

**Royalton, Vermont
Annual Report
2025
For the year ending June 30, 2024**



Town of Royalton Annual Meeting

Tuesday, March 4, 2025

223 South Windsor St (WRVSU Royalton Campus)

Polls open at 8:00 AM, Floor meeting begins at 10:00 AM

Town of Royalton Pre-Town Meeting

In-person at the Royalton Academy Building

6:30 pm Tuesday, February 25, 2025

Visit <http://www.royaltonvt.gov> for agenda

Vermont charter: December 20, 1781

New York Patent: November 13, 1769

Area: 30,000 acres

General Information

Emergency Services – Fire, Ambulance and Police	911
Royalton Police Department	802 – 763 - 8961 (fax) 763-7711
Royalton Fire Department	802 - 763 - 8133
Vermont State Police	802 - 234 – 9933
Fish and Wildlife Warden	802 - 234 – 9933

Royalton Town Offices	802 – 478 - 0680
Town Clerk – Mon – Thurs 8:00 – 3:00	ext. 101
Treasurer – Mon – Thurs 8:00 – 3:00	ext. 103
Listers – by appointment	ext. 105
Town Administrator – by appointment	ext. 104

Royalton Town Garage 802 - 763 – 7667

Pollution Abatement Facility (sewer treatment plant) 802 – 587 - 2722

Royalton Transfer Station 802 - 763 – 2232
Hours: visit www.whiteriveralliancesolidwaste.org

Royalton Memorial Library	802 - 763 - 7094
WRUD South Royalton Campus	802 - 763 – 7740
Orange – Windsor Supervisory Union	802 - 763 – 8840
Royalton Fire District	802 - 763 – 8974

Town of Royalton Notice of Regularly Scheduled Public Meetings

Royalton Selectboard – meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Royalton Town Office Building located at 85 Goodrich Meadows Royalton VT (Formerly 2460 Vt RT 14)

WRUD School Board – visit www.wrvsu.org

Royalton Planning Commission – meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 7pm at the Royalton Town Office Building located at 85 Goodrich Meadows Royalton VT (2460 Vt RT 14)

Royalton Recreation Commission – meets on the last Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Royalton Town Office Building located at 85 Goodrich Meadows (2460 Vermont Route 14)

Royalton Revolving Loan Fund – meets on an as needed basis at the Royalton Town Office Building

Prudential Board, Royalton Fire District #1 – meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Fire District Office Building

Board of Listers – meets on an as needed basis at the Royalton Town Office Building

Royalton Conservation Commission – Third Monday of the month at 6:30pm

Board of Civil Authority & Board of Abatement – Meets on an as needed basis at the Royalton Town Office Building

Royalton Cemetery Commission – Meets on an as needed basis at the Royalton Town Office Building

Agendas and meeting warnings are posted to the town’s website www.royaltonvt.gov in the documents and reports section in accordance with Vermont’s open meeting law.

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The Town has hired Mudgett, Jennett & Krogh-Wisner to complete the fiscal year '24' audit. The Report is available digitally on the town's website in the Documents & Reports section and at the town office.

ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS

Title	Name	Elected	Term Expires
Town Moderator (1-yr)	Allison N. Fulcher	2024	2025
Town Clerk (3-yr)	Karmen M. Bascom	2023	2026
Selectboard (3-yr)	Patrick Dakin	2024	2027
Selectboard (3-yr)	Stuart Levasseur, Chair	2023	2026
Selectboard (2-yr)	Nell Gwin	2024	2026
Selectboard (3-yr)	John P. Dumville	2022	2025
Selectboard (2-yr)	Timothy P. Murphy	2023	2025
Lister (3-yr)	Jeffrey Barcelow, Co-Chair	2022	2025
Lister (3-yr)	Walter Hastings, Co-Chair	2023	2026
Lister (3-yr)	David Barker (appointed*)	2024*	(2025*) 2027
Collector of Del. Taxes (1-yr)	Theresa Harrington	2024	2025
Trustee Public Funds (3-yr)	Joshua B. Powers	2022	2025
Trustee Public Funds (3-yr)	John P. Dumville	2024	2027
Trustee Public Funds (3-yr)	Donna Bohannon	2023	2026
1 st Constable (2-yr)	Todd Ballentine (appointed*)	2024*	(2025*) 2026
2 nd Constable (1-yr of 2-yr)	Linc Farrington	2024	2025
Cemetery Comm. (3-yr)	Josephine Levasseur	2022	2025
Cemetery Comm. (3-yr)	Kenneth Alton	2024	2027
Cemetery Comm. (2-yr of 3-yr)	Heather Leavitt	2024	2026
Library Trustee (2-yr)	Steven W. Hall	2024	2026
Library Trustee (2-yr)	Bridgett Taylor	2023	2025

White River Valley School District Officers – See White River Unified District Annual Report

Justices of the Peace

Peggy Ainsworth	802-763-8017
John P. Dumville	802-763-8567
Bob Hull	802-763-8999
Bruce V. Post	802-763-8466
Scott Puopolo	802-280-5308

Elected 11/2024 Term Expires 2/2027

Charles Bascom	802-763-7615
Allison Fulcher	802-296-1583
Suzanne Long	802-763-7981
Joshua “Bushrod” Powers	802-763-8087
Larry Trottier	802-763-7679

Windsor-Orange 1 State Representative

John O’Brien	802-889-3474
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Elected 2024 Term Expires 2026

jobrien@leg.state.vt.gov

District State Senators

Alison H. Clarkson	802-457-4627
Joe Major	802-622-4874
Rebecca White	802-777-4517

Elected 2024 Term Expires 2026

aclarkson@leg.state.vt.us

jmajor@leg.state.vt.us

rwhite@leg.state.vt.us

APPOINTED OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Planning Commission

Francey Slater (Clerk)	Bushrod Powers
Geo Honigford (Chair)	Nell Gwin
David Brandeau	Liz Roma
Peter Anderson	Emily Simpson
Patrick Dakin	

Recreation Commission

Miriam Clark (Director)	Jessica Jones
Emily Parker (Chair)	David Donahue
DJ Craven	Kristen Cronan
Julia Abraham	Vacant

Conservation Commission

Brad Salzmann	Bushrod Powers
Laura Romig	John Dettwiler
David Barker	Tico Wolf
Greg Stoloski	

Revolving Loan Fund Committee

Sandy Conrad (Chair)	Rita Hull
Bushrod Powers	Judy Hayward
Patrick Dakin	

Position

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>
Town Treasurer	Rita Hull
Assistant Treasurer	Vacant
Assistant Clerk	Jan Cilley
911 Coordinator	Jeff Barcelow
Flood Plain Admin.	Walter Hastings
Transportation Advisory Rep.	Victoria Paquin
Transportation Advisory Alt.	Vacant
Town Emergency Management Director	Brad Salzmann
Town Emergency Management Coordinator	Jennifer Harris
Town Health Officer	David Barker
Green-Up Day Chairperson	Heartland Lions Club
Civil Defense Chairperson	Brad Salzmann
Fire Warden	Donald Lovejoy
Tree Warden	Fred Glanzberg
Deputy Tree Warden	Vacant
Pound Keeper	Country Animal Hospital

TOWN OF ROYALTON ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARNING

The legal voters of the Town of Royalton are hereby warned and notified to meet in the Gymnasium of the White River Valley School (223 S. Windsor St) in said Town on March 4, 2025, between 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM to transact the following business by Australian Ballot:

Article I: To elect the following town officers as required by law:

Town Moderator for a term of One Year

Selectboard for a term of Three Years

Selectboard for a term of Two Years

Lister for a term of Three Years

Lister for a term of Two Years remaining of Three Years

Collector of Delinquent Taxes for a term of One Year

Trustee of Public Funds for a term of Three Years

First Constable for a term of One Year remaining of Two Years

Second Constable for a term of Two Years

Cemetery Commissioner for a term of Three Years

Library Trustee for a term of Two Years

Article II: Shall the Town adopt the Town of Royalton Flood Hazard Area Regulations, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 4424, as approved by the Selectboard on January 14, 2025?

The legal voters of the Town of Royalton are hereby warned and notified to meet in the Gymnasium of the White River Valley School (223 S. Windsor St) in said Town on March 4, 2025, at 10:00 AM to conduct the following business by floor vote:

Article III: Shall the voters authorize the Treasurer to collect real and personal taxes on or before **November 7, 2025**, with delinquent taxes subject to interest charges of one percent per month or fraction thereof and eight percent penalty charged against them from the due date?

Article IV: Shall the voters appropriate \$503,451 to the following Royalton organizations, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 2691?

	Approved 2024	Requested 2025
Community Food Shelf	\$15,000	\$15,000
Health Hub School Clinic	\$1,000	\$1,000
South Royalton Fire Department	\$131,915	\$185,850
Royalton Memorial Library	\$89,325	\$92,630
South Royalton Rescue Squad	\$184,605	\$193,671

Royalton Town Band	\$4,100	\$4,300
South Royalton One Planet Program	\$6,000	\$0
Fuller Stearn Post #51 (Memorial Day)	\$1,000	\$1,000
S. Royalton Area Senior Citizens	\$10,000	\$10,000
Total	\$442,945	\$503,451

Article V: Shall the voters appropriate \$24,924 to the following social service agencies, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 2691?

	Approved 2024	Requested
2025		
CV Council on Aging	\$1,500	\$1,500
Clara Martin Center	\$4,180	\$4,180
The Family Place	\$200	\$200
Healthcare & Rehab of S. VT	\$2,689	\$2,689
HIV/HCV Resource Center	\$500	\$500
Orange County Parent Child Center	\$1,000	\$1,000
VT Association of Conservation Districts	\$100	\$100
Safeline	\$1,000	\$1,000
TriValley Transit	\$3,800	\$3,800
Vermont Adult Learning	\$500	\$500
VT Assc. Of the Blind	\$750	\$750
VT Ctr. For Independent Living	\$305	\$305
Visiting Nurses	\$7,000	\$7,000
WR Partnership	\$500	\$500
WC Partners	\$500	\$500
<u>WC Youth Services</u>	<u>\$400</u>	<u>\$400</u>
Total	\$24,924	\$24,924

Article VI: Shall the voters authorize general fund expenditures for operating expenses of \$2,131,937, of which \$1,965,187 shall be raised by taxes and \$ 166,750 raised by non-tax revenues?

Article VII: Shall the voters authorize highway fund expenditures of \$1,505,093 of which \$1,350,093 shall be raised by taxes and \$ 155,000 shall be raised by non-tax revenues?

Article VIII: Shall the town assess a one percent (1%) tax on all sales of meals, alcoholic beverages, and rooms in accordance with 24 VSA 138(b)?

Polls open Tuesday, March 4, 2025 from 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

Floor Meeting begins Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at 10:00 AM.

Dated this 21st day of January, 2025

By the Selectboard members of the Town of Royalton.

SELECTBOARD REPORT

This year's budget proposal from the Select Board is a difficult ask of the Town. We recognize that rising costs are hitting every household here in Royalton, all over the state, and the country. Unfortunately, rising costs are not limited to households, but also hit Town governments. Rising costs that we cannot control, like health care increases for Town employees, service fees, like dispatching for emergency services, maintenance on Town infrastructure and equipment, and the cost of replacing equipment drive up the budget. Costs for recovery from recurring storm events and damage seem to be an annual consideration now, and not an occasional burden. Materials being taken from the Town mining operation have not been as good as anticipated, meaning every repair and maintenance is more costly than anticipated, as we need to continue buying material instead of using our own. Previous Town budgets have held the line on increases for the most part, but the pressure continued to mount. The Town budget in recent years often did not keep pace with inflation. We now find that some budget items, like reserve funds for equipment and infrastructure, are simply not enough to cover our current situation. The Select Board sees this budget as a painful reality and know that hard conversations and maybe harder choices are ahead as we decide, as a Town, what is important enough for us to pay for in the future.

The Select Board is also presenting to the voters a proposal to revise our current Flood Hazard regulations. The new bylaw is an expansion of the areas in Town that are included in the hazard area and does propose greater restrictions for development in those areas. Changes in weather patterns and destructive storm events are real, and as those events increase in frequency and intensity, so do the risks to development in flood affected areas. The Planning Commission developed these changes primarily for public safety-the second highest cause of death during flooding comes from people trapped in their houses. Homeowners or occupants in need of rescue also put first responders at risk in those events. The State has passed a state wide flood hazard ordinance that goes into effect in 2028; having an updated, stronger set of regulations in our Town means we would most likely be able to continue local control and decisions over the flood hazard areas instead of giving up that control to state appointed officials in Montpelier. Having these updated and stronger regulations in place would also give the Town a 5% higher reimbursement rate from the State for flood recovery. With six and seven figure recovery costs not unusual recently, this amounts to real savings for the Town. We do recognize these regulations will have

real impacts on Town residents-some more than others. We still believe this is overall a better solution than not responding to the dangers and the costs of continued and destructive flooding.

Fiscal Year 2024 started off with a bang, in early July 11th Vermont was hit with a storm that weighed heavily on the road infrastructure in Royalton, Gee Hill Road, Broad Brook Road, Johnson Hill Road, Happy Hollow Road were some of the worst hit, 30 roads total.

All suffered heavy damage to roadways and culverts resulting in millions of dollars in repair costs. FEMA compensation covered 90% of damage costs, with State funds covering an additional 8%, so the burden to the town is 2% of the repair costs. The Clay Hill Slide on Broad Brook is still unrepaired and the bill for that project may be as much as \$2.2 Million alone.

Some projects in the works were delayed due to the more immediate needs for road repairs, this included repaving the North Road, now expected to begin in Summer 2025 and the ADA accessible sidewalk project for Chelsea Street which is now working through right of way acquisition and is anticipated to be under construction in 2026.

Last year's mud season was rough partly due to a broken grader. We have repaired the grader and purchased a new one as well which should help immensely when it comes time to fix roads in the spring. The Selectboard and Highway department have realized that the current gravel layers out of the town pit are not suitable, and we have been purchasing coarser gravel, but it will take some time to fully distribute the coarser gravel to all the roads.

In the spring of 2024, the Fox Stand Bridge was inspected by State transportation inspectors and determined to be unsafe for any traffic. That bridge was closed in April 2024 and is expected to take 5 years to replace it. Construction of a temporary bridge will begin in the spring of 2025.

Royalton Selectboard signed an agreement to construct a building on the town office lot to house the ambulance and on-call personnel, groundbreaking for this project is expected to be in the Spring of 2025.

A late discovery was an undermined abutment under bridge #2 on Broad Brook Road which cost an additional \$105K to shore up the abutment. The replacement of the abutment is underway.

The total replacement cost of the bridge is expected to be \$695K

The town is undergoing a townwide reappraisal, more info in the lister's report.

Vtrans replaced a narrow and low underpass on Route 14 near Vesper rd. after the bridge underwent damage from being struck by a truck.

A big thank you to Pam Sorrentino for donating the plants and for her work in tending the flower beds outside the town office building and at the post office.

Royalton Selectboard

TOWN CLERK REPORT

ELECTIONS (BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY): What a busy year for Elections. Early on our Board of Civil Authority welcomed a dozen new junior and local election officials into our fold to assist with anticipated high voter turnouts. With a total of *ten* assorted town, school, bond, Vermont, and general elections behind us this year—you were all appreciated. Our polling places are complying with new laws which prohibit guns inside polling places. Each year, our Moderator and BCA chair, Allison Fulcher takes State training. The “Tune-up” incorporates new procedures and laws necessary for efficiently managing Town Meetings and BCA hearings. Plus, our office honed up on State coursework focused on tabulator technology alongside poll worker and communications efficiency. Training for all our officials continues to lean toward technology as the tabulator and assistive ballot devices become more prominent Statewide.

BOARD OF ABATEMENT: Our BOA has adopted the S.55 open meeting law access requirements. An audio recording will now be available prior to the finalization of minutes. Our BOA held four meetings with a total of four hearings. \$7,863.74 total abated.

LICENSING: Dog Licensing: Thanks to Country Animal Hospital again, we hosted a rabies clinic for Royalton and neighbors. 229 licenses for 2024: females- 93 spayed and 23 intact; males- 93 neutered and 20 intact. Please note Vermont law requires dogs aged 6 months and older to have copies of current rabies certification and spayed or neutered licenses on file at the clerk’s office. ID tags required. Please license your dog here or by mail. Owners, unlicensed dogs subject up to \$50 in fines. Vermont has increased their portion of the fees. Now due by April 1: \$13 neutered/spayed or \$17.00 intact. After April 1 add \$4.00.

LICENSING Liquor and tobacco: Licenses now expire one year from issuance. This year, our selectboard approved 34 licenses and/or special catering events held by 13 businesses.

VITAL & LAND RECORDS We continue to safekeep our vault and oversee recording and the archival integrity of our town’s records. In 2024 we recorded over 45 vital records. See attached Clerk Vital Records report. We documented over 487 assorted deed transfers, mortgages, discharges, mylar maps, highway, and town records. This year’s recording project focused on our on-line recordings available at www.royaltonvt.gov. We now have over 25 years of on-line recordings. A big “thank you” to Jan Cilley, our assistant town clerk for scanning five additional years even with the major election cycle.

OTHER SERVICES: Voter registration; research of public vital and land documents; copying and fax services; marriage licenses; Green Mountain Passports; VT F&W licenses and transit tags; posting permits; DMV vehicle renewals; Vermont approved birth and death certificates and local certified documents. Limited notary services and legal postings.

FUNDRAISING: Dragonheart Vermont’s clerk rowing team: Freedom & Unity raised over \$3,500 in 2024. Want to join us or honor a loved for this coming year? Please get in touch.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve everyone in our town,

Karmen M. Bascom, Royalton Town Clerk

TOWN MEETING MINUTES 2024

The Royalton Town Meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. by Moderator Allison N. Fulcher. Moderator Fulcher led with The Pledge of Allegiance followed by a request to the townspeople to go straight to the Warning without pre-reading in its entirety and for permission to allow people from other towns to speak on behalf of their social service agencies requesting funding from Royalton residence was granted.

Warning and notifying the legal voters to meet in the Gymnasium of the White River Valley School (223 S. Windsor St) in said Town on March 5, 2024, between 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM to transact the following business by Australian Ballot, Moderator Fulcher proceeded to read the following articles:

Article I: To elect the following town officers as required by law:

Town Moderator for a term of One Year

Selectboard for a term of Three Years

Selectboard for a term of Two Years

Lister for a term of Three Years

Collector of Delinquent Taxes for a term of One Year

Trustee of Public Funds for a term of Three Years

First Constable for a term of Two Years

Second Constable for a term of One year remaining of Two Years

Cemetery Commissioner for a term of Three Years

Cemetery Commissioner for a term of Two Years remaining of Three Years

Library Trustee for a term of Two Years, and then commenced to read:

The legal voters of the Town of Royalton are hereby warned and notified to meet in the Gymnasium of the White River Valley School (223 S. Windsor St) in said Town on March 5, 2024, at 10:00 AM to conduct the following business by floor vote:

Article II: Shall the voters authorize the Treasurer to collect real and personal taxes on or before **November 1, 2024**, with delinquent taxes subject to interest charges of one percent per month or fraction thereof and eight percent penalty charged against them from the due date?

Paul Brock motioned, and Bushrod Powers seconded. Moderator Fulcher asked if anyone wanted to discuss Article II. Hearing no discussion, a call was made for a vote by show of cards. Motion carried; Article II passed.

Article III: Shall the town establish a reserve fund to be called the Recreation Reserve Fund to be used for the provision of improvements, equipment, and supplies to support recreation in Royalton in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2804?

Tim Murphy motioned, and Kate George seconded. Moderator Fulcher asked if anyone wanted to discuss Article III. Hearing no discussion, a call was made for a vote by show of cards. Motion carried; Article III passed.

Article IV: Shall the town raise and appropriate a sum of \$2,000 to fund the Recreation Reserve Fund?

Jerry Barcelow motioned, and Walter Hastings seconded. Moderator Fulcher asked if anyone wanted to discuss Article IV. Hearing no discussion, a call was made for a vote by show of cards. Motion carried; Article IV passed.

For Article V Moderator Fulcher requested to read the article as a single grouping with separate discussion available on any single organization’s request. The townspeople had no concerns. The reading commenced.

Article V: Shall the voters appropriate \$442,945 to the following Royalton organizations, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 2691?

	Approved 2023	Requested 2024
Community Food Shelf	\$10,000	\$15,000
Health Hub School Clinic	\$1,000	\$1,000
South Royalton Fire Department	\$132,515	\$131,915
Royalton Memorial Library	\$86,549	\$89,325
South Royalton Rescue Squad	\$164,963	\$184,605
Royalton Town Band	\$3,900	\$4,100
South Royalton One Planet Program	\$6,000	\$6,000
Fuller Stearn Post #51 (Memorial Day)	\$700	\$1,000
<u>S. Royalton Area Senior Citizens</u>	<u>\$5,000</u>	<u>\$10,000</u>
Total	\$410,627	\$442,945

Mark Wood motioned and Chris Noble seconded. Moderator Fulcher asked if anyone wanted to discuss Article V. Hearing no discussion, a call was made for a vote by show of cards. Motion carried; Article V passed.

Article VI: Shall the voters appropriate \$24,924 to the following social service agencies, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 2691?

2024	Approved 2023	Requested
CV Council on Aging	\$1,500	\$1,500
Clara Martin Center	\$4,180	\$4,180
The Family Place	\$200	\$200
Healthcare & Rehab of S. VT	\$2,689	\$2,689
HIV/HCV Resource Center	\$500	\$500
Orange County Parent Child Center	\$1,000	\$1,000
VT Association of Conservation Districts	\$100	\$100

Safeline	\$1,000	\$1,000
TriValley Transit	\$3,800	\$3,800
Vermont Adult Learning	\$500	\$500
VT Assoc. of the Blind	\$750	\$750
VT Ctr. For Independent Living	\$305	\$305
Visiting Nurses	\$7,000	\$7,000
WR Partnership	\$500	\$500
WC Partners	\$500	\$500
<u>WC Youth Services</u>	<u>\$400</u>	<u>\$400</u>
Total	\$24,924	\$24,924

Pam Levasseur motioned, and Hoyt Bingham seconded. Moderator Fulcher asked if anyone wanted to discuss Article VI. A representative from The Family Place spoke about their organization and thanked Royalton’s townspeople for their continued support. Chair Fulcher called for a vote by show of cards. Motion carried; Article VI passed.

Article VII: Shall the voters authorize general fund expenditures for operating expenses of \$ 1,810,336, of

which \$ 1,620,986 shall be raised by taxes and \$ 189,350 raised by non-tax revenues?

John Dumville motioned and Chris Noble seconded. Moderator Fulcher asked if anyone wanted to discuss Article VII. Hearing no discussion, a call was made for a vote by show of cards. Motion carried; Article VII passed.

Article VIII: Shall the voters authorize highway fund expenditures of \$ 1,324,040, of which \$ 1,169,040 shall be raised by taxes and \$ 155,000 shall be raised by non-tax revenues?

Jerry Barcelow motioned, and Juhn Dumville seconded. Moderator Fulcher asked if anyone wanted to discuss Article VIII. Discussion proceeded. Robert Gray asked Tim Murphy if North Road would be paved in 2024. Tim Murphy said paperwork and RFP’s were slated for April of 2024 for thorough repairs, not just paving. Also, it was confirmed that some town gravel is too soft, but much harder pack is being trucked in and the selectboard is hopeful they can contract with a local gravel pit company once that company’s licensing is completed. Dan Kinney asked where other town funds come from. Chris Noble said amongst other sources: Academy Building rentals and clerk fees. Jim Hudson opined that back road grading is poor, too wide and flat with no apparent crowns for water run-off. Ian MacKenzie noted there will be a focus on extra ditching, which the road crew had not recently had time for. Sandy Manouvelos asked for repairs on Oxbow Road. Tim Murphy told the town that Oxbow Road qualifies for paving and that village septic lines were also due for repairs and/or extensions. Because Oxbow lies above the proposed septic repairs, there would need to be a coordinated effort to make sure the septic lines were first improved prior to paving Oxbow Road. This project is also being focused on in 2024. Tim Burman asked about Casella trucks and posted weight limit signs. Tina Lyman raised concerns about finding an adequate spot to park her bus on Johnson Hill. AJ Hoyt also asked about using more hardpack. Tim Murphy reiterated that a local pit, which the selectboard was hoping to use as soon as the company’s ACT

250 permits were in order. Jerry Barcelow moved the question, the motion was seconded. Motion was denied.

Paul Brock moved forward with discussion as he asked the highway department to please notify them (Fire and Rescue staff) as to which roads were impassable. Tim Murphy immediately phoned Demi Boles, Highway Foreman. Brian Mahon expressed concern over the Back River Road's rail safety specifications due to the current road height. Chair of Selectboard Chris Noble agreed and said the areas of concern would be looked at. Tim Murphy let the townspeople know that he, along with Chief Loretta Stalnaker and Road Foreman Boles had been looking into trouble spots such as Broad Brook Road Boles. Chris Noble stated that the major flood damage this summer had already totaled \$2.7 million dollars, but FEMA is expected to pay 87.5 percent of Royalton's corresponding expense. It was also agreed that some routine highway maintenance had been deferred due to flooding, but that the board was determined to focus on some form of ongoing plan for future road maintenance and very appreciative of all the people who had stepped forward and volunteered their many services and help during our town's summer flooding damages.

Bushrod Powers jested that for \$62 million dollars, we could pave the entire town. It was asked if there was training available in grading techniques. Tim Murphy said the State would drive with highway workers to help with best practices. Moderator Fulcher requested a show of cards to approve Article VIII. The motion carried to approve Article VIII.

Article IX: Shall the voters exempt from taxation the 2.9-acre Paine's Beach recreation area owned by the Heartland Lions Club for a period of five years pursuant to V.S.A. 32 § 3840?

John Dumville motioned, and Don Hilts seconded. Moderator Fulcher asked for discussion. Matt Matule asked for the cost of the exemption. Walter Hastings said it was a small amount and just the local portion; probably about .01 percent or \$2,000. Moderator Fulcher requested a show of cards to approve Article IX. The motion carried. Article IX was approved.

Article X: Shall the voters exempt from taxation 1.5 acre and dwelling of the Royalton Area Food Shelf owned by the United Church of South Royalton at 2955 Vt. Route 14 South Royalton, Vt. 05068, for the period of 5 years pursuant to V.S.A. 32 §3840?

Jerry Barcelow motioned, and Chair Noble seconded. Moderator Fulcher requested a show of hands to approve Article X, which carried.

John Dumville rose to present two selectboard members who were stepping down with gratitude and a town vase. Board member Dumville thanked Chair Noble for his two terms and dedication to our town even while serving overseas in Bougainville for our military. Board member Jerry Barcelow was also thanked for his ongoing commitment to us all as a town optometrist, his key role in organizing the transfer station reorganization, which is now "running in the black" and his time with the Rescue Squad. Grateful applause followed for both men.

Chair Noble said he was "profoundly amazed" at this town's volunteerism; that he was lucky to live in beautiful Royalton on his wife's family property, where her father farmed. Jim Hudson recognized the board by saying it was a thankless job, but he appreciated them regardless and could the town reports come out a little sooner please.

Board member Barcelow motioned to adjourn and Pamela Levasseur seconded. Moderator Fulcher asked the townspeople for a show of cards and after approval, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Registered voters on checklist: 2,042

Registered voters in attendance: 110

Respectfully submitted: signatures on file

Allison N. Fulcher, Royalton Town Moderator and Board of Civil Authority Chair

Karmen M. Bascom, Royalton Town Clerk

GENERAL FUND REVENUES & EXPENDITURES

Royalton General Fund Budget FY 26	Budget FY 24	Actual FY 24	Variance	Budget FY25	Proposal FY 26	Difference
General Fund Revenue						
500 Current Tax Income	\$1,395,000	\$1,220,017	(\$174,983)	\$1,620,986	\$1,965,187	\$344,201
506 Delinquent Tax Interest	\$20,000	\$10,676	(\$9,324)	\$16,000	\$10,000	(\$6,000)
507 Delinquent Tax Penalties	\$25,000	\$29,573	\$4,573	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0
508 State of Vermont PILOT	\$95,000	\$96,024	\$1,024	\$95,000	\$95,000	\$0
510 Fees	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
512 State of VT Homestead		\$83,261	\$83,261	\$0		\$0
513 Railroad Tax	\$2,000	\$4,734	\$2,734	\$4,500	\$2,000	(\$2,500)
514 Refunds & Reimbursements	\$0		\$0	\$0		\$0
515 Clerk Fees	\$25,000	\$17,910	(\$7,090)	\$23,000	\$15,000	(\$8,000)
516 Dog License fees	\$3,500	\$2,555	(\$945)	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0
517 Liquor License fees	\$1,000	\$875	(\$125)	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
519 State Judiciary Fines	\$1,000	\$5,919	\$4,919	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
520 Local Fines	\$500	\$645	\$145	\$0	\$0	\$0
521 Interest Earned	\$1,250	\$1,317	\$67	\$1,250	\$1,250	\$0
522 Recreation Income (inc. 523&524)	\$3,000	\$1,475	(\$1,525)	\$5,000	\$1,500	(\$3,500)
533 Revenue From Sales			\$0	\$0		\$0
534 Rental Income	\$21,500	\$15,955	(\$5,545)	\$18,000	\$15,000	(\$3,000)
536 Hourly Rental Income (Academy Bldg)	\$3,500	\$4,575	\$1,075	\$0		\$0
537 Grant Income		\$1,306	\$1,306	\$0		\$0
538 Donations		\$200	\$200	\$0		\$0
540 Other Income	\$0	\$45,009	\$45,009	\$0		\$0
545 Special Activity Revenue	\$0	\$6,328	\$6,328	\$0		\$0
551 Police Revenue Other than Fines	\$750	\$4,014	\$3,264	\$750	\$750	\$0
552 Insurance / Loan Proceeds		\$202	\$202	\$0		\$0
563 Fundraiser Revenue			\$0	\$0		\$0
588 Victim Fund Revenue		\$805	\$805	\$0	\$500	\$500
589 Marriage Fund Revenue		\$255	\$255	\$750	\$750	\$0
590 F&G Revenue		\$496	\$496	\$600	\$500	(\$100)
591 Security Deposit Revenue		\$3,400	\$3,400	\$0		\$0
Treasurer Reimb from WWF	\$6,100		(\$6,100)	\$0		\$0
Total General Fund Revenue	\$1,604,100	\$1,557,526	(\$46,574)	\$1,810,336	\$2,131,937	\$321,601
100 Selectboard Office						
1001 Wages (Selectboard Stipend)	\$5,600	\$5,600	\$0	\$5,600	\$5,600	\$0
1002 Town Administrator Wages	\$80,000	\$82,024	(\$2,024)	\$84,710	\$88,524	\$3,814

Royalton General Fund Budget FY 26	Budget FY 24	Actual FY 24	Variance	Budget FY25	Proposal FY 26	Difference
1003 Town Manager Wages	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000	\$0		\$0
1003 Accounting Assistant (Defunct)	\$0		\$0	\$0		\$0
1004 FICA	\$14,199	\$6,756	\$7,443	\$6,853	\$7,162	\$309
1005 Medical Insurance	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	\$3,500	\$3,500
1006 Retirement	\$9,450	\$4,306	\$5,144	\$4,659	\$5,090	\$431
1007 Mileage		\$0	\$0			\$0
1008 Office Supplies	\$300	\$0	\$300	\$300	\$0	(\$300)
1009 Telephone (See 101)			\$0			\$0
1010 Dental Insurance	\$450	\$449	\$1	\$450	\$464	\$14
1011 Misc Exp			\$0			
1012 Technology	\$0	\$32	(\$32)	\$500	\$0	(\$500)
1017 Education	\$500	\$415	\$85	\$500	\$800	\$300
1208 Vacation Wages			\$0			\$0
1213 Sick / Personal Wages		\$504	(\$504)			\$0
Total Selectboard Office Expenses	\$230,499	\$100,084	\$130,415	\$103,572	\$111,139	\$7,567
101 Town Office Building						
1008 Supplies	\$500	\$3,666	(\$3,166)	\$1,500	\$3,800	\$2,300
1009 Telephone	\$1,800	\$2,067	(\$267)	\$1,800	\$2,200	\$400
1013 Contractor Services (Cleaning)	\$15,000	\$14,577	\$423	\$15,500	\$0	(\$15,500)
1057 Electricity	\$4,000	\$4,164	(\$164)	\$7,000	\$8,500	\$1,500
1058 Heat (fuel cost)	\$3,500	\$2,927	\$573	\$3,500	\$4,000	\$500
1059 Repairs & Maintenance	\$1,000	\$7,329	(\$6,329)	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0
1060 Mowing	\$250		\$250	\$500	\$500	\$0
1071 Rental of Equipment		\$1,548	(\$1,548)	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
1139 Security System	\$2,400	\$1,212	\$1,188	\$4,000	\$3,000	(\$1,000)
Total Town Office Building Expenses	\$28,450	\$37,490	(\$9,040)	\$38,300	\$26,500	(\$11,800)
102 Town Clerk Office						
1002 Wages	\$39,538	\$41,235	(\$1,697)	\$41,910	\$42,958	\$1,048
1003 Assistant Wages	\$14,000	\$12,941	\$1,059	\$15,500	\$18,963	\$3,463
1004 FICA	\$4,096	\$4,067	\$29	\$4,644	\$5,009	\$365
1005 Medical Insurance	\$7,100	\$7,100	\$0	\$7,100	\$7,100	\$0
1006 Retirement	\$2,076	\$2,149	(\$73)	\$2,305	\$2,470	\$165
1007 Mileage	\$200	\$115	\$85	\$200	\$200	\$0
1008 Office Supplies	\$1,000	\$652	\$348	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
1010 Dental Insurance	\$450	\$449	\$1	\$450	\$450	\$0
1012 Technology	\$500		\$500	\$500	\$500	\$0
1017 Education	\$500	\$210	\$290	\$500	\$500	\$0
1654 B& G Maintenance Purchases			\$0	\$0		\$0
1657 Dog License - To State	\$1,650	\$950	\$700	\$1,650	\$1,650	\$0
1658 Marriage License - to State	\$750	\$975	(\$225)	\$750	\$750	\$0
1659 F&G License - To State	\$600	\$470	\$130	\$600	\$600	\$0
1662 Clerk paid to Town			\$0			\$0
1070 Refunds			\$0			\$0
Total Town Clerk Expenses	\$72,460	\$71,313	\$1,147	\$77,110	\$82,150	\$5,041

Royalton General Fund Budget FY 26	Budget FY 24	Actual FY 24	Variance	Budget FY25	Proposal FY 26	Difference
103 Treasurer's Office						
1002 Wages	\$32,000	\$29,907	\$2,093	\$33,002	\$39,000	\$5,998
1003 Assistant Wages	\$4,000	\$490	\$3,510	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0
1004 FICA	\$2,754	\$2,450	\$304	\$2,993	\$3,479	\$485
1005 Medical Insurance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000
1006 Retirement	\$1,680	\$1,617	\$63	\$1,815	\$2,243	\$427
1007 Mileage	\$50	\$0	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$0
1008 Office Supplies	\$1,000	\$2,035	(\$1,035)	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
1010 Dental Insurance	\$450	\$449	\$1	\$450	\$468	\$18
1011 Misc Exp		\$15	(\$15)			\$0
1012 Technology	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$0
1017 Education	\$250	\$0	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$0
Total Treasurer Expenses	\$42,684	\$36,963	\$5,721	\$44,061	\$53,989	\$9,929
104 Listers Office						
1002 Wages	\$27,030	\$24,975	\$2,055	\$27,976	\$36,400	\$8,424
1003 Wages 911 Coordinator	\$1,000	\$878	\$122	\$1,000	\$1,200	\$200
1004 FICA	\$2,145	\$1,984	\$161	\$2,344	\$3,042	\$698
1007 Mileage	\$300	\$203	\$97	\$300	\$300	\$0
1008 Office Supplies	\$500	\$713	(\$213)	\$500	\$1,200	\$700
1012 Technology	\$8,000	\$6,502	\$1,498	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$0
1013 Subcontractor (Reappraisal)	\$1,000	\$215	\$785	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
1016 Advertising		\$120	(\$120)			
1017 Education	\$500	\$200	\$300	\$500	\$500	\$0
1020 Postage	\$200	\$47	\$153	\$200	\$200	\$0
1600 Transfer to Reserve 31	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
Total Lister Expenses	\$43,675	\$38,838	\$4,837	\$44,820	\$54,842	\$10,022
105 Delinquent Tax Collector						
1002 Wages	\$25,000	\$19,318	\$5,682	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0
1004 FICA	\$1,913	\$1,478	\$435	\$1,618	\$1,618	\$0
1011 Misc Expense		\$3,413	(\$3,413)			
1016 Advertising	\$500		\$500	\$500	\$1,000	\$500
1024 Legal Fees	\$4,000	\$5,878	(\$1,878)	\$4,000	\$8,000	\$4,000
Total Delinquent Tax Collector	\$31,413	\$30,087	\$1,326	\$26,118	\$30,618	\$4,500
106 Town Report						
1015 Printing	\$2,500	\$3,283	(\$783)	\$2,750	\$3,500	\$750
1020 Postage	\$550	\$512	\$38	\$600	\$800	\$200
Total Town Report	\$3,050	\$3,795	(\$745)	\$3,350	\$4,300	\$950
107 Town Operations						
1007 Mileage		\$98	(\$98)			
1008 Supplies	\$5,000	\$3,677	\$1,323	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0
1009 Telephone						
1011 Misc. Exp.	\$0		\$0	\$0		\$0
1012 Technology	\$22,000	\$33,419	(\$11,419)	\$32,000	\$36,000	\$4,000
1013 Contractor Services (Payroll Service)	\$4,000	\$4,410	(\$410)	\$5,000	\$5,500	\$500

Royalton General Fund Budget FY 26	Budget FY 24	Actual FY 24	Variance	Budget FY25	Proposal FY 26	Difference
1016 Advertising	\$1,000	\$162	\$838	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
1017 Education			\$0			\$0
1018 Audit Expense	\$14,000	\$13,400	\$600	\$16,500	\$17,500	\$1,000
1019 Insurance	\$38,000	\$53,158	(\$15,158)	\$25,800	\$35,000	\$9,200
1020 Postage	\$2,000	\$1,395	\$605	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
1022 Windsor County Tax	\$20,000	\$19,008	\$992	\$15,500	\$15,500	\$0
1023 Dues & Fees	\$4,000	\$6,297	(\$2,297)	\$4,000	\$6,500	\$2,500
1024 Legal Fees	\$6,000	\$4,862	\$1,138	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$0
1026 Emergency Management	\$2,000	\$180	\$1,820	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
1027 E-911	\$500		\$500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0
1036 Solid Waste Alliance Fee	\$38,500	\$38,500	(\$0)	\$38,500	\$38,500	\$0
1048 Green Up VT	\$400	\$150	\$250	\$800	\$800	\$0
1059 Repairs & Maintenance			\$0	\$500	\$0	(\$500)
1071 Equipment Rental (Printers)	\$2,500	\$937	\$1,563	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0
1073 Health Officer Stipend		\$2,170	(\$2,170)	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0
1600 Transfer to Capital Improvement Reserve	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$50,000
1607 Green Mtn Economic Dev.	\$1,385		\$1,385	\$1,385	\$1,385	\$0
1638 Conservation Commission	\$500	\$1,731	(\$1,231)	\$750	\$750	\$0
Total Town Operations	\$211,785	\$233,552	(\$21,767)	\$220,735	\$287,435	\$66,700
108 Appropriations						
1011 Misc Exp (One Planet)	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$0	\$6,000	\$0	(\$6,000)
1031 South Royalton Fire Dept	\$132,515	\$132,515	\$0	\$131,915	\$185,850	\$53,935
1032 Royalton Memorial Library	\$86,549	\$86,549	\$0	\$89,325	\$92,630	\$3,305
1033 South Royalton Rescue Squad	\$164,963	\$164,963	(\$0)	\$184,605	\$193,671	\$9,066
1034 South Royalton Town Band	\$3,900	\$3,900	\$0	\$4,100	\$4,300	\$200
1035 VFW Memorial Day Activities	\$700	\$700	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
1037 HIV Resource Center	\$500	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$0
1039 Central Vermont Council on Aging	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0
1040 Clara Martin Center	\$4,180	\$4,180	\$0	\$4,180	\$4,180	\$0
1041 The Family Place	\$200	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$200	\$0
1042 Northern Vt Resource Cons. & Dev.	\$100	\$100	\$0	\$100	\$100	\$0
1043 Safeline	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
1044 South Royalton Area Senior Center	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0
1045 VT Adult Learning	\$500	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$0
1046 VT Association of the Blind	\$750	\$750	\$0	\$750	\$750	\$0
1047 Center for Independent Living	\$305	\$305	\$0	\$305	\$305	\$0
1049 Visiting Nurse Alliance	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$0	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$0
1050 White River Partnership	\$500	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$0
1051 Windsor County Mentors	\$500	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$0
1052 Windsor County Youth Services	\$400	\$400	\$0	\$400	\$400	\$0
1055 Healthcare & Rehab of Southern VT	\$2,689	\$2,689	\$0	\$2,689	\$2,689	\$0
1245 Tri Valley Transit	\$3,800	\$3,800	\$0	\$3,800	\$3,800	\$0

Royalton General Fund Budget FY 26	Budget FY 24	Actual FY 24	Variance	Budget FY25	Proposal FY 26	Difference
1253 Orange County Parent Child	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
1643 Royalton Food Shelf	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0
1644 Health Hub	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
Appropriations Total	\$435,551	\$435,551	(\$0)	\$467,869	\$528,375	\$60,506
109 Royalton Memorial Library Building						
1013 Contractors		\$650	(\$650)			\$0
1056 Assessments (Water & Sewer)	\$1,500	\$1,557	(\$57)	\$3,500	\$2,000	(\$1,500)
1057 Electricity	\$5,000		\$5,000	\$3,000	\$1,500	(\$1,500)
1058 Heat	\$1,500	\$465	\$1,035	\$1,500	\$1,000	(\$500)
1059 Repairs & Maintenance	\$1,000	\$2,016	(\$1,016)	\$3,000	\$7,000	\$4,000
1060 Mowing	\$250		\$250	\$500	\$250	(\$250)
1071 Rental of Equipment						
1139 Security System	\$2,400	\$744	\$1,656	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$0
Total Royalton Memorial Library Building	\$11,650	\$5,431	\$6,219	\$12,700	\$12,950	\$250
110 Planning Commission						
1002 Wages	\$450		\$450	\$450	\$450	\$0
1003 Flood Zone Administrator Wages	\$1,000		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
1004 FICA	\$111		\$111	\$111	\$111	\$0
1007 Mileage	\$100		\$100	\$100	\$100	\$0
1011 Misc Exp	\$200	\$100	\$100	\$200	\$200	\$0
1013 Subcontractors	\$400		\$400	\$400	\$400	\$0
1015 Printing	\$750	\$180	\$571	\$750	\$750	\$0
1016 Advertising	\$500	\$63	\$437	\$500	\$500	\$0
1017 Education	\$500		\$500	\$500	\$500	\$0
1053 Fees - TRORC	\$4,483	\$4,483	\$0	\$4,483	\$4,758	\$275
Total Planning Commission	\$8,494	\$4,826	\$3,668	\$8,494	\$8,769	\$275
111 Meetings & Elections						
1004 FICA	\$123	\$11	\$112	\$130	\$130	\$0
1007 Mileage	\$50	\$41	\$9	\$50	\$50	\$0
1008 Supplies	\$750	\$674	\$76	\$750	\$750	\$0
1011 Misc Exp	\$200		\$200	\$200	\$200	\$0
1015 Printing Exp	\$750	\$373	\$377	\$750	\$750	\$0
1017 Education	\$500	\$30	\$470	\$500	\$500	\$0
1061 Moderator Wages	\$300		\$300	\$300	\$300	\$0
1062 Ballot Clerk Wages	\$1,000		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
1063 Presiding Officer Fee	\$300	\$150	\$150	\$300	\$300	\$0
Total Meetings & Elections	\$3,973	\$1,280	\$2,693	\$3,980	\$3,980	\$0
112 Enforcement						
1002 Police Wages	\$195,000	\$205,862	(\$10,862)	\$255,000	\$267,262	\$12,262
1003 Administrative Wages	\$20,534	\$18,964	\$1,570	\$21,550	\$27,256	\$5,706
health officer wages (move to Town Ops)	\$8,000					\$0
1004 FICA	\$16,489	\$19,824	(\$3,335)	\$22,373	\$23,827	\$1,454
1005 Medical Insurance	\$25,000	\$26,077	(\$1,077)	\$25,000	\$41,800	\$16,800

Royalton General Fund Budget FY 26	Budget FY 24	Actual FY 24	Variance	Budget FY25	Proposal FY 26	Difference
1006 Retirement	\$10,238	\$12,158	(\$1,920)	\$28,943	\$31,002	\$2,060
1007 Mileage	\$100	\$68	\$32	\$100	\$100	\$0
1008 Supplies & Tools	\$4,000	\$6,860	(\$2,860)	\$4,000	\$7,000	\$3,000
1009 Telephone	\$3,500	\$5,220	(\$1,720)	\$4,500	\$5,500	\$1,000
1010 Dental Insurance	\$1,350	\$1,288	\$62	\$1,350	\$1,500	\$150
1011 Misc Exp			\$0			\$0
1012 Technology	\$3,000	\$2,234	\$766	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
1013 Subcontractors (Dispatching)	\$25,000	\$15,214	\$9,786	\$28,000	\$35,000	\$7,000
1015 Printing	\$200		\$200	\$200	\$500	\$300
1017 Education	\$1,500	\$1,794	(\$294)	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0
1019 Insurance	\$28,000	\$23,394	\$4,606	\$21,500	\$30,000	\$8,500
1020 Postage	\$100	\$149	(\$49)	\$100	\$150	\$50
1023 Fees	\$500	\$307	\$193	\$500	\$500	\$0
1059 Vehicle Maintenance & Equipment	\$8,000	\$7,943	\$57	\$9,500	\$13,000	\$3,500
1064 Wages - Special Detail		\$1,905	(\$1,905)			
1066 Uniforms	\$1,500	\$3,579	(\$2,079)	\$1,500	\$3,000	\$1,500
1067 Equipment	\$10,000	\$10,952	(\$952)	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0
1068 Dog Control	\$750	\$548	\$202	\$750	\$750	\$0
1071 Equipment Rental (Printer)	\$800	\$750	\$50	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
1073 Constable Stipend		\$6,040	(\$6,040)	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$0
1112 Vehicle Fuel	\$8,500	\$8,841	(\$341)	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0
1208 Vacation Wages		\$4,320	(\$4,320)			\$0
1213 Sick / Personal Wages		\$4,570	(\$4,570)			\$0
1600 Police Vehicle Reserve Transfer	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0	\$21,000	\$35,000	\$14,000
1647 Training Supplies	\$3,000		\$3,000	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$0
1664 Wages - Detail Patrol		\$27,945	(\$27,945)			\$0
1705 Wages - Tunbridge Contract		\$3,115	(\$3,115)			\$0
Total Enforcement	\$395,061	\$439,923	(\$52,862)	\$480,865	\$558,147	\$77,282
113 Recreation Commission						
1002 Recreation Director Wages	\$9,222	\$9,493	(\$271)	\$9,010	\$9,010	\$0
1004 FICA	\$706	\$667	\$39	\$729	\$729	\$0
1008 Supplies	\$500	\$45	\$455	\$500	\$500	\$0
1016 Advertising		\$108	(\$108)	\$150		
1019 Insurance	\$2,500	\$86	\$2,414	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$500
1023 Dues & Fees	\$500	\$72	\$428	\$500	\$500	\$0
1056 Assessment (Water Bills)	\$50	\$182	(\$132)	\$500	\$500	\$0
1059 Repairs & Maintenance	\$5,000	\$915	\$4,085	\$5,000	\$2,000	(\$3,000)
1060 Mowing	\$1,000		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
1071 Equipment Rental (portalets)	\$2,000	\$2,029	(\$29)	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0
1072 Special Activity Supplies & Performers	\$6,000	\$1,491	\$4,509	\$6,000	\$2,000	(\$4,000)
1078 Concerts		\$1,763	(\$1,763)			\$0
1600 Transfer out to reserve				\$2,000	\$2,000	
1648 Ice Rink	\$2,000		\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
Total Recreation	\$29,478	\$16,851	\$12,627	\$32,389	\$25,739	(\$6,500)

Royalton General Fund Budget FY 26	Budget FY 24	Actual FY 24	Variance	Budget FY25	Proposal FY 26	Difference
114 Recreation Sports Program						
1008 Supplies	\$500	\$182	\$318	\$500	\$500	\$0
1073 Stipends	\$1,000		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
1609 Baseball	\$12,500	\$6,841	\$5,659	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
1610 Soccer	\$2,500	\$2,024	\$476	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0
1611 Basketball	\$1,200	\$235	\$965	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$0
1622 Babe Ruth	\$1,500	\$145	\$1,355	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0
1649 Soccer Camp			\$0			\$0
Total Recreation Sports	\$19,200	\$9,427	\$9,773	\$9,700	\$9,700	\$0
115 Royalton Academy Building						
1002 Wages	\$10,000	\$8,778	\$1,222	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$0
1004 FICA	\$765	\$676	\$89	\$971	\$971	\$0
1008 Supplies	\$1,000	\$1,678	(\$678)	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
1009 Telephone	\$700	\$823	(\$123)	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
1011 Misc Exp		\$2	(\$2)			
1013 Subs /Consultants (SOS Water service)		\$3,016	(\$3,016)	\$1,000	\$3,500	
1019 Insurance			\$0			\$0
1023 Dues & Fees		\$200	(\$200)			
1057 Electricity	\$4,500	\$4,427	\$73	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$0
1058 Heat	\$10,000	\$7,415	\$2,585	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$0
1059 Repairs & Maintenance	\$7,500	\$16,332	(\$8,832)	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$0
1070 Deposit Refunds		\$3,100	(\$3,100)			\$0
1139 Security System	\$750	\$1,136	(\$386)	\$1,000	\$1,200	\$200
1210 Water Testing		\$330	(\$330)	\$500	\$650	\$150
1248 Snow Removal	\$300	\$920	(\$620)	\$750	\$1,000	\$250
Total Royalton Academy Building	\$35,515	\$48,834	(\$13,319)	\$42,221	\$45,321	\$600
116 Buildings & Grounds						
1002 Wages	\$15,779	\$11,103	\$4,676	\$16,331	\$62,581	\$46,250
1004 FICA	\$1,208	\$850	\$358	\$1,321	\$5,063	\$3,742
1005 Medical Insurance					\$7,100	\$7,100
1006 Retirement					\$3,598	\$3,598
1008 Supplies						\$0
1012 Tech/ Computer		\$1,416	(\$1,416)	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0
1013 Subcontractors (heat pump / generator)	\$17,500	\$11,473	\$6,027	\$18,000	\$18,540	\$540
1016 Advertising		\$360				\$0
1028 Old Schoolhouse	\$500		\$500	\$500		(\$500)
1029 Town House	\$1,000	\$1,310	(\$310)	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0
1059 Repairs & Maintenance	\$10,000	\$16,752	(\$6,752)	\$11,000	\$20,000	\$9,000
1060 Mowing	\$25,000	\$35,068	(\$10,068)	\$27,500	\$36,000	\$8,500
1071 Rental of Equipment	\$2,000	\$1,759	\$241	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0
1083 Street Lights	\$17,000	\$19,370	(\$2,370)	\$18,500	\$20,000	\$1,500
1137 Community Garden	\$1,500	\$1,955	(\$455)	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0
1137 Hope Property Expenses	\$500		\$500	\$500	\$500	\$0
1215 Old Bank Building	\$1,500	\$346	\$1,154	\$1,500	\$3,000	\$1,500

Royalton General Fund Budget FY 26	Budget FY 24	Actual FY 24	Variance	Budget FY25	Proposal FY 26	Difference
1222 Landscaping	\$5,500	\$183	\$5,317		\$5,500	
1231 South Royalton Village Green	\$1,000	\$1,226	(\$226)	\$1,500	\$5,000	\$3,500
1654 B& G Maintenance Purchases	\$6,000	\$656	\$5,344	\$6,500	\$5,000	(\$1,500)
Total Buildings & Grounds	\$105,987	\$103,827	\$2,520	\$110,152	\$198,882	\$83,230
117 Town Supported Cemeteries						
1059 Repairs & Maintenance	\$2,000		\$2,000	\$2,000	\$5,000	\$3,000
1084 North Royalton Cemetery	\$4,800	\$7,744	(\$2,944)	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$0
1085 Broad Brook (Powers) Cemetery	\$3,000	\$1,779	\$1,221	\$3,000	\$5,000	\$2,000
1086 Hickey Cemetery	\$1,800	\$1,457	\$343	\$1,800	\$3,000	\$1,200
1087 Metcalf Cemetery	\$300	\$60	\$240	\$300	\$1,500	\$1,200
1088 Perrin #1 Cemetery	\$75		\$75	\$75	\$150	\$75
1089 Perrin #2 Cemetery	\$75		\$75	\$75	\$150	\$75
1097 Howard Lot	\$75		\$75	\$75	\$150	\$75
1098 Lindley Lot	\$75		\$75	\$75	\$150	\$75
Pleasant Hill					\$500	\$500
Riverview					\$2,000	\$2,000
1099 Haven Cemetery	\$2,000	\$1,360	\$640	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$1,000
Total Town Supported Cemeteries	\$14,200	\$12,399	\$1,801	\$16,900	\$28,100	\$11,200
118 Debt Service						
1200 Interest on Long Term Debt	\$15,000	\$15,709	(\$709)	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0
1201 Chelsea St Bridge			\$0			\$0
1629 USDA 97-02 (Crawford Property)	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0
1226 Royalton Memorial Library Loan	\$26,000	\$28,770	(\$2,770)	\$26,000	\$26,000	\$0
1600 Interfund Transfer Out		\$31,924	(\$31,924)			\$0
Total Debt Service	\$61,000	\$96,403	(\$35,403)	\$61,000	\$61,000	\$0
Total General Fund Expenditures	\$1,784,125	\$1,726,875		\$1,804,336	\$2,131,937	\$319,751
General Fund Net	(\$180,025)	(\$169,349)		\$6,000	\$0	
Available Fund Balance FY24		\$89,551.13				

HIGHWAY FUND REVENUES & EXPENDITURES

Royalton Highway Fund Budget FY 26	Budget FY 24	Actual FY 24	Variance	Budget FY 25	Proposal FY 26	Difference
Highway Fund Revenue						
500 Current Tax Income	\$850,000	\$850,000	\$0	\$1,169,040	\$1,350,093	\$181,053
514 Refunds & Reimbursements	\$0		\$0	\$0		\$0
521 Interest Earned	\$0	\$310	\$310	\$0		\$0
526 State Highway Aid	\$155,000	\$162,990	\$7,990	\$155,000	\$155,000	\$0
538 Donations		\$3,500				
540 Other income		\$2,187	\$2,187			
552 Insurance/loan proceeds			\$0			
Total Highway Fund Revenue	\$1,005,000	\$1,018,988	\$10,488	\$1,324,040	\$1,505,093	\$181,053
119 Labor Operations						
1002 Wages	\$245,000	\$229,955	\$15,045	\$296,100	\$307,944	\$11,844
1004 FICA	\$18,743	\$28,908	(\$10,166)	\$23,954	\$24,913	\$958

Royalton General Fund Budget FY 26	Budget FY 24	Actual FY 24	Variance	Budget FY25	Proposal FY 26	Difference
1005 Medical Insurance	\$45,000	\$29,755	\$15,245	\$51,000	\$39,750	(\$11,250)
1006 Retirement	\$12,863	\$15,052	(\$2,189)	\$16,286	\$17,707	\$1,421
1007 Mileage	\$500		\$500	\$500	\$500	\$0
1008 Office Supplies	\$100	\$110	(\$10)	\$100	\$100	\$0
1010 Dental Insurance	\$1,800	\$1,758	\$42	\$3,000	\$3,120	\$120
1011 Misc Exp	\$100		\$100	\$100	\$0	(\$100)
1016 Advertising	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
1017 Education	\$500		\$500	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
1019 Insurance	\$16,000	\$16,033	(\$33)	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0
1023Dues/fees.license.permit	\$1,600	\$1,350	\$250	\$1,600	\$1,600	\$0
1066 Uniforms	\$3,500	\$4,300	(\$800)	\$3,500	\$4,500	\$1,000
1081 Overtime	\$37,500	\$41,070	(\$3,570)	\$40,000	\$41,600	\$1,600
1208 Vacation Wages		\$9,728	(\$9,728)			\$0
1213 Sick / Personal Wages		\$8,933	(\$8,933)			\$0
Total Labor Expenses	\$383,205	\$386,952	(\$3,747)	\$457,140	\$462,733	\$5,593
120 Facility Operations						
1008 Supplies	\$3,000	\$2,631	\$369	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$0
1009 Telephone	\$750	\$670	\$80	\$750	\$360	(\$390)
1011 Misc. exp		\$250	(\$250)		\$0	\$0
1012 Technology	\$1,750	\$2,301	(\$551)	\$2,000	\$2,300	\$300
1013 Subcontractor/Consultant		\$4,824	(\$4,824)		\$0	\$0
1016 Advertising	\$400		\$400	\$400	\$0	(\$400)
1019 Insurance	\$22,855	\$18,648	\$4,207	\$14,750	\$25,000	\$10,250
1057 Electricity	\$3,750	\$2,848	\$902	\$3,750	\$3,500	(\$250)
1058 Heat	\$8,500	\$9,084	(\$584)	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0
1059 Repairs & Maintenance	\$3,000	\$3,607	(\$607)	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0
1071 Equipment Rental		\$60	(\$60)		\$100	\$100
Total Facility Expenses	\$44,005	\$44,924	(\$919)	\$40,150	\$49,660	\$9,510
121 Special Projects						
1013 Subcontractors (cross painting)		\$8,643	(\$8,643)		\$10,000	\$10,000
1023 Dues/License/Fees/Permit						
1024 Legal Fees	\$4,000	\$1,000	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0
1091 Paving Sidewalk / Guardrail	\$3,000	\$1,800	\$1,200	\$3,000	\$20,000	\$17,000
1600 Transfer to HWY improvement res.	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$0	\$150,000	\$200,000	\$50,000
Total Special Project Expenses	\$157,000	\$161,443	(\$4,443)	\$157,000	\$234,000	\$77,000
122 Equipment Rental						
1600 Transfer to Equipment Fund	\$180,000	\$180,000	\$0	\$180,000	\$225,000	\$45,000
Total Equipment Expenses	\$180,000	\$180,000	\$0	\$180,000	\$225,000	\$45,000
123 Materials						
1011 Misc Exp	\$500		\$500	\$500	\$0	(\$500)
1013 Subcontractors	\$3,500	\$4,982	(\$1,482)	\$5,000	\$7,500	\$2,500
1071 Rental of Equipment	\$2,500	\$18,875	(\$16,375)	\$3,500	\$4,500	\$1,000
1100 Misc. Equipment (sand screener)	\$1,000		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
1112 Fuel, oil, grease	\$80,000	\$62,612	\$17,388	\$115,000	\$115,000	\$0
1113 Salt	\$50,000	\$31,266	\$18,734	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0

Royalton General Fund Budget FY 26	Budget FY 24	Actual FY 24	Variance	Budget FY25	Proposal FY 26	Difference
1114 Sand		\$14,948	(\$14,948)			\$0
1115 Gravel	\$45,000	\$82,432	(\$37,432)	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0
1117 Cold Patch	\$1,500	\$2,282	(\$782)	\$1,500	\$2,200	\$700
1119 Hardpack		\$1,190		\$75,000	\$115,000	\$40,000
1120 Calcium Chloride	\$15,000	\$11,200	\$3,800	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$0
1121 Culverts	\$5,000	\$3,506	\$1,494	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$2,000
1122 Other Materials	\$1,000		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
1217 2 1/4" plant mix		(\$6,475)	\$6,475			
1218 Street Signs	\$2,500	\$3,367	(\$867)	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0
1236 1 1/4" Plant Mix	\$20,000	\$52,080	(\$32,080)	\$20,000		(\$20,000)
1237 7"+ Plant Mix	\$17,500	\$1,800	\$15,700	\$17,500	\$20,000	\$2,500
1600 Transfer to Crawford Closure Reserve	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$0	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$0
Total Materials Expenses	\$253,000	\$292,065	(\$37,875)	\$401,500	\$429,700	\$28,200
124 Maintenance of Equipment						
1011 Misc Exp	\$10,000	\$17,761	(\$7,761)	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$5,000
1108 Chipper	\$500	\$162	\$338	\$500	\$500	\$0
1112 Fuel, oil, grease		(\$5,657)	\$5,657			
1214 CAT Grader	\$11,500	\$32,898	(\$21,398)	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$0
NEW CAT GRADER					\$8,000	\$8,000
1230 05 JD Roadside Mower	\$2,500	\$41,270	(\$38,770)	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0
1247 Vacuum Leaf Collector	\$500		\$500	\$500	\$500	\$0
1251 2010 JD Backhoe	\$3,750	\$7,384	(\$3,634)	\$3,750	\$4,500	\$750
1615 JD Snowblower/sweeper	\$3,000	\$7,372	(\$4,372)	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
1621 2012 Dodge Ram	\$7,000	\$11,908	(\$4,908)	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$0
1628 2024 International	\$7,000		\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$0
1630 2025 Freightliner	\$7,000	\$13,012	(\$6,012)	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$0
1634 2017 Int'l Truck	\$8,500	\$25,797	(\$17,297)	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$0
1635 2016 Dodge Ram	\$7,000	\$470	\$6,530	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$0
1637 Ford Bucket Truck	\$2,000	\$153	\$1,847	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
1641 2018 Komatsu Loader	\$5,000	\$19,042	(\$14,042)	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$1,000
1646 2019 Freightliner	\$6,500	\$4,135	\$2,365	\$6,500	\$7,000	\$500
1653 JD Excavator	\$3,000	\$541	\$2,459	\$3,000	\$3,500	\$500
1655 Ford 1ton	\$3,000	\$250	\$2,750	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
Total Maintenance of Equipment	\$87,750	\$176,497	(\$88,747)	\$88,250	\$104,000	\$15,750
Total Highway Fund Expenditures	\$1,104,960	\$1,241,881	(\$136,921)	\$1,324,040	\$1,505,093	\$181,053
Highway Fund Net	(\$99,960)	(\$222,893)		\$0	(\$0)	

FLOOD HAZARD AREA REGULATIONS – PROPOSED BYLAW

***Note – Draft Flood Hazard Area Regulations are being provided in the town report for voter convenience and should not be considered to be the official draft copy of the proposed bylaw. The Table of Contents for the proposed Bylaw has been eliminated from the town report and other changes to formatting have been made due to space constraints. Copies of the bylaw including the Table of Contents are available at www.royaltonvt.gov or by request.**

I. Statutory Authorization and Effect

In accordance with 24 V.S.A. Chapter 117, §§ 4424 and 4414, this is a bylaw for areas at high risk of flood damage in the Town of Royalton, Vermont. Except as additionally described below, all administrative procedures follow municipal procedures under 24 V.S.A. Chapter 117 and 44 CFR § 60.3(d).

II. Purpose

- A. To implement the goals, policies, and recommendations in the municipal plan;
- B. To protect health, safety and welfare of the public, minimize and prevent the loss of life and property, the disruption of commerce, the impairment of the tax base, and the extraordinary public expenditures and demands on public services that result from flooding-related inundation and erosion hazards;
- C. Support equitable wellbeing for the entire community;
- D. Ensure that development in our community protects floodplain and river corridor functions, and avoids and reduces damage from flooding and erosion;
- E. Manage all flood hazard areas pursuant to 24 VSA §4382 and 10 VSA §§751, 753; and
- F. Make the Town of Royalton, its citizens, and businesses eligible for federal flood insurance, federal disaster recovery funds, and hazard mitigation funds, as may be available.

III. Summary Table: Development Review in Hazard Areas

- P - Permitted(AdministrativePermit)
- C – Conditional Use Review and Approval prior to Administrative Permit
- P - Prohibited
- A - Exempted
- S – State Permit Required, exempt from local review

See definition for each mapped area below the summary table.

#	Activity	Floodway	Flood Hazard Areas	0.2% ACE (500 year Flood Hazard Zone)	River Corridors
1	New Structures	X	X	X	X
2	Storage	X	X	X	X
3	Improvements to Existing Structures	C	P, C	P, C	C
4	Small Accessory Structures	X	P	P	P
5	At Grade Parking	C	P	P	P
6	Replacement water supply or septic systems	C	C	P	C
7	Fill or grading resulting in no net loss of flood storage	C	C	C	P

#	Activity	Floodway	Flood Hazard Areas	0.2% ACE (500 year Flood Hazard Zone)	River Corridors
8	Fill or grading resulting in a loss of flood storage	X	X	X	C
9	Road maintenance	A	A	A	A
10	Road improvements	C	C	C	C
11	Bridges and culverts	S, P	S, P	S, P	S, P
12	Channel management	S, C	S, C	S, C	S, C
13	Recreational vehicles	P	P	P	P
14	Open space, recreation	A	A	A	A
15	Forestry and Agriculture	S	S	S	S

Definitions:

Floodway: The channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than one foot at any point. Please note that flood hazard areas and floodways may be shown on separate map panels.

Special flood hazard area (SFHA): The land in the floodplain within a community subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. For purposes of this bylaw, the term “area of special flood hazard” is synonymous in meaning with the phrase “special flood hazard area.” This area is usually labeled Zone A, AE, AO, AH, or A1-30 in the most current flood insurance studies and on the maps published by FEMA. Maps of this area are available for viewing in the municipal office or online from the FEMA Map Service Center: msc.fema.gov. Base flood elevations have not been determined in Zone A where the flood risk has been mapped by approximate methods. Base flood elevations are shown at selected intervals on maps of special flood hazard areas that are determined by detailed methods. Please note, where floodways have been determined they may be shown on separate map panels from the Flood Insurance Rate Maps.

0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Areas (0.2% ACE): The land in the floodplain within a community subject to a 0.2% annual chance flood hazard. This area is labeled as Shaded Zone X on the most current Flood Insurance Studies and on the maps published by FEMA. Shaded Zone X is also referred to as the “500 year” flood zone. Maps of this area are available for viewing in the municipal office or online from the FEMA Map Service Center: msc.fema.gov.

River corridor: The land area adjacent to a river that is required to accommodate the dimensions, slope, planform, and buffer of the naturally stable channel and that is necessary for the natural maintenance or natural restoration of a dynamic equilibrium condition and for minimization of fluvial erosion hazards, as delineated by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources in accordance with river corridor protection procedures. (10 V.S.A. § 1422).

IV. River Corridors

A. Purpose River corridors provide rivers and stream channels with the space necessary to maintain or reestablish floodplain access and to reduce erosion hazards through natural physical processes. It is the intent of this bylaw to

protect public health and safety by avoiding new encroachments into river corridors and minimizing erosion-related damage to existing structures.

A permit is required from the AO for all development that is located within the River Corridor except as provided in Section IV C.1. Where River Corridors and Flood Hazard Areas overlap, both sets of standards apply, with the strictest taking precedence.

B. River Corridor Boundaries

1. This article applies to the River Corridors in the Town of Royalton Vermont, as published by the Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) including refinements to that data which are hereby adopted by reference.
2. On perennial streams with a watershed size greater than half a square mile for which River Corridors are not mapped, the standards shall apply to the area measured as 50 feet from the top of the stream bank or slope.
3. The information presented on any maps, or contained in any studies adopted by reference, is presumed accurate. If uncertainty exists with respect to the boundaries of the River Corridor, the location of the boundary on the property shall be determined by the Administrative Officer (AO).
4. If the applicant disagrees with the determination made by the AO or with the river corridor as mapped, the applicant has the option to either:
 - a. Hire a licensed land surveyor or registered professional engineer to stake out the River Corridor boundary as mapped on the property; or,
 - b. Provide data as needed for ANR to update the river corridor map following the Flood Hazard Area and River Corridor Protection Procedure (“Procedure”); or
 - c. Request a letter of determination from ANR that the proposed development meets the Performance standard in the Procedure.

C. Development Review in River Corridors

1. Exempted Activities - The following activities do not require a permit under this section of the bylaw:
 - a. The removal of a building or other improvement in whole or in part, so long as the ground elevations under and adjacent to the removed structure remain unchanged;
 - b. Any changes to a structure that will not change the footprint of the structure;
 - c. Maintenance of existing sidewalks, roads, parking areas, stormwater drainage, bridges, culverts, and channel stabilization;
 - d. Functionally dependent uses that must be placed in or cross over rivers and streams, that are also not located in a flood hazard area, and that have coverage under a Stream Alteration Permit, if required, under 10 V.S.A. Chapter 41 and the rules adopted thereunder including the construction, removal, or repair of bridges and culverts, associated transportation and utility networks, dams, and dry hydrants;
 - e. Planting projects which do not include any construction or grading;
 - f. Subdivision of land that does not involve or authorize development;
 - g. Activities exempt from municipal regulation and requiring a permit from ANR under the Vermont Flood Hazard Area and River Corridor Rule (CVR 12-030-024) including:
 - i. State-owned and operated institutions and facilities;
 - ii. Forestry operations or silvicultural (forestry) activities conducted in accordance with the Vermont Department of Forests and Parks Acceptable Management Practices for Maintaining Water Quality on Logging Jobs in Vermont or other accepted silvicultural practices, as defined by the Commissioner of Forests, Parks and Recreation;

- iii. Agricultural activities conducted in accordance with the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Market's Required Agricultural Practices (RAPs). Prior to the construction of farm structures, the farmer shall notify the AO in writing of the proposed activity. The notice shall contain a sketch of the proposed structure including setbacks;
- iv. Public utilities regulated under 30 V.S.A. § 248;
- v. Telecommunications facilities regulated under 30 V.S.A. § 248a;

2. Prohibited Development in the River Corridor

- a. New structures, fill, and development that do not meet the standards in Section IV.D Development Standards;
- b. Any other development that is not exempt, permitted, or listed as a conditional use which the Administrative Officer determines would cause or contribute to fluvial erosion hazards.

3. Permitted by Administrative Review

The following development activities meeting the Development Standards in the River Corridor in Section IV. D1 or 2, may be permitted directly by the AO:

- a. Small accessory structures not larger than 500 square feet;
- b. Improvements to utilities along an existing right of way and serving a building;
- c. Replacement on-site septic systems;
- d. Access and parking;
- e. An attached deck or patio to an existing structure that is 200 square feet or less and is located no less than 100 feet from the top of bank;
- f. Unimproved trails on native grades and soils that will be relocated as needed to accommodate channel adjustments and avoid degradation to bank stability and riparian habitat;
- g. River or floodplain restoration projects that do not involve fill, structures, utilities, or other improvements, and which have written confirmation from the ANR Regional Floodplain Manager that the project is designed to meet or exceed the applicable standards in this bylaw;

4. Conditional Use Review

Conditional use review and approval by the BOA in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 4461 is required prior to the issuance of a permit by the AO for any activity in the River Corridor that is not exempt, prohibited, or eligible for administrative review.

Uses made nonconforming in the river corridors area as a result of the adoption of this ordinance shall be allowed to continue, so long as the use is not subsequently abandoned. A nonconforming use shall be considered abandoned when it is not actively in use for its intended purpose for more than 12 months. No expansion of a pre-existing nonconforming use shall be permitted in the river corridors area. Examples: parking of vehicle, storage of material

D. Development Standards within the River Corridor

These are the minimum standards for development in the River Corridor. Where development is proposed within the River Corridor and Inundation Hazard Area, the most restrictive standard shall take precedence.

1. In-Fill: Development must be located no closer to the top of bank than the existing primary structures, within a gap that is no more than 300 feet (see Figure 1), or

2. Down River Shadow: An addition to an existing habitable structure, or an accessory structure that is adjacent to an existing structure, may be located in the shadow area directly behind and further from the channel than the existing structure, or within 50 feet to the downstream side and no closer to the top of bank. Below-ground utilities may also be placed within the same shadow dimensions of an existing below-ground system (see Figure 2). Only primary structures existing before the date of adoption of this bylaw may be considered for shadowing other development.

3. River Corridor Performance Standard

Proposals that do not meet the infill or shadowing criteria in section D. 1 or 2 must demonstrate, and the BOA must find, that the proposed development will:

- a. not be placed within 50 feet of the top of bank, or slope when no obvious top of bank is present;
- b. not be placed on land with a history of fluvial erosion damage or threatened by fluvial erosion;
- b. not cause the river reach to depart from or further depart from the channel width, depth, meander pattern, and slope associated with natural stream processes and equilibrium conditions; and,

c. not result in a need for bank armoring or stream channelization as a result of the proposed development, that would increase flood elevations and velocities, or alter the sediment regime triggering channel adjustments and erosion in adjacent and downstream locations.

4. In order to make its findings, the BOA may request or consider additional information to determine if the proposal meets the River Corridor Performance Standard, including data and analysis from a consultant qualified in the evaluation of river dynamics and erosion hazards; and comments provided by the DEC Regional Floodplain Manager on whether the proposal meets the River Corridor Performance Standard.

5. New paths or alterations to paths that provide access to the water for the public, and promote the public trust uses of the water, shall not necessitate bank armoring, and must be relocated when the channel adjusts toward the path.

V. Flood Hazard Area Protection

A. Purpose

To protect public health and safety by avoiding cumulative increases in flood elevations, velocities, and river instability; the cumulative loss of beneficial floodplain functions; and to minimize flood damage to development and services already located within this hazard zone.

B. Lands to Which this Bylaw Applies

1. Flood Hazard Areas

This bylaw shall apply to the Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA) and the 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Areas, as mapped in the Town of Royalton, Vermont identified in and on the most current flood insurance studies and maps published by the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), National

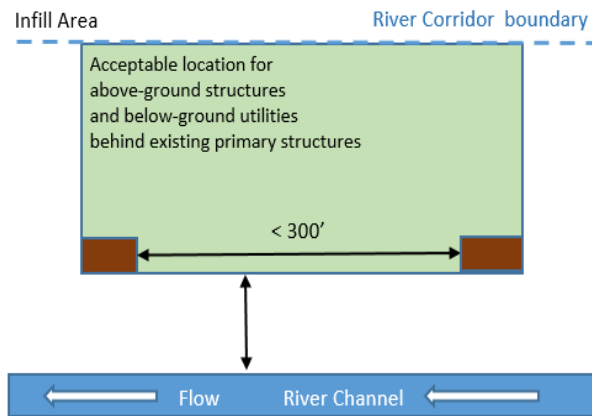


Figure 1: In-fill Development Standard

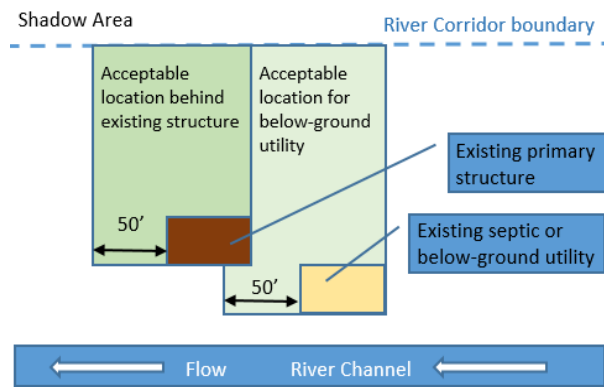


Figure 2: Shadow Area Development Standard

Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), as provided by the Secretary of the Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 753, which are hereby adopted by reference and declared to be part of this bylaw.

2. Base Flood Elevations and Floodway Limits

a. Where available, base flood elevations (BFE) and floodway limits provided by the NFIP and in the Flood Insurance Study and accompanying maps shall be used to administer and enforce this bylaw.

b. The floodway, as adopted by this community, shall consist of the channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that shall be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than one foot at any point.

c. In the Inundation Hazard Areas where base flood elevations and/or floodway limits have not been provided by the NFIP in the Flood Insurance Study and accompanying maps, it is the applicant's responsibility to develop the necessary data. Where available, the applicant shall use data provided by FEMA, or state or federal agencies to administer this bylaw.

d. If the Town acquires data that indicates a change in published base flood elevations, the Town will, within 6 months, submit the technical or scientific data to Vermont ANR and the NFIP Map Specialist.

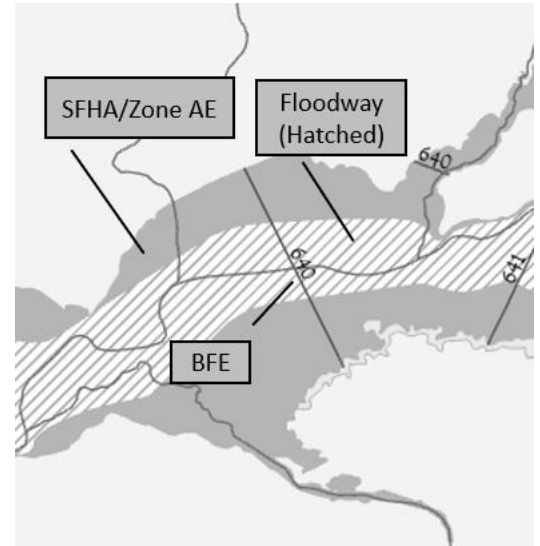


Figure 3 Diagram of Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) containing the Floodway (shown in hatched pattern). Also, cross-sections marked with the Base Flood Elevation (BFE) at that location.

C. Jurisdictional Determination

1. The information presented on any maps, or contained in any studies, adopted by reference, is presumed accurate. Applicants believing the map is in error shall provide a Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA) or other determination by FEMA that the development is not in the SFHA, 0.2% ACE, or floodway.

2. If uncertainty exists with respect to the boundaries of the Flood Hazard Area, the location of the boundary shall be determined by the Administrative Officer (AO).

D. Development Requirements in the Flood Hazard Areas

1. Permits - Except as provided in Section V D.2 Exempted Activities, a permit is required from the AO for all development that is located within the Inundation Hazard Area. Development that requires conditional use approval or a variance from the Board of Adjustment (BOA) under this bylaw must have such approvals prior to the issuance of a permit by the AO. All permits shall require that a permittee have all other necessary permits from state and federal agencies before work may begin.

2. Exempted Activities - The following activities do not require a permit under this section of this bylaw:

a. The removal of a building in whole or in part, so long as the ground elevations under and adjacent to the removed structure remain unchanged;

b. Routine maintenance of existing buildings;

c. Interior improvements or repairs to existing buildings that cost less than 500 dollars;

d. Maintenance of roads, bridges, or stormwater drainage;

e. Streambank stabilization, and abutment work that do not reduce the cross-sectional flow area of the river or stream channel and have coverage under a Stream Alteration Permit, if required;

- f. Planting projects which do not include any construction or grading activities in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 4424(c);
- g. Subdivision of land that does not involve or authorize development;
- h. The following activities are exempt from municipal regulation, but may require a permit under the State’s “Vermont Flood Hazard Area and River Corridor Rule” (Environmental Protection Rule, Chapter 29):
 - i. State-owned and operated institutions and facilities;
 - ii. Forestry operations and silvicultural (forestry) activities conducted in accordance with the Vermont Department of Forests and Parks Acceptable Management Practices for Maintaining Water Quality on Logging Jobs in Vermont or other accepted silvicultural practices, as defined by the Commissioner of Forests, Parks and Recreation;
 - iii. Agricultural activities conducted in accordance with the Vermont Agency of Agriculture Food and Market’s Required Agricultural Practices (RAPs). Prior to the construction of farm structures, the farmer shall notify the AO in writing of the proposed activity. The notice shall contain a sketch of the proposed structure including setbacks meeting community requirements;
 - iv. Public utilities regulated under 30 V.S.A. § 248;
 - v. Telecommunications facilities regulated under 30 V.S.A. § 248a;

3. Administrative Review; Permitted Development

The following development activities in the Inundation Hazard Area and meeting the Development Standards in Section V E, may receive a permit from the AO without review by the BOA:

- a. Outside of the Floodway, but within the Inundation Hazard Areas:
 - i. A maximum of two accessory structures, no greater than 500 square feet each, shall be allowed per parcel. Additional accessory structures may be permitted to replace accessory structures that have been removed, demolished, or destroyed.
 - ii. New fill for existing associated transportation and utility networks or to accommodate a replacement on-site septic system, if it can be demonstrated that no other practicable alternative is available;
 - iii. River and floodplain restoration projects, including dam removal, that restore natural and beneficial floodplain functions and include written confirmation from the ANR Regional Floodplain Manager that the project is designed to meet or exceed the applicable standards in this bylaw;
 - iv. At or below grade development (e.g. parking areas, at grade patios);
- b. Within the Inundation Hazard Areas (including floodway):
 - i. Improvements or repairs from damage to structures that do not expand the existing footprint and do not meet the definition of “substantial improvement” or “substantial damage”;
 - ii. Building utilities (See definition, Section VIII);
 - iv. Open fencing or posts (See definition, Section VIII);
 - v. Municipal transportation infrastructure improvements designed by the Vermont Agency of Transportation that have written confirmation from the ANR Regional Floodplain Manager that the project is designed to at least meet the applicable standards in this bylaw;
 - vi. Recreational vehicles or travel trailers (See development standards in Section V E 5);

4. Prohibited Development:

- a. New critical facilities in the SFHA and the 0.2% ACE;

b. New residential or non-residential structures in the SFHA and 0.2% ACE¹ (small accessory structures are permitted in the SFHA and 0.2% ACE and outside the floodway per Section V D 3 a (i));

c. Storage of materials or junk yards in the SFHA and the 0.2% ACE;

5. Conditional Use Review

In accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 4414, conditional use review and approval by the BOA is required prior to the issuance of a permit by the AO for any activity in the Inundation Hazard Areas that is not exempt, prohibited, or eligible for administrative review.

E. Development Standards within the Flood Hazard Area

1. There shall be no net loss of flood storage capacity,

a. Except as needed to fill an existing basement to grade or mitigate an existing structure;

2. All development below the Design Flood Elevation (DFE)², except development that is exempt under Section V D2, shall be:

a. Reasonably safe from flooding;

b. Designed (or modified) and adequately anchored to prevent flotation, collapse, release, or lateral movement of the structure;

c. Constructed with materials resistant to flood damage;

d. Constructed by methods and practices that minimize flood damage;

e. Constructed with electrical, heating, ventilation, plumbing and air conditioning equipment and other service facilities that are designed and/or located so as to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during conditions of flooding;

f. Adequately drained to reduce exposure to flood hazards;

3. New fuel storage tanks and vents must be elevated above the DFE and securely anchored;

Storage tanks may be placed underground if a qualified professional certifies the installation will be anchored and protected from flood forces.

4. In Zones AE and A1 – A30 where floodway limits have not been determined by FEMA, development shall not be permitted unless it is determined that the development lies outside the floodway, or it is demonstrated that the cumulative effect of the proposed development, when combined with all other existing and anticipated encroachment, will not increase the base flood elevation at any point within the community. Any determination or demonstration shall be supported by technical data that conforms to standard hydraulic engineering principles and certified by a registered professional engineer;

5. Recreational vehicles, equipment, boat trailers, portable toilets, construction trailers, and other travel trailers shall:

a. Be currently registered, licensed, and ready for highway use; or

b. Be on site for fewer than 180 consecutive days;

c. Recreational Vehicles can only be onsite from May 1 through November 15th

d. Meet the requirements for structures in Section V E 12;

6. Water supply systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the system;

¹ small accessory structures located outside of the floodway are permitted in the SFHA and 0.2% ACE per Section V D 3 a (i).

² Design Flood Elevation (DFE) in the Town of Royalton is defined as the Base Flood Elevation plus two feet.

7. Sanitary sewage systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the systems and discharges from the systems into flood waters;

8. On-site waste disposal systems shall be located to avoid impairment to them or contamination from them during flooding;

9. The flood carrying capacity within any altered or relocated portion of any watercourse shall be maintained, any alteration or relocation shall not result in any decrease of stream equilibrium;

10. Bridges, culverts, and channel management activities, which by their nature shall be placed in or over the watercourse, shall have a Stream Alteration permit from the Agency of Natural Resources, if required;

11. Subdivisions and Planned Unit Developments shall be accessible by dry land access;

12. Structural Standards

a. Substantially Improved structures (except as excluded under part e. below) shall have the lowest floor, including basement, elevated to or above the Design Flood Elevation (two feet above base flood elevation). This shall be documented in the proposed and as-built condition with a FEMA Elevation Certificate;

b. Non-residential structures to be substantially improved, replaced, or that have incurred substantial damage shall (except if excluded under part e. below):

i. Meet the standards of Section V E 12a, above; or,

ii. Have the lowest floor, including basement, together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, designed so that to at least two feet above the base flood elevation the structure is dry floodproofed, meaning watertight with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water and with structural components having the capability of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and effects of buoyancy;

iii. A permit for dry floodproofing shall not be issued until a registered professional engineer or architect has reviewed the structural design, specifications, and plans, and has certified that the design and proposed methods of construction are in accordance with accepted standards of practice for meeting the provisions of this subsection;

c. Substantially Improved structures in Zone AO shall have the lowest floor, including basement, elevated above the highest adjacent grade, at least two feet above the depth number specified on the community's FIRM, or at least three feet if no depth number is specified;

d. Critical facilities to be substantially improved shall have the lowest floor, including basement, elevated or dry-floodproofed at least one foot above the elevation of the 0.2% annual flood height (500-year floodplain), or three feet above base flood elevation, whichever is higher;

e. Historic structures as defined in the bylaw being substantially improved shall meet the requirements in this bylaw other than the Lowest Floor Elevation (Section V E.12);

f. Fully enclosed areas below grade on all sides (including below grade crawlspaces and basements) are prohibited;

g. All development in the 0.2% ACE flood hazard area, including new or substantially improved structures, shall meet the development standards in section V E.

h. Fully enclosed areas below the lowest floor, that are above grade, below the DFE, and subject to flooding, shall:

i. Be solely used for parking of vehicles, storage, or building access, and such a condition shall clearly be stated on any permits; and be designed to automatically equalize hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls by allowing

for the entry and exit of floodwaters. Such designs shall be certified by a registered professional engineer or architect; or,

ii. meet or exceed the following minimum criteria: A minimum of two openings on two walls having a total net area of not less than one square inch for every square foot of enclosed area subject to flooding shall be provided. The bottom of all openings shall be no higher than one foot above adjacent grade. Openings may be equipped with screens, louvers, valves, or other coverings or devices provided that they permit the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters; and

iii. A small accessory structure of 500 square feet or less need not be elevated to the base flood elevation if adequate flood openings are provided, the structure is placed on the site so as to offer the minimum resistance to the flow of floodwaters, and the construction meets the criteria in Section V E2 above.

F. Development Standards within the Floodway

1. Within the Floodway new encroachments are prohibited except for the following, which also shall comply with Section V F.2, below:

a. changes to existing structures where the footprint is extended no closer to the waterbody and proposed to expand horizontally into the floodway less than 500 square feet;

b. new encroachments relating to bridges, culverts, roads, stabilization projects, public utilities, functionally dependent uses, and river or floodplain restoration projects;

c. new encroachments relating to health and safety measures, such as replacement of pre-existing on-site septic and water supply systems, if no other practicable alternative is available.

2. Within the Floodway all proposed new encroachments are required to provide a hydraulic analysis, performed by a registered professional engineer, in accordance with standard engineering practice, certifying that the proposed development will:

a. Not result in any increase in flood levels during the occurrence of the base flood;

b. Not increase base flood velocities; and,

c. Not increase any risk to surrounding properties, facilities, or structures from erosion or flooding.

3. For development that will not result in encroachment and any change in grade, the hydrologic & hydraulic analyses may be waived, where the applicant will provide pre- and post-development elevations demonstrating that there will be no change in grade, and that the development will be adequately protected from scour.

VI. Other Provisions

A. Precedence of Bylaw - The provisions of this bylaw shall not in any way impair or remove the necessity of compliance with any other local, state, or federal laws or regulations. Where this bylaw imposes a greater restriction the provisions here shall take precedence.

B. Validity and Severability

If any portion of this bylaw is held unconstitutional or invalid by a competent court, the remainder of this bylaw shall not be affected.

C. Warning of Disclaimer of Liability

This bylaw does not imply that land outside of the areas covered by this bylaw will be free from flood or erosion damages. This bylaw shall not create liability on the part of the Town of Royalton, or any municipal official or employee thereof, for any flood or erosion damages that result from reliance on this bylaw, or any administrative decision lawfully made hereunder.

VII. Administration

A. Administrative Officer (AO)

An Administrative Officer (AO) shall be appointed to administer this bylaw pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 4448. The AO shall administer this bylaw literally and in doing so shall inspect development, maintain records, enforce this bylaw, and perform all other necessary tasks to carry out the provisions of this bylaw and the statutory requirements of 24 V.S.A. Chapter 117. The AO shall not have the power to permit any land development that is not in conformance with this bylaw.

B. Board of Adjustment (BOA)

A Board of Adjustment (BOA) shall be appointed by the Selectboard in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 4460. The BOA shall have the duties and responsibilities as described in 24 V.S.A. Chapter 117 and as otherwise required by the municipal bylaws.

C. Applications

All applications for development shall include:

1. A site plan that depicts the proposed development including water, Flood Hazard Areas, and River Corridor boundaries; the shortest horizontal distance from the proposed development to the top of bank of any stream, any existing and proposed drainage, any proposed fill, pre- and post-development grades, and the elevation of the proposed lowest floor as referenced to the same vertical datum as the elevation on the current Flood Insurance Rate Maps.

Applicants may use the [VT ANR Atlas](#), or other digital or online mapping tools to show where the development is proposed to be located, along with flood hazard area boundaries and other relevant layers.

2. A copy of the [ANR Permit Navigator](#) Results Summary.

D. Action and Referrals

1. Within 30 days of receipt of a complete application the AO shall issue or deny a permit in writing. Applications needing approval by the BOA are not considered complete.

2. Any application for a proposed conditional use, variance, or appeal shall be referred by the AO to the BOA in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §§ 4448 and 4469.

3. Any application regarding New Construction, Substantial Improvement, development in a Floodway, development in a River Corridor, or a Variance shall be submitted by the AO to the State National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Coordinator at the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 4424. An application requiring a hearing shall not have the hearing warned until receipt of comments from the Agency, or the expiration of 30 days from the date the application was mailed to the Agency, whichever is sooner. An application not requiring a hearing may be permitted following receipt of comments from the Agency, or the expiration of 30 days from the date the application was mailed to the Agency, whichever is sooner.

4. If the applicant is seeking a permit for the alteration or relocation of a watercourse, copies of the application shall be submitted by the AO to the adjacent communities, the River Management Engineer at the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, and the Army Corps of Engineers.

E. Public Notice

Prior to the issuance of a permit, proposals needing conditional use review, or consideration for a variance or appeal, must have a warned public hearing. Public notice of the hearing shall be provided by the AO at least 15 days before the date of the hearing. by all the following:

1. Publication of the date, place, and purpose of the hearing in the newspaper of general circulation;

2. Posting of the same information in three or more public places within the municipality, including posting of notice by the applicant within view from the public right of way nearest to the property for which an application is made; and,
3. Written notification to the applicant and to owners of all properties adjoining the property subject to development, without regard to any public right-of-way. In any situation in which a variance is sought regarding setbacks from a state highway, written notification shall be sent to the Secretary of Transportation. The notification shall include a description of the proposed project and shall be accompanied by information that clearly informs the recipient where additional information may be obtained, and that participation in the local proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.
4. The applicant shall bear the cost of the public warning and notification of adjoining landowners.

F. Decisions

1. Decisions on applications that go to the BOA for review shall be made in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 4464 including all findings of fact, conclusions, and conditions.
2. The BOA shall consider comments from the ANR.
3. No permit shall be issued by the AO for any use or structure which requires the approval of the BOA until such approval has been obtained.

G. Permits

1. Where eligible, a permit shall be issued by the AO only in accordance with 24 V.S.A. Chapter 117;
2. Permits must state that all other necessary permits from state and federal agencies must be obtained before work may begin. A notice of permit, on a form prescribed by the municipality within view from the public right-of-way most nearly adjacent to the subject property must be posted until the appeals period has passed. Any Appeals shall be made within 15 days of permit issuance.
3. The AO, within three days of the date of issuance of a permit, shall deliver a copy of the permit to the listers of the municipality, and shall post a copy of the permit in the Town Offices for a period of 15 days from the date of issuance.
4. No permit shall take effect until the time for appeal (15 days) has passed, or in the event that a notice appeal is properly filed, no such permit shall take effect until adjudication of that appeal by the BOA is complete and the time for taking an appeal to the Environmental Division of the Superior Court has passed without an appeal being taken. If an appeal is taken to the Environmental Division, the permit shall not take effect until the Environmental Division rules in accordance with 10 V.S.A. § 8504.
5. Within 30 days after a permit has been issued, or within 30 days of the issuance of any notice of violation, the appropriate municipal official shall:
 - a. deliver the original or a legible copy of the permit or notice of violation or a notice of permit generally in the form set forth in 24 V.S.A. § 1154(c) to the town clerk for recording as provided in 24 V.S.A. § 1154(a); and,
 - b. file a copy of that permit in the offices of the municipality in a location where all municipal land use permits shall be kept.
6. Expiration
 - a. A permit shall remain valid for two (2) years from the date it is issued.;
 - b. The Administrative Officer may approve a permit extension, provided that substantial progress has been made toward project completion. Any permit extension shall be valid for one year from the date it is issued.
 - c. Permits shall run with the land regardless of owner;

d. Structures shall be considered abandoned where the structures are no longer being maintained as a habitable structure for a period of at least five years, regardless of evidence of intent to re-establish such use. A habitable structure is structurally sound, weathertight, with functional drinking water, wastewater, and heating systems.

H. Variances

Variances shall be granted in writing by the BOA only in accordance with all the criteria in 24 V.S.A. § 4469 after a public hearing noticed in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 4464. If the proposed development is located within any Flood Hazard Area, the proposal shall comply with 44 C.F.R. § 60.6. Any variance issued in the Flood Hazard Area shall not increase flood heights and shall inform the applicant in writing over the signature of a community official that the issuance of a variance to construct a structure below the BFE increases risk to life and property and will result in increased flood insurance premiums up to amounts as high as \$25 for \$100 of coverage. Such notification shall be maintained with a record of all variance actions.

I. Appeals of a Permit Decision

Appeals from any decision or act of the AO in connection with this bylaw, shall be made to the BOA as provided for in 24 V.S.A. § 4465. Appeals from any decision of the BOA in connection shall be made to the Vermont Superior Court, as provided for in 24 V.S.A. § 4471.

J. Administrative Responsibilities

1. The AO shall properly file and maintain a record of:

- a. All permits and supporting documents;
- b. A FEMA Elevation Certificate for any new, replacement or substantially improved buildings (not including accessory buildings) in the Flood Hazard Area;
- c. All floodproofing and other certifications required under this regulation; and,
- d. All decisions of the AO and BOA (including those for Substantial Improvement, Substantial Damage, appeals, variances, and violations) and all supporting findings of fact, conclusions, and conditions.
- e. All Certificates of Occupancy (See Section VII J 3), and receipts as required for the determination of Substantial Improvement.

2. Substantial Improvement and Substantial Damage Determinations

- a. In the event of damage of any kind to a structure located within any Flood Hazard Area, the AO shall determine if Substantial Damage occurred regardless of any intended repair at that time.
- b. In the review of any proposal for the repair or improvement of a structure located within any Flood Hazard Area District, the AO shall determine if the proposal indicates Substantial Improvement.
- c. Substantial Improvement or Substantial Damage determinations shall be made in accordance with current FEMA and ANR guidance, or by a procedure meeting FEMA standards and established by the Town in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 1972.

3. Certificate of Occupancy

- a. A Certificate of Occupancy (CO) is required for any Substantially Improved primary structure permitted under this bylaw. It shall be unlawful to use or occupy any structure within the areas affected by this bylaw, until a CO is issued by the AO in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 4449 stating that the structure conforms to the requirements of this bylaw and to the Residential Building Energy Standards (RBES) or Commercial Building Energy Standards (CBES).
- b. A certificate of occupancy is not required for structures that were built in compliance with the bylaws at the time of construction and have not been improved since the adoption of this bylaw.

c. Upon receipt of the application for a certificate of occupancy, the AO shall review the permit conditions and inspect the premises to ensure that:

- i. any required state and federal permits have been received,
 - ii. all work has been completed in conformance with the zoning permit and associated approvals, and
 - iii. all required as-built documentation has been submitted to the AO (e.g. updated FEMA Elevation Certificate, dry floodproofing certificate, as-built volumetric analysis, or as-built floodway encroachment analysis).
- d. If a certificate of occupancy cannot be issued, notice will be sent to the owner and copied to the lender.

4. Enforcement

It shall be the duty of the Administrative Officer to enforce the provisions of this bylaw. Upon determination that a violation exists, the Administrative Officer shall notify the alleged offender

of the violation by certified mail.

1. The notice of enforcement shall state that:

- A violation exists;
- The alleged offender has an opportunity to cure the violation within seven days of receipt;
- Failure to cure the violation may result in fines and/or loss of flood insurance;
- The alleged offender will not be entitled to an additional warning notice for a violation occurring after the seven days within the next succeeding 12 months; and,
- The notice of violation may be appealed as specified in Section VII I.

2. Copies of the notice of violation will be:

- Mailed to the Vermont NFIP Coordinator,
- Filed in the land use permit files within 30 days; and,
- Delivered to the municipal clerk for recording in the land records.

3. After seven days, if the violation has not been remedied, in accordance with 10 V.S.A. §1974(a), or 24 V.S.A. §4451 and §4452, any person who is found to have violated this bylaw shall be fined \$100.00 for each offense per day. No action may be brought under this section unless notice, as required above, has been given. In default of payment of the fine, the violator's fine shall be doubled. Each day that a violation is continued shall constitute a separate offense.

4. If any appeals have been resolved, but the violation remains, the AO shall submit a declaration to the Administrator of the National Flood Insurance Program requesting a denial of flood insurance to the violator. The declaration shall consist of:

- (a) the name of the property owner and address or legal description of the property sufficient to confirm its identity or location,
- (b) a clear and unequivocal declaration that the property is in violation of a cited state or local law, bylaw, or ordinance,
- (c) a clear statement that the Administrative Officer making the declaration has authority to do so and citation to that authority,

- (d) evidence that the property owner has been notified of the violation and the prospective denial of insurance, and
- (e) a clear statement that the declaration is being submitted pursuant to Section 1316 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended.

K. Nonconforming Structures and Uses

The BOA may, after public notice and hearing, approve the repair, relocation, replacement, or enlargement of a nonconforming structure within a hazard area provided that:

1. The proposed development is in compliance with all the Development Standards in Section V of this bylaw;
2. A nonconforming structure that is substantially damaged or destroyed (intentionally or unintentionally) shall be reconstructed in a compliant location. Only in circumstances when the structure cannot be relocated to a less hazardous location on the parcel may the structure be reconstructed under the variance process (Section VII H). If located in a flood hazard area, the lowest floor of the reconstructed structure must be rebuilt to at least the design flood elevation (owners are encouraged to consider even greater elevation for insurance savings), and the structure must otherwise comply with all requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program;
3. Nonconforming structures shall be considered abandoned where such structures are vacant and lack basic building components that make them habitable for more than 12 months; and
4. An individual manufactured home lot in an existing manufactured home park that is vacated shall not be considered a discontinuance or abandonment of nonconformity. Replacement manufactured homes must be placed so as to meet the development standards in this bylaw.

VIII. Definitions

Accessory dwelling: An efficiency or one-bedroom apartment that is clearly subordinate to a single-family dwelling, and has facilities and provisions for independent living, including sleeping, food preparation, and sanitation. Accessory dwellings are residential structures.

Accessory structure: A structure which is: 1) detached from and clearly incidental and subordinate to the principal use or structure on a lot, 2) located on the same lot as the principal structure or use, 3) clearly and customarily related to the principal structure or use, and 4) only used for vehicle parking, storage, or primarily building access. Examples include, garages, garden and tool sheds, and playhouses, but do not include “accessory dwellings.”

Area of special flood hazard: Is synonymous in meaning with the term “special flood hazard area” for the purposes of this bylaw.

Associated transportation and utility networks: Transportation and utility networks connected to a bridge, culvert, or utility for the purpose of crossing a river or stream and do not include transportation or utility networks within the river corridor that merely run parallel to a river or stream.

Base flood: The flood having a one percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year (commonly referred to as the “100-year flood”).

Base Flood Elevation (BFE): The elevation of the water surface elevation resulting from a flood that has a one percent chance of equaling or exceeding that level in any given year. On the Flood Insurance Rate Map the elevation is usually in feet, in relation to the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929, the North American Vertical Datum of 1988, or other datum referenced in the Flood Insurance Study report, or the average depth of the base flood, usually in feet, above the ground surface.

Basement: Any area of a building having its floor elevation below ground level on all sides, including crawlspaces.

Building Utilities: These include, but are not limited to, electrical, heating, ventilation, plumbing, communications, and air conditioning, equipment.

CBES: Vermont's Commercial Building Energy Standards.

Channel: An area that contains continuously or periodic flowing water that is confined by banks and a streambed.

Compensatory storage: A volume not previously used for flood storage and which shall be incrementally equal to or exceed the theoretical volume of flood water at each elevation, up to and including the base flood elevation, which would be displaced by the proposed project. Such compensatory volume shall have an unrestricted hydraulic connection to the same waterway or water body. Further, with respect to waterways, such compensatory volume shall be provided within the same reach of the river, stream, or creek.

Common plan of development: Where a structure will be refurbished or constructed under one approved plan or permit, but in separate stages, phases, or in combination with other construction activities. Such work may be planned unit by unit and may take place at different times, on different schedules.

Construction trailer: A vehicle which is: (1) built on a single chassis; (2) 500 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection; (3) designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable; and (4) designed for use as a temporary office facility used to support management of a construction project, and not as a permanent structure.

Critical facilities: Facilities that are vital to public health and safety, including police stations, fire and rescue facilities, hospitals, shelters, schools, nursing homes, water supply and waste treatment facilities.

Design Flood Elevation (DFE): In the Town of Royalton, DFE is the Base Flood Elevation plus two feet.

Designated center: A downtown, village center, new town center, growth center, or neighborhood development area designated pursuant to 24 V.S.A. chapter 76A.

Development: Any human-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations, or storage of equipment or materials.

Encroachment: Fill or development that reduces the functional river corridor (impairs the equilibrium condition) or increases flood levels.

Equilibrium condition: The width, depth, meander pattern, and longitudinal slope of a stream channel that occurs when water flow, sediment, and woody debris are transported by the stream in such a manner that it generally maintains dimensions, pattern, and slope without unnaturally aggrading or degrading the channel bed elevation.

Fill: Any placed material that changes the natural grade, increases the elevation, redirects the movement of flood water, or diminishes the flood storage capacity at the site. Temporary storage of material for less than 180 days is not considered fill.

Flood hazard: Those hazards related to damage from flood-related inundation or erosion.

Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM): An official map of a community, on which the Federal Insurance Administrator has delineated both the special flood hazard areas and the risk premium zones applicable to the community.

Flood Insurance Study (FIS): An examination, evaluation, and determination of flood hazards and, if appropriate, the corresponding water surface elevations or an examination, evaluation, and determination of mudslide (i.e., mudflow) and /or flood-related erosion hazards.

Floodproofing: Any combination of structural and non-structural additions, changes, or adjustments to structures which reduce or eliminate flood damage to real estate or improved real property, water and sanitary facilities, structures and their contents.

Floodway: The channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than one foot at any point. Please note that flood hazard areas and floodways may be shown on a separate map panels.

Fluvial erosion: The erosion or scouring of riverbeds and banks during high flow conditions of a river. Fluvial erosion is most likely to occur within the river corridor.

Grading: The movement or replacement of topsoil or other material originating on the site and within the hazard area. Grading results in minor or no changes in topographic elevations. If new material is brought from outside the hazard area and such new material is not offset with an equal or greater removal of material from the portion of the site within the hazard area, the new material shall be considered “fill” and shall not be considered grading.

Historic structure: Any structure that is: (a) listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of the Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register; (b) certified or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historical significance of a registered historic district or a district preliminarily determined by the Secretary to qualify as a registered historic district; (c) individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states with historic preservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or (d) individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either: (i) by an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior or (ii) directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs.

Inundation Hazard Areas: Areas including both the Special Flood Hazard Area and the 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Area.

Lowest floor: The lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area, including basement. An unfinished or flood resistant enclosure, usable solely for parking of vehicles, building access, or storage in an area other than a basement area is not considered a building’s lowest floor provided that such enclosure is not built so as to render the structure in violation of the applicable non-elevation design requirements of 44 C.F.R. § 60.3.

Maintenance: Periodic actions required to keep up a condition and that do not significantly change the materials or extent of an existing condition in the hazard area.

Manufactured home (or Mobile home): A structure, transportable in one or more sections, which is built on a permanent chassis and is designed for use with or without a permanent foundation when attached to the required utilities. The term “manufactured home” does not include a “recreational vehicle”.

New construction: Structures for which the start of construction commenced on or after the effective date of floodplain management regulation adopted by the community and includes any subsequent improvements to such structures.

Nonconforming structure: A structure or part of a structure that does not conform to the present bylaws but was in conformance with all applicable laws, ordinances, and regulations prior to the enactment of the present bylaws, including a structure improperly authorized as a result of error by the administrative officer. Structures that were in violation of the regulations in effect at the time of their creation, and remain so, remain violations and are not nonconforming structures.

Nonconforming use: Use of land that does not conform to the present bylaws but did conform to all applicable laws, ordinances, and regulations prior to the enactment of the present bylaws, including a use improperly authorized as a result of error by the administrative officer.

Non-residential: Includes: businesses, churches, schools, nursing homes, pool houses, clubhouses, recreational buildings, government buildings, mercantile structures, industrial structures, and warehouses.

Open fencing: Types of fencing designed so that rails occupy a minimal area (10% or less) of the fence. Open wire fencing shall have no more than one horizontal strand per foot of height. Posts must be spaced at least 8 feet apart. Open fencing types include split rail, open barb or barbed wire. Not included in this definition are chain link, or other wire, pipe, rail, or other fencing which does not meet the open fencing requirements specified in this definition.

RBES: Vermont’s Residential Building Energy Standards.

Recreational vehicle: A vehicle which is: (a) built on a single chassis; (b) 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection; (c) designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and (d) designed primarily not for use as a permanent dwelling but as a temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.

Replacement structure: A new building placed in the same footprint as the pre-existing building and does not include a change in use.

River: The full length and width, including the bed and banks, of any watercourse, including rivers, streams, creeks, brooks, and branches which experience perennial flow. “River” does not mean constructed drainageways, including water bars, swales, and roadside ditches.

River corridor: The land area adjacent to a river that is required to accommodate the dimensions, slope, planform, and buffer of the naturally stable channel and that is necessary for the natural maintenance or natural restoration of a dynamic equilibrium condition and for minimization of fluvial erosion hazards, as delineated by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources in accordance with river corridor protection procedures. (10 V.S.A. § 1422).

Special flood hazard area (SFHA): The land in the floodplain within a community subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. For purposes of this bylaw, the term “area of special flood hazard” is synonymous in meaning with the phrase “special flood hazard area.” This area is usually labeled Zone A, AE, AO, AH, or A1-30 in the most current flood insurance studies and on the maps published by FEMA. Maps of this area are available for viewing in the municipal office or online from the FEMA Map Service Center: msc.fema.gov. Base flood elevations have not been determined in Zone A where the flood risk has been mapped by approximate methods. Base flood elevations are shown at selected intervals on maps of special flood hazard areas that are determined by detailed methods. Please note, where floodways have been determined they may be shown on separate map panels from the Flood Insurance Rate Maps.

Start of construction: For purposes of floodplain management, determines the effective map or bylaw that regulated development in the special flood hazard area. The “start of construction” includes substantial improvement and means the date the building permit was issued provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition placement, or other improvement was within 180 days of the permit date. The actual start means either the first placement of permanent construction of a structure on a site, such as the pouring of slab or footings, the installation of piles, the construction of columns, or any work beyond the stage of excavation; or the placement of a manufactured home on a foundation. Permanent construction does not include land preparation, such as clearing,

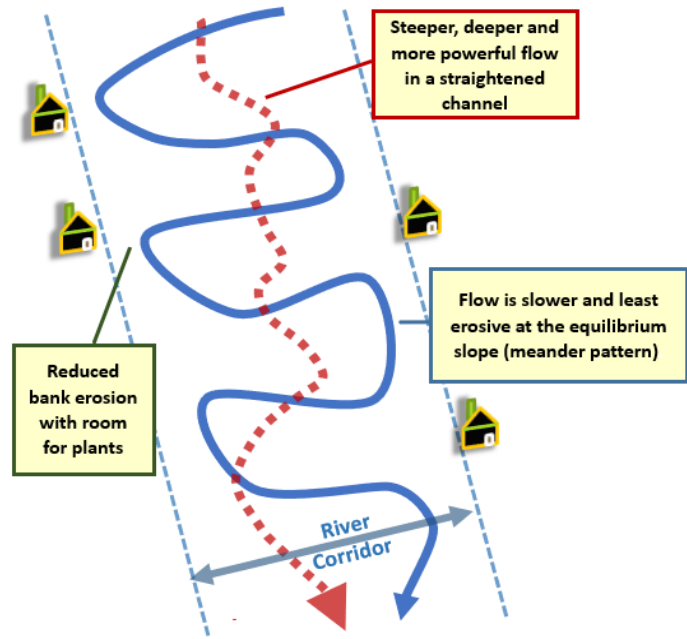


Figure 4 River Corridor Diagram showing room for river channel adjustments to minimize slope and erosive power.

grading, and filling; nor does it include the installation of streets and/or walkways; nor does it include excavation for a basement, footing, piers, or foundations, or the erection of temporary forms; nor does it include the installation on the property of accessory buildings, such as garages or sheds not occupied as dwelling units or not part of the main structure. For a substantial improvement, the actual start of construction means the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor, or other structural part of a building, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the building.

Storage: The aggregation of materials, items, or objects whether natural or human-made; that is kept as a stockpile, collection, or inventory and that exceeds 10 cubic yards of average volume; where individual materials from the stockpile, collection or inventory may change, but where the general footprint of the stored materials continues to be used for the same purpose; whether set upon the land or within a container, structure, or facility; and that would not otherwise be in compliance with these development standards.

Structure: A walled and roofed building, as well as a manufactured home, including gas or liquid storage tanks.

Substantial damage: Damage of any origin sustained by a structure whereby the cost of restoring the structure to its before-damaged conditions would equal or exceed 50 percent of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred.

Substantial improvement: Any repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, or other improvement of a structure after the date of adoption of this bylaw, the cost of which, over three years or over the period of a common plan of development, cumulatively equals or exceeds 50 percent of the market value of the structure before the “start of construction” of the improvement. This term includes structures which have incurred “substantial damage,” regardless of the actual repair work performed. The term does not, however, include either: (a) Any project for improvement of a structure to correct existing violations of state or local health, sanitary, or safety code specifications which have been previously identified by the local code enforcement official and which are the minimum necessary to assure safe living conditions or (b) Any alteration of an “historic structure,” provided that the alteration will not preclude the structure’s continued designation as an “historic structure.”

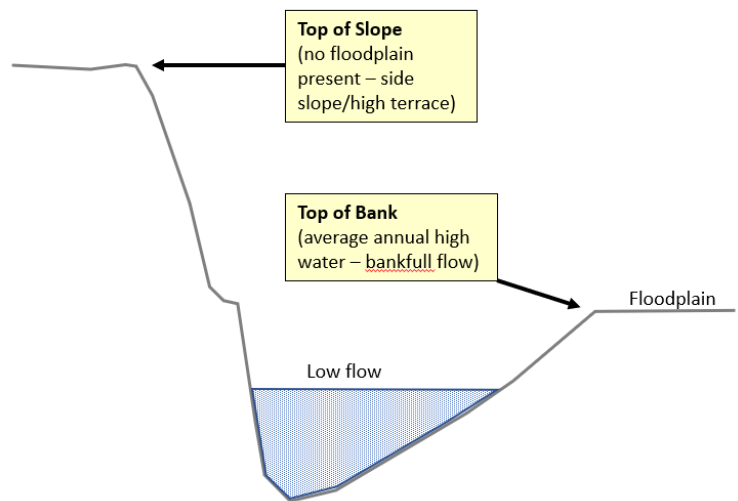


Figure 5 Diagram showing the Top of Bank where stream flows onto a floodplain and Top of Slope where floodplain access is not present.

Top of bank: The point along a streambank where an abrupt change in slope is evident, and where the stream is generally able to overflow the banks and enter the adjacent floodplain during flows at or exceeding the average annual high water stage.

Top of slope: A break in slopes adjacent to steep-banked streams that have little or no floodplain; or a break in slope where the side slopes adjacent to an incised, or deeply cut, channel meet floodplains that have been abandoned or are undergoing abandonment.

Violation: The failure of a structure or other development to be fully compliant with this bylaw. A structure or other development without the elevation certificate, other certifications, or other evidence of compliance required in 44 C.F.R. § 60.3 is presumed to be in violation until such time as that documentation is provided.

0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Areas (0.2% ACE): The land in the floodplain within a community subject to a 0.2% annual chance flood hazard. This area is labeled as Shaded Zone X on the most current Flood Insurance Studies and on the maps published by FEMA. Shaded Zone X is also referred to as the “500 year” flood zone. Maps

of this area are available for viewing in the municipal office or online from the FEMA Map Service Center: msc.fema.gov.

ROYALTON POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Greetings from the Royalton Police Department! This year we welcomed Officer Anna Ingraham to the department. She is a Level III certified officer and comes to us with a wealth of knowledge and experience. We also welcome Officer Donald Sweet in September. He is a Level II certified officer and will be working part time for the department.

Our Officers attended several community events this year. We participated in several VLGS events at the school and on the Green. We had a table at the Old Home Days and a trunk for Trunk or Treat. We are glad and enjoy helping at our community events. If you have an event coming up please send us an invitation. We are always happy to participate.

We here at Royalton Police Department have had a busy year. We have had 1509 cases. These include incidents of domestic disputes, violations of restraining orders, motor vehicle complaints, citizen assists, agency assists, sex offenses and many other types of calls. If you have an incident, please call and report it.

The Royalton Police Department continues to partner with the Rutland County Sheriff's Department and receives yearly grant funding from the Governors Highway Safety grants. These grants help fund extra patrols for our area in DUI enforcement, Distracted Driving and Occupant Protection. We continue to partner with other area departments in patrols and checkpoints. We strive to make our roads safer for all.

We have continued to partner with Windsor County Sheriff's Department and the DEA by participating in National Drug Take Back days. Our drug drop box is located at the Royalton Police Department and is open for all to use.

The Royalton Police Department also continues to partner with the Department of Health in child passenger seat safety. We participated in several car seat check events this year and hope to continue to have more. If anyone has questions about car seats or wants to have a seat check done, please contact Officer Gardner or myself. We are also a car seat station and have a few car seats available. Please call for more information. Officer Gardner and I are both certified technicians and would be happy to help you.

In closing, I have attached the mission statement for the Police Department and my vision for the future for policing in our community. Again, I encourage anyone who has questions or concerns to call or stop by. I thank you for your support and look forward to serving you in the years to come.

Royalton Police Department Mission Statement:

The Royalton Police Department strives to serve its community in a manner that allows them to protect the rights and dignity of all people. The Royalton Police Department is dedicated and committed to working with the community to make the Town of Royalton a safe and desirable place to live, work, and visit. Our goal is to partner with the community to solve problems, enforce the law, and improve public safety in a manner that is fair, impartial, transparent, and consistent and compassionate.

The Vision for the future of the Royalton Police Department:

Royalton can rely on a Police Department that is invested in its community and shares in its commitment to address the quality of life in our town, and is committed to:

- Delivering quality services to the community.
- Playing an active role in shaping the community's sense of safety and well-being.
- Working collaboratively with a wide array of community agencies, service providers, and other interested parties in working towards a safe and friendly environment for all.

- Building trust and enhancing the department’s legitimacy in the eyes of the public by fair and impartial delivery of police services and enforcement of the laws.
- Serving as an integral, indispensable facet in solving community problems.
- Ensuring the well-being of its officers.

ROYALTON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Royalton Emergency Management

The town of Royalton takes steps to evaluate and mitigate (minimize impacts of) potential hazards and prepare and respond to natural or industrial disasters.

Every spring, we update the Local Emergency Management Plan, and every five years, we update the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. We use these documents to prioritize planning, training, and projects to mitigate (minimize impacts) of a variety of potential hazards. Royalton Emergency Management participates in the Regional Emergency Management Committee, which includes 30 local towns that meet quarterly. We are also assisted by Two Rivers-Ottawquechee Regional Planning Commission (TRORC) and Vermont Emergency Management (VEM) with planning, training, preparing, and if need be, responding to disasters.

We recently published a Resilience Resource informational pamphlet for Royalton with emergency preparedness advice, resources, and a QR code to link to the Emergency Management page of the Royalton Web site. These are available at the town offices and various other locations in town.

Emergency Management/Shelter Team meetings are held every other month, or so, to discuss emergency management and shelter issues and projects. These meetings are open to anyone interested, no training, experience, or commitment is required. We are always looking for volunteers and participation. Contact the Emergency Management Director, or Town Administrator, if interested.

If you haven’t already, please sign up for local emergency alerts on VT Alert at www.vtalert.gov. This is a robust, reliable, adaptable, free notification service for Vermonters. We also encourage you to make a plan and prepare an emergency kit.

Brad Salzmann – Emergency Management Director

Jen Harris – Emergency Management Coordinator

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS RESOURCES

The Royalton Emergency Management Team recommends you have systems and supplies in place, ready for any emergency. Make plans for communication, evacuation, sheltering in place, and taking care of family, friends, neighbors, pets, livestock.

Family Preparedness

- Have a plan to communicate with each other and rally points to meet at. Services, such as electricity, phone, internet, cell signal, ATMs, credit/debit readers, gas pumps, water, sewer, and emergency responders may be unavailable. Know how to shut off utilities in the house and learn several evacuation routes.
- You should prepare to have all the items you would need for your family to survive for 3-5 days. Plan on 1 gallon of water/day/person.

- Identify a friend or relative in a different state who can coordinate communication.
- Teach all family members how to text, which may get through when phone calls don't. Keep messages short and concise.
- Obtain a battery powered NOAA Weather radio.
- Make copies of important documents and contacts and keep in a safe place. Back up computer files every month.
- Consult with your insurance agent about what is, and isn't, covered.
- Check all smoke and CO detectors every season. Replace batteries as scheduled.

Family Emergency Kit

A family emergency kit should contain all the items that you would need for your family for at least three days. It should be stored in a place that has easy access. All family members should know where the kit is kept. The contents should be checked or replaced every six months. It is important that the kit be portable so that you can take it with you if you need to evacuate.

Pack a whistle, first aid kit, extra medications, a non-electric can opener, a pack of playing cards, tools, spare clothing, hygiene supplies, a battery-powered radio, flashlight and extra batteries, and blankets or sleeping bags.

Include in the kit copies of important documents such as deeds, medical, insurance and financial records, also, maps, emergency contact lists, phone numbers, cash in small bills, and a backup of your computer files.

If you have children, include a favorite stuffed animal, blanket, books, games or toys. Store at least one gallon of water per person, per day in clean plastic dated containers. Store non-perishable foods that do not require refrigeration and need little or no water. Store the food in a plastic or metal container to protect from pests. Label and date each container, replacing the food every six months.

Personal Go Bag

Each member of the household should have a smaller personal Go Bag, ready to grab and go if needing to quickly evacuate. The bag should be a backpack or duffle with shoulder strap and light and small enough to be carried without hands.

This bag should have items needed for 24-hour survival and may include emergency lists, whistle, rain gear or poncho, extra socks, hat/gloves, light, hygiene needs, water bottle, snacks, towel, maps, money, medications, extra cell phone charger and battery pack.

Excellent examples of plans, lists, and resources can be found via:

FEMA (ready.gov)

Vermont Emergency Management (vem.vermont.gov)

CDC (emergency.cdc.gov)

WASTE-WATER TREATMENT FACILITY REPORT

The Treatment Facility would like to remind residents not to put materials such as fats, grease, and oils down the drain. The correct way to dispose of fat, oil and grease is to put it in the compost. If you have a large amount, take a tin can(s) place a piece of wadded up paper towel in it, pour the warm grease into the can, freeze it, put it in the trash when you take it outside. “Flushable” wipes are not flushable and do not break down in the sewer. They bind together with others of their kind and create long ropes or “mop strands” and potentially clog our expensive pumps at the pump station. These must be removed by hand. Put cleaning materials, wipes, rags and used rubber gloves in the trash where they belong.

If any homeowners would like to connect to the Town’s wastewater system, they can submit plans to the Town Office for review and consideration. Residents on streets Chelsea, North Windsor, South Windsor, Railroad, Rainbow and Alexander Place have the closest access to connect to the wastewater system. Benefits of being on a town sewer system include increased property value, ability to withstand heavy loads, no failed septic, no mounds in the backyard and you’re personally not contributing to contaminating groundwater with a leach field.

We are already seeing the improvements of our pollution treatment capabilities from our plant upgrades from 2017. The new aeration system in the three lagoons is working very well and supplying ample dissolved oxygen for the microbes that breakdown waste. With the new aeration system, costly sludge removal is not projected to take place until sometime around 2035.

-Simon Jarmy of Simon Operation Services, Inc.

WASTE-WATER OPERATIONS REVENUES & EXPENDITURES

Royalton Wastewater Budget FY 26	Budget FY 24	Actual FY 24	Variance	Budget FY 25	Proposal FY 26	Difference
Wastewater Revenue						
514 Refunds & Reimbursements						
521 Interest Earned		\$395				
528 Usage Fees	\$177,970	\$178,839	\$869	\$176,086	\$187,150	\$11,064
530 Interest - Delinquent Usage Fees		\$454	\$454			\$0
531 Penalties & Costs - Delinquent Usage Fees		\$1,630	\$1,630			\$0
562 PAF Service Fee	\$7,350	\$7,525	\$175	\$7,350	\$7,350	\$0
583 USDA Loan Revenue	\$50,900	\$53,898	\$2,998	\$50,900	\$50,900	
Total Wastewater Revenue	\$236,220	\$242,741	\$6,126	\$234,336	\$245,400	\$11,064
119 Labor Operations						
1002 Wages (Transfer to General Fund)	\$6,100	\$0	\$6,100			\$0
1004 FICA	\$0		\$0	\$0		\$0
1009 Telephone	\$1,200	\$1,344	(\$144)	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$0
1011 Misc Exp		\$84				
1012 Technology	\$1,300	\$1,164	\$136	\$1,300	\$1,300	\$0
1013 Subcontractor/Consultant	\$73,875	\$74,600	(\$725)	\$76,091	\$89,600	\$13,509
1016 Advertising			\$0			
1019 Insurance	\$3,000	\$2,486	\$514	\$3,000	\$2,000	(\$1,000)
1023 Dues/fees/license/permit	\$800	\$614	\$186	\$800	\$800	\$0
1057 Electricity	\$26,000	\$30,018	(\$4,018)	\$28,000	\$32,000	\$4,000
1058 Heat	\$3,000	\$1,427	\$1,573	\$3,000	\$2,000	(\$1,000)

Royalton Wastewater Budget FY 26	Budget FY 24	Actual FY 24	Variance	Budget FY 25	Proposal FY 26	Difference
1059 Repairs & Maintenance	\$7,000	\$7,038	(\$38)	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$0
1079 Capital Equipment Purchase	\$2,000		\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
1200 Long Term Debt Interest	\$24,445	\$21,309	\$3,136	\$24,445	\$20,000	(\$4,445)
1210 Testing	\$4,000	\$1,785	\$2,216	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0
1211 System Repair / Maintenance	\$6,000	\$2,819	\$3,181	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$0
1211 Equipment Repair / Maintenance	\$1,500	\$300	\$1,200	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0
1400 Depreciation	\$76,000	\$71,174	\$4,826	\$76,000	\$76,000	\$0
1600 Transfer to Reserve			\$0			
1626 Loan Payment		\$0	\$0			
Total Wastewater Expenses	\$236,220	\$216,162	\$20,143	\$234,336	\$245,400	\$11,064
Total Wastewater Expenditures	\$236,220	\$216,162	\$20,143	\$234,336	\$245,400	\$11,064
Wastewater Net	\$0	\$26,580		\$0	\$0	

ROYALTON LISTERS REPORT

The Lister’s office is in the process of conducting a town wide reassessment started in August 2024, as mandated by Vermont Statute. This reappraisal resets all property values to the current market values which ensure that our property tax burden is equitable.

As of January, the Listers have visited just over 800 properties in Royalton.

We have concluded visiting and in the process of finalizing reviewing the Royalton sales from 2022 to current. After running analysis on these sales, this is what we are observing as we compare the current Grand List assessments (based on values from the last Town Wide Reappraisal in 2009) to present market sales:

	2022 Sales 12 Months	2023 Sales 12 Months	2024 Sales Jan-June	2024 Sales July-Dec	
Sale Price- % Increase over 2024 GL Value	40%	58%	61%	70%	Consistent Trend Increase over 3 years
ESTIMATED 2025 GL Per/Year Increase	10%	10%	10%	10%	Sale prices adjusted by time (Avg 10%/Yr)*
2025 GL % Increase over 2024 GL Value	70%	78%	77%	77%	Average Increase for 2025 Assessment

*Statewide 10-15% increase per year

Once our assessments and reviews have been completed, a notice will be mailed to the record of ownership as listed on your tax bill, of a comparison of what your property tax amount *would have been in 2024* based on the *adjusted tax rate* due to the overall increase of the Municipal Grand List. Typically, in Vermont after a reappraisal, 1/3 of property owners will be paying LESS in taxes, 1/3 about the same and 1/3 will be paying more. This is the result of ensuring that our property tax burden is equitable.

We appreciate your understanding and look forward to your cooperation in making this a smooth process for all involved.

Jeff Barcelow
David Barker
Walter Hastings
Royalton Listers

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR REPORT

This report is for fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 and for FY25 through December 31, 2024. The money turned into the town that covers prior tax years is directly deposited into the town account. This procedure reduces any deficits the town may have and continues to produce a possible surplus in town funds. A new bill was passed in May 2024 called H.629 which changes the process for towns to collect delinquent taxes.

Statement of Delinquent Taxes Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024

Year	Available for Collection	Collected	Abatements	Remaining Balance
2018	\$373.07	\$373.07		0.00
2019	\$388.20	\$388.20		0.00
2020	\$7,052.02	\$1,506.81		\$5,545.21
2021	\$1,493.67	\$1,493.67		0.00
2022	\$23,100.66	\$13,404.59	\$2,414.89	\$7,281.18
2023	\$311,483.89	\$204,304.59	\$428.05	\$106,751.25
Total	\$343,891.51	\$221,470.93	\$2,842.94	\$119,577.64

Principal paid to Town: \$221,470.93

Interest Paid to Town: \$7,781.39

Penalty & Costs Paid to Town: \$21,168.22

Total Remitted to Treasurer: \$250,420.54

Statement of Delinquent Taxes Ending December 31, 2024

Year	Available for Collection	Collected	Abatements	Remaining Balance
2020	\$5,545.21	\$1,676.83		\$3,868.38
2022	\$7,281.18	\$280.85		\$7,000.33
2023	\$106,751.25	\$65,924.08		\$40,827.17
2024	\$401,869.72	\$135,147.11		\$266,722.61
Total	\$343,891.51	\$221,470.93	\$2,842.94	\$119,577.64

Principal paid to Town: \$203,028.87

Interest Paid to Town: \$8,981.02

Penalty & Costs Paid to Town: \$15,873.10

Total Remitted to Treasurer: \$227,882.99

Statement of Delinquent Sewer Charges Ending June 30, 2024

Year	Available for Collection	Collected	Abatements	Remaining Balance
FY 23	\$17,946.18	\$11,362.15		\$6,584.03
FY 24	\$18,886.88	\$8,561.06		\$10,325.82
Total	\$36,833.06	\$19,923.21		\$16,909.85

Principal paid to Town: \$19,923.21

Interest Paid to Town: \$441.46

Penalty & Costs Paid to Town: \$1,597.37

Total Remitted to Treasurer: \$21,962.04

Statement of Delinquent Sewer Charges Ending December 31, 2024

Year	Available for Collection	Collected	Abatements	Remaining Balance
FY 23	\$6,584.03			\$6,584.03
FY 24	\$38,156.37	\$21,452.12		\$16,704.25
Total	\$44,740.40	\$21,452.12		\$23,288.28

Principal paid to Town: \$21,452.12

Interest Paid to Town: \$296.93

Penalty & Costs Paid to Town: \$1,648.96

Total Remitted to Treasurer: \$23,398.01

STATEMENT OF TAXES RAISED FY 24

Statement of Taxes Raised				
FY 24 FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2024				
DUE November 3, 2023				
		Municipal	Homestead	Nonresidential
			Education	Education
Taxable Parcels	1300			
Acres	24,455.59			
Land		93,850,500		
Building		191,777,319		
Total Real Estate		285,627,800	137,592,300	148,035,500
Add:				
Non-Approved Contracts		160,800	0	0
Equipment		146,100	0.00	146,100
Subtract:				
Veteran Exemptions		520,000	440,000	80,000
Land Use		9,865,400	3,657,700	6,207,700
Contracts		1,281,250	0	1,135,150
Special Exemption			0	2,992,520
Grand List		2,741,072.50	1,334,946	1,379,270.30
Homestead		207,146,110		
House site		183,853,810		
Lease		0		
Non-Tax Count		62		
Non-Tax Value		16,917,400		
Rate Name	Tax Rate	X Grand List =	Total Raised	
Nonresidential Education	1.6280	1,377,662.30	2,242,834.26	
Residential Education	1.5612	1,334,946	2,084,117.74	
Local Agreement Rate	0.0032	2,741,072.50	8,771.44	
Highway Fund	0.3094	2,741,072.5	848,087.97	
General Fund	0.5077	2,741,072.50	1,391,642.,39	
Late Homestead Penalty				
Total Taxes Billed			6,578,430.69	
State Payments			(653,161)	
Net Taxes Due			5,925,269.98	
Net Tax Collected			5,587,146.18	
Delinquent Taxes 2023			338,123.80	

STATEMENT OF TAXES RAISED FY 25

Statement of Taxes Raised				
FY 25 FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2025				
DUE November 1, 2024				
		Municipal	Homestead	Nonresidential
			Education	Education
Taxable Parcels	1312			
Acres	24,429.27			
Land		94,026,400		
Building		194,288,559		
Total Real Estate		288,315,000	142,294,096	146,020,904
Add:				
Non-Approved Contracts		0	0	180,900
Equipment		146,100	0.00	146,100
Subtract:				
Veteran Exemptions		560,000	520,000	40,000
Land Use		10,671,300	4,219,600	6,451,700
Contracts		1,301,350	0	1,155,250
Special Exemption			0	2,992,520
Grand List		2,759,284.50	1,375,544.96	1,357,084.34
Homestead		205,599,396		
House site		182,343,496		
Lease		0		
Non-Tax Count		63		
Non-Tax Value		16,919,000		
Rate Name	Tax Rate	X Grand List =	Total Raised	
Nonresidential Education	1.7510	1,355,275.34	2,373,087.56	
Residential Education	1.5206	1,375,544.96	2,091,653.83	
Local Agreement Rate	0.0035	2,759,284.50	9,657.74	
Highway Fund	0.4225	2,759,284.50	1,165,799.19	
General Fund	0.5858	2,759,284.50	1,616,387.30	
Late Homestead Penalty				
Total Taxes Billed			7,259,553.54	
State Payments			(778,401.27)	
Net Taxes Due			6,481,152.27	
Net Tax Collected			6,099,836.50	
Delinquent Taxes 2024			401,869.72	

VITAL STATISTICS

Royalton Clerk Vital Report 2024: Births

Child	Parent	Parent(birth name)	Date of Birth
Yetnick, Cameron Fay-Allan	Yetnick, Bryan	Pierce, Margaret	1/11/2024
English, Pepper Kay	English, Nicholas	Hartmann, Erin	1/28/2024
Valliere, Ember Aurora Joy	Vallier, Devan	Mueller, Sophia	2/8/2024
Demasi-Sayers, Dasa Charles	Demasi-Sayers, Austin James	Moses, Brooke Lynn	4/22/2024
Marx, Charlie D	Marx, Garrette	McCrillis, Jordan	7/6/2024
Parker, Charlotte Dorothy	Parker, Kiel Fred	Cooper, Jordan Lee	11/13/2024

Royalton Clerk Vital Report 2024: Marriages

Spouse	Spouse	Residence(s)	Date & Place
Rikert, Matthew	Rikert, Rebecca Ann	Royalton	3/9/2024 Royalton
Ore, Nicola	Huntley, Tierra Lynn	White River Jct.	5/4/2024 Royalton
Mastine, Jesse	McCullough, Laura	Royalton	5/22/2024 Royalton
Cole, Lindsey	Connolly, James	Brookfield	5/25/2024 Bethel
McCrillis, Roger	Zick, Leanna M.	Royalton	5/25/2024 Royalton
Maston, Virginia Marie	Hagerman, Zachary Chancellor	Royalton	7/21/2024 Winooski
Mraz, Megan Elaine	Norton, Cameron J.	Royalton & Randolph	8/3/2024 Randolph
Cummings, Dianne Tobiason	Scott, James Frederick	Royalton	8/17/2024 Royalton
Kippen, Brian James	Post-Kinney, Moriah Grace	Berkeley, CA & Norwich	8/17/2024 Royalton
Hull, Taylor Cameron	Calderwood, Douglas Martin	Royalton	8/24/2024 Royalton
Sullivan, Kaylee Margaret	Britch, Ryan Alexander	Royalton	9/14/2024 Montgomery
Lamson, Ellen Karuna Kathrin	Pastaza, Luis Hernan	Lehigh Acres, FL	9/14/2024 Jay
Xu, Fanqi	Wen, Yi	Amherst, MA	10/19/2024 Royalton

Royalton Clerk Vital Report 2024: Deaths

Name	Age	Place & Date of Death	PLACE OF FINAL DISPOSITION
Varney Jr., Charles L.	75	Royalton, 1/15/2024	Valley Crematory, White River Junction, VT
Adams, Doralee	66	Randolph, 1/18/2024	Valley Crematory, White River Junction, VT
Sellars, Dean Edward	65	Royalton, 1/22/2024	Valley Crematory, White River Junction, VT
Chatterjee, Arnab Neil	28	Royalton, 1/24/2024	Franklin Memorial Park, North Brunswick, NJ
LaRoche, Rhea	92	Royalton, 1/31/2024	Notre Dame Cemetery, Gardner, MA
Jones, Kevin Brian	61	Royalton, 1/29/2024	Birch Grove Crematory, Poultney, VT
Wilson, Marlene C.	87	Royalton, 2/24/2024	Valley Crematory, White River Junction, VT
Frary, Jr., Adrian W. Alias: Ady	98	Northfield, 4/3/2024	Valley Crematory, White River Junction, VT

Name	Age	Place & Date of Death	PLACE OF FINAL DISPOSITION
Striker, Beverly Ann	87	Royalton, 5/12/2024	Green Mountain Crematory, Northfield, VT
Paquin, Jeanet C.	89	Springfield, 5/26/2024	Branch View Cemetery, South Royalton, VT
Reid, Jr., David B.	68	Royalton, 6/6/2024	Green Mountain Crematory, Northfield, VT
Blakeney, Violet C.	76	Royalton, 8/12/2024	Valley Crematory, White River Junction, VT
Smith, Michael Alan	29	Royalton, August 2024	Valley Crematory, White River Junction, VT
Tompkins, Janfra D.	77	Royalton, 0/31/2024	Gregory Cremation and Memorial Service, LLC, S. Burlington, VT
Blaisdell, Thomas John	81	Royalton, 1/25/2024	Valley Crematory, White River Junction, VT
Grimes, Keith Earl	81	Royalton, 1/27/2024	Valley Crematory, White River Junction, VT
Harris, Christopher Hartley	74	Northfield, 12/5/2024	Valley Crematory, White River Junction, VT
Reeves, Michael L.	74	Royalton, 12/8/2024	Valley Crematory, White River Junction, VT
Labonte, Marian E.	84	Royalton, 12/25/2024	Green Mountain Crematory, Northfield, VT

CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS REPORT

The Cemetery Commissioners continued their project over the past year of looking at cemetery maps and correcting mistakes found between the maps and cemetery deeds. Many of the recorded locations are erroneous with respect to their actual location within a cemetery, and with respect to adjoining lot owners. Deeds granted today record lot locations more precisely, as well as its orientation to adjoining lots. This will help clear up any confusion for future generations.

As always, we strive to care for the maintenance of each cemetery. Town maintained cemeteries are kept mowed, trimmed and in good order under the direction of the three commissioners. This past year saw some extensive removal of downed tree limbs from winter storms, with more work being planned for the coming year. Repairs to broken stones and keeping fences in order are perennial tasks. We always welcome volunteers to help cut brush or assist with other needs in cemetery upkeep.

We appreciate the American Legion for recognizing our patriot soldiers by placing flags on the graves for Memorial Day. If someone has not been properly marked, please let us know. It would be appreciated if families removed old and weathered artificial flowers and plants from their family plots. These don't winter well and can be blown around with the wind. If a family doesn't remove these older ornaments we will have them picked up by the grounds keepers. The Commissioners appreciate your interest in and comments about the cemeteries.

This past year the commissioners did a survey of cemetery rates in surrounding towns. We found our rates to be out of date, and not keeping up with the current needs with regard to mowing and repairs. It was decided to raise our rates for lots in the town cemeteries to better reflect the costs of maintaining them. Lots are available in the Howe-Hickey Cemetery on the North Road, Pleasant Hill Cemetery near Royalton village, Riverview Cemetery overlooking the White River and South Royalton village, Branchview Cemetery off Rte. 110, the Havens Cemetery off Dairy Hill and Broad Brook Cemetery off Broad Brook Road. Contact the Commissioners for lot sales and regulations.

Respectfully submitted by the Royalton Cemetery Commissioners:

Jo Levasseur, Heather Leavitt and Ken Alton

CEMETERY RULES & REGULATIONS

Amended November 14, 2024, to become effective March 4, 2025.

1. Prices:

10' x 10' lot (2 graves):* \$750.00

5' x 10' lot (1 grave):* \$500.00

* And/or multiple cremains, with one or more memorial stone.

Recording fee for each deed: \$ 15.00 (subject to change by the Town Clerk)

2. At the time of the sale of a lot, the purchaser shall indicate intent of burial style for the lot. Over time families may not recall the original intent of the person who purchased the lot and this will save much confusion in the future. The Cemetery Commissioners need to keep up-to-date records for future generations.

3. Four stone or cement corner markers are required in each lot and are to be placed at ground level prior to the recording of any deed.

4. No fencing or above ground curbs shall be installed.

5. For traditional burials an outer container strong enough to support the heft of the earth is required for each burial.

6. For green burials the body shall be at least 3' underground, with the soil from the excavation mounded on top of the grave to compensate for any future depression caused by sinking.

7. Planting of trees and shrubs is prohibited. Present trees and shrubs will be trimmed to the height of surrounding stones or removed if they become a nuisance.

8. Keep in mind the appearance of the cemetery and your neighbor when choosing a memorial. Locate the memorial on your lot so not to interfere with the other stones and the mowing of the grass. Memorial headstones shall be erected on a permanent cement foundation. A Cemetery Commissioner shall be consulted prior to the placement of a memorial.

9. When placing flowers and ornaments on your lot, please keep in mind that the grass must be mowed and trimmed. When flowers and ornaments have served their purpose, please dispose of them by removing them from the cemetery. Artificial flowers and ornaments from the previous season shall be removed by a family member prior to May 1 or will be removed by the grounds keepers during spring cleanup.

10. Cemetery Commissioners shall be notified of any change a family plans for the replacement or removal of a memorial. The Commissioners need to keep up-to-date records for future generations.

Royalton Cemetery Commissioners

Vermont Statutes Annotated, Title 18, Chapter 121, Section 5319

SOLID WASTE PROGRAM REPORT

The Transfer Station just recently renewed our 10 year recertification. We had to replace our leachate tank (collects the liquids from the tipping floor). We upgraded from a 500 gallon tank to a 1,000 gallon tank. The Transfer Station is newly certified until March of 2034. The Leachate Tank needed to be replaced in order to obtain a new certification.

From July 1st, 2023, through June 30th, 2024, a total of 3,312.33 tons of solid waste and 267.97 tons of recycling were collected. The solid waste was collected at the Transfer Station "Tipping Floor". This material was loaded into trailers for shipment to an in-state lined landfill. Recycling was directed to various facilities for processing. Various special wastes are regularly collected in addition to the usual recyclables. These include paint, fluorescent bulbs, used motor

oil, antifreeze, lead acid batteries and electronic waste. All fees vary depending on the material involved and the current expenses to the program for handling the materials.

Collection events for Household Hazardous Waste were held in April 2024 at the Royalton Transfer Station and in September 2024 at the Rochester Town Hall parking lot. A total of 225 families participated in the two events. These events provided a means for citizens of the member towns to safely dispose of materials, particularly those not normally taken at the facility such as pesticides, various cleaning compounds, acids, bases, contaminated fluids, etc. The events are open to all member towns at no cost for up to 10 pounds or 10 gallons of materials. Small Quantities of materials generated by businesses are also acceptable at collection events, but a fee corresponding to program costs is assessed on business participants and an appointment must be made in advance. There will be 2 events in 2025. One at the Royalton Transfer Station in April and one in Rochester in the Town Hall parking lot in September. This will allow access for towns not located near the Transfer Station.

New Public Hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 7-1 and Saturday 7-2

Facility Staff are onsite on Thursday’s (closed to the public) from 7-1 for operations and maintenance.

Information may be obtained during those hours by calling 802-763-2232

Web Address: whiteriveralliancesolidwaste.org

Submission by John Leighton, White River Alliance/Facility Manager

SOLID WASTE PROGRAM REVENUES & EXPENDITURES

Royalton Transfer Station Budget FY 26	Budget FY 24	FY 24 Actual	Variance	Budget FY 25	Proposal FY 26	Difference
Transfer Station Revenue						
503 Alliance Surcharge	\$109,734	\$109,734	\$0	\$100,273	\$100,273	\$0
510 Fees	\$1,075,000	\$993,743	(\$81,257)	\$1,075,000	\$1,118,727	\$43,727
537 Grant Revenue		\$11,411	\$11,411			\$0
540 Other		\$314	\$314			
545 Sale of Recyclable Material	\$15,000		(\$15,000)	\$15,000		
900 Interfund Transfer In						
Total Transfer Station Revenue	\$1,199,734	\$1,115,202	(\$84,532)	\$1,190,273	\$1,219,000	\$43,727
119 Labor Operations						
1002 Wages	\$210,000	\$177,840	\$32,160	\$195,000	\$196,100	\$1,100
1004 FICA	\$16,065	\$13,412	\$2,653	\$15,776	\$15,864	\$88
1005 Medical Insurance	\$15,000	\$24,226	(\$9,226)	\$15,000	\$28,400	\$13,400
1006 Retirement	\$11,025	\$9,172	\$1,853	\$10,725	\$11,276	\$551
1007 Mileage		\$227	(\$227)			\$0
1010 Dental Insurance	\$2,400	\$1,972	\$428	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$0
1011 Misc Exp			\$0			\$0
1017 Education	\$500		\$500	\$500	\$500	\$0
1019 Insurance	\$18,000	\$15,806	\$2,194	\$16,500	\$14,000	(\$2,500)
1066 Uniforms	\$500		\$500	\$500	\$500	\$0
1081 Overtime	\$10,000		\$10,000	\$10,000	\$2,500	(\$7,500)
1208 Vacation Wages			\$0			\$0

Royalton Transfer Station Budget FY 26	Budget FY 24	FY 24 Actual	Variance	Budget FY 25	Proposal FY 26	Difference
1213 Sick / Personal Wages			\$0			\$0
Total Labor Expenses	\$283,490	\$242,655	\$40,835	\$266,401	\$271,540	\$5,139
120 Facility Operations						
1008 Supplies	\$10,000	\$3,535	\$6,465	\$10,000	\$6,000	(\$4,000)
1009 Telephone	\$1,200	\$420	\$780	\$1,200	\$600	(\$600)
1012 Technology	\$1,000	\$10,126	(\$9,126)	\$3,500	\$12,000	\$8,500
1013 Subcontractor/Consultant			\$0			\$0
1016 Advertising	\$800	\$1,619	(\$819)	\$800	\$1,800	\$1,000
1018 Audit	\$0	\$8	(\$8)	\$0		\$0
1019 Insurance	\$6,500	\$4,527	\$1,973	\$3,500	\$4,000	\$500
1020 Postage	\$1,600	\$420	\$1,180	\$1,600	\$1,600	\$0
1023 Certification Fee	\$4,500	\$760	\$3,740	\$4,500	\$2,500	(\$2,000)
1024 Legal Fees	\$1,000		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
1057 Electricity	\$2,000	\$3,889	(\$1,889)	\$2,000	\$4,500	\$2,500
1058 Heat	\$2,000	\$1,563	\$437	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$500
1059 Repairs & Maintenance	\$45,000	\$12,345	\$32,655	\$45,000	\$30,000	(\$15,000)
1060 Mowing		\$1,200				
1071 Equipment Rental	\$1,200	\$1,091	\$109	\$1,200	\$1,400	\$200
1112 Fuel, oil, grease	\$15,000	\$12,101	\$2,900	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0
1139 Security System		\$50		\$500	\$500	\$0
1665 SWIP Compliance	\$2,500	\$7,917	(\$5,417)	\$5,000	\$7,500	\$2,500
1666 Recycling	\$55,000	\$14,466	\$40,534	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0
1667 Hazardous Waste	\$75,000	\$46,445	\$28,555	\$75,000	\$60,000	(\$15,000)
1668 Tip Fee & Hauling	\$575,000	\$621,147	(\$46,147)	\$575,000	\$650,000	\$75,000
Total Facility Expenses	\$799,300	\$743,631	\$56,919	\$761,800	\$815,900	\$54,100
124 Maintenance of Equipment						
1011 Misc Exp	\$8,000		\$8,000	\$8,000	\$0	(\$8,000)
1079 New Equipment - ask for reserve	\$15,000		\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0
1138 CAT Loader	\$7,000	\$6,427	\$573	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$0
1219 JD Excavator	\$15,000	\$18,882	(\$3,882)	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0
Total Maintenance of Equipment	\$45,000	\$25,309	\$19,691	\$45,000	\$37,000	(\$8,000)
118 Debt Service						
1400 Depreciation		\$60,027		\$54,000	\$54,000	
Debt Service Principle	\$54,560			\$54,560	\$54,560	\$0
Debt Service Interest						\$0
1600 Interfund Transfer Out						\$0
Total Debt Service	\$54,560	\$60,027	\$0	\$108,560	\$108,560	\$0
Total Transfer Station Expenditures	\$1,182,350	\$1,071,621		\$1,181,761	\$1,233,000	\$51,239
Transfer Station Net	\$17,384	\$43,581		\$8,512	(\$14,000)	

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

The Royalton Planning Commission (RPC) is a volunteer group of citizens appointed by the select board and tasked with planning for the future of our town. Instead of simply reacting to events, the RPC seeks to be proactive in creating a framework to have Royalton continue to be a great place to live. The RPC does not have the power to pass ordinances; all of its actions need to be approved by the Selectboard.

In the past year the RPC has focused on three major issues. We organized walking tours of the Class 4 roads in town, and produced a Class 4 Road Recommendation that is available on the town website. The recommendation has been forwarded to the Selectboard for consideration.

On a state level, concern over climate change and its impact on Vermont has prompted action to better define and protect areas at risk of flooding. The RPC presented a revised Flood Hazard Bylaw to the Selectboard, which was presented to the community for a vote. This was overwhelmingly approved in the general election, but due to a procedural error by the RPC the results of the vote could not be accepted as official. If passed this will increase the amount of property in which new construction will either be prohibited or need to be approved. The selectboard will set up a Board of Adjustment to administer the ordinance. When planning any new construction, property owners should consult with the Flood Hazard Administrative Officer to ensure that the building site is not in the Flood Hazard Area.

The RPC also drafted a Subdivision Ordinance that we hope to be holding public meetings on in the first part of 2025.

Additionally, we began working on a plan to develop more housing in South Royalton village and a study to develop a plan dealing with town infrastructure. We will be working on those projects through 2025.

We meet in the town offices the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00. All are welcome to attend.

Geo Honigford

On behalf of the planning commission

FLOOD PLAIN BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

The flood plain bylaw was rewritten in 2007 and prohibits any new commercial or residential development in the area of special flood hazard (commonly known as the 100-year flood zone) as well as prohibiting the storage of floatable materials in the floodway. Copies of the by-law and Flood Plain Maps are available in the Town Office. Remember before doing any construction or filling in near the flood plain, consult the Selectboard office; Rebecca Pfeiffer, National Flood Insurance Program Community Assistant Coordinator for the State of Vermont (802-338-4858), or Walter Hastings, Royalton Flood Plain Administrator at (802)-763-2022.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION REPORT

The purpose of the Conservation Commission is to assist the community of Royalton to assess, protect, and enhance its natural resources. Additionally, we may inventory and advise on town lands in which the public has an interest, including land with historic, educational, cultural, scientific, architectural, or archaeological value. The Conservation Commission collaborates with a variety of municipal entities and other organizations, including the Planning Commission, the Select Board, the White River Partnership, Alliance for Vermont Communities (now disbanded), Vermont Law School, the Windsor County Forester, Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, and neighboring towns' Conservation Commissions. We are also a member of the Association for Vermont Conservation Commissions.

A central concern of the Royalton Conservation Commission over the past several years has been to advise on the management of town-owned tracts of land. These include the Crawford Forest (behind the Town Offices), the Sarnoff Forest (north side of Rte 107), and White River access sites. This year saw continued focus on the Crawford Forest, adjacent to the Royalton Town Offices. Here a second phase of invasive plant treatment was conducted as part of the follow-up to the logging operation overseen by the Conservation Commission in 2021, per the parcel's forest management plan. In the fall we hosted a volunteer work day at this location to clear existing trails, hand-pull invasive plants, and lay out an additional loop trail that will be developed in the coming year. Furthermore, the Royalton Conservation Commission constructed and installed an informational kiosk in front of the Royalton Town Offices with the aim of posting public announcements and information pertaining to the town's outdoor recreational opportunities (such as hiking trails and river access points). The black locust posts used in the kiosk's construction, as well as funds to buy additional materials, were generously donated by the Alliance for Vermont Communities in 2022.

The Conservation Commission also initiated two new projects in 2024, both supported by grant awards. The first of these was to establish a permanent planting of fruit and nut trees at the Marx Lot park, adjacent to the Foxstand and the North Royalton bridge. With funds from the Vermont Urban and Community Forest Program, we purchased and planted 30 trees from local nurseries. These included apple, cherry, pear, persimmon, chestnut, and black walnut.

A second project is being supported by a separate grant from the Vermont Urban and Community Forest Program and is focused on preparing the town for the imminent impact of the Emerald Ash Borer. The first stage of this undertaking took place in the fall of 2024 and involved hiring forestry consultants to conduct a survey documenting ash trees along public rights-of-way and in public spaces throughout the town. The second phase of this work is ongoing and will provide an understanding of the expected scale of damage and expense to that will accompany this invasive species.

As of June 30th 2024, the Royalton Conservation Fund held \$27,331.48. This is comprised of last year's carryover, as well as the two grant awards mentioned above: \$1,044 for tree planting and \$5,076 for emerald ash borer study. Expenditures for both grants will be allocated in the next fiscal year. Our operating budget request for 2025/2026 is \$750.

Respectfully submitted:

Tico Wolff (chair) Brad Salzmann (treasurer) David Barker John Dettwiler
Greg Stoloski Laura Romig Bushrod Powers

RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

The Royalton Recreation Commission has once again had a great year with many area youth participating in sports programs and fun events throughout the last year. The Recreation Commission organized youth sports for those in pre-K to grade 6 and sponsors many events throughout the year in our community. Youth sports programs are not possible without the dedication of our volunteers who help maintain fields, spend hours coaching, and organizing schedules and refs/umpires. In 2024, approximately seventy kids participated in youth basketball, eighty-five in youth soccer, and sixty in youth baseball/softball/tball. A big thank you also goes out to parents for making all the accommodations needed for kids to participate. These programs and teams could not flourish without all of the help of all those involved.

Additionally, much gratitude to those who volunteered to get our fields (Hope field and Carpenter field) back into fantastic shape for baseball and soccer to be able to have great seasons. Activities throughout the year such as pancake breakfast, Easter egg hunt and Trunk or Treat are always well attended and seem to be well enjoyed by the many smiling faces we see. We are also happy to see the ice rink once again being used by many, with a special shout out to the fire department for flooding the rink and helping maintain its surface for all to enjoy. As a reminder there are a variety of skates in the nearby shed for community members to use to enjoy the ice. Again, without all of the generous community support, these events would not happen.

We happily welcomed a new member this past year, Emily Parker, who has also taken on the role of Chair. We currently have one Board Member seat available. If you are interested in joining, we meet the last Monday of each month at 7pm at the town offices. Community members are always welcome; you do not have to join the committee to attend our meetings. If you have any suggestions for future events or improvements to our programs, we invite you to stop by by a meeting or reach out to us at RoyaltonVTRecreation@gmail.com.

Recreation Chair: Emily Parker

Activities Director: Miriam Clark

Board Members: Julia Abraham, Jessica Jones, Dj Craven, David Donahue, Kristen Cronan

LOVEJOY FUND REPORT

In November of 1933, the Town of Royalton from the estate of Evelyn Lovejoy received \$6,561.49. The town was instructed by the will to invest these funds and to use half of the interest income from the principal to support the Royalton Memorial Library and the other half to be used for the benefit of the residents residing in the Town of Royalton.

For the town's fiscal year of July 1, 2023 until June 30, 2024, requests continue to be received to support Royalton residents in need of heating fuel, utility bills, rent, food, and taxes. With no accrued interest throughout the fiscal year, and generous donations still being received, the balance in the Lovejoy Trust Fund checking account as of June 30, 2024 is \$8,297.43.

If you know of any Royalton resident in need, please have them contact Sandy Conrad by calling: **802-565-0401**. Please note that all requests are confidential.

I remain honored, and humbled by these charitable donations, and happily continue to volunteer to serve my town and support its residents through these generous financial gifts from Evelyn Lovejoy and the residents of our community.

Sandy Conrad

ROYALTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY REPORT

Royalton Memorial Library is committed to fostering lifelong learning, promoting literacy, and serving as a cornerstone of our community. Over the past year, we have continued to adapt and grow to meet the evolving needs of our patrons. This annual report highlights our accomplishments, statistics, and goals for the coming year.

Notable Programs and Events:

- o The Montshire Museum presented "Wind Power". Participates were able to build their own model of a wind powered vehicle
- o Michael Perrone Assistant Professor of Painting, visiting artist, presented a hands-on painting workshop.
- o A conversation about death, hosted by Heather Leavitt, of South Royalton, a certified death doula.
- o Better Business Bureau speaker presenting the topic on How to Protect Yourself from Scams & Fraud.

Community Outreach Initiatives:

- o Participated in Royalton Old Home Days and provided more than 350 free children’s books for the annual Trunk or Treat.
- o Provided meeting space for 12 community organizations. Our multi-purpose community room also provided a space for postal exams, job interviews, tutoring and zoom meetings.

Collection Development:

- o Over 400 New Titles added.
- o Newly opened “Library of Things” which includes jigsaw puzzles, bread machine, photo scanner, waffle iron, and telescope.

•Usage Statistics:

Total Visitors – 4,998	Wifi Sessions – 327	Program Participants – 882
Computer Sessions – 216	Programs & Story Time – 127	Items Borrowed - 5790

Goals for the Upcoming Year:

- Expand digital collections to include more diverse resources
- Launch new Community Focused Programs
- Enhance Accessibility with improvements to the sidewalk
- Continue to secure additional funding through grants and fundraising

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our staff, volunteers, board members, and community partners for their unwavering support and dedication. Together, we continue to make the Royalton Memorial Library a welcoming and enriching space for everyone.

Pam Levasseur, Assistant Director

SOUTH ROYALTON FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

The South Royalton Fire Department had the busiest year in the history of the department we responded to 154 emergency calls which resulted in 1,106 man hours. These man hours were all volunteer. The Firemen are dedicated to training and keeping their skills sharp learning new skills and refreshing old ones. The South Royalton fire department has 3 members enrolled in the State Firefighter 1 course and have 6 members in rolled in the Firefighter 2 course both of these courses are over 150 hours of training and we also train in house on the second and fourth Thursday of each month.

As we move into 2025 we are also planning for the future we are currently planning out a new Pumper Tanker and planning for our future building needs. As the town grows so must our emergency services and we need to plan ahead so we can meet the needs of our growing community. I thank the people of the town of Royalton for the continued support, We are always looking for more volunteers stop by the Fire Station on the second or fourth Thursday and see how you can help.

Paul Brock

South Royalton Fire Chief

CALL BREAKDOWN:

Structure Fires In Town 2	Structure Fires Out of Town 11	Motor vehicle accident 52
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Assisting Ambulance	24	Fire Alarm Activation	26	Wild Land Fires In To	4
Wild Land Out of Town	2	Utility Problem	15	Illegal Burning	7
Chimney Fire	1	Search and Rescue	1	Miscellaneous calls	8
Total Calls	154				

SOUTH ROYALTON RESCUE SQUAD REPORT

South Royalton Rescue Squad is an operating department of the Royalton Fire District #1. Day to day business of the rescue squad is managed by the administrator, with oversight provided by a nine member advisory board. The board consists of three members from each of the three towns that are served by the Rescue Squad. Representing the town of Royalton is Jerry Barcelow, Corinne Ingraham, and Jeff Knudsen. Representing the town of Sharon is Mary Gavin, Lara Ronan, and Bob Stoddard. Representing the town of Tunbridge is David Kimball, Bob Sponable, and John Durkee.

South Royalton Rescue continues to strive to provide the highest quality care for our community. In fiscal year '24 South Royalton Rescue Squad responded to (462) calls for service. In addition to responding to calls for service, South Royalton Rescue has supported other needs for the community. We assisted with distributing water to vulnerable households after the flooding in July of 2023 caused a boil water notice for South Royalton Village. We support community events such as Old Home Days, The Ranger, Trunk-or-Treat, and The Prouty. Additionally, South Royalton Rescue Squad works with Gifford Hospital to provide home visits for patients who may need additional medical support while they transition from hospital care. We greatly appreciate the opportunity to be part of your community.

Staffing for rural EMS has been challenging nationwide, and South Royalton Rescue has experienced this challenge as well. In fiscal year 24 and through the summer, South Royalton Rescue has on occasion had to go out of service due to lack of staffing. Please be assured that when this occurs, other emergency service agencies are able to provide coverage for our communities. We are pleased to report that since October of 2024, our staffing issues have largely been resolved. We have hired three full time members and anticipate that we will be able to maintain sufficient staffing to continue to provide 24 hour coverage 365 days a year.

Administrator Stephen Sanborn resigned his position in August 2024. South Royalton Rescue thanks him for his leadership during his tenure and wishes him the best in his future endeavors. In December 2024 staff member Ryan Terrill accepted the position of Administrator. We are glad to have the opportunity to work with Ryan, and look forward to the year ahead.

In 2023, we kicked off a capital campaign to build a new EMS Facility. Since the initial effort began, South Royalton Rescue has worked diligently to raise the funds necessary for the building. At this time, the Royalton Fire District has secured congressionally designated spending through the USDA, private grants, charitable donations, and funds that have been raised and saved by the rescue squad in the amount of \$1.1 million. The Town of Royalton has agreed to lease the Fire District the land necessary for the building and an architect has been hired. Currently, plans and cost estimates are being finalized and we are hopeful to break ground in later this year.

THANK YOU for your continued support. You can contact us at 802-788-1050, visit us at our website www.southroyaltonrescue.com, follow us on Facebook, or email southroyaltonrescue@gmail.com. Remember, in an emergency, call 911.

Respectfully,
 Ryan Terrill
 Administrator

FIRE WARDEN'S REPORT

Vermont Law states that a permit must be obtained (except when the ground is covered by snow) for all outside fires. Permits can only be issued for burning grass, leaves, and clean natural wood. It is illegal to burn all other solid waste. Burning a building for demolition requires a permit from the State Air Pollution office in Waterbury. The state office number is 1-888-520-4879. A local permit is also needed. For a burn permit call Don Lovejoy at 802-763-7269 or 802-299-6708. You may also call key man Timothy Parker II at 802-356-2264. After obtaining a local permit you must call dispatch before burning 802-295-2195. Dispatch tracks calls to prevent the fire department being sent out for a call regarding smoke from a permitted burn.

ROYALTON TOWN BAND REPORT

The Royalton Town Band has been part of our summers for years. It is an opportunity for residents, relatives and vacationers to join the ranks of the band and the audience.

The band is open to all community members, regardless of age or musical background. Members range from high school students to retirees, and play a variety of instruments including woodwinds, brass and percussion. The band will start practices in April with weekly concerts starting late June through the summer months. During the 2024 season started the band included performances for Memorial Day in South Royalton and Tunbridge, Woodstock Alumni, Randolph 4th of July, Old Home Days for Chelsea, Sharon and South Royalton, in addition to our weekly concerts on Thursday evenings.

We are excited about the upcoming 2025 year as will have a great team of conductors, which will include Kendrick Madore, a graduate from White River Valley High School and is continuing his education at Vermont State University at Castleton with a major in Music Education/Theater and Vajl Adamkowski who is a young conductor, composer and teacher in the Upper Valley. He is active in several community bands; including the Lyme Town Band and he is a member of the Upper Valley Community Band. Also, we are fortunate to have Dale Post, who will be coordinating, collaborating and working with both individuals. Dale is currently a music teacher at Mid Vermont Christian School.

Thank you to the faithful followers, each performance is unique. Also, thanks to the Town of Royalton for their support. Looking forward to seeing you on the green in June 2025.

Best,

Carol Greene, Treasurer

SOUTH ROYALTON AREA SENIOR CITIZENS REPORT

The South Royalton Area Senior Citizen Center (SRASCC) serves the towns of Bethel, Royalton, Sharon and Strafford. Many times, seniors from other towns will come to the center for meals and other activities, all are always welcome. To qualify as a senior, you must be 60 years old or older. Suggested donation \$5.00 for seniors and \$7.00 for all others.

The Board of Directors is composed of three representatives from each of the four towns. Sue Pirie is the director for both meal sites, one being in South Strafford at Barrett Hall. Serving meals on Wednesday and the other in Royalton, at the Royalton Academy building. Serving meals on Tuesday in house, curbside and home deliveries. Thursdays just curbside and home deliveries. The nutritional program provides one-third of the daily adult nutritional

required. We served a total of 14,464 meals for the year 2023-2024. The food cost per meal was \$3.13 total cost per meal \$9.73

Since closing for Covid attendance at the center has remained very low, however the curbside and home deliveries have risen.

There is an established fund that offers assistance to any senior who may have a need. Any senior needing assistance may contact Sue Pirie, the Senior Director, Karen Eddy, the Senior Advisor, or one of your Senior Board Representatives with their request. Requests are reviewed in a confidential manner. This could be with help for fuel cost, electricity, medical, ets.

Fundraising events continue so as to assist in the cost of running the center.

Willing Hands donated approximately 4,300 pounds of fresh produce and eggs to the senior meal sites this year. Panera Bakery donated 100 large boxes of bread, sweets and bagels. Several local farms also donate lots of fresh produce and fruits. We thank them all.

South Royalton's Senior Representatives are: Corinne Ingraham, Kay Ingraham, Donna Bohonnon

Submitted by SRASCC Board of Directors:

Kay Ingraham, President

Corinne Ingraham, Secretary

Donna Bohonnon, Treasurer

CENTRAL VERMONT COUNCIL ON AGING

Email: info@cvcoa.org Web: www.cvcoa.org Phone: 802-477-1364 Fax: 802-479-4235

Central Vermont Council on Aging (CVCOA) 2024 Report for Town of Royalton:

CVCOA Programs and Services Information:

A private nonprofit organization, Central Vermont Council on Aging (CVCOA) has been dedicated to the mission of supporting older Vermonters to age with dignity and choice for more than 40 years. CVCOA's programs and services are available to those age 60 and up, caregivers and their families, and to adults with disabilities. At CVCOA, we are the leading experts and advocates in healthy aging for Central Vermonters. We respect the wishes of aging people to age at home, remain healthy, stay active, and connected to the communities they know and love. CVCOA has many partners from healthcare, social services, and governmental organizations. However, as the area agency on aging for Central Vermont, CVCOA is the designated community based provider delivering care coordination, case management, information and assistance, and innovative caregiver supports directly to older Vermonters in their homes, at our office, or by phone. CVCOA also provides contracted services for transportation, legal, and mental health services. CVCOA provides funding and technical assistance for 13 Meals on Wheels sites under contracts for quality assurance but does not directly produce and deliver meals.

Below is a list of programs and services that CVCOA offers to people age 60+ and caregivers in Central Vermont:

- Information & Assistance staff counsels older Vermonters and families on the many available benefit programs and services, such as 3SquaresVT, seasonal fuel assistance, housing, mental health, legal assistance, support groups, healthy aging resources, and more through our Helpline, 1-800-642-5119 (toll free) or (802) 477-1364 (local).

- Case Managers work with clients in their homes to assess needs and develop, implement, and coordinate individualized long-term care plans.
- Nutrition Program provides program management support, including menu development, training, and technical assistance for home-delivered, grab and go, and congregate meals at 12 nutrition sites. Free nutrition counseling services for people age 60+ to best support a healthy lifestyle.
- State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) provides personalized Medicare counseling, New to Medicare workshops (in-person and on Zoom), and enrollment assistance for Medicare Part D plans.
- Family Caregiver Program promotes the well-being of family members serving as caregivers to loved ones, including respite funding, training to help caregivers manage stress, and social activities Memorable Times Café / Memorable Times Online.
- Volunteer Programs provide direct service to community members through companionship, wellness classes, meal delivery, errands and grocery shopping, yardwork and garden help, creative guidance, and more.
- Exercise / Wellness Programs provide free, evidence-based wellness classes offered throughout the region weekly. Classes include Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program, Falls Prevention Tai Chi, Bone Builders, and Walk with Ease.
- Community Programs help alleviate social isolation and loneliness, address the accessibility gap for homebound older adults and enhance social connection through arts and technology opportunities. CVCOA served 4,531 unduplicated clients in FY24 (07/01/2023 - 06/30/2024). CVCOA services are free of charge. We do charge a modest stipend to private employers who request our New to Medicare workshop for their employees. Each year, CVCOA mobilizes hundreds of volunteers to provide direct service, deliver Meals on Wheels, support nutrition sites, provide wellness classes, assist with Medicare information, provide companionship and creative encouragement, and more.

All of us at the Central Vermont Council on Aging extend our gratitude to communities throughout Central Vermont for their ongoing commitment to the health, well-being, independence, and dignity of older Vermonters. Central Vermont Council on Aging Annual Report of Services to Royalton (FY24 7/1/23-6/30/24)

The need for aging services continues to increase in Vermont. During the last fiscal year (7/1/23-6/30/24), Central Vermont Council on Aging provided one or more services to **85 (unduplicated) Royalton residents.**

Additionally, CVCOA provided nutrition counseling and education, caregiver training and respite funding, access to technology and resources, and opportunities to connect with volunteers for direct service, creativity, and technology assistance. CVCOA's case management staff provide information on a variety of topics, including elder abuse.

CVCOA served 4,531 unduplicated clients from 07/01/2023 through 06/30/2024. CVCOA mobilized 247 Central Vermont volunteers who donated 18,000 hours of their time, valued at over \$600,000.

- 176 volunteers participating in our AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Program volunteered more than 12,720 hours at our Central Vermont Nutrition site partners' Meals on Wheels programs.
- 75 volunteers donated nearly 4,500 hours to a wide-range of CVCOA-run volunteer efforts including leading wellness class, providing direct service support to clients, supporting special events, and more.
- 3 Senior Companions provided more than 760 hours of direct service support to nine (9) clients.

All staff, board members, and volunteers at Central Vermont Council on Aging extend our gratitude to the residents of Royalton for their ongoing commitment to the health, independence, and dignity of older adults in Central Vermont.

[1] Central Vermont Council on Aging does *not* directly operate a nutrition site. The CVCOA Nutrition and Wellness Program provides federal funding, technical assistance and nutrition counseling/education to 12 nutrition sites. This program supports home-delivered Meals on Wheels, congregate meals, and grab and go meals.

CLARA MARTIN CENTER

Clara Martin Center is your local community mental health agency, providing behavioral health and substance use services to Orange County and the greater Upper Valley area for the last 58 years. Clara Martin Center provides a multitude of services throughout greater Orange County to best meet the needs of community members in a holistic approach. These include individual, couples, and group therapy and services for co-occurring mental health and substance use. We also offer psychiatric consultations and evaluations and medication management services. Services are confidential and include:

- Outpatient Counseling
- Psychiatric Services
- Short-term crisis intervention
- School and Home-based services
- Education for families
- Community resource assistance
- Hospital Diversion
- Walk-in Clinic
- Vocational Services
- Substance Use Services
- Justice Involved Services
- 24-hour emergency system

Clara Martin Center’s broad range of programs serve children, families, couples, and individuals. Services are confidential and include counseling, psychiatric services, consultations, short term crisis intervention, school and home-based services, education for families related to emotional and behavioral challenges, community resource assistance, alternatives to hospital care, respite care, housing, vocational services, alcohol and other drug treatment, a walk-in clinic and 24-hour emergency services.

With 58 years of experience and leadership under our belt, Clara Martin Center remains positioned to rise to meet the needs and challenges of the communities we serve. Clara Martin Center remains committed to meeting both the short and long-term mental health and substance use care needs that the pandemic has impacted.

Clara Martin Center is proud to be in the process of becoming the first Certified Community Based Integrated Health Centers (CCBHC) in the State of Vermont, a federal model of care designed to ensure access to a comprehensive range of mental health and substance use services regardless of ability to pay, including crisis mental health services, screening, assessment and diagnosis, patient-centered treatment planning, outpatient mental health and substance use services, primary care screening and monitoring, targeted case management, psychiatric rehabilitation services, peer support and family support services, and services for members of the armed services and veterans.

FY24 TOTAL SERVICES PROVIDED AT CMC		TOTAL SERVICES PROVIDED	Royalton
Children & Family Services	504	Children & Family Services	42
School Services	118	School Services	31
Vocational Services	70	Vocational Services	9
Adult Services	747	Adult Services	63
CSP Services	145	CSP Services	9
Supportive & Transitional Housing	26	Supportive & Transitional Housing	2
Substance Use Services	265	Substance Use Services	15
Corrections Services	99	Justice Involved Services	2
Emergency Contacts/Walk-in Clinic	368	Emergency/Mobile Crisis	24
Access	598	Access	45
Peer Services	55	Peer Services	0
Total Served - unduplicated individuals	1913	Total unique individuals seen:	161

THE FAMILY PLACE

As one of 15 Parent Child Centers in Vermont, The Family Place operates a variety of programs designed to promote strong, resilient families and nurturing, high quality early experiences for children.

The Family Place staff includes early childhood educators, child development specialists, parent educators, a nurse, a child and family therapy team, home visitors and case managers. We offer meaningful, timely support in families' homes, at our center, or in other settings where families are comfortable.

Families come through our doors for many different reasons. Sometimes, it's to make connections with other families through playgroups or events. Often, it's for assistance finding or paying for childcare. Sometimes, it's because someone recognizes that a child is behind in meeting developmental milestones or has special medical needs. Other parents engage with us for support in meeting education or employment goals, or to enhance their parenting skills. The Family Place partners with families to identify all the potential areas for support and connect them with the resources that are most appropriate for their circumstances and goals. We collaborate with local agencies and providers, working together to create a more effective fabric of support for families.

The Family Place served more than 79 children and 59 parents/caregivers from Royalton and South Royalton last year, through both on-site and home-based services, including a partnership with the South Royalton Health Center to provide Welcome Baby Bags and resources to new parents. In addition to other programs, forty-six children were provided with support applying for childcare financial assistance funds and fifteen were provided with early intervention services to promote healthy growth and development.

We could not do this vital work without the partnership of the Royalton community. The challenges facing families have become increasingly complex. We are keenly aware of the importance of the early childhood years and the barriers to healthy outcomes for children. The Family Place provides a family-friendly campus and experienced staff to welcome and assist children and their families so that they can thrive.

For more information, please view our website at the-family-place.org or call (802) 649-3268.

Thank you for your support!

Stephanie Slayton

Stephanie Slayton

GREEN MOUNTAIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Green Mountain Economic Development Corporation (GMEDC) is one of twelve statewide Regional Development Corporations (RDCs), serving a 30-town region in Orange and northern Windsor counties. Our primary function is to develop economic vitality and prosperity consistent with the goals of the communities we serve.

In FY2024, dues from member towns contributed \$17,360 of our annual operating budget of \$317,308. Town dues are assessed at \$0.50/resident, as determined by population data from the VT Department of Health and the U.S. Census Bureau. Further operating revenue comes from business memberships and federal, state, and other funding sources. Your support helps provide client-specific economic development services free of charge and available to municipalities, new entrepreneurs, established and expanding businesses. Services include business development guidance, relocation support, and project development; for requests that are beyond our level of expertise, GMEDC has a ready referral network to meet client needs. Additionally, the RDCs work collectively throughout the legislative session to promote the needs and interests of the business community across the state. GMEDC and our local partners have assisted 140+ businesses and municipalities seeking additional information on economic development activities, local business projects, funding opportunities, legislative action and more.

FY2024 activities included:

Supporting numerous funding applications for capital investment, brownfield assessment and redevelopment, project planning and pre-development, totaling over \$6 million in funding to our service area.

Hosting the Orange and Windsor County program coordinator for the Small Business Technical Assistance Exchange program, bringing ~\$120,000 in services to 30 businesses in the two-county service area

Providing one-on-one support for businesses affected by the July 2023 and 2024 flooding and serving as local point of contact for state and Federal officials disseminating flood response, relief and recovery information.

Securing a Vermont Department of Marketing and Tourism two-year Grants for Relocation and Outreach Work (GROW) program award, to provide information and guidance to those considering a move to the state.

Ongoing support to the \$300,000 Federal Reserve Bank of Boston Working Communities Challenge White River Valley Consortium project, working to improve housing opportunities in 14 towns in the White River Valley.

Partnered with Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission and the Town of Hartford to reimagine the White River Junction Downtown Committee scope and structure, supported by the state Downtown Vibrancy Fund.

Ongoing partnership with Orange County Parent and Child Center to develop a new childcare facility offering 88 new seats in the Randolph region.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. For further information, call us at (802) 295-3710 or visit our website at www.gmedc.com

Erika C. Hoffman-Kiess, Executive Director

HEALTH CARE REHABILITATION SERVICES

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

During FY24, HCRS provided 3,199 hours of services to 18 residents of the Town of Royalton. The services provided included all of HCRS' programs resulting in a wide array of supports for the residents of Royalton.

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

SAFELINE INC

Safeline, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that provides free and confidential services for victims of domestic violence, sexual abuse and stalking in Orange County and northern Windsor County.

During the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, Safeline provided 2,532 services for 285 victims of domestic violence, stalking and sexual abuse.

82 services were provided for 12 victims who identified themselves as residents of Royalton. It is likely that these statistics are understated, as victims often choose not to give any identifying information out of fear for their own safety. Services were provided for 10 females and 2 males for 8 domestic violence situations, 3 sexual violence and 1 child sexual abuse.

Services that were provided for the 12 Royalton survivors included: assistance with Relief from Abuse protection orders, safety plans; crises intervention, emotional support, along with assistance for housing, personal finance and other services.

In addition to providing direct services, Safeline is a resource to the community at large and is committed to changing the culture of violence in our society. As part of this work, Safeline offers a full-range of prevention education activities for community organizations, faith communities, youth groups and other groups seeking information about domestic and sexual violence. Safeline conducted an Ambassador training for the Vermont Law and Graduate School, and provided an information table at a VLGS clubs/student groups.

We thank the voters for your support as we work to end domestic violence and sexual abuse in Royalton.

TRI VALLEY TRANSIT

Thank you for supporting TVT's vital public transportation programs in Royalton!

TVT's Dial-a-Ride and Shuttle Bus Systems **provided a total of 203,645 rides last year – a 13% increase over 2023!** TVT's transportation programs enable community members to maintain their independence, gain and keep employment and access critical healthcare and quality-of-life services.

Your ongoing support helped us provide a four year annual average of 2,299 free Dial-a-Ride trips for Royalton residents either by volunteer drivers or on wheelchair accessible vehicles, and an additional 339 riders boarded bus stops in Royalton.

Dial-a-Ride Programs meet specific needs of specialized populations including older adults, persons with disabilities and low-income families/individuals who can't access transportation on their own. These programs offer direct access from home to: medical treatments, nutrition programs, adult day services, pharmacies, food shopping, social services, vocational rehabilitation, and critical medical needs like radiation, dialysis, and substance abuse treatment.

Public Bus Routes are open to everyone and have been operating without fares since 2020. These commuter and local routes promote economic development, energy conservation, mobility independence and quality of life. In Royalton, residents can access:

- 89'er Commuter Route to the Hanover/Lebanon/WRJ area with stops at Park & Rides in South Royalton and Exit 3 as well as at White River Valley HS.
- Saturday Shopper with weekly service to the West Lebanon shopping area

State and Federal grants contribute 80% of our operating funds and require the remaining 20% to come from local sources. TVT strives to raise 5% of these local funds through municipal contributions based on each municipality's population and access to service using our "fair share" formula. Your continued support of these important programs

is greatly appreciated and if you have any questions, would like to learn more about our services, or are interested in becoming a volunteer driver, please visit www.trivalleytransit.org or contact us by email at info@trivalleytransit.org or by phone at 802-728-3773.

TWO RIVERS OTTAUQUECHEE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

The Two Rivers-Ottawuechee Regional Commission is your regional planning commission, governed by a Board of Representatives appointed by each of our 30 member towns. We work to make the area better today, and to articulate a vision for a thriving regional economy that enhances the Region's outstanding quality of life. The following are highlights from our work in 2024.

Technical Assistance on Planning Issues

With more than 104 years of combined experience, our staff support your local officials in many areas. We provide advice on zoning, budgeting and capital planning, and reducing flood damage. We are engaged with state and federal initiatives, ensuring as a local government, you can take advantage of these. The Municipal Technical Assistance Program has supported eligible towns in identifying project opportunities and funding sources to undertake those projects. Additionally, TRORC staff have assisted numerous towns with revisions to municipal plans, bylaws, and studies.

Economic Development

TRORC is part of the East Central Vermont Economic Development District, working to provide resources and opportunities for individuals, businesses, and communities. TRORC supports workforce needs and business growth by providing trainings, financial assistance research, and support for promotion and expansion planning. TRORC works with partners to maintain a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy that identifies and proposes strategies to address economic challenges in the area, allowing the partners to seek EDA funding. Additionally, we work on initiatives to increase availability and access to health care services and preventative practices for all populations. This year, we worked on food security efforts, and helped towns with health planning and policy development.

Emergency Management and Preparedness

TRORC staff continued to serve as liaisons between Vermont Emergency Management and local emergency responders, organizations, and town officials on emergency planning. We worked with communities in updating their Local Hazard Mitigation Plans, which assist the reduction of future damages from disasters and enable greater state and federal funding when they happen. When disasters occur, TRORC actively becomes part of the state and local long-term recovery process. Most recently, we aided communities in recovery efforts from the July 2023 and July 2024 floods.

Energy/Climate Change

TRORC worked with towns on Enhanced Energy Plans, aiming to save money and further the State energy goal of meeting 90% of energy needs from renewable sources by 2050. TRORC worked with member towns in assessing town buildings and identifying funding sources for energy conservation upgrades. We also work on state-level climate policy and local adaptation measures.

Transportation

TRORC worked with towns to identify needs and obtain funding for road improvement projects. We assist partners with managing transportation-related projects and ensuring compliance measures are maintained with the State. We also support our transit agencies, build park and ride lots, and help towns with traffic counts and speed studies.

TRORC helped the Town of Royalton update their Local Emergency Management Plan, flood hazard regulations, and draft subdivision regulations. TRORC assisted in the updating of State Village Center Designations for Royalton

and South Royalton villages. We provided guidance for managing federal grant funds, helped with an energy audit and secure funding to upgrade the energy efficiency of the town garage and Royalton Academy. Additionally, staff assisted the town in conducting housing case studies. Staff managed the Chelsea Street Sidewalk project and ditching projects at Waterman Hill and Mill, Whitney, Rix, and Happy Hollow Roads. TRORC began working with Royalton on a three-year project to plan for and secure funding for transportation projects in Royalton .

We are committed to serving you, and welcome opportunities to assist you in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter G. Gregory, AICP, Executive Director

William B. Emmons III, Chairperson, Pomfret

VERMONT ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND & VISUALLY IMPAIRED

Report of Services for Town of Royalton

During the 2024 Fiscal Year, The Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired saw continued success in client services, innovative programs, and community outreach initiatives. Moving forward, it is exciting to imagine the strides we will make in enabling blind and visually impaired Vermonters to be more independent, develop adaptive skills, and improve their quality of life.

SMART Device Training Program: 584 Vermont residents received SMART training in FY24, the highest number in the program's five-year history. In order to fully fund SMART, VABVI has launched the several-year Second Century Endowment Campaign.

PALS (Peer-Assisted Learning and Support) Group: PALS Groups, held throughout Vermont, are monthly meetings where members share coping strategies and discuss the practical, social and emotional challenges of vision loss. While many clients have been pleased with the reintroduction of in-person meetings in FY24, opportunities to join virtually remain available for maximum flexibility. 90 clients attended PALS meetings in FY24.

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

IRLE Summer Camp (Intensive Residential Life Experience): IRLE camp helps VABVI students develop social skills, meet fellow visually impaired peers, learn independent living skills, and improve self-advocacy skills. This June, IRLE brought 10 visually impaired students to Jay Peak Resort. Activities included beep baseball, disc golf, and ice skating. Fun was had by all!

Community Outreach

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

In Fiscal Year 2024, the agency provided services to a total of 1,048 Vermont residents. This total includes 3 adults in Royalton, and 89 adults and 16 students in Windsor County.

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

VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION

Dear Council Members and Citizens of Royalton:

We at the Visiting Nurse and Hospice for Vermont and New Hampshire (VNH) would like to offer our heartfelt thanks for the opportunity to have our appropriation request included in 2025 funding. **VNH respectfully requests \$7,000 which represents level funding from last year's request.**

As an integral part of the community healthcare system, VNH serves to breach an otherwise significant gap in the community's continuum of care. Last year, VNH provided **700 visits to 45 Royalton residents** of all ages and at all stages of life. VNH is also the foremost team of hospice and home health experts for over 140 communities in Vermont and New Hampshire. We deliver nursing, hospice and rehabilitation services at home with proven effectiveness, integrity and compassion. Just as local families have counted on us since 1907, you can count on us today.

Having our patients maintain their independence is key. Our nurses, therapists, social workers and support staff provide assessments, medical care and education to assist people in leading a more self-sufficient and independent life. We also provide support to terminal patients and their families to assure they are comfortable and experience quality of life in their final days. Our patients include the frail, elderly, and disabled often recovering from major surgery or illness as well as children with chronic medical needs.

All of our patients benefit by receiving the care they need in the familiarity and comfort of home.

Town funding is what allows us to reduce the cost of services provided to those in need. With adequate town funding, we are able to provide an affordable option for home healthcare throughout the communities we serve. To continue meeting this need, we hope your budget will include continued financial support of Visiting Nurse and Hospice for Vermont and New Hampshire.

On behalf of the people we serve, we thank you for your consideration of this request.

With kind regards,

Martin J. Degen

Martin J. Degen
Chief Financial Officer
mdegen@vnhcare.org

WHITE RIVER PARTNERSHIP

The White River Partnership (WRP) is a membership-based, nonprofit organization formed in 1996 by a group of local people who shared an interest in keeping the White River healthy. The WRP envisions a White River watershed in which individuals and communities work together to make informed decisions that result in clean water, fewer flood damages, improved access to the river, and more. Here are some highlights from our work in 2024:

- WRP staff and 30 volunteers completed the 7th year of our White River Water Trail Stewardship Program, **monitoring river access sites every month during the summer** to remove trash and to report hazardous conditions. We also started and ended the season with river cleanup events – in sum, 120 volunteers **removed 6,000 pounds of trash and 110 tires** from the river.

- WRP staff and 20 trained volunteers **completed the 24th year of our Swim Smart monitoring program**, testing bacteria, conductivity, and turbidity at 22 swimming holes in 13 towns – including Mouth of First Branch-South Royalton, Pinch Rock-Royalton, and Mouth of Second Branch-Royalton – every two weeks from late-May through early-September. We shared results via new signs at Water Trail sites, email, our website, and our Facebook/Instagram pages.
- The WRP worked with willing landowners, partners, and a youth work crew to **plant 3,310 native trees and shrubs along the White River and its tributaries** at 6 sites – including 1 site in Royalton – to improve water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, and flood resilience.
- WRP staff **assessed 125 stream-crossing culverts in the First Branch valley** to identify opportunities to improve flood resilience and aquatic organism passage.
- The WRP engaged 1,500 students and teachers from 24 schools – including South Royalton Elementary and White River Valley High School – in **hands-on education programs that raise awareness about watershed health**, including Freshwater Snorkeling with the Green Mountain National Forest, Trout in the Classroom with the Greater Upper Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited, crayfish and waterbugs sampling & identification, and more!

For more information

White River Partnership

PO Box 705, S. Royalton, VT 05068

(802) 763-7733, info@whiteriverpartnership.org

www.whiteriverpartnership.org and www.facebook.com/WhiteRiverPartnership

WINDSOR COUNTY MENTORS

For 50 years Windsor County Mentors has been creating and nurturing intensive community- and school-based mentoring partnerships, free of charge, to any Windsor County child between 5 and 18 who could benefit from a long-term, trusting relationship with an adult in their community.

Strong evidence shows that mentoring offers vulnerable youth opportunities to share experiences with reliable adults to widen their vision of themselves, helping them to become confident, contributing members of their community and increasing their social and mental wellbeing.

According to Mentor VT, youth with mentors have:

- Increased high school graduation rates, including higher college enrollment rates
- Enhanced self-esteem
- Enhanced self-confidence
- Improved behavior, both at home and at school
- Stronger relationships with parents, teachers, and peers
- Decreased likelihood of initiating drug and alcohol use

During the past year, WCM served and supported school- and community-based mentorships for children from towns throughout Windsor County. Collectively, our mentors have volunteered thousands of hours to their communities.

Our surveys demonstrate the positive effects of mentoring on local families, with a clean sweep once again this year:

- 100% of Mentors would recommend mentoring to a family member, friend, or colleague.
- 100% of Mentee parents said their child is hopeful about his/her future.
- 100% of Mentees reported that having a mentor has made a difference in his/her life.

WCM employs regional outreach coordinators around Windsor County, assuring that we are able to give each town the attention it deserves.

Financial support from Windsor County towns helps ensure the well-being of children and their families.

For more information on our mentorships, find us on Facebook, visit our website www.wcmentors.org, or contact us at ProgramsWC@outlook.com 802-674-5101. WCM thanks the voters of Royalton for their support for the children of Windsor County.

Matthew Garcia
Executive Director

SOUTH ROYALTON AREA FOOD SHELF

In the fall of 2023, we made an appeal to the town for an increase in the town’s appropriation from \$10,000 to \$15,000. That appeal was received and passed at the town’s 2024 annual meeting. This extra funding has made a difference. We also received several grants (one from the Vermont Food Bank) this year from different organizations. Other giving was consistent with prior years. We did make the decision to purchase less meat which has resulted in a decrease in overall food costs and helped us to finish with a surplus this year.

In addition to monetary donations, we received many kind donations of food. Of course, Willing Hands made their weekly contributions of produce for which we are so very grateful. There were many remarkable donations of goods this year. Just to highlight one of these kind donations: Gifford Hospital. Katherine Baumann, Gifford's Community Relations Coordinator, organized a food drive to benefit the South Royalton Area Food Shelf for Giving Tuesday this year. Many others, too many to name, contributed eggs, fresh produce, even turkeys (during Thanksgiving), hams (for the Christmas season) and more. We have a wonderfully generous community!

You can see from the numbers on the following page of this report that we serve a lot of people. Even with the two weeks we took off this year, we still served over 5,000 people in total!

We are grateful to all the volunteers who come and serve our community each week. You are making a difference! Even many of our patrons jump in and help when deliveries come in. Our food shelf is more than just food distribution, for many it is a real community. A place to love and be loved. It our honor and joy to serve this wonderful community and we hope to be able to continue doing so for years to come.

Month	Households	Clients	Children	Seniors
January	191	406	101	132
February	171	360	86	127
Marcy	173	363	76	132
April	135	286	60	107
May	226	476	110	174
June	173	355	84	140
July	160	345	70	136
August	227	472	121	181
September	211	460	134	160
October	253	562	155	203
November	183	423	116	136
December	324	734	201	249
Total	2427	5242	1314	1877

Most respectfully submitted,
The South Royalton Area Food Shelf Team

GREEN UP VERMONT

Green Up Day, saw a 30% growth in volunteers over 2023, picked up over four tons of litter and 15,813 tires. In flood clean-up projects we took care of an additional 10,000 tires. We also attempted a Guinness World Records® title and succeeded! The record is: “The Most Pledges Received to Pick Up Trash in 24 Hours.” Vermont is the only State in the nation that can boast this achievement and the only State that offers a program like Green Up Day. As one of Vermont’s favorite traditions, it is imperative for today and for future generations to keep building pride, awareness, and stewardship for a clean Vermont, and keep residents civically engaged.

Green Up initiatives are year-round and further our environmental impact with waste reduction programs, additional clean-up efforts, and educational initiatives. We received a special flood recovery donation from Subaru of New England and have been able to rally volunteers and pay for many flood clean-up projects across the State.

Support from your municipality is essential to our program. Funds help pay for Green Up Day supplies, promotional outreach, and educational resources, contests for kids, and a \$1,000 scholarship. We are requesting level funding for 2025.

Thank you for supporting this crucial program that takes care of where we all get to live, work and play.

Be an Environmental Hero – Donate on **Line 23 of the Vermont State Income Tax Form** or at **www.greenupvermont.org**.

2025 Green Up Day is May 3rd.

Green Up Vermont is a 501c3 nonprofit.

RABIES & LICENSING CLINIC

Date: Thursday, March 27th, 2025

Time: 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Where: Royalton Academy Building

4266 Route 14 - Royalton Village

RABIES CLINIC

Cost: \$23.00



Bring copy of current rabies vaccination to be eligible for a 3-year vaccine.

For healthy dogs and cats that are 4 months or older.

Services provided by Country Animal Hospital

LICENSING CLINIC

Licensing is also available to all Royalton dogs aged 6 months or older. Please license your dogs on or before April 1st to avoid late fees.

A copy of a current rabies certificate is required.

Fees:

Male/Female Neutered/Spayed \$13.00

Male/Female Not Neutered/Not Spayed \$17.00

Services provided by the Royalton Town Clerk