | FY 2023       | FY 2023       | FY 2024       | FY 2024       | FY 2025       |
| <b><u>Revenue</u></b>                             |               |               |               |               |               |               |
| Town support                                      | 20,936        | 20,936        | 20,936        | 23,399        | 23,399        | 24,630        |
| Book sales                                        | 7             | 25            | 72            | 25            | 24            | 25            |
| Late fees                                         | 62            | 40            | 206           | 40            | 86            | 50            |
| Copier/Printer                                    | 187           | 100           | 370           | 125           | 182           | 150           |
| Fund raising                                      | 8,481         | 5,000         | 7,967         | 4,800         | 950           | 5,000         |
| Auction                                           | 9,921         | 9,000         | 13,132        | 10,000        | 12,003        | 10,000        |
| Memorial gifts                                    | 100           | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             |
| Replacement/Lost items                            | 0             | 0             | 25            | 0             | 0             | 0             |
| Misc. revenue                                     | 360           | 200           | 59            | 0             | 0             | 3,000         |
| Grants                                            | 4,000         | 3,000         | 2,188         | 4,000         | 0             | 1,000         |
| Reserve funds                                     | 0             | 0             | 0             | 1,750         | 0             | 740           |
| Expansion/Capital Improvement                     |               |               |               |               | 475           | 20,000        |
| <b>Total Revenue</b>                              | <b>44,054</b> | <b>38,301</b> | <b>44,955</b> | <b>44,139</b> | <b>37,118</b> | <b>64,595</b> |
| <b><u>Expenses - Personnel</u></b>                |               |               |               |               |               |               |
| Librarian wages                                   | 19,270        | 19,448        | 18,277        | 21,736        | 9,548         | 22,880        |
| FICA, Medi                                        | 1,474         | 1,488         | 1,398         | 1,663         | 730           | 1,750         |
| <b>Total Personnel</b>                            | <b>20,744</b> | <b>20,936</b> | <b>19,675</b> | <b>23,399</b> | <b>10,278</b> | <b>24,630</b> |
| <b><u>Expenses - Operating</u></b>                |               |               |               |               |               |               |
| Book Supplies                                     | 795           | 600           | 1,555         | 800           | 260           | 600           |
| Office Supplies                                   | 476           | 500           | 636           | 350           | 431           | 425           |
| Fundraising Expenses                              | 760           | 1,800         | 1,053         | 1,800         | 265           | 1,500         |
| Postage                                           | 211           | 300           | 286           | 300           | 172           | 400           |
| Shipping/Handling                                 | 43            | 65            | 0             | 65            | 0             | 65            |
| Mileage Reimbursement                             | 57            | 100           | 9             | 100           | 0             | 100           |
| Telephone                                         | 267           | 500           | 455           | 500           | 277           | 500           |
| Cleaning                                          | 750           | 750           | 750           | 750           | 0             | 750           |
| Website Maintenance                               | 455           | 450           | 99            | 200           | 0             | 200           |
| Equipment                                         | 0             | 300           | 197           | 400           | 162           | 400           |
| Equipment repair & maintenance                    | 464           | 500           | 0             | 500           | 0             | 500           |
| Furniture                                         | 3,456         | 300           | 168           | 300           | 160           | 300           |
| Building Maintenance                              | 207           | 500           | 896           | 500           | 147           | 500           |
| Programming                                       | 3,166         | 1,700         | 2,990         | 1,700         | 1,647         | 2,000         |
| Professional membership                           | 1,177         | 1,200         | 1,251         | 1,250         | 1,305         | 1,400         |
| Capital improvements                              | 0             | 0             | 1,125         | 1,750         | 215           | 20,000        |
| Subscriptions                                     | 0             | 150           | 508           | 175           | 0             | 200           |
| Replacement                                       | 123           | 100           | 63            | 900           | 63            | 125           |
| Miscellaneous                                     | 1,021         | 450           | 335           | 100           | 349           | 450           |
| Grant Related Expenses                            | 1,962         | 0             | 0             | 1,000         | 0             | 1,000         |
| Movie streaming                                   | 386           | 900           | 571           | 450           | 275           | 900           |
|                                                   | <b>15,778</b> | <b>11,165</b> | <b>12,948</b> | <b>13,890</b> | <b>5,727</b>  | <b>32,315</b> |
| Books: Children                                   | 542           | 700           | 868           | 1,000         | 298           | 1,000         |
| Books: Adult                                      | 4,296         | 4,000         | 4,405         | 4,000         | 2,728         | 4,500         |
| Books: Young Adult                                | 1,855         | 1,000         | 1,341         | 1,250         | 1,137         | 1,500         |
| DVD's                                             | 1,056         | 500           | 1,237         | 600           | 701           | 650           |
| <b>Total Books and DVD's</b>                      | <b>7,749</b>  | <b>6,200</b>  | <b>7,851</b>  | <b>6,850</b>  | <b>4,864</b>  | <b>7,650</b>  |
| <b>Total - Operating Expenses</b>                 | <b>23,526</b> | <b>17,365</b> | <b>20,799</b> | <b>20,740</b> | <b>10,591</b> | <b>39,965</b> |
| <b>Total Expenses - Personnel &amp; Operating</b> | <b>44,271</b> | <b>38,301</b> | <b>40,473</b> | <b>44,139</b> | <b>20,869</b> | <b>64,595</b> |

**Reserve Fund**

**Beginning Balance From Last Report:**

|                     |               |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Reserve             | 48,157        |
| Capital Improvement | 21,781        |
| Beginning Balance   | <u>69,938</u> |

**Final FY23 Balance:**

|                            |               |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| Remaining Revenue          | 8,017         |
| Remaining Expenses         | <u>19,603</u> |
| Ending FY23 Reserve Change | (11,587)      |

**YTD FY24 Balance:**

|                        |                |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Beginning Reserve      | 36,570         |
| Plus Revenues          | 37,118         |
| Less Expenses          | <u>-20,869</u> |
| Equals Current Reserve | 52,820         |
| Capital Improvement    | <u>21,781</u>  |
| Ending Fund Balance    | <u>74,601</u>  |

## 2023 Annual Report of the Montgomery Conservation Commission (MCC)

The Montgomery Conservation Commission would like to express its gratitude for all of the engagement, perspective, conversations and unwavering support from members of the community! Your efforts have been instrumental to the collective enrichment of the Town. Here is a snapshot of the community efforts in 2023, many of which were in collaboration with the Richford and Enosburgh Conservation Commissions (RCC & ECC), Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers Wild & Scenic Committee (UMATR) as well as the Franklin County's Natural Resources Conservation District (FCNRCD):

- Community Fruit and Nut Orchard created! 210 food producing species, such as apples and cherries planted and tended on the Town's Jewett Estate for the future enjoyment of the whole community
- Slow Birding event at Richford Elementary with Bridget Butler, RCC and ECC
- Facilitated a very successful Green Up Day – thank you for showing up and out!
- An alternative, fuel-saving pick-up location for the FCNRCD Annual Tree Sale
- A full MES outdoor school day at the Town Forest in collaboration with the FCNRCD
- A Montgomery BioBlitz which catalogued over 80 wildlife observations in our Town Forest with the assistance of community members and our RCC, FCNRCD, ECC partners
- Gifted the 2023 MES Graduate Class a Lilac shrub with plaque and additional perennial planting
- Actively participated in UMATR's swimming hole clean-up for Montgomery - thanks UMATR!
- Created a local reference, a *Knowing Knotweed* brochure, an effort directly supported by UMATR and with documentation of direct efforts to control the plant on the Town's Jewett Estate
- Directly assisted FCNRCD's efforts for an awarded Flood Modelling Grant, which will model weather events and analyze flood mitigation options for Montgomery's dynamic watershed
- Performed data analysis for Ridgeline soils and site characteristics for the update to the Town Plan
- Co-sponsored a presentation by Barry Genzlinger of the VT Bat Center with RCC and ECC
- Fielded two landowner meetings directly to acknowledge and assess property concerns
- Montgomery Farmers Market Booth with great face-to-face discussions about our Town's natural community, shared awareness about where to get natural resource support, received support for our 'Love your Mum' sale, and appreciated opportunities to hear about *your* love of Montgomery!

Planned endeavors for 2024 are: Montgomery Flood Modelling Grant efforts with FCNRCD, scoping a Town Forest recreation trail, and continued community cultivation for the Jewett Estate Town Land. Collaborative planning with RCC and ECC include: Gardening for Pollinators on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, a Solar Eclipse event with Dan Seeley at Richford Elementary, and a spring bird walk led by Annette Goyne.

Community help needed: Various issues related to swimming holes need to be addressed. Members of the community have selflessly stewarded these swimming holes and have witnessed abuse of the access granted. Local landowners have been patient and understanding, but many have reluctantly decided that, due to the disrespectful actions of a few (e.g. leaving trash), it was necessary to close access in order to protect the integrity of the land and reduce pollution of our waters. How do we address this issue? How do we assist offenders to understand that they are guests and their behavior directly impacts whether or not there will be continued *access for themselves as well others* who would like to experience these beautiful places?

We appreciate input regarding programs, projects, and local insight to our natural community! MCC will strive to serve Montgomery and promote land as a community to which we belong with love and respect. Sign-up to receive emails for ongoings at [MontgomeryConservation@gmail.com](mailto:MontgomeryConservation@gmail.com) and Facebook!

# TOWN OF MONTGOMERY - FY2025 BUDGET

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

|                         | Actual       | Budget       | Actual        | Budget       | YTD          | Budget       |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <u>Revenue</u>          | FY2022       | FY2023       | FY2023        | FY2024       | FY2024       | FY2025       |
| Town of Montgomery      | 0            | 0            | 0             | 0            | 0            | 0            |
| Fundraisers             | 766          | 1,200        | 819           | 1,000        | 743          | 500          |
| Membership              | 250          | 500          | 0             | 0            | 250          | 0            |
| Grants/Bequests         | 0            | 0            | 3,375         | 4,000        | 0            | 3,800        |
| CD Interest             |              |              | 139           |              | 768          | 139          |
| Use of Reserve / Misc   | 0            | 0            | 0             | 0            | 0            | 0            |
| <b>Total Revenue</b>    | <b>1,016</b> | <b>1,700</b> | <b>4,333</b>  | <b>5,000</b> | <b>1,761</b> | <b>4,439</b> |
| <u>Expenses</u>         |              |              |               |              |              |              |
| Event Guests & Speakers | 1,305        | 500          | 233           | 700          | 0            | 1,500        |
| Event Supplies          | 84           | 300          | 0             | 0            | 0            | 100          |
| Postage                 | 0            | 0            | 0             | 0            | 0            | 0            |
| Printing                | 0            | 0            | 0             | 0            | 0            | 0            |
| Fundraising Costs       | 598          | 200          | 575           | 800          | 650          | 650          |
| Miscellaneous           | 532          | 600          | 9,777         | 500          | 975          | 1,200        |
| Membership Fees         | 0            | 100          | 0             | 0            | 0            | 0            |
| Grant Related Expenses  | 0            | 0            | 0             | 3,000        | 322          | 0            |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>   | <b>2,518</b> | <b>1,700</b> | <b>10,585</b> | <b>5,000</b> | <b>1,947</b> | <b>3,450</b> |

### Reserve Fund

Beginning Balance (From Last Report): 11,843  
11,843

#### Final FY24 Balance:

Remaining Revenue 2,389  
 Remaining Expenses 5,690  
 Ending FY24 Reserve Change -3,301

#### YTD FY24 Reserve Balance:

Beginning Reserve 8,542  
 Revenue - Expenses (not inc CD) -951  
 Ending Fund Balance 7,591

### CD

Beginning Balance: 75,129  
75,129

#### Balance 12/31/23

Beginning Balance 75,129  
 Interest 777  
 Ending CD Balance 75,906



## Planning Commission

The Planning Commission has focused on three specific elements of land use over the course of 2023.

- Town Plan Update

Town Plans are required to be updated every 8 years and our current plan was due to expire on February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024. We applied for and received a nearly \$20,000 grant from the Northwest Regional Planning Commission to conduct a comprehensive plan update to reflect State, County and town priorities. The plan addresses the challenges and opportunities of implementing the primary Montgomery Thrives initiatives. The plan was a significant rewrite, requiring the review of each existing and several new focus areas from previous versions. We looked at new areas for housing opportunities, updated information on bicycle and pedestrian sections with goals for connectivity and future development planning. We also added information around existing habitat blocks and various natural resources within Montgomery.

- Montgomery Zoning Regulations Updates

Our Zoning Regulations are the roadmap with which the vision of Town Plans are executed. The Planning Commission applied for and received an approximate \$20,000 grant for regional planning support to identify, review and propose changes to existing Zoning Regulations (AKA ByLaws) and to recognize the changing profile of our community. The primary objective of zoning regulation revisions are to preserve the character of the town while providing for environmental protection and appropriate opportunities for new housing. As our community needs & infrastructure evolve, so must our zoning regulations. Updating them to outline future development in ways that dutifully preserve the character of Montgomery.

Zoning Regulation Updates will be the primary focus of our efforts in the 2024 cycle.

- Short Term Rental

We have been looking at solutions to balance the tension between affordable housing and the growth of short term rentals. After reviewing how other towns in Vermont are approaching the issue, we developed a short term rental ordinance, proposed for the purpose of registry and safety code adherence. This proposal was rejected by both the select board and the development review board on the basis of the registration fees needed to support compliance. We will continue our efforts to develop a balance between affordable housing needs and the growing trend of short-term rental growth that is consuming our limited housing stock.

Please note, PC meetings are open to the public & occur on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 6:00pm at the Public Safety Building. Community input welcome!

**TOWN OF MONTGOMERY - FY2025 BUDGET**

**WATER DEPARTMENT**

|                              | <b>Actual<br/>FY2022</b> | <b>Budget<br/>FY2023</b> | <b>Actual<br/>FY2023</b> | <b>Budget<br/>FY2024</b> | <b>YTD<br/>FY2024</b> | <b>Budget<br/>FY2025</b> |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Water User Fees            | 73,645                   | 70,000                   | 71,182                   | 73,000                   | 41,869                | 73,000                   |
| 2 Water Bond Fees            | 32,118                   | 33,000                   | 31,619                   | 33,000                   | 18,083                | 33,000                   |
| 3 Water Service Fees         | 11                       | 50                       | 2,355                    | 50                       | 45                    | 50                       |
| 4 Interest Earned            | 24                       | 25                       | 583                      | 80                       | 516                   | 80                       |
| 5 Water-Delq Pen & Int       | 859                      | 250                      | 334                      | 250                      | 257                   | 250                      |
| 6 Water-Town Support         | 13,737                   | 13,737                   | 13,737                   | 13,737                   | 13,737                | 13,737                   |
| 7 Miscellaneous              | 0                        | 0                        | 0                        | 0                        | 0                     | 0                        |
| 8 <b>Total Revenues</b>      | <b>120,394</b>           | <b>117,062</b>           | <b>119,811</b>           | <b>120,117</b>           | <b>74,507</b>         | <b>120,117</b>           |
| 9 Water-Town Stipend         | 9,000                    | 8,000                    | 8,000                    | 8,000                    | 8,000                 | 8,000                    |
| 10 Water Operations          |                          | 23,150                   | 9,979                    | 12,900                   | 4,363                 | 12,000                   |
| 11 Water Office Supplies     | 355                      | 500                      | 369                      | 500                      | 281                   | 500                      |
| 12 Water-Tech Equip/Support  | 712                      | 1,500                    | 300                      | 1,000                    | 0                     | 300                      |
| 13 Water-Training            | 617                      | 500                      | 140                      | 500                      | 275                   | 500                      |
| 14 Water-Telephone           |                          |                          |                          |                          | 640                   | 1,560                    |
| 15 Water-Electricity         | 7,773                    | 7,000                    | 9,415                    | 7,800                    | 4,507                 | 9,500                    |
| 16 Water-Mowing              | 2,297                    | 1,750                    | 1,556                    | 2,500                    | 1,000                 | 2,000                    |
| 17 Water-Propane             | 2,076                    | 1,500                    | 1,632                    | 2,200                    | 659                   | 2,200                    |
| 18 Water-Contracted Service  | 32,107                   | 7,560                    | 7,635                    | 6,000                    | 623                   | 7,500                    |
| 19 Water-Membership Dues     | 475                      | 235                      | 1,023                    | 475                      | 643                   | 1,000                    |
| 20 Water-Testing             | 851                      | 1,200                    | 905                      | 1,200                    | 1,380                 | 1,500                    |
| 21 Water-Tools               | 1,262                    | 500                      | 0                        | 500                      | 0                     | 500                      |
| 22 Water-Equipment           | 6,290                    | 8,000                    | 4,768                    | 12,000                   | 13,054                | 15,000                   |
| 23 Water-Building Maint      | 112                      | 2,500                    | 950                      | 1,500                    | 523                   | 1,000                    |
| 24 Water Treatment Supplies  | 537                      | 800                      | 380                      | 800                      | 399                   | 500                      |
| 25 Water-Bond Payments       | 46,202                   | 46,202                   | 46,202                   | 46,202                   | 23,101                | 46,202                   |
| 26 Water-VT Fees             | 1,750                    | 1,000                    | 524                      | 1,750                    | 263                   | 1,000                    |
| 27 Service Connection        | 0                        | 0                        | 0                        | 0                        | 0                     | 0                        |
| 28 Water-Misc                | 2,186                    | 1,500                    | 488                      | 1,500                    | 0                     | 1,500                    |
| 29 <b>Total Expenditures</b> | <b>114,602</b>           | <b>113,397</b>           | <b>94,267</b>            | <b>107,327</b>           | <b>59,711</b>         | <b>112,262</b>           |

**12/31/23 Account Balances:**

|                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Water Checking     | \$75,325.72         |
| Water Money Market | <u>\$80,958.88</u>  |
| <b>Water Total</b> | <b>\$156,284.60</b> |

Annual Report of Zoning Permits & Compliance Letters Issued- 2023  
Zoning Permits

| Issue Date | Permit #  | Name                                  | Property ID | Address                    | Project Description                           |
|------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| 1/2/2023   | ZIP-01-23 | Mary Jane Mountain LLC/Keith Longmore | ON118.010X  | 91 Main Street             | Retail store                                  |
| 1/3/2023   | ZIP-02-23 | Shana and Kameron Schaberg            | 00001.035X  | 946 Fuller Bridge Road     | Reconstruct camp and use as short term rental |
| 4/13/2023  | ZIP-03-23 | Susan and Everett McGinley            | 00007.074X  | 2943 North Hill            | Accessory structure                           |
| 4/13/2023  | ZIP-04-23 | Elizabeth and Adam Paashaus           | 00020.027X  | 217 Montgomery Heights     | New single family home                        |
| 4/13/2023  | ZIP-05-23 | Paul Martel                           | 00020.010X  | Montgomery Heights         | Garage and accessory dwelling                 |
| 4/27/2023  | ZIP-08-23 | Bradford / Alexandra Elliott          | OS118.135X  | 3130 South Main St         | Single family dwelling                        |
| 5/4/2023   | ZIP-06-23 | Kathryn Wilburn                       | 00303.021X  | 641 Highland Drive         | Corrective permit - shed                      |
| 5/11/2023  | ZIP-07-23 | Tracy and Michael Snider              | 00001.046X  | 1731 Fuller Bridge Road    | Garage                                        |
| 6/15/2023  | ZIP-09-23 | Scott Johansen                        | 00030.065B  | Deep Gibou Rd              | Camp                                          |
| 6/29/2023  | ZIP-10-23 | Wendell Hughes                        | ON118.047X  | 372 Main St                | Pool                                          |
| 6/30/2023  | ZIP-11-23 | Ruth Godfrey                          | 00030.016X  | 850 Gibou Rd               | New woodshed                                  |
| 7/13/2023  | ZIP-12-23 | Sarah and Matthew Silva               | 00006.045X  | 3056 & 3058 Black Falls Rd | Subdivision 3 lots                            |
| 7/20/2023  | ZIP-13-23 | Sarita Khan                           | 00017.003X  | 88 Cote Rd                 | Interior renovation                           |
| 7/27/2023  | ZIP-15-23 | Claudia Morton                        | 00011.070X  | 2005 West Hill Road        | Accessory structure; shed                     |
| 7/27/2023  | ZIP-14-23 | Samantha Thompson and Dennis Himes    | 000242.046X | 797 Mountain Rd            | 2 lot subdivision                             |
| 7/27/2023  | ZIP-16-23 | Ken O'connell                         | 000242.096X | 3059 Mountain Rd           | Garage addition                               |
| 8/3/2023   | ZIP-17-23 | Ryan Cooke                            | 00012.042X  | 1359 Hill West             | Single family dwelling                        |
| 8/4/2023   | ZIP-26-23 | Harvey and Lisa Chaffee               | 00058.061X  | 2178 Hazens Notch Rd       | Short term rental                             |
| 9/28/2023  | ZIP-18-23 | Myrna McAllister and Chris Maclean    | 00036.011X  | 280 Rushford Valley Rd     | Addition to single family dwelling            |
| 9/28/2023  | ZIP-19-23 | Josh Howard                           | OS118.132X  | 2949 South Main St         | Addition to accessory structure               |
| 10/12/2023 | ZIP-20-23 | Gretchen Eberle and Charlie Snedcor   | 00001.039X  | 1256 Fuller Bridge Rd      | Short term rental                             |
| 10/12/2023 | ZIP-21-23 | Brian Harnett/Walk and Wade Holdings  | ON118.017X  | 138 North Main St          | Replace deck                                  |
| 11/2/2023  | ZIP-22-23 | Dylan Hamel                           | 00010.013A  | 549 Black Falls Ext        | Single family dwelling and garage             |
| 12/21/2023 | ZIP-23-23 | Sean Gregorik                         | 00007.042B  | 1375 North Hill Rd         | Corrective - camp and deck                    |
| 12/21/2023 | ZIP-24-23 | Fletcher and Michaelyn Potter         | 00005.004X  | Green Mountain Rd          | Single family dwelling                        |
| 1/4/2024   | ZIP-25-23 | Ian Stanion-McDermid                  | 00011.008X  | 181 West Hill Rd           | Change of use to short term rental            |

Certification of Zoning Compliance

|            |          |                                                |             |                         |
|------------|----------|------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| 5/4/2023   | CC-23-01 | Stephen and Kathryn Wilburn                    | 00303.021X  | 641 Highland Drive      |
| 5/18/2023  | CC-23-02 | Kirsi Ulmonen and Brian McHugh                 | 00300.017X  | 468 Christmas Road      |
| 6/1/2023   | CC-23-03 | Ivan Sutlief                                   | ON118.125X  | 1962 North Main St      |
| 6/8/2023   | CC-23-04 | Ken Fiske                                      | 000051.011X | 104 River St            |
| 7/6/2023   | CC-23-05 | Benjamin and Ekaterina Yudin and Dina Smirnova | 00242.059X  | 1270 Mountain Rd        |
| 7/6/2023   | CC-23-06 | Estate of Theresa Demar                        | 000052.002X | 21 Demar Rd             |
| 7/27/2023  | CC-23-07 | Darwin and Dawn Harrington and Gove and        | 00036.016X  | 587 Rushford Valley Rd  |
| 7/27/2023  | CC-23-08 | Steven Mahns and Linda Mahns                   | 00049.003X  | 50 Deuso Rd             |
| 7/27/2023  | CC-23-09 | Marty Lumbr                                    | 00242.024A  | 171 Mountain Rd         |
| 8/10/2023  | CC-23-10 | Kenneth Kindsvater                             | 00011.115X  | 3062 West Hill Rd       |
| 8/10/2023  | CC-23-11 | Laura Scott                                    | 00035.010X  | 323 Nutting Rd          |
| 8/17/2023  | CC-23-12 | Sarah and Matthew Silva                        | 00006.045X  | 3058 Black Falls Rd     |
| 8/17/2023  | CC-23-13 | Sarah and Matthew Silva                        | 00006.045X  | 3056 Black Falls Rd     |
| 8/17/2023  | CC-23-14 | Alan Cennamo                                   | ON118.001X  | 20 Main St              |
| 8/24/2023  | CC-23-15 | Ken and Joanne Fiske                           | 00051.005X  | 92 River St             |
| 8/31/2023  | CC-23-16 | Adah and Oliver DeRosier                       | ON118.048X  | 333 Main St             |
| 9/7/2023   | CC-23-17 | Stewart Manchester                             | 000001.044X | 1475 Fuller Bridge Rd   |
| 9/14/2023  | CC-23-18 | Tracy and Bianca Lash                          | 00030.058X  | 1697 Deep Gibou Rd      |
| 9/28/2023  | CC-23-19 | Whedon                                         | 00013.005X  | 222 Dreamers Rd         |
| 9/28/2023  | CC-23-20 | Anne Cordeau                                   | 00303.003X  | 1019 Highland Drive     |
| 9/28/2023  | CC-23-21 | Jessica Brown                                  | ON118.075X  | 270 Main Street         |
| 10/12/2023 | CC-23-22 | Tracy Lash                                     | 00030.058X  | 1697 Deep Gibou Rd      |
| 10/12/2023 | CC-23-23 | Kevin and Mary Temple                          | OS118.177X  | 128 Highland Springs Rd |
| 11/2/2023  | CC-23-24 | Douglas and Linda Skinner                      | 00042.024X  | 321 Comstock Bridge Rd  |
| 12/2/2023  | CC-23-25 | Tad Miller                                     | OS118.028C  | 619 South Main St       |
| 12/2/2023  | CC-23-26 | Matthew Chaput                                 | 00B18.003X  | 224 Oberland Valley Rd  |
| 12/2/2023  | CC-23-27 | Gail Schwartz and Erin Needham                 | 00005.002X  | 7 Green Mountain Rd     |
| 12/7/2023  | CC-23-28 | Edwin Mandigo                                  | 00242.007X  | 42 Mountain Rd          |

# MONTGOMERY VILLAGE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

## Financial Report 2023

|                                                        |                             |           |                |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| <b>Beginning Balance 1/1/23</b>                        | CD's                        | 0.00      |                |
|                                                        | Checking                    | 24,739.58 |                |
|                                                        |                             |           | 24,739.58      |
| <b>RECEIPTS</b>                                        | Interest                    | 311.03    |                |
|                                                        | Donations                   | 0.00      |                |
|                                                        | Sale of Lots/Perpetual Care | 0.00      |                |
|                                                        | Corner Post                 | 0.00      |                |
|                                                        |                             |           | 311.03         |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>                                        | Lawncare                    | 0.00      | * Paid by Town |
|                                                        | Corner Posts                | 0.00      | * Paid by Town |
|                                                        |                             |           | 25,050.61      |
| <b>Ending Balance 12/31/23</b>                         | CD's                        | 0.00      |                |
|                                                        | Checking                    | 25,050.61 |                |
|                                                        |                             |           | 25,050.61      |
| Respectfully Submitted,<br>Erin Kopacz, Town Treasurer |                             |           |                |

# MONTGOMERY CENTER CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

## Financial Report 2023

|                                                        |                              |           |             |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| <b>Beginning Balance 01/01/23</b>                      | Checking                     | 21,430.09 |             |
|                                                        | CD - 110                     | 8,343.77  |             |
|                                                        | CD - 233                     | 15,000.00 |             |
|                                                        | CD - 274                     | 8,300.00  |             |
|                                                        | CD - 892                     | 20,000.00 |             |
|                                                        | Charles Lumbra Fund          | 2,202.77  |             |
|                                                        |                              |           | \$75,276.63 |
| <b>RECEIPTS</b>                                        | Interest Income              | 412.81    |             |
|                                                        | Donations                    |           |             |
|                                                        | Lots Sold                    | 200       |             |
|                                                        |                              |           | \$612.81    |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>                                        | Grounds Maintenance          | 5,425.00  |             |
|                                                        | Bank Service Charges         |           |             |
|                                                        |                              |           | \$5,425.00  |
|                                                        |                              |           | \$70,464.44 |
| <b>Ending Balance 12/31/23</b>                         | Checking                     | 16,617.90 |             |
|                                                        | Checking Deposits in transit | 0.00      |             |
|                                                        | CD - 110                     | 8,343.77  |             |
|                                                        | CD - 233                     | 15,000.00 |             |
|                                                        | CD - 274                     | 8,300.00  |             |
|                                                        | CD - 892                     | 20,000.00 |             |
|                                                        | Charles Lumbra Fund          | 2,202.77  |             |
|                                                        |                              |           | \$70,464.44 |
| Respectfully Submitted,<br>Erin Kopacz, Town Treasurer |                              |           |             |

**JOHN L CLAPP ESTATE**

**Financial Report 2023**

|                                  |                          |                   |                   |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Beginning Balance: 1/1/23</b> | Community Bank Checking  | <u>\$8,419.96</u> | \$8,419.96        |
| <b>Income:</b>                   | Interest                 | <u>\$101.28</u>   | <u>\$101.28</u>   |
| <b>Disbursements:</b>            | Care of Old Cemetery     | \$1,000.00        |                   |
|                                  | Bank Service Charges     | \$0.00            |                   |
|                                  | Office Supplies - Checks | <u>\$0.00</u>     | <u>\$1,000.00</u> |
| <b>Ending Balance: 12/31/23</b>  | Community Bank Checking  | <u>\$7,521.24</u> | <u>\$7,521.24</u> |

Respectfully submitted,  
Erin Kopacz, Successor Trustee

**HILL WEST CEMETERY ASSOCIATION**

**Financial Report 2023**

|                           |                                   |                    |                    |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Beginning Balance:</b> | Checking - Jan. 1, 2023           | \$2,384.47         |                    |
|                           | Savings - Jan. 1, 2023            | \$1,969.69         |                    |
|                           | CD - Jan. 1, 2023                 | <u>\$18,000.00</u> |                    |
|                           |                                   | \$22,354.16        | \$22,354.16        |
| <b>Income:</b>            | Donations                         | \$855.00           |                    |
|                           | Lot Sales (2)                     | \$525.00           |                    |
|                           | Town of Montgomery Support        | \$200.00           |                    |
|                           | Interest                          | <u>\$9.00</u>      | <u>\$1,589.00</u>  |
| <b>Disbursements:</b>     | Maintenance - Mowing - \$100 x 11 | -\$1,100.00        |                    |
|                           | Corner Markers (3 sets)           | <u>-\$570.00</u>   | <u>-\$1,670.00</u> |
|                           |                                   |                    | <u>\$22,273.16</u> |
| <b>Ending Balance:</b>    | Checking - Dec. 30, 2023          | \$2,303.47         |                    |
|                           | Savings - Dec. 30, 2023           | \$1,969.69         |                    |
|                           | CD                                | <u>\$18,000.00</u> | <u>\$22,273.16</u> |

Respectfully Submitted,  
Nancy Lumbra, Treasurer

|                          |                                        |           |                                    |                    |         |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|--------------------|---------|
| <b>2023 STATISTICS</b>   |                                        |           |                                    |                    |         |
| <b>Town Clerk Report</b> |                                        |           |                                    |                    |         |
| <b>2023 Births</b>       |                                        |           | <b>Census Data 2020:</b>           | <b>1,184</b>       |         |
|                          |                                        |           | <b>Registered Births:</b>          | <b>11</b>          |         |
| <b>January</b>           | Jack Starr                             |           | <b>Registered Deaths:</b>          | <b>8</b>           |         |
| <b>January</b>           | Austin Starr                           |           | <b>Registered Marriages</b>        | <b>10</b>          |         |
| <b>January</b>           | Knox Murphy                            |           | <b>Verified Voters</b>             | <b>827</b>         |         |
| <b>January</b>           | Kennedy Deuso                          |           | <b>2023 Deaths</b>                 |                    |         |
| <b>February</b>          | Colton Goff                            |           | <b>January</b>                     | Randy Poirier      |         |
| <b>March</b>             | Arthur Martin                          |           | <b>March</b>                       | Francis Lumbra     |         |
| <b>May</b>               | Coyt Edwards                           |           | <b>April</b>                       | Darwin Harrington  |         |
| <b>May</b>               | Drew Boissonneault                     |           | <b>June</b>                        | Sally Newton       |         |
| <b>May</b>               | Ramsey Pratt                           |           | <b>August</b>                      | Kerry Fleckenstein |         |
| <b>November</b>          | Aria Soule                             |           | <b>October</b>                     | Marion Kennison    |         |
| <b>November</b>          | Oslo Khan                              |           | <b>October</b>                     | John Koloshey      |         |
|                          |                                        |           | <b>November</b>                    | Wendall Corron     |         |
|                          |                                        |           |                                    |                    |         |
|                          |                                        |           |                                    |                    |         |
|                          |                                        |           |                                    |                    |         |
| <b>2023 Marriages</b>    |                                        |           | <b>2023 Marriages Continued...</b> |                    |         |
| Denise Midstokke         | Paul Weil                              | April     | Christina Hager                    | Steven De Keyser   | October |
| Austie Gerrish           | John Etzler                            | June      | Ryland Purrier                     | Abby Marrier       | October |
| Nicole Landreman         | Hans Brown                             | July      |                                    |                    |         |
| Augusta Pendergast       | Matthew Garner                         | August    |                                    |                    |         |
| Catherine Charnov        | Henry MacQueen                         | August    |                                    |                    |         |
| Christine Favreau        | Nathan Wiles                           | September |                                    |                    |         |
| Nicholas Fitzsimmons     | Annaliese Keimel                       | September |                                    |                    |         |
| Paul Green               | Anna McCormick                         | September |                                    |                    |         |
|                          |                                        |           |                                    |                    |         |
|                          | Recorded Instruments                   | 442       |                                    |                    |         |
|                          | Properties Transferred                 | 80        |                                    |                    |         |
|                          | Fish & Wildlife Licenses               | 18        |                                    |                    |         |
|                          | Dogs Licensed                          | 231       |                                    |                    |         |
|                          | Elections Reported                     | 1         |                                    |                    |         |
|                          | New Voters (1st time/Active Transfers) | 12        |                                    |                    |         |

## HELPFUL TOWN INFORMATION

### Tax Due Date: Second Friday In November

(Town Offices open until 4pm on Nov Tax Due Date)

*\*\*Postmarks are not accepted\*\**

*\*\*Postdated Checks are not accepted\*\**

|                                               |                                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| FIRE, RESCUE & POLICE EMERGENCIES.....        | 911                                                          |
| VERMONT STATE POLICE- St Albans Barracks..... | 524-5993                                                     |
| VTRANS- STATE GARAGE (District 8).....        | 326-4678                                                     |
| NWSWD RECYCLING SITE.....                     | 524-5986                                                     |
| TOWN OFFICE.....                              | 326-4719                                                     |
| Selectboard.....                              | montgomeryselectboard@gmail.com                              |
| Clerk.....                                    | municipalclerkmontgomery@gmail.com                           |
| Treasurer.....                                | montgomerytreasurer@gmail.com                                |
| TOWN WEBSITE.....                             | <a href="http://www.montgomeryvt.us">www.montgomeryvt.us</a> |
| TOWN LIBRARY.....                             | 326-3113                                                     |
| TOWN GARAGE.....                              | 326-4418                                                     |

### Who Meets Where and When?

| Group                   | Day/Month            | Time      | Place              |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| Budget Committee        | Dec- Feb             | As Needed | Public Safety Bldg |
| Cemetery Commissions    | As needed            | As Needed | Public Safety Bldg |
| Conservation Commission | First Wednesday      | 5:00pm    | Public Safety Bldg |
| Development Review Bd   | Fourth Thursday      | 5:30pm    | Public Safety Bldg |
| Fire Department         | Every Monday         | 6:00pm    | Fire Station       |
| Library Trustees        | Second Monday        | 6:00pm    | Library            |
| Planning Commission     | Second Tuesday       | 6:00pm    | Public Safety Bldg |
| Recreation Board        | First Monday         | 5:30pm    | Rec Center         |
| Selectboard/Water Comm  | First & Third Monday | 6:30pm    | Public Safety Bldg |
| Town Hall Committee     | Second Monday        | 6:00pm    | Town Hall          |

Town Offices, Fire Dept, Library: 86 Mountain Rd

Town Hall: 57 Main St

Town Highway Garage: 1800 North Main St

Water Treatment Facility: 251 Fuller Bridge Rd

Recreation Center: 204 North Main St

Montgomery Elementary School: 249 School Dr

# **Available Payment Options**

## ***Water Bills, Taxes, and other Fees***

In addition to regular in-office service and USPS mail options we offer multiple ways for you to pay your bills. Our hope is that these additional options will provide our residents and taxpayers with the highest level of flexibility and convenience.

### **E-Check *OR* Credit/Debit Cards**

You may pay online via our website! Use our new E-check feature or choose the Credit Card option. *(Fees apply: \$1.50 for E-check payment | 2.65% for all card payments.)*

### **ACH Withdrawal from Checking or Savings**

If you would prefer to have your Tax Payments and/or Water Payments automatically withdrawn from your bank account on the due date(s), you will find application forms on our website. ***Please note NEW ACH agreements MUST be submitted to our Treasurer prior to November 1st to meet the processing deadline. Canadian bank account holders must call our offices for special directions. Call 326-4719 Ext 209 with questions.***

### **Secure Drop-Box (non-cash transactions ONLY)**

For those who need to drop off paperwork or would prefer to utilize checks or money orders but are not able to arrive during regular office hours, there is a secure Drop-Box mounted outside to the left of the main entrance to the Town Offices. \*Please note on the Final November Tax Due Date the Drop-box will be checked at 4:00pm at the close of business\*. Tax Payments received after the 4:00 pm deadline on the final due date are considered delinquent and will be handled by the Collector of Delinquent Taxes.

*Reminder: envelope postmarks & postdated checks are NOT accepted, please plan accordingly to be sure your mailed items have adequate time to make their way to our office to avoid fees and penalties.*

Montgomery Town Offices  
86 Mountain Road  
PO Box 356  
Montgomery Ctr VT 05471



## Montgomery Town Office & Department Hours:

### Town Clerk's Office:

Monday: 8:30 – 5:00  
Tuesday: 9:00 – 3:00  
Wednesday: 8:30 – 3:00  
Thursday: 8:30 – 3:00  
Friday: 9:00 – 11:30

Clerk: Elizabeth Reighley  
[municipalclerkmontgomery@gmail.com](mailto:municipalclerkmontgomery@gmail.com)  
Asst. Clerk: Genevieve Lodal-Guild  
[municipalassistantmontgomery@gmail.com](mailto:municipalassistantmontgomery@gmail.com)

### Town Treasurer:

By Appointment

Erin Kopacz  
[montgomerytreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:montgomerytreasurer@gmail.com)

### Zoning Administrator:

Thursday: 9:00 – 12:00

Ellen Fox  
[montgomeryzoning@gmail.com](mailto:montgomeryzoning@gmail.com)

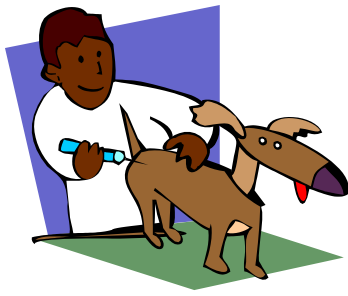
### Public Works Dept:

Winter/Spring: Monday-Friday 7:30-3:30  
Summer/Fall: Monday-Thursday 6:00-4:30

Road Foreman: Scott Ovitt  
[montgomeryroads.scott@gmail.com](mailto:montgomeryroads.scott@gmail.com)

- ❖ In cases of severe weather & school closings: office opening may be delayed /or closed depending on the severity of road conditions. Urgent weather or illness related closures will be posted on the Town Website & online public forums to the best of our ability.
- ❖ The Town Office also publishes a “Holiday & Office Closure Schedule” which includes all observed Federal Holiday dates and scheduled closures for Election Days/conferences etc for the ensuing year.

Town Website: [www.montgomeryvt.us](http://www.montgomeryvt.us)  
Follow our Facebook Group: Montgomery Bulletins  
Find us on: *Front Porch Forum*



# 2024 Rabies Clinics

## Local Clinic

**Offered by Stowe Veterinary:**



|                                                 |                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024</b>    | <b>Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024</b>       |
| <b>Montgomery Elementary:<br/>11:30a-12:15p</b> | <b>Berkshire Highway Garage:<br/>10:15a-10:45a</b> |

Due to the fast-paced nature of Drive-Thru clinics we will not be offering on-site licensing. See below for information about licensing your dog(s).

## ***Other Community Clinic Dates- Offered by: Tractor Supply-Pet Vet***

Location: 2636 Highgate Rd. Saint Albans VT, 05478

|                                  |                   |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Saturday, February 24th          | 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm |
| Saturday, March 23 <sup>rd</sup> | 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm |
| Saturday, April 20 <sup>th</sup> | 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm |
| Saturday, May 18th               | 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm |

## STEPS TO LICENSING YOUR DOG WITH YOUR TOWN

1. **Dog Licenses are due annually by April 1st.**
2. For any new dogs that have received their first rabies vaccination *or* are new to the area licensing must occur within 30 days of moving to Town/or getting the new dog.
3. To obtain a license you must have on file a current Rabies Certificate and Spay/Neuter Certificate (if applicable). If the rabies has expired, you will need to obtain an updated certificate prior to licensing.
4. Submit license fee(s). Fees can be paid via check, cash, or online with E-check or credit card.
  - a. \$9.00 for each spayed/neutered dog
  - b. \$13.00 for each intact dog
  - c. Licensing after the deadline will incur Late Fees: \$2.00 (fixed) or \$4.00 (intact)
5. If your dog is already registered, you will receive a renewal notice in early February each year.
6. **Ways To obtain a NEW dog license or RENEW an existing one:**
  - a. Register in person at the Town Office. Office hours: M 8:30-5, Tu 9-3, Wed/Th 8:30-3, F 9-11:30]
  - b. Mail the Certificates & fee to our PO Box 356 Montgomery Ctr VT 05471.
  - c. Submit the Certificates & check for the fees into our outdoor Drop-Box.
  - d. E-Mail the Certificates the Town Clerk & pay the fee(s) online at our website: [www.montgomeryvt.us](http://www.montgomeryvt.us) (under the Residents menu select "Pay Taxes/Other" choose 'Town Office' and select 'Licenses-Dog' to begin filling in your information.) Registrations that are sent in via mail, drop-box, or online methods will receive the dog tags and licenses in the mail within 3-5 business days.

*If you have a dog that no longer lives with you or has passed away, please contact our offices to let us know: 326-4719*

## TOWN OF MONTGOMERY REPORT

### FISCAL YEAR 2023 (10/1/2022 - 9/30/2023)

Last year, Age Well served 49 people from Montgomery, services included:



39 calls to the Helpline



62 hours of Case Management



471 Meals on Wheels delivered  
397 Congregate Meals served  
3 Grab & Go Meals served



16 hours of Options Counseling

2 Montgomery residents volunteered over 170 hours

## IMPACT

Our wide array of programs enhance the quality of life and improve health outcomes for older Vermonters by:

- Increasing food security
- Reducing social isolation and loneliness
- Improving quality of diet
- Reducing health care costs



MEALS ON WHEELS CAN SERVE A PERSON FOR AN ENTIRE YEAR FOR ABOUT THE SAME COST AS JUST 1 DAY IN A HOSPITAL OR 10 DAYS IN A NURSING HOME

## ABOUT AGE WELL

Since 1974, Age Well has provided Vermonters with the necessary support to manage their daily living needs, with the goal of keeping them active, healthy, and independent. As the leading experts and advocates for the aging population, we believe that health happens at home and focuses on lifestyle, happiness, and wellness—not on age.

Committed to helping individuals age well, we reduce barriers by providing access to healthy meals, in-home care, expertise on Medicare and insurance, long-term and short-term care options, transportation to medical appointments, translations services, a Helpline, and many more community resources in Addison, Chittenden, Franklin, and Grand Isle Counties. Carried out by staff members and over 1,000 incredible volunteers, our sought-after services are designed to meet the diverse needs of our clients, their families, and their caregivers.

As a 501(c)3 nonprofit, we do not charge for our services. We rely on donations and encourage clients to contribute if they are able to do so.

**MISSION: TO PROVIDE THE SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE THAT INSPIRES OUR COMMUNITY TO EMBRACE AGING WITH CONFIDENCE.**



FRANKLIN COUNTY  
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION

FCIDC Annual Report for 2023

The Franklin County Industrial Development Corporation (FCIDC) was established in 1971 when our region was experiencing double digit unemployment levels. We have come a long way since then to the point where Franklin County has one of the strongest economies in the State. With that said, it is important to note that if we cannot start to fill job vacancies in all sectors of our economy then we will begin to take steps backwards. Recently we learned that Kaytec located in Richford will be closing their doors in 2024. Kaytec produces vinyl siding and it is recognized as a quality product in the construction industry. The company has been struggling to find employees for a couple of years now and they were forced to operate at less than half of their capacity. In addition to the workforce issues dairy prices remain stagnant in the \$23.00 per hundredweight area and the price continues to be less than the cost of production for many farms.

The workforce shortage is probably the number one issue that all businesses are faced with. It doesn't matter if it is manufacturing, agriculture, Main St., retail or the service industry there are help wanted signs everywhere. On average 50% of graduating seniors choose not to go on to the trades or college. Now is the prime time for high school students and graduates to begin developing their work resumes. Businesses, unlike 10 years ago, are much more flexible with part-time employees and their work schedule needs. In addition to the job flexibility, the pay scale has never been higher. So, encourage your kids to find a job and start supporting our local economy. FCIDC has been collaborating with our five county high schools to educate our students as to what employment opportunities exist for them. We will be coordinating business tours in 2024.

FCIDC has been active in the redevelopment of the Perley Block located at 366 Main Street in Enosburg. The retail space on the first floor was vacant for more than five years. The building has eight apartments upstairs and there was an attached cold storage warehouse on the backside of the building. FCIDC invested \$1.9 million to purchase and renovate the existing building and convert the back warehouse into office space and hopefully soon to be four more apartments on the second floor. The building now has two retail businesses, Healthy Nutrition and B's Flowers, and 4000 square feet of office space that is mostly occupied by Franklin Northeast Supervisory Union also has two offices being rented by Northwestern Counseling and Support Services. This project took about 18 months to complete and has been a great addition to downtown Enosburg. If you have a chance please stop in to support the two retail businesses. This project would never have happened had it not been for the vision and leadership of Jim Cameron and Green Dolphin Construction.

In addition to the Perley Block renovation we have also been busy in FCIDC's St. Albans Town Industrial Park. We sold three acres to Purpose Energy in April and since then the company has broken ground on constructing an anaerobic digester. Their mission is to capture millions of tons of food waste flowing from our local value added food producers (i.e. Ben & Jerrys, Franklin Foods etc) and convert it to renewable energy, clean water and healthy soil amendments. With the construction of the Purpose Energy facility our industrial infrastructure is that much stronger as waste will be diverted from our waste stream while energy is produced. FCIDC has had multiple conversations with other interested parties regarding the purchase of lots in the Park and we are optimistic for additional sales in 2024.

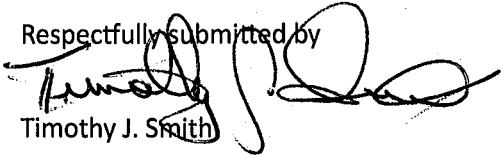
P.O. Box 1099

St. Albans, Vermont  
05478-1099

(802) 524-2194  
Fax: (802) 524-6793

E-mail: [info@fcidc.com](mailto:info@fcidc.com)  
[tim@fcidc.com](mailto:tim@fcidc.com)  
Web Site: [fcidc.com](http://fcidc.com)

Respectfully submitted by

  
Timothy J. Smith



## **Franklin County Home Health Agency, Inc. Information Sheet-2023 What is Franklin County Home Health Agency?**

Franklin County Home Health Agency is a 501(c) 3 non-profit corporation that has proudly provided residents Franklin County with high quality, comprehensive home health, hospice, long term care and wellness services since 1969.

### **What is the Agency's Mission and Purpose?**

We provide high quality health care services in home and community settings. We are committed to excellence. We meet the needs of our clients in a professional manner that promotes health, independence, comfort, dignity, and quality of life.

### **What is the Agency's service area?**

The Agency serves all 15 towns in Franklin County. We serve people of all ages.

### **How many patients did the Agency serve in 2023?**

The Agency made a total of 38,669 visits to 1,268 Franklin County residents. We made the following number of visits to the residents Franklin County:

|        |                         |
|--------|-------------------------|
| 20,916 | Home Care Services      |
| 14,912 | Long Term Care Services |
| 2,841  | Hospice Services        |

### **How many people does the Agency employ?**

The Agency has a staff of 80 Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Speech-Language Pathologists, Medical Social Workers, Licensed Nursing Assistants, Care Attendants, Homemakers, and Office Support Staff.

### **What are the Agency's Programs and Services?**

- Home Care: We provide medically necessary home health services to people of all ages. Examples include individuals who need wound care, a person newly diagnosed with diabetes needing insulin administration and instruction, or a mother and newborn newly discharged from the hospital.
- Hospice: We care for people with serious illness for whom the prognosis is less than six months of life. The focus of this care is on achieving comfort and quality of life.
- Long Term Care: We help disabled and older members of our community with personal care, housekeeping, meal preparation, errands, and shopping to allow them to stay independent in their own home.
- Maternal Child Health Program and Childbirth Education Program: We help to prepare pregnant women for a healthy pregnancy, labor and delivery, breastfeeding, and new infant care.

In addition, we offer grief and bereavement services and wellness services to our community.

### **How are services paid for?**

As a Medicare certified Agency, we receive reimbursement from Medicare, Medicaid, and other third-party insurances. In 2023 we received 86.92% percent of our revenue from Medicare and Medicaid.

### **Why does the Agency need money from towns?**

The Agency depends on the money received from towns to subsidize the cost of care provided to patients who are uninsured or underinsured. We are committed to providing medically necessary home care services to all those in need regardless of their ability to pay. Without individual town appropriations and donor gifts, our ability to provide care is adversely impacted.

### **Where can you call for more information about Franklin County Home Health Agency, Inc.?**

For more information about the Agency or the services we provide please call (802) 527-7531 or visit our website at [www.fchha.org](http://www.fchha.org).



**GREEN UP VERMONT**  
[www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org)

**Green Up Day**  
**May 6, 2023**



**Green Up Day**, continued to grow with 23,500 volunteers statewide who cleaned up nearly 348 tons of litter and 15,000 tires. We saw 23% more volunteers lend a hand and heard in many cases there was less litter (30%) to be cleaned up. Tire collection saw a 4.8% increase. The statistics show that the hard work to beautify Vermont is still needed but also that our efforts for awareness are paying off. As one of Vermont's favorite traditions, it is imperative for today and for future generations to keep building pride, awareness, and stewardship for a clean Vermont, as well as keep residents civically engaged.

Support from your municipality is essential to our program. Funds help pay for Green Up Day supplies, promotional outreach, and educational resources including activity books, contests for kids, and a \$1,000 scholarship. We are requesting level funding for 2024.

Green Up initiatives are year-round and further our environmental impact with waste reduction programs, additional clean-up efforts, and educational initiatives.

Green Up Vermont is a private nonprofit organization that relies on your support to execute the tradition of cleaning up our roads and waterways, while promoting civic pride, and community engagement. **Thank you for supporting this crucial program that takes care of all our cities and towns.**

Your donations make a huge impact and can be made on Line 23 of the Vermont State Income Tax Form or online at [www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org).

Visit our website, like us on Facebook (@greenupvermont), and follow on Instagram (greenupvermont). [greenup@greenupvermont.org](mailto:greenup@greenupvermont.org) 802-522-7245

## Montgomery Cares For Our Seniors

Poet Maya Angelou wisely wrote, “I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.” In that spirit we want to offer our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who helps support our monthly meals and everyone who sits down together in our crowded dining room in the Public Safety Building and brings our elder community closer together by sharing their good company and good food.

Now in our third year, we are privileged to report that we’ve plated over 800 meals. About forty seniors make reservations with Sue Wilson, our officially unofficial administrator who has made so many good things happen for the people of Montgomery year after year. Sue is also a marvel when it comes to getting donations, this year from McKenzie Meats, Cabot Cheese and King Arthur Flour.

And in the spirit of gratitude that informs this report, we want to share with so many folks that their donations, gift cards for ingredients and generosity with their time makes us humble and happy. We want the Town to know and appreciate Sharon Perry’s awesome dessert making skills. Sharon’s now famous blueberry pie and chocolate cheese cake were the stars at two of our meals this year. And for Thanksgiving, Elsie Saborowski made her sumptuous German apple cake.

Note to all you dessert kings and queens out there: if you’d like to make a dessert for our meals this year, we’d be grateful if you’d contact us.

A heartfelt special thanks to Stacy Manosh. In July, Stacy treated everyone to that month’s meal at Bernie’s. And her generosity doesn’t end there. Stacy also donated beautiful shawls woven with art museum paintings like Van Gogh’s flowers as Christmas gifts for each senior at our December meal.

A really big thank you to the Town Select Board for allowing the use of the conference room and kitchen at the Public Safety Building that our dedicated volunteers turn into a beautiful dining room with tablecloths, cutlery and floral center pieces. So thank you, Lynda Cluba, Patty Perl, Chloe Hardy, Elsie Saborowski and Peggy Bristow! These fine townswomen are also our servers and dishwasher.

Parma Jewett, our gifted chef, creates the menus, cooks with love as a main ingredient and makes thorough use of all our food donations.

Thank you, Montgomery, for honoring our seniors and creating a warm and happy monthly meal.





November 21, 2023

Town of Montgomery  
P.O. Box 356  
Montgomery Center, VT 05471

Dear Montgomery Selectboard members and Residents of Montgomery,

The Missisquoi River Basin Association (MRBA) had another great year working to protect and improve water quality throughout our region. As always, our successes come directly from the dedicated volunteers, donors, landowners, and towns that support the work we do with and at our schools, public parks, roadways, farms, private homes, and anywhere water flows.

MRBA Projects and Programs:

**Ecological restoration, invasive species, and river clean-up efforts:** During 2023, as in most years, MRBA volunteers assisted with tree plantings (an additional 950 trees were planted along streams and the river during 2023!), helped pull trash from our riverbanks, and assisted with our continued study of non-chemical ways to combat Japanese knotweed.

**Water quality sampling:** MRBA staff and volunteers collected water quality samples from 12 locations within our watershed during 2023; this includes 1 site in Montgomery, assessing the health of Hannah Clark Brook (still one of our favorite spots).

**Assisting farmers and landowners:** In addition to implementing projects (tree plantings, invasive species work, etc.), we also conducted several site assessments this year. These are designed to help landowners understand what water may be doing on their property, and some ways to mitigate or improve their relationship with runoff.

**Educational programs:** We are always excited to connect with our younger watershed residents, and enjoy providing hands-on educational opportunities to students through our watershed model, rainfall simulator, and Bugworks program. In 2023, we also connected with students through Lake Lessons, a half-day water-focused field trip for area 4<sup>th</sup> graders, and continued to assist with Winds, Waves, and Variables for several watershed schools, including MES. Additionally, we were delighted to host some great high school interns this summer, one of whom calls Montgomery home.

We respectfully request the Town's support of MRBA through a \$600 donation so that we may continue to serve our community with these programs. Your appropriation will help us continue to provide programs, assist landowners, and will help us continue expanding and increasing the skills of our team, so that we may better serve our watershed towns.

Your support of our organization in past years is so greatly appreciated and the funds have been put to good use. We thank you very much for your consideration of our 2024 request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'John Little'.

John Little, MRBA President

---

**Missisquoi River Basin Association (MRBA)**

2839 VT Route 105 East Berkshire, VT 05447

Tel: (802) 933-3645 E-mail: [lindsey@mrbavt.com](mailto:lindsey@mrbavt.com) Website: [www.mrbavt.com](http://www.mrbavt.com)





# NORTHWEST REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

## Montgomery Town Report - 2023

Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NRPC) is a multi-purpose governmental organization created by the municipalities of Franklin and Grand Isle Counties. NRPC implements a variety of projects and programs tailored to local, regional and statewide needs. All municipalities in the region are entitled to equal voting representation by two locally appointed members to the Board of Commissioners.

### 2023 MONTGOMERY TOWN PROJECTS

- Provided planning and zoning technical assistance.
- Updated the locally adopted Emergency Management Plan that will help the town respond to future disasters and assisted with FEMA funds for a past disaster declaration.
- Served as local liaison to town public safety officials for the State Emergency Operation Center during the July floods.
- Consulted with local officials, identified projects and provided technical assistance for Municipal Roads Grants-in-Aid construction projects.
- Served as project manager for VTrans grants for bank stabilization work along Longley Bridge Road and the streetscape project.
- Provided a \$300,000 Clean Water Service Provider grant to the Missisquoi River Basin Association for a floodplain restoration and stabilization project on the Trout River.
- Supported the Northwest Communications Union District, in which Montgomery is a founding member.
- Provided grant administration for a Northern Borders Regional Commission grant for a wastewater system.
- Collaborated with the Montgomery Planning Commission to modernize Montgomery's zoning bylaws to allow for increased housing choice and affordability; funded by a Bylaw Modernization consortium grant.
- Collaborated with the Montgomery Planning Commission to update Montgomery's Town Plan with a focus on natural resources, housing, transportation and future land use.
- Completed a consultation of the municipal planning program.

This year the Commission will assist our member municipalities with maximizing local, state and federal infrastructure funds, water quality project implementation, Municipal Roads General Permit compliance, local energy and climate planning, zoning bylaw modernization, emergency preparedness, brownfields redevelopment and other needed services. NRPC will help promote the Missisquoi and Lamoille Valley Rail Trails, support local farm and food businesses through its Healthy Roots Collaborative, assist the Northwest Communications Union District in expanding broadband access in the region, and coordinate Housing For All, a three-year housing development campaign. The Commission has no regulatory or taxing authority; however, each year we do request a per capita assessment in support of local and regional activities and to provide matching funds for state and federal programs.

Your continued support for NRPC is greatly appreciated. We are your resource - please call on us for assistance with planning, zoning, transportation, project management, mapping or other needs.

**Montgomery Town Regional Commissioners** - Leanne Barnard & Mark Brouillette

**Transportation Advisory Committee** - Mark Brouillette

### NRPC Projects & Programs

Municipal plan and bylaw updates, technical assistance for local permitting

Brownfields site assessments, clean-ups and redevelopment plans

Transportation planning and project management

Bike and pedestrian planning and project management

Emergency preparedness, disaster recovery and resilience

Energy conservation, renewable energy plans and projects

Water quality planning and project management

Regional plans for growth and development

Geographic Information System maps and data

Downtown and village revitalization and community development

Grant writing and administration

### Associated Projects & Programs Managed by NRPC

Healthy Roots Collaborative

Northern Vermont Economic Development District

Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail

Northwest Vermont Regional Foundation, Inc.

Clean Water Service Provider: Missisquoi and Lamoille River Basins

**Address:** 75 Fairfield Street,  
St. Albans, VT 05478

**Phone:** (802) 524-5958

**Fax:** (802) 527-2948

**Website:** [www.nrpcvt.com](http://www.nrpcvt.com)



## 2023 Annual Report

### Introduction

Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 3075, the Northwest Vermont Communications Union District (NWCUD) is pleased to present its annual report and budget for your review. The NWCUD was officially formed on August 3, 2020. The NWCUD is a municipal body consisting of representatives from Northwest Vermont municipalities for the purposes of building communication infrastructure.

As of October 23, 2023, the NWCUD represents 22 Northwest municipalities: Alburgh, Bakersfield, Berkshire, Enosburgh, Fairfield, Franklin, Fairfax, Georgia, Grand Isle, Highgate, Isle la Motte, Milton, Montgomery, North Hero, Richford, Saint Albans Town, Sheldon, South Hero, Swanton, Village of Alburgh, Village of Enosburg Falls and Village of Swanton.

The mission of the NWCUD, as adopted by the Board of Representatives, is:

"Leverage partnerships and procure funding to connect Northwestern Vermont via Open Access Fiber to ensure opportunity for all homes and businesses in our region."

This year, the NWCUD received \$1,805,908 in grants from the VT Community Broadband Board (H360) to support broadband expansion and capacity building.

### Activities of the Northwest Communications Union District

#### *ISP Partnership*

We reached a milestone agreement with the Biddeford Internet Corporation, d/b/a Great Works Internet Vermont (GWI VT), paving the way for our communities to access a robust, reliable, and affordable fiber internet network. Under the agreement, NWCUD will construct, own, maintain, and operate an "open access" fiber optic cable network and associated equipment and facilities. GWI VT will license the network from NWCUD and deliver services.

#### *Fiber Acquisition*

We doubled our fiber optic cable supply by taking advantage of a unique opportunity from a neighboring CUD. This came at no cost to NWCUD and further prepared us for materials needed for Phase 1 of construction.



# NORTHWEST FIBERWORX

153 N. Main Street  
PO Box 1028  
St. Albans, VT 05478

802 489 7685 ☎  
info@nwcud.com ✉  
nwfiberworx.com 🌐

## Model & Design Refinement

In preparation for Phase 1 of construction and our grant application for the VCB B Construction Grant Program, joint efforts with GWI are underway to prepare us for our next steps. A financial model/plan is currently in its final stages, and a refinement of the High-Level Design completed earlier this year is in progress. We are working quickly through these steps and anticipate construction to begin in 2024.

| Revenues                   | FY 2023 Est. Actuals        | FY2024 Budget        |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Item</b>                |                             |                      |
| Philanthropic donations    | \$ -                        | \$ -                 |
| Promissory notes issued    | \$ -                        | \$ -                 |
| Pre Construction Grants    | \$ 1,805,908                | \$ 434,700           |
| Contruction Grants         | \$ -                        | \$ 17,543,000        |
| End Year Surplus           | \$ 121,900                  | \$ -                 |
| Interest Earned            | \$ 2,464                    | \$ 3,000             |
| Misc. Income               | \$ 23,385                   | \$ -                 |
| <b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>      | <b>\$ 1,953,657</b>         | <b>\$ 18,102,600</b> |
| <b>Debt</b>                | <b>FY 2023 Est. Actuals</b> | <b>FY2024 Budget</b> |
| Loans                      | 0                           | 0                    |
| <b>Total Cash Receipts</b> | <b>\$ 1,953,657</b>         | <b>\$ 18,102,600</b> |

| Expenditures                      | FY 2023 Est. Actuals | FY2024 Budget        |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Capital</b>                    |                      |                      |
| Pole Survey                       | \$ -                 | \$ 450,000           |
| Project & Construction Management | \$ 103,677           | \$ 1,142,000         |
| Permitting, make ready            | \$ -                 | \$ -                 |
| Design & Engineering              | \$ 1,291,573         | \$ 2,000,000         |
| Headend                           | \$ -                 | \$ 608,000           |
| Field Network Equipment           | \$ -                 | \$ 329,000           |
| Aerial Construction               | \$ -                 | \$ 9,500,000         |
| Underground Construction          | \$ -                 | \$ 2,000,000         |
| Network O&M                       | \$ -                 | \$ 489,000           |
| Construction Contingency          | \$ -                 | \$ 1,017,000         |
| Loan                              | \$ -                 | \$ -                 |
| Debt service                      | \$ -                 | \$ -                 |
| Audit                             | \$ 10,089            | \$ 11,000            |
| <b>* Subtotal Capital</b>         | <b>\$ 1,405,339</b>  | <b>\$ 17,546,000</b> |



# NORTHWEST FIBERWORX

153 N. Main Street  
PO Box 1028  
St. Albans, VT 05478

802 489 7685 ☎  
info@nwcud.com ✉  
nwfiberworx.com 🌐

## Operational

|                                                                         |                   |                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| External business development services (incl. business plan consulting) | \$ 40,000         | \$ 25,000         |
| QuickBooks                                                              |                   | \$ 1,200          |
| Accounting Fees                                                         | \$ 10,500         | \$ 12,000         |
| Other Financial (bank fees)                                             | \$ 80             | \$ 500            |
| Insurance - Cyber Network                                               | \$ 1,888          | \$ 1,888          |
| Insurance - General Liability                                           | \$ 1,256          | \$ 1,256          |
| Insurance - Liability, D and O                                          | \$ 1,947          | \$ 1,947          |
| Insurance - Umbrella                                                    | \$ 2,500          | \$ 2,500          |
| Insurance - Assets/Inventory                                            | \$ 783            | \$ 1,500          |
| Postage, Mailing Services                                               | \$ 310            | \$ 1,000          |
| Office Supplies                                                         | \$ 300            | \$ 1,000          |
| Legal                                                                   | \$ 25,383         | \$ 25,000         |
| Advertising                                                             | \$ 750            | \$ 1,000          |
| Website (Domain and hosting service)                                    | \$ 204            | \$ 205            |
| Association Fees                                                        | \$ 8,500          | \$ 9,000          |
| Phone Service                                                           | \$ 1,648          | \$ 1,750          |
| Microsoft Business Suite                                                | \$ 1,548          | \$ 1,600          |
| Google Suite                                                            | \$ 144            | \$ 150            |
| Adobe Creative Cloud                                                    | \$ 1,092          | \$ 1,092          |
| Software - Other                                                        | \$ 360            | \$ 500            |
| Travel                                                                  | \$ 3,500          | \$ 7,500          |
| Conference, Convention, Meetings                                        | \$ 429            | \$ 7,500          |
| Zoom Software                                                           | \$ 150            | \$ 300            |
| Docusign Software                                                       | \$ 120            | \$ 120            |
| VPN                                                                     | \$ 100            | \$ 100            |
| VETRO Fibermap                                                          | \$ 25,000         | \$ 25,000         |
| Contingency                                                             | \$ 966            | \$ 2,500          |
| Executive Committee Stipends                                            | \$ 1,750          | \$ 3,000          |
| <b>Subtotal Operational</b>                                             | <b>\$ 131,207</b> | <b>\$ 136,108</b> |

## Staff

|                         |            |            |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|
| Payroll                 | \$ 272,172 | \$ 312,600 |
| Health Insurance        | \$ 41,000  | \$ 45,000  |
| Dental                  | \$ 2,600   | \$ 3,000   |
| Vision                  |            | \$ 1,100   |
| Retirement Contribution | \$ 23,338  | \$ 25,000  |
| Life/Disability         | \$ 3,082   | \$ 3,100   |
| Worker's Comp           | \$ 1,192   | \$ 1,192   |
| Taxes/Withholdings      | \$ 21,109  | \$ 23,000  |



|                           |                             |                      |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Payroll Service           | \$ 848                      | \$ 1,000             |
| <b>Subtotal Capital</b>   | <b>\$ 365,341</b>           | <b>\$ 414,992</b>    |
|                           |                             |                      |
| <b>Technology</b>         |                             |                      |
| Equipment (Laptop, phone) | \$ 4,316                    | \$ 5,500             |
| <b>Subtotal Capital</b>   | <b>\$ 4,316</b>             | <b>\$ 5,500</b>      |
|                           |                             |                      |
| <b>Totals</b>             | <b>FY 2023 Est. Actuals</b> | <b>FY2024 Budget</b> |
|                           |                             |                      |
| <b>TOTAL CAPEX</b>        | <b>\$ 1,405,339</b>         | <b>\$ 17,546,000</b> |
| <b>TOTAL OPEX</b>         | <b>\$ 500,864</b>           | <b>\$ 556,600</b>    |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b> | <b>\$ 1,906,202</b>         | <b>\$ 18,102,600</b> |
|                           |                             |                      |
| <b>Net Income</b>         | <b>\$ 47,454</b>            | <b>\$ -</b>          |
|                           |                             |                      |
| <b>Net Cash</b>           | <b>\$ 47,454</b>            | <b>\$ -</b>          |

Notes:

- Drafted on 10/13/2023
- Approved for Distribution on 10/19/2023

30 V.S.A. § 3075 - The district's fiscal year shall commence on January 1 and end on December 31.

1. Annually, on or before October 21, the board shall approve and cause to be distributed to the legislative body of each district member for review and comment on an annual report of its activities, together with a financial statement, a proposed district budget for the next fiscal year, and a forecast presenting anticipated year-end results. The proposed budget shall include reasonably detailed estimates of:
  - a. deficits and surpluses from prior fiscal years;
  - b. anticipated expenditures for the administration of the district;
  - c. anticipated expenditures for the operation and maintenance of any district communications plant
2. Coincident with a regular meeting thereof, the board shall hold a public hearing on or before November 15 of each year to receive comments from the legislative bodies of district members and hear all other interested persons regarding the proposed budget.
3. Annually, on or before December 15, the board shall adopt the budget and appropriate the sums it deems necessary to meet its obligations and operate and carry out the district's functions for the next ensuing fiscal year.

## Northwest Vermont Solid Waste Management District

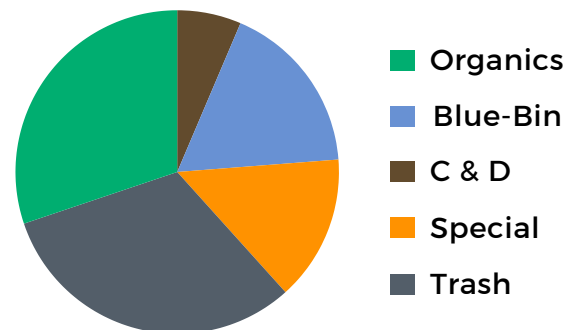
158 Morse Drive, Fairfax, VT, 05404  
802.524.5986 | [nswsd.org](http://nswsd.org) | [info@nswsd.org](mailto:info@nswsd.org)

# 2023 SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

NWSWD is a legislatively chartered Municipal Corporation charged with planning, implementing, and regulating waste management strategies for our 19 member communities. The District's mission is to provide for the efficient, economical, and environmentally-sound reduction, reuse, recycling, and disposal of solid waste. Some of our 2023 highlights include:

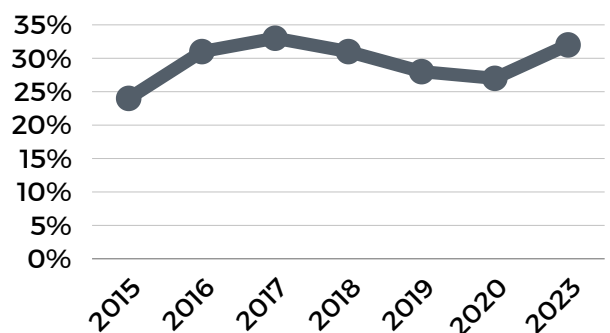
- Services used over 50,000 times
- Increased diversion rate to 32%
- Composted 773 tons of food scraps
- Collected 46 tons of HHW material from 1,825 residents and 43 businesses
- Expanded online presence to reach over 5,000 people on social media
- Provided outreach to more than 50 businesses and 20 schools

Waste Generation and Diversion  
From District Services, 2023



NWSWD is excited to share news about our plans for the upcoming year. The District will be updating all facility signage in next year and expects to begin renovations of our Georgia Recycling Facility at the end of 2024. These projects will improve public drop-off to make it more efficient and safe!

District Diversion Rate, 2015-2023



**Facebook**/Northwest Vermont  
Solid Waste Management District

**Instagram**/northwest.vt.zerowaste

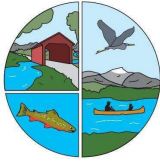
**Newsletter sign up**/[nswsd.org](http://nswsd.org)

**807 TONS  
LANDFILLED**



**1,799 TONS  
RECYCLED**





## **Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers (UMATR) Wild & Scenic Committee**

2839 VT Route 105 East Berkshire, VT 05447

Tel: (802) 933-3645 E-mail: [info@vtwsr.org](mailto:info@vtwsr.org) Website: [www.umatrwildandscenic.org](http://www.umatrwildandscenic.org)

Dear Residents of Montgomery,

The Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers (UMATR) Wild & Scenic Committee strives to protect, enhance, and encourage enjoyment of our beautiful rivers. Designated as Wild and Scenic in 2014, 46.1 miles of the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers in Westfield, Troy, North Troy, Richford, Berkshire, Enosburgh, Enosburg Falls, and Montgomery are protected. Our committee is made up of residents from each of these 8 municipalities, as well as our great partners.

As we plan for a wonderful 2024, we also want to look back at the successes of 2023. UMATR is proud of the many and varied events we hosted this past year, from our speaker series to our Wild and Scenic Film Festival, we engaged 212 attendees for our virtual and viewing activities during 2023. We engaged another 33 people who helped us remove trash from our swimming holes and get 89 amphibians safely across the road during their migration! And we always love getting people out on the river - we had 62 paddlers and snowshoers join us during our on-water (and near-water) events in 2023.

During 2023, we also supported 13 great community-led grant projects in our region with \$82,750 in grant funds. In Montgomery, \$10,000 of these funds supported continued engagement with the Town Forest through fun bioblitz activities and supported the Conservation Commission's efforts to combat knotweed on the new Fruit and Nut Orchard property. Paired with Nancy Patch's snowshoe tour high on the Trout River and the annual swimming hole clean-up, we covered a lot of ground in Montgomery in 2023.

We are planning a busy 2024 and would love to see you at some of our events. Join us this winter for snowshoeing and our online speaker series, in the spring to help spotted salamanders or to enjoy our (still!) new office space while catching up with us during our Open House, or on the water this summer: we're bringing back our Sojourn day-paddles, where we paddle all 46 Wild and Scenic river miles, and we're going to introduce a 'Tubing on the Trout' event this summer! Don't miss your chance to join these great events: visit our website ([umatrwildandscenic.org](http://umatrwildandscenic.org)) where you can register and join our mailing list to stay up to date with all our activities.

Respectfully submitted by your representatives to the UMATR Committee: Cynthia Scott and Keith Sampietro, and UMATR's growing staff: Lindsey Wight and Sarah Lunn. Please contact us with any questions or comments ([info@vtwsr.org](mailto:info@vtwsr.org)).



STATE OF VERMONT  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
VERMONT STATE POLICE



**St. Albans Field Station**  
140 Fisher Pond Rd  
St. Albans, VT 05478

January 5th, 2024

On behalf of the Vermont State Police, St. Albans Barracks, we are providing our 2023 Annual Report. This report will provide our mission, identify specialty services provided by the Troopers assigned to the St. Albans Barracks, and provide data for your respective town.

#### **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Vermont State Police is to individually and collectively serve and protect by providing the highest quality of professional law enforcement services. The mission of the Troopers assigned to the St Albans Barracks is to protect the citizens of Franklin and Grand Isle Counties. By working together, we can educate, empower and foster trust within our community. We will strive to reduce crime and enforce the laws of our roadways through criminal investigations and aggressive motor vehicle enforcement.

#### **Specialty Services Provided by Troopers assigned to the St Albans Barracks**

In addition to their field primary responsibilities, many of the troopers assigned to the St Albans Barracks are members of special response teams that provide expert response capabilities in a variety of areas to address critical needs throughout Vermont.

The breakdown of these responses is as follows:

**1 Trooper – Drug Recognition Expert (DRE)**

**5 Troopers – on the Tactical Services Unit (TSU)**

**1 Trooper – on the Critical Action Team (CAT)**

**1 Trooper – on the Search and Rescue Team (SAR)**

**1 Trooper – on the Bomb Squad (EOD)**

**1 Trooper – on the CLAN lab team**

**2 Troopers – on the Crash Reconstruction Team (CRT)**

**1 Trooper – on the Crisis Negotiation Unit (CNU)**

**“Your Safety Is Our Business”**



**Annual Crime Statistics for the St. Albans Barracks:**

**Total Cases: 6066**

**Total Arrests: 456**

**Total Tickets Issued: 337**

**Total Warnings Issued: 1070**

**Fatal Accidents: 7**

**Total Burglaries Investigated: 48**

**Total DUI's: 50**

**Local Community Report for Montgomery:**

**Total Cases: 127**

**Total Arrests: 6**

**Total DUI's: 0**

**Total Accidents – Property Damage: 10**

**Total Accidents – Injury: 0**

**Total Vandalisms: 1**

**Total Alarms: 7**

**Total Burglaries: 1**

**Total Tickets: 0**

**Total Warnings: 0**

**We will continue to make our communities safer through enforcement, prevention, and community outreach. It is our privilege to serve the citizens of this community. Together, we will get through these challenging times.**

**Respectfully,**



**Lieutenant Michael Filipek  
Station commander**

## HILL WEST CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

### Annual Report to the 2024 Montgomery Annual Town Meeting

Hill West Cemetery, located above West Hill Brook on West Hill Road, appears to date from about 1870, for the earliest date on a gravestone in the cemetery is 1871. It is located on town land, which was roughly doubled in size by a donation by Peter Watson in 1978. The current size of the cemetery is about 30,000 square feet, or about two-thirds of an acre.

As plot-holders refurbished the cemetery from the dereliction into which it had fallen by mid-century, the Hill West Cemetery Association (HWCA) was established to administer the cemetery on behalf of the town, and the Association has ably administered the cemetery since that time. HWCA has 40 member households. Typically, several burials take place each year. HWCA holds an annual meeting each summer, and the agendas and minutes of all meetings are posted on the town bulletin boards and website in accordance with the Open Meeting Law. In 2016 and 2017 HWCA reviewed and revised its Bylaws and Rules, approving them at a Special Meeting in September 2017.

The 2023 Annual Association Meeting was held on July 26 in the conference room of the Montgomery Public Service Building. A record 18 people attended: Officers: President Jeffry Jewett, Vice President Earl Lumbra, Clerk Titus Presler, Treasurer Nancy Lumbra; and members Rebecca Blodgett Brush, Patrick Calecas, Brenda Deslandes, Raymond Deslandes, Amy Godfrey, Ruth Godfrey, Gary Jewett, Evelyn Jewett, Wayne Jewett, Kathryn King, Howard King, Ronald Lawyer, Stephen Rivers and Tom Tiller. Meeting in the PSB emphasizes the Association's accountability to the Town of Montgomery, on behalf of which it administers the cemetery.

The officers presented their reports, and the membership list was reviewed. Tribute was given to the service of longtime Clerk and Treasurer Irene Jewett, who died June 30 at her home in Richford. Her obituary and a sample of her minutes from 1982 were read aloud. A moment of silence was observed in her memory.

Discussion topics included the relationship among the several Montgomery cemeteries, signage and dues. The meeting received with thanks the Montgomery Historical Society's invitation that memorial observances can be held at Pratt Hall free of charge. The following officers were elected by unanimous voice votes: President for 2 years, Jeffrey Jewett; Vice President for 1 year, Kathryn King; Clerk for 2 years, Titus L. Presler; Treasurer for 1 year, Nancy Lumbra; Trustees, each for 1 year, Jeffrey Jewett, Gary Jewett, Earl Lumbra, Michael Jewett, Nancy Lumbra, Titus L. Presler and Amy Godfrey.

Hill West Cemetery continues to have burial plots available, and it provides for cremains as well. Interested persons can contact Jeff Jewett at 802-782-5466.



Titus L. Presler  
Clerk