

**ANNUAL TOWN REPORT**  
**Year Ending June 30, 2025**

**HANCOCK, VERMONT**

**TOWN MEETING AT THE HANCOCK TOWN HALL**  
**TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2026**

**\*PLEASE BRING THIS REPORT TO TOWN MEETING\***

# Town of Hancock

Informational Sheet

## **Town Office Hours**

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am – 3pm (or by appointment)

## **Selectboard Meetings**

6 PM 1st and 3rd Tuesday at the Town Office

## **Contact Information**

Town Clerk & Town Treasurer 802-767-3660

Email: [townclerk@hancockvt.org](mailto:townclerk@hancockvt.org)

## **Recycling**

Company: North Star Rubbish Removal, 802-672-3372

Location of Dropoff: Rochester Town Office

Time/Date of Dropoff: Every Saturday 8 AM-11AM

## **Dog Licenses**

2026 Dog Licenses are available at the Town Clerk's Office.

All dogs over 6 months in age must be licensed.

Please provide a current rabies vaccination certificate signed by your vet.

Cost before April 1, 2026: \$11 for spayed/neutered; \$15 for un-spayed/neutered

Cost after April 1, 2026: \$13 for spayed/neutered; \$19 for un-spayed/neutered

## **Town Website**

[www.hancockvt.org](http://www.hancockvt.org)

Please visit our Town Website to pay taxes or fees, keep up to date with agendas, meeting minutes, contact information, and forms.

*The contents of this town report were requested and approved by the Hancock Select Board.*

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**WARNING OF  
TOWN OF HANCOCK, VERMONT ANNUAL MEETING  
MARCH 3, 2026, 10:00AM**

The legal voters of the Town of Hancock, VT, are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Hancock Town Hall in said town to transact the following business by floor vote:

Article 1: To elect a Town Moderator for the next year ensuing.

Article 2: To elect all Town Officers as required by law:

- Selectboard Member – three year term
- Auditor- three year term
- Constable - one year term
- Collector of Delinquent Taxes – one year term
- Cemetery Commissioner - three year term
- Road Commissioner – one year term
- Library Trustee – five year term
- Advisory Budget Committee – three year term


Article 3: Shall the voters appropriate a total of \$7,319.00 to the following social service agencies pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 2691:

<b>Green-Up Vermont</b> – supports Green Up Day	\$50.00
<b>Atria (WomenSafe)</b> – Provides assistance related to sexual and domestic violence for people of all genders	\$500.00
<b>Tri Valley Transit (Stagecoach)</b> – provides regional mass transit	\$558.00
<b>Central Vermont Council on Aging</b> – provides services to seniors	\$800.00
<b>Park House</b> – Senior housing non-profit	\$600.00
<b>Clara Martin Center</b> - provides behavioral health care and substance abuse services	\$595.00
<b>Quin-Town Senior Center</b> – non-profit providing Meals on Wheels services to valley seniors.	\$2,716.00
<b>Hancock Town Pride</b> – fosters community spirit, beauty, & involvement, and offers events & activities.	\$1,500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<hr/> <b>\$7,319.00</b>

- Article 4: Shall the voters authorize the Selectboard to apply the remaining balance in the General Fund of FY25/26 to reducing the next fiscal year's amount to be raised by taxes?
- Article 5: Shall the voters authorize the Town Treasurer to transfer the balance from the Road Commissioner Fund FY25/26 to the Highway Capital Fund?
- Article 6: Shall the voters authorize the Town Treasurer to transfer the balance from the Fire Department budget into the Fire Department Equipment Fund?
- Article 7: Shall the voters authorize the Town Treasurer to collect current taxes pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 4791. If so, shall the voters authorize payment of real taxes in four (4) installments, with due dates being Monday, August 17th, 2026; Monday, November 16th, 2026; Tuesday, February 16th, 2027; and Monday, May 17th, 2027, in the hands of the tax collector or secure drop box before 3:00PM on those dates with postmarks not accepted as proof of delivery?
- Article 8: Shall the Town of Hancock appropriate the sum of \$541,923.00 to pay the current expenses for the general and highway funds for the ensuing twelve months, with 2026 – 2027 taxes becoming delinquent after May 17th, 2027, and with the County and State taxes to be paid from the general fund.
- Article 9: To transact any non-binding business that may legally come before this meeting pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2660(d).

Dated this 7th day of January, 2026

By the Selectboard of the Town of Hancock

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Gillette, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel Perera

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Leno

## **A Note about This Year's Meeting**

This year's town meeting will be held in person on Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00AM in the Hancock Town Hall. All are welcomed to attend; however, only registered voters of Hancock may vote in the meeting.

## **FLAP Grant for Texas Falls Rd. Bridge No.1**

In 2023 the Town was awarded \$1,210,000 grant funding by the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) to replace Bridge No.1 (at VT RT125) on Texas Falls Rd. Unfortunately, in September of 2024, the funding of the grant was reduced by \$710,000, leaving the project with a significant budgetary shortfall. Since engineering on the project had already begun, the Selectboard opted to amend the Memorandum of Agreement with the federal government to reduce the scope of the project to the engineering portion of the work, which fell within the remaining funds of the grant. Leaving the town still fully covered for the existing expenses of the project.

The engineering on this project is now in the design phase, and the design phase should be complete by mid-2026.

The selectboard was approached by the US Forest Service with a request to apply for the most recent tranche of FLAP grant funding with the intent to secure construction funds for this bridge. The selectboard has applied for another FLAP grant in an amount sufficient to cover the costs of bridge construction in accordance with the engineers' design proposal.

## **Public Safety Budget**

In 2024 the selectboard unanimously decided to end the Town's contract with the Addison County Sheriff's Department (ACSD). The town contracted with ACSD for traffic control and police presence at a rate of \$39/hr, plus \$0.655 per mile of travel. The budget for ACSD was \$15,000 for that fiscal year. In years past, the cost of this line item was mostly covered by the Town's share of traffic fines. That was no longer the case.

In the fall of 2025 the selectboard met with the Addison County Sheriff to discuss reinstating the contract between the Town and ACSD. The conversation was positive, and Sheriff Elmore presented the selectboard with a proposal that outlined three basic tiers of service. The selectboard has again set the law enforcement budget to \$1. We ask that the voters review the proposal by ACSD. If so moved, the voters may set an alternate budget figure for law enforcement and appeal to the selectboard to enter a contract with ACSD at the desired service tier.

## MERP Grant

In 2024 the Town applied for and was awarded by the state of Vermont a Municipal Energy Resiliency Program (MERP) grant in the amount of \$342,155.20 to improve the weatherization and replace the heating systems in the town hall and town office with modern, energy efficient equipment. The work is fully funded by the grant and comes at no cost on your property taxes. Unlike the FLAP grant, this grant will be paid to the town prior to construction, so we proceed without risk.

The projection by the MERP staff is that the project will pay for itself over the life of the new equipment.

This grant is now in the implementation phase, with a request for proposals out with contractors to perform the work. The selectboard has chosen to hire Two Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Commission to manage the project for the Town.

## CDBG Planning Grant

The Town applied for and has been awarded a \$60,000 grant to conduct a feasibility study to assess whether affordable workforce housing can be developed on the Town-owned Taylor Meadow parcel in the village, and increase the town's tax base. The intention is to partner with a developer to bring much needed affordable housing to the valley and, with it, employees for area businesses.

This grant work is well under way, with finalization of the feasibility study to be complete by the end of 2026.

## Status of Flood Loan

In the Fall of 2014, the Town of Hancock requested a loan to refinance the existing "Flood Repair Loan" held at a different financial institution. Below is a summary of the current status of this loan maintained by Mascoma Bank.

Open Date: 3/19/2025	Maturity: 4/30/2028
Original Balance: \$278,439.11	Current Balance: \$36,713.17
Next Payment: 3/30/2026	Rate: 2.75%
Payment: \$25,000 principal and interest payment annually due on 3/30	

## Budget and Appropriations

PLEASE NOTE that the Appropriation requests in **Article 3** are NOT included in the final budget amount in **Article 8**.

It has become increasingly difficult to maintain level staffing due to better wages and benefits being offered by multiple other Police Departments across the State. Since I have taken office, the Sheriff's Office has seen several employees leave and several applicants take other jobs solely due to better pay and benefits that they are offered elsewhere.

My goal is to provide your town with quality workers and quality patrols. To do this, I need to attract and retain quality people to work here. I believe the Sheriff's Office has been seen more as a steppingstone for people as they begin or end their careers and for good reason. We have not offered retirement or insurance to our employees, so there is no long-term enticement to attract people to stay here. With a bit of investment, we can cultivate good employees that have a desire to stay and work in Addison County and build relationships with the communities that we serve.

Starting July 1, 2026, we are able to begin offering a retirement plan through the State of Vermont. Although it is a State plan, the contribution cost falls to the Sheriff's Department. This will raise the cost for each employee by a significant amount, but it is a worthwhile investment in helping to retain quality employees. The starting pay rate for a deputy will also be raised to \$25/ hour to compete for employees in an ever-shrinking pool.

When I started at the Sheriff's Department in 2017, a new Deputy made \$17/ hour and the town contracts reflected this low cost. Now, some departments are offering new employees with no experience a starting wage in the mid \$30s/ hour. This is extremely difficult to compete with, especially combined with our lack of benefits. My goal, ultimately, is to also be able to offer some type of health insurance, but that is a bridge to cross down the road.

I do not make this request for increased rates lightly. I understand that everyone's budgets are getting tighter and it is difficult to look for increases. Since I took office, I have seen a 38% increase in the contacts being made by the Deputies working the road from the 5 years prior. These contacts reflect my Deputies working to keep your towns safe and connect with the members of the community. This increase is in large part due to the quality level of some of the people that I have hired, but unfortunately, some of those have left for better job opportunities. I hope that you can see our need to increase our rates as a way for us to continue increasing the quality of the work that we do.

I do want to be clear that increasing our patrol rate to \$64/ hour does not mean that increasing the amount of money that the department keeps. With the coming increases, this will maintain our finances so that we can remain stable and able to do what we need to serve our County to the best of our ability while trying to keep the cost to the towns low.

**Addison County Sherriff's Office**  
**Town of Hancock FY 2026-27 Contract Proposal**

Previous Contract

- Budget: \$15,000
- Hours per Month: 32
- Contract Rate: \$39/hour + mileage
  - o Current Rate is \$41/hour + \$1/mile (roughly \$51/hour)

Proposal for FY 2026-27

OPTION 1 – Level Funding

- o Budget: \$15,000
- o Hours per Month: 20
- o Contract Rate: \$64/hour (mileage included)

OPTION 2 – Same Hours

- o Budget: \$24,500 (63% increase)
- o Hours per Month: 32
- o Contract Rate: \$64/hour (mileage included)

OPTION 3 – “In Between”

- o Budget: \$19,000 (27% increase)
- o Hours per Month: 25
- o Contract Rate: \$64/hour (mileage included)

Other Additions

- If hours are not completed each month, maximum of 25% of contracted hours can carry over to next month
    - o For example, with 32 hours worked each month, if hours remain, a maximum of 8 could be carried over to next month. However, the cap would be 40 hours per month and would not continue to add on.
  - Travel Time is covered by the Sheriff's Department currently. Ask for option of 15 minutes per shift be covered by town. This won't be every shift but helps cover beginning/end of day.
- 

Current Staffing:

- Deputies – 6 Full-Time; 4 Part-Time/Per Diem
- I have to keep 2 deputies at the courthouse Monday-Friday, 8am-4:30pm
- Leaves me with 4 deputies for patrol
- Other Requests
  - o Escorts
  - o Blue light details
  - o Security
  - o Transports
  - o Vacation coverage
- All contribute to hours being missed for patrols

#### With Full Staffing:

- 9 Full-Time Deputies
- Guarantees at least 4 deputies on the road somewhere in the County from 6am-6pm each day, Monday through Friday
- Some type of Saturday coverage throughout the year
- Better able to respond to the needs of each town for special requests

#### Road Ahead:

- 1 person that was slated to become a full-time deputy just resigned (pay being one of the reasons cited for leaving)
- 1 per diem deputy just completed Academy training. Will be able to complete training hopefully by mid-Spring depending on availability.
- Planning to hire a DMV Officer that just retired to work per diem. Will open up more opportunities to enforce overweight violations.
- Currently negotiating with 1 of the per diems to come full-time. Depends on benefit package able to offer.
- 1 Deputy planning to go on military leave in June 2026. Will be gone 10 months and unsure if will continue employment hereafter.
- With these changes pending, it will potentially put us at 7 Full-time and 5 per diem Deputies once training is completed, putting us in a better place (until Deputy goes in military leave).
- May have to close a spot or two depending on number of hours requested by towns starting July 1, 2026.
- A few applicants going through process, but nothing promising.

#### Costs:

- Deputies:
  - o Average cost of Deputy per hour FY 26-27 = \$48.70
  - o Leaves \$15.30 to cover additional costs
- New Cruiser: Ideally 1-2 each year; 10 vehicles total; 5-year rotation
  - o Car - \$52,000
  - o Labor/Equipment - \$21,000
  - o Total – Approximately \$73,000 (for brand new everything)
- Uniforms:
  - o Camera, Radio, Belt, Shirts, Pants, Jackets, Hats, Guns, Duty Gear
  - o Total Cost (Brand New) – Approximately \$10,000

#### Training:

- New Deputy
  - o FTO Program requires:
    - 3 weeks in academy (120 hours)
    - 11 weeks of on the road training (440 hours)
    - 5.5 weeks of additional classes (220 hours)
    - Minimum 780 hours – Approximately \$27,000 (benefits included)

#### Annual Expenses:

- Dispatch: \$14,400 per year
- Fuel: \$36,000 per year

*(Continued on next page)*

- Vehicle Maintenance: \$27,000 per year
- Insurance: \$45,000 per year
- Other various fees and costs: \$32,000 per year
- Salaries: \$709,000 per year
- Total: \$864,000 per year

Annual Income:

- Town Contracts (if hours completed)
  - o FY 25-26: \$235,140
  - o FY 26-27: \$294,000 (if "in-between" hours taken by each town)
- Court Contract: \$326,000
- Civil Process/ Fingerprints: \$80,000
- Training budget from County: \$30,000
- Other Income: \$29,000
- Total: \$759,000
  - o Around \$105,000 needs to be made up through other contracts

Other Departments rates for FY 2025-26

- Bennington County: \$75/hour + mileage
- Chittenden County: \$80/hour (mileage included)
- Rutland County: \$60-65/hour + mileage
- Washington County: \$66/hour + mileage
- Windsor County: \$75/hour (mileage Included)
- VSP: \$105/hour (though no longer taking new town contracts, last I heard)

Statistics

- 2023 saw a 199% increase in traffic stops from 2022
- 2024 saw a 13% increase in traffic stops from 2023
- With less staff than 2024, stops/fines for 2025 are projected to be similar to last year

Thank you for your consideration

Sheriff Elmore

# **Road Commissioner's Report**

## **Shampeny Hill Road**

The Town has a new culvert at the bottom of Shampeny Hill Road. This project was funded by FEMA. It was a long process that took two years of back and forth with engineers, FEMA, the contractor, the United States Forest Service, and property owners. All of this work and negotiating on behalf of the Town of Hancock was done by Hancock Select Board member, Dan Perera.

The second Shampeny Hill project was at the top of the hill. For years, the Town has had a problem with ledge in the ditch line on the north side, preventing the deepening and widening of the ditch. This made it impossible to manage and control erosion. We were able to complete this project with funding from a FEMA Mitigation Grant.

## **Buttles Road Ditching Project**

Over 1600 feet of ditch along the northeast side of Buttles Road was cleaned, shaped, and stoned. All culverts were removed and replaced with 18-inch gray polypropylene. These culverts are of a high-grade plastic that will extend the life of the culvert. The old culverts that were removed were 15-inch and 18-inch, and most were not working to capacity. This project was funded by a Grant-In-Aid, with the balance coming from the Town's Highway Capital account.

## **Fiske Road Ditching**

The ditch on Fiske Road was also cleaned, shaped, and stoned in the same manner as Buttles Road. This project was only 75 feet long with one culvert at the bottom of the ditch. The old culvert that was removed was 18 inches x 80 feet, and was replaced with a culvert that is 24 inches x 80 feet. The funding for this project came from the Road Commissioner's budget.

## **Normal Maintenance**

Like all other Vermont towns, we try our best to keep up with the normal year-to-year chores. We have a Grading Contractor under a three-year contract to provide three gradings per summer. We plan on keeping our Sweeping Contractor, who has provided very good service to the Town. We will be asking our Roadside Mowing Contractor to return this year as well.

## **Texas Falls Road**

After a lengthy process, the Select Board has turned over a portion of Texas Falls Road to the Forest Service, beginning at the Forest Service property line on the southern end of the roadway. The Town has constructed a turn-around at this point.

## **Upcoming Projects**

Tucker Brook Road: Starting at the intersection of Route 125 and traveling up Tucker Brook Road to an area near the newly installed Shampeny Hill Road culvert; this area needs to be rebuilt. Tucker Brook has suffered several flood events, and has been patched and patched again. We are obligated to keep our roads safe for emergency vehicles, the traveling public and visitors, as well as area contractors. There are currently no grants available for these repairs.

Fassett Hill Road: I have some very exciting news to report. The Town of Hancock has been awarded a structures grant in the amount of \$200,000, with a Town contribution of \$20,000. In addition, the Town has been awarded a \$15,000 grant to cover engineering costs for the design of both the ditching upgrade and the culvert upgrade.

With these grants, it is the hope of the Select Board that our Town will be in a much better position to control the water run-off; to avoid a washed-out road and damage to private property along Fassett Hill Road.

## **In Appreciation**

Over the past year, I have two very special people whom I owe many, many thanks for coming to my aid. The first is our Town Clerk, Wendy Stender. She has never refused to help and believe me...I have needed it a lot! Thank you again.

I also owe many thanks to another young lady who has helped both me and the Town of Hancock. On several projects, she assisted in obtaining grants amounting to thousands of dollars, and she always returns my calls. You might see her running around our road system. Her name is Rita Seto. She works for the Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission (TRORC), an organization that also provides a service that is second to none.

We have a number of challenges ahead; but if you have me, I look forward to the task. Being your Road Commissioner has been a rewarding job.

James Leno

**TOWN OFFICERS OF HANCOCK, VT  
2025-2026**

**ELECTED OFFICIALS**

**Auditors (3 year)**

First, expires 2026 Geraldine K. Twitchell  
Second, expires 2027 Rose Juliano  
Third, expires 2028 Janet Roth

**Budget Committee (3year)**

First, expires 2026 Linda Straley  
Second, expires 2027 Maurice Eaton  
Third, expires 2028 Marjorie Ross

**Cemetery Commission (3 year)**

First, expires 2026 Maurice Eaton  
Second, expires 2027 Larry Bettis  
Third, expires 2028 Geraldine K. Twitchell

**Constable (1 year)**

**Delinquent Tax Collector (1 year)**  
Thomas Patterson  
Wendy Stender

**Justices of the Peace**

Roger Comes  
Maurice Eaton  
Wendy Stender  
Marjorie Ross  
Monica Collins

**Library Trustees (5 year)**

First, expires 2026 Linda Straley  
Second, expires 2027 Garri Jesso-White  
Third, expires 2028 Margi Rogal (Chair)  
Fourth, expires 2029 Gretchen Perera  
Fifth, expires 2030 Rose Juliano

**Listers**

**Moderator (1 Year)**  
OFFICE ELIMINATED TM 2022  
Scott Gillette

**Road Commissioner (1 year)**

James Leno

**GHUD School Board (3 year)**

**ELECTED AT GHUD MEETING**  
Samantha Sheehan  
Stacey Peters, Chair  
Sara Deering

**Select Board (3 year)**

First, expires 2026 Scott Gillette (Chair)  
Second, expires 2027 Dan Perera (Clerk)  
Third, expires 2028 James Leno

**Town Clerk**

**Town Treasurer**

Wendy Stender  
Wendy Stender

**APPOINTED OFFICIALS:**

**WRA/VA Board Member**

Jeannette Bair

**E-911 Coordinator**

Scott Gillette

**Asst. Town Treasurer**

Becky Klein

**Asst. Town Clerks**

Roger Comes

**Civil Defense**

James Leno

**Emergency Management**

Renée Veilleux

**Energy Coordinator**

Eduardo Angulo Alvarez

**Fence Viewers**

Garrett Troumbley  
Daniel Perera

**Fire Warden**

Jonathan Deering

**Health Officer**

VACANT

**Deputy Health Officers**

Scott Gillette  
Dan Perera  
James Leno

**Inspector of Wood, Shingles & Lumber**

Thomas Patterson

**Animal Control Officer**

Kolleen Scaff

**Septic/Sewage Officer**

James Leno

**Solid Waste/Recycle Coordinator**

Select Board Members

**Tri-Valley Transit Board Member**

VACANT

**Town Service Member**

VACANT

**Tree Warden**

Garrett Troumbley

**Weighter of Coal**

VACANT

**Planning Commission (6 years)**

Monica Collins

**Valley Rescue Board Member**

VACANT (3 positions)

**TRORC**

Jeannette Bair

**EC Fiber**

Monica Collins

**Representatives**

Stacey Peters

**Representatives**

Dan Perera

January 27, 2026

The Selectboard  
Town of Hancock, Vermont

**AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATION**

The financial statements of the Town of Hancock, Vermont for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025 were audited by Mudgett, Jennett & Krogh-Wisner, P.C. of Montpelier. The financial statements will be available, with our independent auditor's reports, at the Office of the Town Clerk/Treasurer, Town of Hancock, PO Box 100, Hancock VT 05748 once the final statements are issued.

Sincerely,

Mudgett, Jennett & Krogh-Wisner, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Mudgett", written over a horizontal line.

John H. Mudgett, CPA  
Principal

## FY 2026-27 Town of Hancock General Fund -- Selectboard Budget

Account	Budget FY - 2025	Actual FY-2025	Budget FY - 2026	Budget FY - 2027
<b>10-4-00 TAX REVENUE</b>				
10-4-00-011.00 Current Property Taxes	\$ -	\$ 312,497.48	\$ -	\$ -
10-4-00-011.01 Current Tax Interest	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,298.40	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
10-4-00-012.00 Delinquent Property Taxes	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 39,585.86	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
10-4-00-012.01 Delinquent Tax Interest	\$ 400.00	\$ 3,391.49	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
10-4-00-014.00 Delinquent Tax Penalty	\$ 240.00	\$ (88.37)	\$ 240.00	\$ 240.00
10-4-00-031.00 PILOT	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 68,767.00	\$ 67,000.00	\$ 67,000.00
10-4-00-032.00 Current Use	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 12,912.00	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
10-4-00-033.00 State of VT Trans Aid	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 14,000.00
<b>TOTAL TAX REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 60,640.00</b>	<b>\$ 438,363.86</b>	<b>\$ 96,640.00</b>	<b>\$ 97,640.00</b>
<b>10-4-01 INTEREST INCOME</b>				
10-4-01-041.00 Gen. Fund Bank Interest	\$ -	\$ 7,068.96	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 6,000.00
10-4-01-051.00 Money Market Interest	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>TOTAL INTEREST REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,068.96</b>	<b>\$ 1,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 6,000.00</b>
<b>10-4-11 TOWN CLERK REVENUE</b>				
10-4-11-021.00 Dog Licenses	\$ 200.00	\$ 189.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
10-4-11-022.00 Liquor Licenses	\$ 450.00	\$ 255.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 275.00
10-4-11-041.00 Town Clerk Fees	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 3,494.98	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
<b>TOTAL TOWN CLERK REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 5,150.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,938.98</b>	<b>\$ 4,600.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,475.00</b>
<b>10-4-19 OTHER REVENUE</b>				
10-4-19-080.02 State Equalization Paymen	\$ 260.00	\$ 263.00	\$ 260.00	\$ 260.00
10-4-19-090.00 Quin Town Rent	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 3,600.00
10-4-19-090.01 Town Hall & Town Green Re	\$ 200.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 350.00
10-4-19-090.02 Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ 80.00	\$ -	\$ -
<b>TOTAL OTHER REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 4,060.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,293.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,460.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,210.00</b>
<b>10-4-22 PUBLIC SAFETY</b>				
10-4-22-031.00 Police Patrol Income	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 557.25	\$ -	\$ -
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 1,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 557.25</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>10-4-96 TRANSFERS IN</b>				
10-4-96-085.00 Transfer In	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>TOTAL TRANSFERS IN</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 72,350.00</b>	<b>\$ 454,222.05</b>	<b>\$ 107,200.00</b>	<b>\$ 112,325.00</b>

Account	Budget FY - 2025	Actual FY-2025	Budget - 2026	FY	Budget FY - 2027
<b>10-5-00-101 WAGES TOWN EMPLOYEES</b>					
10-5-00-101.00 Select Board	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,600.00	\$	3,600.00
10-5-00-101.01 Select Board Clerk Wages	\$ 300.00	\$ 320.00	\$ 400.00	\$	400.00
10-5-00-101.02 Auditors	\$ 150.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 150.00	\$	150.00
10-5-00-101.03 Laborers	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 6,355.00	\$ 2,600.00	\$	2,600.00
10-5-00-101.05 Animal Control	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$	100.00
10-5-00-101.06 Flood Plain Administrator	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$	100.00
10-5-00-101.07 Emergency Mgmt Coordinator	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ 250.00	\$	250.00
10-5-00-101.08 Health Officer	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$	50.00
10-5-00-101.09 Delinquent Tax Collector	\$ 240.00	\$ -	\$ 240.00	\$	-
10-5-00-101.11 Road Comm Stipend	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$	1,500.00
<b>TOTAL WAGES TOWN EMPLOYEES</b>	<b>\$ 8,890.00</b>	<b>\$ 12,250.00</b>	<b>\$ 8,990.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>8,750.00</b>
<b>10-5-10 TOWN EXPENSES</b>					
10-5-10-220.00 Payroll Taxes - FICA	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 6,037.18	\$ 5,500.00	\$	5,500.00
10-5-10-220.01 Unemployment tax	\$ 200.00	\$ 205.75	\$ 200.00	\$	200.00
10-5-10-220.02 PY Payroll Taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$	-
10-5-10-220.03 Childcare Cont. Tax	\$ -	\$ 347.30	\$ 190.00	\$	350.00
10-5-10-313.00 Short Term Interest	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$	100.00
10-5-10-331.00 Legal Fees	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 106.25	\$ 5,000.00	\$	5,000.00
10-5-10-332.01 Professional Audit	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$	4,000.00
10-5-10-333.00 Assessor Contract	\$ 5,608.00	\$ 6,961.20	\$ 6,000.00	\$	7,000.00
10-5-10-340.00 Service Contracts/Tech	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,066.86	\$ 6,000.00	\$	7,000.00
10-5-10-342.00 Tax Mapping	\$ 700.00	\$ -	\$ 1,800.00	\$	1,100.00
10-5-10-345.00 Local Hazard Mitigation P	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$	-
10-5-10-350.00 Training	\$ 200.00	\$ 195.00	\$ 500.00	\$	500.00
10-5-10-400.00 Town Winter Roads	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 80,808.16	\$ 70,000.00	\$	85,000.00
10-5-10-431.00 Summer Mowing Contract	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 5,040.00	\$ 4,800.00	\$	5,100.00
10-5-10-432.00 Sand Pit Rental	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 3,600.00	\$	3,600.00
10-5-10-540.00 Postage	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,256.30	\$ 1,400.00	\$	1,400.00
10-5-10-550.00 Printing	\$ 600.00	\$ 909.80	\$ 600.00	\$	900.00
10-5-10-583.00 Mileage Reimbursement	\$ 100.00	\$ 215.60	\$ 100.00	\$	250.00
10-5-10-610.00 Office Supplies	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,833.98	\$ 2,250.00	\$	2,500.00
10-5-10-731.00 Office Equipment	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$	300.00
10-5-10-750.00 Miscellaneous	\$ 50.00	\$ 303.70	\$ 50.00	\$	200.00
<b>TOTAL TOWN EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 106,558.00</b>	<b>\$ 118,387.08</b>	<b>\$ 117,390.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>130,000.00</b>
<b>10-5-11 TOWN CLERK</b>					
10-5-11-101.00 Town Clerk/Treasurer Wage	\$ 32,288.00	\$ 36,445.64	\$ 38,400.00	\$	39,400.00
10-5-11-101.01 Asst. TC/TR Wages	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$	3,500.00
10-5-11-101.02 Ballot Clerks	\$ 900.00	\$ 405.00	\$ 300.00	\$	500.00
<b>TOTAL TOWN CLERK</b>	<b>\$ 34,988.00</b>	<b>\$ 40,850.64</b>	<b>\$ 40,700.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>43,400.00</b>

Account	Budget FY - 2025	Actual FY-2025	Budget - 2026	FY	Budget FY - 2027
<b>10-5-18 GENERAL OFFICE</b>					
10-5-18-410.00 Trash	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
10-5-18-410.01 Recycling	\$ 6,600.00	\$ 6,600.00	\$ 6,600.00		\$ 7,000.00
10-5-18-442.00 Copier Lease	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,457.26	\$ 1,068.00		\$ 1,300.00
10-5-18-540.00 Advertising	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 496.31	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 500.00
10-5-18-650.00 Computer	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
<b>TOTAL GENERAL OFFICE</b>	<b>\$ 10,100.00</b>	<b>\$ 8,553.57</b>	<b>\$ 8,668.00</b>		<b>\$ 8,800.00</b>
<b>10-5-19-8 DUES/ASSESSMENTS</b>					
10-5-19-810.00 Royalton Transfer Station	\$ 4,466.00	\$ 4,465.53	\$ 4,466.00		\$ 4,466.00
10-5-19-811.00 County Taxes	\$ 2,184.00	\$ 2,447.00	\$ 2,976.00		\$ 3,400.00
10-5-19-812.00 VLCT Dues	\$ 2,748.00	\$ 3,272.00	\$ 1,654.00		\$ 1,703.00
10-5-19-812.01 VMCTA	\$ 140.00	\$ 90.00	\$ 140.00		\$ 90.00
10-5-19-812.02 Two Rivers Ottaquechee	\$ 603.00	\$ 603.00	\$ 621.00		\$ 639.00
10-5-19-812.03 Homeward Bound	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00		\$ 500.00
<b>TOTAL DUES/ASSESSMENTS</b>	<b>\$ 10,641.00</b>	<b>\$ 11,377.53</b>	<b>\$ 10,357.00</b>		<b>\$ 10,798.00</b>
<b>10-5-22 PUBLIC SAFETY</b>					
10-5-22-360.00 Sheriff Patrol	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1.00		\$ 1.00
10-5-22-360.01 White River Valley Ambula	\$ 31,670.00	\$ 31,415.03	\$ 31,233.00		\$ 32,310.00
10-5-22-360.02 Granville Volunteer FD	\$ 3,311.00	\$ 3,311.00	\$ 3,281.00		\$ -
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	<b>\$ 49,981.00</b>	<b>\$ 34,726.03</b>	<b>\$ 34,515.00</b>		<b>\$ 32,311.00</b>
<b>10-5-61 MUNICIPAL BUILDING</b>					
10-5-61-431.00 Maint/Repairs/Wtr Testing	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 11,881.91	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 11,500.00
10-5-61-530.00 Telephone	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,135.60	\$ 1,500.00		\$ 2,000.00
10-5-61-530.01 Internet	\$ 864.00	\$ 864.00	\$ 864.00		\$ 864.00
10-5-61-622.00 Electricity	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,477.04	\$ 6,250.00		\$ 7,000.00
10-5-61-622.01 Street Lights	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 4,613.00	\$ 4,900.00		\$ 5,000.00
10-5-61-624.00 Fuel Oil	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 12,325.24	\$ 14,000.00		\$ 14,000.00
<b>TOTAL MUNICIPAL BUILDING</b>	<b>\$ 38,064.00</b>	<b>\$ 38,296.79</b>	<b>\$ 37,514.00</b>		<b>\$ 40,364.00</b>
<b>10-5-65 INSURANCE</b>					
10-5-65-521.00 Insurance	\$ 14,500.00	\$ 13,546.20	\$ 15,036.86		\$ 14,500.00
10-5-65-521.01 Health Care Contribution	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
10-5-65-521.02 Retirement Contribution	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
10-5-65-526.00 Workers Comp Insurance	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 1,513.00	\$ 3,375.00		\$ 2,500.00
<b>TOTAL INSURANCE</b>	<b>\$ 19,200.00</b>	<b>\$ 15,059.20</b>	<b>\$ 18,411.86</b>		<b>\$ 17,000.00</b>
<b>10-5-70 LONG TERM DEBT PAYMENTS</b>					
10-5-70-313.00 Flood Loan - Princ	\$ 23,349.00	\$ 23,338.32	\$ 24,044.00		\$ 24,044.00
10-5-70-313.01 Flood Loan - Interest	\$ 1,651.00	\$ 1,661.68	\$ 956.00		\$ 956.00
10-5-70-313.04 2023 Flood LOC Interest	\$ 1,100.00	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
10-5-70-313.05 Shampeny Culvert LOC Inte	\$ 8,300.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00		\$ -
10-5-70-313.06 Texas Falls Bridge LOC In	\$ 56,870.00	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -

Account	Budget FY - 2025	Actual FY-2025	Budget - 2026	FY	Budget FY - 2027
10-5-70-313.07 Tucker Brk Rd LOC Interes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000.00	\$	-
10-5-70-313.08 Shamp Culvert Loan - Prin	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$	25,000.00
10-5-70-313.09 Shamp Culvert Loan - Inte	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$	3,000.00
10-5-70-313.10 Tucker Brook Paving	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$	46,000.00
<b>TOTAL LONG TERM DEBT PAYMENTS</b>	<b>\$ 91,270.00</b>	<b>\$ 25,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 30,000.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>99,000.00</b>
<b>10-5-95 APPROPRIATIONS</b>					
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>\$ 8,509.00</b>	<b>\$ 8,509.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,019.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>7,319.00</b>
<b>10-5-96 TRANSFERS OUT</b>					
10-5-96-815.00 Cemetery Commission	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 14,000.00	\$	16,000.00
10-5-96-815.01 Fire Department	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$	20,000.00
10-5-96-815.03 Library Fund	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 20,500.00	\$	21,500.00
10-5-96-815.04 Building Maint Capital Fu	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$	5,000.00
10-5-96-815.06 Reappraisal Fund	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$	3,000.00
10-5-96-815.07 Highway Capial Project	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$	5,000.00
10-5-96-815.09 Road Comm PILOT	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 68,767.00	\$ 67,000.00	\$	67,000.00
10-5-96-815.10 State of VT Trans Aid	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$	14,000.00
<b>TOTAL TRANSFERS OUT</b>	<b>\$ 94,200.00</b>	<b>\$ 117,967.00</b>	<b>\$ 123,700.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>151,500.00</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 472,401.00</b>	<b>\$ 430,976.84</b>	<b>\$ 437,264.86</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>549,242.00</b>

**\*TO BE VOTED ON AND ADDED TO THE BUDGET AFTER ARTICLE IS APPROVED\***

<b>10-5-95 APPROPRIATIONS</b>					
10-5-95-950.00 Green Up Vermont	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$	50.00
10-5-95-950.01 Vermont Adult Learning	\$ 115.00	\$ 115.00	\$ -	\$	-
10-5-95-950.02 Atria (WomenSafe)	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$	500.00
10-5-95-950.05 Tri-Valley Transit, INC	\$ 558.00	\$ 558.00	\$ 558.00	\$	558.00
10-5-95-950.07 Central Vermont Council A	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$	800.00
10-5-95-950.08 Park House	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 600.00	\$	600.00
10-5-95-950.09 Clara Martin Center	\$ 595.00	\$ 595.00	\$ 595.00	\$	595.00
10-5-95-950.10 VNA of VT/NH, Inc	\$ 1,475.00	\$ 1,475.00	\$ -	\$	-
10-5-95-950.11 Quin-Town Senior Center	\$ 2,716.00	\$ 2,716.00	\$ 2,716.00	\$	2,716.00
10-5-95-950.17 Hancock Town Pride	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$	1,500.00
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>\$ 8,509.00</b>	<b>\$ 8,509.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,019.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>7,319.00</b>

## FUND REPORTS FY 2024-2025

### LIBRARY REPORT

Beginning Balance	\$ 375.39
<b>Income:</b>	
Town of Hancock Budgeted	18,000.00
Grants	350.00
Transfer from Savings	889.59
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>19,239.59</b>
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>19,225.41</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 389.57</b>

<i>Library Savings Balance</i>	<i>\$ 4,661.93</i>
<i>Interest Income</i>	<i>\$ 69.06</i>
<i>Transfer Out to Library Fund</i>	<i>\$ 889.59</i>
<i>Ending Library Savings Balance</i>	<i>\$ 3,841.40</i>

### RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Beginning Balance	\$ 1,301.57
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>1,026.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>36.68</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 2,290.89</b>

### CEMETERY COMMISSION REPORT

Beginning Balance	\$ 10,105.82
<b>Income:</b>	
Town of Hancock Budgeted	12,000.00
Bank Interest	2.12
Grave Opening Fees	250.00
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>12,252.12</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Grave opening	250.00
Labor	6,460.00
Maintenance	446.25
Stone Repair/Cleaning	995.00
Equipment rental	2,680.00
Miscellaneous	38.03
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>10,869.28</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 11,488.66</b>

### ROAD COMMISSIONER FUND

Beginning Balance	\$ 66,579.00
<b>Income:</b>	
Forestry Receipts	68,767.00
State of VT Trans. Aid	14,464.83
FEMA Grant Shampeny	411,501.35
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>494,733.18</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Labor	540.00
Equipment Rentals	-
Equipment and Supplies	488.46
Road Maintenance	48,053.10
Road Improvements	182,221.35
Gravel & Materials	5,580.00
Miscellaneous	53.73
Transfer to Highway Capital Project	35,328.54
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>272,265.18</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 289,047.00</b>

### FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Beginning Balance	\$ -
<b>Income:</b>	
Town of Hancock Budgeted	12,000.00
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$ 12,000.00</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>	
911 Phone Charges	667.72
Gas/Repairs	2,171.60
Equipment/Supplies	1,239.85
Radio/Repairs	4,952.66
Attendance	865.00
Training	1,360.00
Miscellaneous	530.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>11,786.83</b>
Fire Dept. Bldg/Equip. Fund Trnsfr Out	213.17
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>12,000.00</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

**RESTRICTED ASSETS FY JULY 1, 2024 - JUNE 30, 2025**

**HIGHWAY CAPITAL FUND**

Beginning Balance	\$ (145,291.34)
Income:	
Grants in Aid	
Interest Accumulated	1,960.36
Miscellaneous Revenue	-
FEMA 2023 Floods	350,465.96
Transfer In	2,000.00
Transfer In RC Fund	35,328.54
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>389,754.86</b>
Expenses:	
Road improvements	33,678.00
Bridge FLAP Texas Falls	45,756.42
Capital Paving	
Flood LOC Int. Hwy Cap	7,160.76
August Flood Tucker/Shampeny	
August flood Fassett	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>86,595.18</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 157,868.34</b>

**FIRE DEPT. BUILDING &EQUIPMENT**

Beginning Balance	\$ 31,167.81
Income:	
Interest	363.83
Transfer In	213.17
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>577.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>12,500.00</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 19,244.81</b>

**HONOR ROLL FUND**

Beginning Balance	\$ 2,241.10
Income:	
Interest	34.36
Donations	75.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>109.36</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>	<b>78.44</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 2,272.02</b>

**REAPPRAISAL FUND**

Beginning Balance	\$ 30,739.15
Interest	473.70
State of VT	2,235.50
Transfer In	200.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>2,909.20</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 33,648.35</b>

**BUILDING MAINTENANCE FUND**

Beginning Balance	\$ 43,276.50
Income:	
Interest	613.87
MERP Grant	-
Transfer In	5,000.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>5,613.87</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>	<b>2,290.00</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 46,600.37</b>

**SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Beginning Balance	\$ 679.60
Income:	
Interest	10.29
<b>Expenses:</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 689.89</b>

**SANCTUARY FUND**

Beginning Balance	\$ 2,684.84
Income:	
Interest	40.65
<b>Expenses:</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 2,725.49</b>

**SALE OF LAND**

Beginning Balance	\$ 76,637.64
Income:	
Sale of Land	
Interest	1,159.73
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 77,797.37</b>

**CEMETERY TRUST FUND**

Beginning Balance	\$ 9,655.10
Income:	
Interest	110.70
<b>Expenses:</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 9,765.80</b>

**CEMETERY SAVINGS ACCOUNT**

Beginning Balance	\$ 846.88
Income:	
Interest	2.12
Perpetual Care	-
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>2.12</b>
<b>Transfer Out</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 849.00</b>

**RECORDS RESTORATION**

Beginning Balance	\$ 4,922.30
Income:	811.00
Expense:	
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 5,733.30</b>

## APPROVAL OF TAX RATE FOR HANCOCK FY26

Grand List:

Tax Rate:

Total:


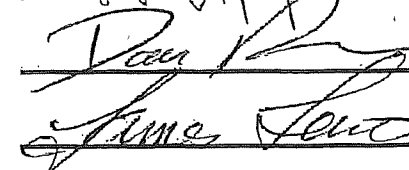
Municipal	\$371,077.00		0.88073		\$326,818.65
Local Agree. Vets Exemption	\$371,077.00		0.001814		\$673.13
Total Municipal Tax Rate			0.882544		

School Homestead	\$129,445.00		1.6824		\$217,778.27
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School- Non Homestead	\$223,881.70		2.1051		\$471,293.37
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Total Taxes to be Raised					\$1,016,563.41
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Total 25-26 Tax Rate:	Homestead	2.5649
Total 25-26 Tax Rate:	Non-Homestead	2.9876

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dan Rye  
  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 James Leno  
 Select Board, Dated: July 15, 2025

## TOWN OF HANCOCK DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES AS OF January 26, 2026

NAME	TAX YEAR	TOTAL DUE
Buker, Jerry*	2024-2025	1,039.81
Brown, Timothy	2024-2025	2,338.82
Kinsley, Roy D.	2024-2025	864.47
Denis, James	2024-2025	498.42
Hall, Robert	2023-2024	1,351.96
Hall, Robert	2024-2025	1623.19
Shaw, Nancy*	2024-2025	1820.77
<b>TOTAL TAXES DUE</b>		<b>9,537.44</b>

\*Payment Plan

The VT Spay Neuter Incentive Program (VSNIP), a statewide program, is currently administered by VT Economic Services. Income challenged Vermonters can print an application from their website (VSNIP) or call for an application: 802-241-0589

In October 2025, the state began a wait list for vouchers, lacking funds. Vouchers issued for VSNIP is now determined according to the funds appropriated for the program for that fiscal year. Vermonters called Governor Scott asking for \$300,000.00. As one senator said, "that was a pittance amount". When our (VT) Volunteer Services for Animals; (VWSA) statewide program was moved to the state to assure viability, a \$4.00 fee added to the registration of dogs funded VSNIP. Currently, if there are no available VSNIP vouchers at the time the Department receives an application, the applicant is placed on a waitlist. However, our animals can't wait.

#### PLEASE CONSIDER: LOW COST SPAY NEUTER CLINICS IN VT & NH

Feline & Friends Foundation 802-323-4793: Schedule on FFFVT.org  
Community Pet Clinic: Humane Society of Chittenden County 802-923-9028  
Feline & Friends Foundation 802-323-4793 Schedule on FFFVT.org  
Homeward Bound: Addison County Humane Society "Taxi Cat" 802-388-1100  
Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society: in West Windsor: 802-484-5829  
Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Shelter Orleans: 802-754-2228 Cats only  
Riverside Rescue, Lunenburg: 802-524-9550  
Rutland CTY Humane Society: 802-483-6700; Spay the "Mom" for free, kittens adopted.  
Second Chance Animal Center: Shaftsbury 802-375-2898  
Second Chance Animal Rescue Inc: Littleton, NH 603-259-3244  
Springfield Humane Society: Springfield 802-885-3997  
Sullivan CTY Humane Society: Claremont, NH 603-542-3277  
Upper Valley Humane Society: Enfield NH 603-448-6888  
Windham CTY Humane Society: Brattleboro 802-254-2232  
VT-CAN: Middlesex 802-223-0034  
N.E. Kingdom Spay Neuter Program: Orleans Essex CTY 802-334-7393  
\*\* Community Animal Aid Wellness Clinic: (No surgeries) Exams, vaccinations, parasite treatment, minor illnesses, wounds & injuries. 1X monthly: E. Barre Fire Station 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month. 10 AM – Noon [animalaidvt@gmail.com](mailto:animalaidvt@gmail.com) 802-734-025

VWSA drafted modifications to help serve VSNIP applicants: adding rabbits, slightly increasing the co-payment and the dog registration fee to VSNIP running. We now know there was never an intention of passing this bill. One senator said, very frankly, "no one was going to support this bill, that they were telling us to your face they would, but would not".  
Economic Services Commissioner: Miranda Gray, VT-CAN: Pamela Krauz, owner, and Dept of Agriculture spoke to the Committee objecting to these changes, supported by applicants and VSNIP veterinarians. Senators Alison Clarkson, Joe Major and Becca White knew the bill Clarkson "sponsored" was pre-determined to die. Politics at its worst. Hopefully VSNIP will survive. VWSA Humane Society, former administrator and originator, thanks to Lynn Murrell, DVM and the 80 initial participating offices that changed the euthanasia "solution" to the overpopulation in our state. You are the backbone of this program. Thank you all, sincerely.

Town of Hancock  
P.O. Box 100  
Hancock, VT 05748

To Hancock residents:

Pursuant to: 20 V.S.A. §3581 of the Vermont Statutes Title 20: Internal Security and Public Safety, Chapter 193: Domestic Pet or Wolf-hybrid Control. Sub-chapter 002: Licenses: A dog must be licensed (registered) by six months of age at your town office to be legal. Proof of a rabies vaccination within the last year is required. Dogs not licensed can be seized and euthanized per state statute.

VT State Statute reads: V.S.A. 3621 Issuance of warrant to impound; complaint

(a)(1) The legislative body of a municipality may at any time issue a warrant to one or more police officers, constables, pound keepers, or appointed animal control officers, directing them to proceed forthwith to impound all dogs or wolf-hybrids within the town or city not licensed according to the provisions of this subchapter.

If you have a dog that is not currently licensed/registered, there are more than one way to register them; go our Town Clerk's office or mail in the proof of the rabies vaccination to our Clerk's office with the payment. Please call our office for the correct amount.

Dogs over six months of age must be registered by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Failure to register your dogs(s) or failure to notify the Town Clerk may mean the Animal Control Officer or Town Clerk making a more formal contact with those who have not replied.

In an attempt to locate the unlicensed dogs, the Town will accept an anonymous report of an unlicensed dog or cat and will generate a letter from the City/Town to the reported pet owner.

Respectfully,

Town of Hancock

## Town Clerk's Report

After serving for a full year as Town Clerk and Treasurer for our beautiful town, I truly have gained a much broader and deeper connection and understanding of its history, people, infrastructure, needs, challenges, plans, and constitution. I have learned that this role demands a unique brand of efficiency, flexibility, dedication, and attention to detail. The learning curve is steep, and I was fortunate to attend several trainings and conferences with VLCT and VMCTA where I was able to learn vital procedures, network with a fantastic group of fellow clerks and treasurers from all over Vermont, and gain a strong foundation for my future in this role.

### SERVICES PROVIDED

In addition to submitting tax payments, researching public records, and dog licensing, you can stop by the Town Clerk's office to:

- Apply for temporary registrations with the DMV
- Sign up for the Vermont Green Mountain Passport, which offers seniors (62+) and veterans' free day-use access to all state parks and historic sites for a \$2 fee.
- Notarize documents (no fee)
- Obtain certified copies of marriage licenses, birth and death certificates (\$10 each)

### ON-LINE PAYMENTS NOW AVAILABLE

For those of you who would like to pay your taxes and licensing fees on-line, the Town of Hancock now has an on-line payment link on our website ([www.hancockvt.org](http://www.hancockvt.org)). The payment processor adds the following non-refundable fees:

- Credit/Debit Cards: 2.95% of your total
- E-checks: \$1.50 flat fee per transaction

Users of this feature can set up an account to track payments and access digital wallets, but an account is not required.

### DOG LICENSING

Vermont law (20 V.S.A § 3581) requires all dogs and wolf-hybrids 6 months or older to be licensed annually by April 1<sup>st</sup> at the Town Clerk's office. A valid, current rabies certificate is required for licensing. I am aware that there are several dogs in Hancock that are not licensed, and this is not acceptable. Potential consequences of unlicensed dogs include fines and legal action, late fees, impoundment, difficulty reclaiming a lost pet, and lack of rabies vaccination can pose a public health risk. The fee schedule can be found inside the front cover of this Town Report.

A **Rabies Clinic** will be held at the Hancock Fire Station on **Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>** from 5pm to 7pm. I will be present during this clinic to issue dog licenses.

### FRONT DOOR

Often, if I am working in the office alone, I will leave the front door locked for safety purposes. You are welcome to knock or ring the doorbell, and I'm happy to let you in. Also, feel free to drop any written correspondence, keys, or payments in the secure drop box located to the left of the office/library doors.

## GRATITUDE

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to my Assistants, Becky Klein and Roger Comes, who have enlightened and encouraged me, and continue to provide indispensable support as I navigate through unfamiliar waters. I'd also like to thank Janet Jesso, Geraldine Twitchell, Nicole Lambert, Jacques Veilleux, Dakota Stender, Dan Perera, Jim Leno, and Scott Gillette for their guidance and advice, and their commitment to our community.

## FOR THE FUTURE

Given the uncertainty that surrounds Vermont's financial instability, education system, housing crisis, environmental challenges, climate events, and future of our small, rural communities, we are all experiencing a level of discomfort, maybe even true angst. My hope is that we can recognize the value that each one of us holds as a member of this community.

Please consider taking the time to participate in community events, attend Select Board meetings, get involved in the Fire Department, Friends of the Hancock Free Public Library, Recreation Committee, Town Pride Committee, or the Quin-Town Center for Seniors, and/or support local businesses such as Hubbard's and The Heart of Hancock. At the very least, please be kind and look out for one another.

"In every community, there is work to be done. In every nation, there are wounds to heal. In every heart, there is the power to do it." — Marianne Williamson

Respectfully,

*Wendy L. Stender*

Hancock Town Clerk/Treasurer

### Hancock Vital Statistics for Calendar Year 2025

#### **Births**

Axel James LaPlante – 9/10/2025

Ursula Lu Mayo – 7/30/2025

Weston Johnson Santamore – 11/21/2025

Veydah Winslow Stone – 12/10/2025

Weston Michael Veilleux – 6/17/2025

#### **Deaths**

Basil Karl Archer

Wentworth Clifton Comes III

Harlan Marshall Curtis

Gilbert E. Stuart

John "Jack" Francis Ross

David Knight Winborn

#### **Recordings**

Number of Recorded Property Tax Returns in  
Tax Year 2025 - 15

Town Records recorded in 2025 – 187 pages  
Land Records recorded in 2025 - 115 pages

#### **Dog License Report 2025**

Fees Collected – \$428

Number of Dogs Licensed – 34

Fees Sent to the State - \$238

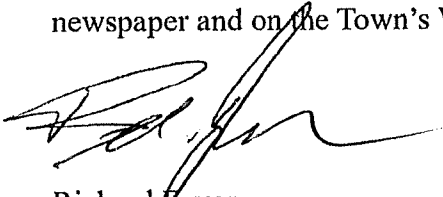
## Assessor Report

During the past year new construction has occurred on Windigo Farm, Tucker Brook Road, Route 125, and Tunnel Brook Road. Additions are being made to homes on Churchville Road and Route 100. Based on recent property transfer records I anticipate additional new home construction will occur during 2026.

The 2025 Equalization Study for Hancock was received on January 2, 2026. The Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) was 56.97 and the Coefficient of Dispersion (COD) was 28.48. These figures are like those last year indicating property values have continued to increase since the last Town-Wide Reappraisal (2016). Last year these figures generated a Town Wide Reappraisal order from the State for 2027.

The Selectboard requested bids from certified contractors. The Town Assessors' proposal was the lowest returned.

I anticipate site visits will begin in August this year with new values being sent to all property owners next May. Notification letters and additional information will be posted in the regional newspaper and on the Town's Web site outlining the process and timetables later this summer.



Richard FAVOR

Town Assessor

802-770-4774

## **Hancock Free Public Library**

Town Report 2024-2025

Hancock Free Public Library continued to serve the various needs of our patrons. WIFI is available 24/7 from our parking lot. Access is free and does not require a password.

The Green Mountain Library Consortium offers “Listen Up! Vermont,” which provides Hancock patrons with downloadable audio and e-books that can be read or listened to anytime, anywhere.

Our collection is available for loan in addition to Inter Library Loan, which provides books for our patrons from libraries throughout the state of Vermont.

The Adopt-an-Author Program continues to provide the latest book releases from authors Chris Bohjalian, Janet Evanovich, John Grisham, and David Rosenfelt. If you have a favorite author and would like to donate their newest release to the library, please call the library to make arrangements to join the Adopt-an-Author Program.

The Seed Library, donated by a patron, was a wonderful spring addition to the library. This enabled vegetable, herb, and flower seeds packets to be available free to our patrons.

Museum passes are available year-round. Through cooperation with the Rochester Library and the Roger Clark Library, all our patrons can access a greater number of passes. Depending on the venue, passes are either free or at a discounted rate. Call or stop in the library for more information or to reserve a pass.

The library participated in the well-attended program, Halloween Trunk or Treat. Free books, stickers, and bookmarks were given out to children.

Valley Readers Book Group met in person for book discussions. Their monthly meeting is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month. Books are provided by the Friends of the Hancock Free Public Library and Inter Library Loan. Call the library to reserve your copy.

The Hancock Recreation Committee’s children’s workshops on STEM topics met in the library periodically.

Contact information for the Hancock Free Public Library:

**phone:** 802-767-4651

**email:** [Hancockvtlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:Hancockvtlibrary@gmail.com)

**Librarian:** Caroline Meagher

**Library Trustees:** Margi Rogal, Chair  
Gretchen Perera, Secretary  
Rose Juliano, Treasurer  
Garvi Jesso-White  
Linda Straley

# Friends of the Hancock Free Public Library – 2025 Review

## Introduction

Since 2012, the Friends of the Hancock Free Public Library have supported the Hancock Free Public Library by organizing programs, hosting events, and purchasing books and materials to enrich our community.

## 2025 Highlights

- **Craft Workshops:**  
In 2025, we hosted two popular card-making workshops led by Mary-Ann Schulze—continuing our tradition of creative programming for a second consecutive year.
- **Valley Readers Book Group:**  
Valley Readers, our long-standing book discussion group, now meets in person at 6:30pm on the second Thursday of each month (January–June & September–November). Each year, the Friends purchase 10 selected books for the group, which are then donated to the HFPL to expand the library's collection.
- **Adopt an Author Program:**  
Now in its ninth year, this program helps expand the library's collection—ask at HFPL to participate.

## How to Get Involved

There are many ways to support the Friends:

- **Join Valley Readers:** Open to all; meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 6:30pm. For more information, contact Jill Jesso-White. [
- **Adopt an Author:** Help expand the library's collection—ask at HFPL to participate.
- **Donate:** Honor a loved one or friend by making a donation; funds are used for books and programs supporting HFPL. Friends is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.
- **Membership:** Starts at just \$10/year—consider joining today.

## Stay Connected

Stay up to date by liking our Facebook page for the latest news and events.  
For more information, contact Jill Jesso-White, President, at 767-4128.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

Fire tree on power lines- 3

Motor Vehicle Accident- 9

Rescue People- 2

Iphone crash detection- 1

Fire Alarm-1

Chimney Fire (Granville)-1

Car/ Garage Fire- 1

Lift Assists- 1

Total Calls- 19

This year, we say goodbye to another valued member, Ryan Veilleux. We would like to thank Ryan for his 15 years of dedicated service to the Fire Department. His commitment and hard work have meant so much to our team and community.

We wish Ryan the very best of luck as he begins his new adventures in California.

We are looking to establish a First Responder Team and are seeking dedicated volunteers to help get it up and running. We are also actively looking for additional volunteers to join the Fire Department.

If you are interested in serving your community and making a difference, we would love to hear from you.

Thank you for your support!

Jacques Veilleux

Hancock Vol Fire Chief

## Cemetery Commission Report

### Cemetery Regulations for Meadowbrook Cemetery, Hancock, VT:

1. The right to plant permanent herbage, flowers, shrubs, or trees shall be the authority of the Commission and any planting done without permission will give the Commission the right to remove.
2. No earth fill, grading, sodding, or seeding is permitted without the consent of the Commission and then only in accordance with their recommendations.
3. All grave decorations will be removed when they become unsightly. All flowers, real or artificial, should be in moveable containers.
4. The American Flag may be displayed on graves of persons who have served honorably in the military service of the United States of America.
5. The base for the monument and cornerstones shall not be more than one-half inch above ground. Base around monument should be four inches larger on all four sides than the monument. Cornerstones should be set at the time of purchase.
6. All burials except cremations shall be in cement liners or vaults.
7. No burials after December 1, unless conditions permit.
8. All graves will be permanently marked.

<b>Resident</b>	<b>Total Amount</b>	<b>Lot</b>	<b>Perpetual Care</b>		<b>Non-Resident</b>	<b>Total Amount</b>	<b>Lot</b>	<b>Perpetual Care</b>
<b>Full Lot</b>	\$250.00	\$50.00	\$200.00		<b>Full Lot</b>	\$300.00	\$100.00	\$200.00
<b>1/2 Lot</b>	\$130.00	\$50.00	\$80.00		<b>1/2 Lot</b>	\$155.00	\$75.00	\$80.00
<b>1/4 Lot</b>	\$80.00	\$40.00	\$40.00		<b>1/4 Lot</b>	\$90.00	\$30.00	\$25.00
<b>1/8 Lot</b>	\$40.00	\$20.00	\$20.00		<b>1/8 Lot</b>	\$55.00	\$30.00	\$25.00

### Costs for Grave Openings with the Cemeteries of the Town of Hancock

The fee for a grave opening will be set by the Cemetery Commissioner. The fee for the grave opening will be paid to the Cemetery Commission ONLY.

The Cemetery Commissioners will pay the sexton following the grave opening on their next bi-monthly pay order with their signatures.

The fees for the grave opening have been reviewed and revised as follows, set 5/20/2024 hereafter until revised and signed by the Cemetery Commission

Cremation Opening      \$250

Full Casket Opening      \$600 (with the exception of a difficult opening by permission of the Cemetery Commission only)

Respectfully Submitted,  
Geraldine "Jakey" Twitchell  
Maurice "June" Eaton  
Larry Bettis

# Hancock Town Pride – A Reflection on 2025

## Our Mission

Since 2012, Hancock Town Pride has focused on three core goals:

- Beautifying our town
- Hosting events and activities
- Fostering community spirit

We remained committed to these goals throughout 2025.

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## Beautification Projects

- **Memorial Day Sunflower Seed Distribution:** Continued our annual tradition, thanks to Ross Parker and Denise Chapin for donating seeds.
- **Flower Planting:** Volunteers planted wooden barrels with flowers at key locations. Special thanks to our sponsors:
  - Corner of the Town Green: Marge Ross
  - Town Green sign: Gail Tidd
  - Thunderhead View Trail: Tracy Beers
  - Killooleet sign: Gretchen & Tom Perera
  - Junction of Routes 100/125: Sue & Vic Ribaud
  - Hancock Historical Society: Dorothy & Dick Robson
- **Holiday Decorations:** Purchased wreaths for municipal buildings and the Historical Society. The Hancock Recreation Committee added festive lights to the bandstand and organized the Memory Tree Lighting event.

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## Community Events

- **Summer Concert Series:** The Hancock Town Pride Committee again sponsored six summer concerts on the Hancock Town Green. The Hancock Volunteer Fire Department provided hot dogs and bottled water, and the Rec Committee offered desserts. At each concert there were drawings for gift certificates donated by two local businesses, Heart of Hancock and Hubbard's Store. Surrounded by beautiful mountains, the Hancock Town Green and its bandstand provide a perfect setting for these outdoor community concerts. All concerts were free and open to the public. A generous private contribution of \$500 as well as free will donations augmented the town's contribution to support these concerts.
- The concert schedule featured the following musicians on Thursday nights in July and August:
  - Greg Ryan, Adda Kridler, and Michael Caterisano
  - Jennings and McComber
  - Granville Daze plus Haskell and Hart
  - The Sap Tappers with Freeman Corey
  - Pete Seeger Memorial Concert with Camp Killooleet and local musicians
  - The John Lackard Blues Band
- **Friday Night Music:** consisted of occasional Friday events free and open to the public. In 2025 there was a January Pub Sing at Heart of Hancock, a March concert of Music from Camp Killooleet at the Hancock Town Hall, an April evening of Poetry and Music, an October Pub Sing at Heart of Hancock, and a November concert with music by Judy and Tony Seeger plus Dick McCormack.
  - All free-will donations received at the door and refreshment table were used to support the summer concert series. We invite all Hancock residents as well as our neighbors in surrounding towns to come and enjoy these free musical events.

---

## Community Spirit

- We are grateful to all volunteers, sponsors, and committee members who made these events possible. Your contributions help make Hancock a vibrant and welcoming community.
- We welcome new members and fresh ideas!
  - **Connect with us:** Like our Facebook page for announcements and updates.
  - **Join us:** Interested in sharing feedback, volunteering or joining the committee? Come to our meeting on Monday, 5/4/2026 at 5pm at the Heart of Hancock

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Respectfully submitted,  
Hancock Town Pride  
Jill Jesso-White, President

## **Hancock Recreation Committee Report**

The Hancock Recreation Committee has been busy planning and executing fun events for the town all year! We meet monthly on Sundays at the Town Hall, all are welcome and encouraged to attend. Our next meeting is Sunday March 1st at 9:00am.

In 2026, the Rec committee sponsored and coordinated many events. We participated in Winterfest with a snowman making station, facilitated classes through Good Time Line Dancing and held an Easter Breakfast and egg scavenger hunt. The Rec Committee sold baked goods at the Summer Concert Series in July and August. We held an awesome Block Party with the help of the Fire Department and Town Pride. For the end of the year, we held our most popular events, Trunk or Treat, with the help of the Fire Department who made sure everyone was safe with traffic control. We also coordinated the wonderful pumpkin display along Route 100 on the Town Green for two nights this year instead of one. And the Tree Lighting which we also partnered with the Fire Department for.

We are so grateful to everyone who donated their time, money, and resources to help make all of this possible. We want to give a big thank you to Wendy Stender and Carmen Angulo who served their terms on the committee and helped make last year so successful. This coming year we will continue with many of the successful events from last year and focus on fundraising. We are looking for community input on what people would like to see in our town. Be on the lookout for information on community focus group meetings! Please feel free to email [hancockreccommittee@gmail.com](mailto:hancockreccommittee@gmail.com) to get more information about future events and to share any feedback you may have.

Linda Anderson, Chair  
Annie Johnson, Secretary  
Jamie Stone, Treasurer  
Emma Patterson  
Karma P



Forest Service  
Green Mountain and Finger Lakes  
National Forests  
Supervisor's Office  
4387 U.S. Route 4 East  
Mendon, VT 05701  
802-747-6700

Subject: 2026 Town Report Update  
Date: January 9, 2026

Dear Town Clerks, Selectboard Members and local residents:

Each year the employees of the Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF) depend heavily on support from many municipalities, volunteers, partners, and contractors. The Forest would like to take this time to thank you and your community for the support and interest that you have shown in helping with the management of the approximately 400,000-acre GMNF. The GMNF is truly one of Vermont's treasures and the largest contiguous public land area in the state. Forest staff work hard to achieve quality public land management under a sustainable multiple-use management concept to meet the diverse needs of all people -- people in your town as well as all of the visitors who come to Vermont every year. This has been another exciting year for us, and we have worked hard to support new opportunities on the National Forest that benefit the people and communities that we serve. The following is a brief summary of a few things that happened on your National Forest throughout the past year:

On June 13, 2025, Chris Mattrick, Rochester / Middlebury District Ranger signed the Final Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact for the Telephone Gap Integrated Resource Project. The project area is located on the Green Mountain National Forest, Rochester and Middlebury Ranger Districts within Rutland, Windsor, and Addison Counties, Vermont including the towns of Brandon, Chittenden, Goshen, Killington, Mendon, Pittsfield, Pittsford, and Stockbridge. The project proposal includes management activities on National Forest System lands to achieve multiple resource benefits as provided by direction in the 2006 Green Mountain National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan. Alternative C was selected for implementation after considering the analysis documented in the Telephone Gap project final environmental assessment, public feedback received during project development and analysis, and supporting information found in the project record. It was determined that this alternative will best move the forest landscape toward desired resource conditions within the project area while addressing concerns identified through public involvement. Alternative C includes management activities to provide resource and public benefits. These include improved wildlife habitat, restored soils and wetlands, a sustained network of roads and trails, increased recreation opportunities, and timber harvesting to provide wood products for the local and regional economy while enhancing forest health and diversity.

In 2025 the U.S. Forest Service approved the designation of approximately 72 miles of National Forest System roads and trails on the Manchester Ranger District within the Green Mountain National Forest as part of the Vellowmont Trail -- a future, state-wide, hut-supported mountain bike and multi-use trail running from Massachusetts to Canada. This work will be accomplished and coordinated with Vermont Huts & Trails (VHT) and the Vermont Mountain Bike Association (VMBA). The designated section will include a mix of new trail construction, upgrades to existing routes, and targeted relocations to improve sustainability and user experience. Once complete, it will expand mountain bike access to areas where limited or no opportunities currently exist, increase connectivity between rural towns, and open new points of entry to the outdoors -- designed to be adaptive-friendly wherever possible.

Vermont suffered moderate to severe drought conditions last fall. In response to these conditions, the Green Mountain National Forest issued fire restrictions on the national forest beginning on September 22, 2025. The decision to implement fire restrictions was based on various factors, including the prevalence of unattended fires, unfavorable weather conditions and the availability of firefighting resources. At the time, moisture level of forest trees and other vegetation was deceptively low with autumn leaves falling which added to dry fuels on the forest floor. We are extremely thankful to each and every local, state and federal partner who supported our outreach and response efforts to these abnormal conditions.

Over the past year, we have worked diligently to keep our social media accounts and website up-to-date with substantive content. We encourage members of the public to visit our website ([www.fs.usda.gov/fo9/gmnl](http://www.fs.usda.gov/fo9/gmnl)) which can be used as an on-line tool for up-to-date information. In addition, we strive to collaborate with towns, schools and other organizations to provide issue-based content for Forest Service presentations. If you know of an event that is happening in your town and would like to invite the Forest Service to participate, please reach out. Again, thank you for your support of your National Forest. Together, we will continue to maintain and improve this valuable resource for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Digitally signed by JOHN A. SINCLAIR  
Date: 2025.12.04 10:05:14 -05'00'

JOHN A. SINCLAIR  
Forest Supervisor  
Green Mountain and Finger Lakes National Forests  
802-747-6700

MARTINA BARNES  
Digitally signed by MARTINA BARNES  
Date: 2025.12.04 10:22:47 -05'00'

MARTINA BARNES  
District Ranger  
Manchester Ranger District  
802-362-2307

CHRISTOPHER MATTRICK  
Digitally signed by CHRISTOPHER MATTRICK  
Date: 2025.12.04 10:13:38 -05'00'

CHRISTOPHER MATTRICK  
District Ranger  
Rochester / Middlebury Ranger Districts  
802-767-4261



America's Working Forests -- Caring Every Day in Every Way

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## East Central Vermont Telecommunications District

*ECFiber is the trade name of  
our Internet service provider business*

### ECFiber and the Town of Hancock

Hancock is a member of the East Central Vermont Telecommunications District, the state's first communications union district (CUD), whose mission is to provide world-class fiber-optic based internet service to all on-grid homes and businesses in its member towns. The District consists of 31 member towns and owns the business which operates under the trade name ECFiber. The business added over 600 new customers, and now serves nearly 10,100 customers, via almost 2,000 miles of network. When completed, the ECFiber network will be available to about 32,000 premises over more than 2,000 miles network. ECFiber is a miracle of collective action, without it few customers in our mostly rural towns would have decent internet.

Construction in 2025 was focused on completing Newbury, Topsham, Corinth, Washington, and the northwest portion of Windsor that doesn't have cable service. At Town Meeting Day 2026, all "unserved" or "underserved" locations in our 31 towns have multi-gigabit fiber service available on the nearest utility pole, and ECFiber on its own will have solved 20% of Vermont's rural broadband crisis with only a fraction of its \$80 million funding – about 15% -- coming from grants.

ECFiber dates its legal existence back to Town Meetings in 2008, when a two-year organizing effort paid off with 23 towns agreeing to create an internet service provider. The first customers began receiving service in 2011, just before the Irene floods; ECFiber became a CUD in June, 2015, opening the way to issuing revenue bonds. In 2020, eight new towns joined; in 2023 the last of the original towns came online, and in November, its Series 2023A municipal revenue bond received a "BB" rating from Standard & Poor's Global Credit arm, a historic moment in US financial history: the first time a municipal revenue bond not backed by taxes, and not for a regulated utility or exclusive service territory, received a rating. This was extended to the six earlier bonds as well.

We invite you to visit our website to learn more about ECFiber and encourage you to subscribe. You won't be charged anything until we start service.

Scott Gillette, Dan Percera  
Hancock@ecfiber.net | 802-ECFiber  
Sign up today: [www.ecfiber.net](http://www.ecfiber.net) | About the District: [www.ecvid.gov](http://www.ecvid.gov)

415 Waterman Road, South Royalton, Vermont 05068-5418 (802)-ECFIBER (802-323-3427)

**YOUR COMMUNITY-OWNED CONNECTION TO THE WORLD**

White River Solid Waste Alliance  
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025

From July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, through June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025, a total of 5,277.76 tons of solid waste and 100.29 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 May 2025 at the Royalton Transfer Station and in September 2025 at the Rochester Town Hall parking lot. A total of 187 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 2026. One at the Royalton Transfer Station in April and one at the Rochester Town Office in September. This will allow access for towns not located near the Transfer Station.

We have recently initiated non-Alliance Fees for non-member towns who wish to visit the Transfer Station. If you live in one of the seven alliance towns, (Barnard, Bethel, Granville, Hancock, Rochester, Royalton, Stockbridge), please remember to stop in to get a new orange number card to avoid the fees. Current holders of the white number cards will be assessed the fee (\$20 at the bag window and \$40 on the scale).

Public Hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 7-1

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: [whiteriverralliancesolidwaste.org](http://whiteriverralliancesolidwaste.org)

Submission by John Leighton, White River Alliance/Facility Manager

## Vermont League of Cities and Towns *Serving and Strengthening Vermont Local Government*

The Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, owned by its member municipalities, with a mission to serve and strengthen Vermont local government. It is directed by a 13-member Board of Directors elected by the membership and comprising municipal officials from across the state.

**Member Benefits** - All 247 Vermont cities and towns are members of VLCT, as are 142 other municipal entities that include villages, solid waste districts, regional planning commissions, and fire districts. Members have exclusive access to a wide range of specialized benefits, expertise, and services, including:

- **Legal and technical assistance**, including prompt responses to member questions that often involve how to comply with state and federal requirements. During the past year, staff responded to thousands of member questions and published guidance, templates, research reports, and FAQs. In 2022, VLCT began offering additional government finance training and consulting services and launched the new Federal Funding Assistance Program (FFAP). FFAP offers communities advice on complying with federal rules surrounding pandemic funding, provides direction and insight on accessing billions of dollars in federal infrastructure funding, and provides input to state leaders on designing and implementing grant programs for municipalities.
- **Trainings and timely communications on topics of specific concern to officials** who carry out their duties required by state law. The League provided training via webinars, onsite classes, and during the hallmark annual event, Town Fair, the largest gathering of municipal officials in the state. VLCT's Equity Committee also published an online equity toolkit that assists municipalities in centering the work of justice, diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging in their decision making, policies, practices, and programs.
- **Representation before the state legislature, state agencies, and the federal government**, ensuring that municipal voices are heard collectively and as a single, united voice. VLCT's recent legislative efforts have helped provide cities and towns additional resources to respond to the pandemic, address road and bridge repair, tackle cybersecurity, improve housing and economic growth, promote renewable energy, provide emergency medical services, address equity and inclusion, and ensure the quality of our drinking water. Specific success in 2022 includes securing \$45 million in funding to help municipalities make energy improvements in their buildings, securing \$250,000 for VLCT's Federal Funding Assistance Program, increasing Municipal Planning Grants to \$870,000, securing \$250,000 for the Vermont Office of Racial Equity to launch the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Action, Leadership Program, and increasing municipal authorities in statute. Members are also represented at the federal level to Vermont's Congressional delegation and through our partner, the National League of Cities.
- **Access to insurance programs**. The Property and Casualty Intermunicipal Fund (PACIF) provides comprehensive and cost-effective property, liability, and workers' compensation insurance coverage, programs, and services that protect the assets of your community. The VLCT Unemployment Insurance Trust provides unemployment insurance at stable pricing. VLCT also provides members with the option to purchase life, disability, dental, and vision insurance products at a competitive price. All the programs offer coverage and products that members need and ask for, help Vermont municipalities stretch their budgets, and are only available to VLCT members.

Members are welcome to contact VLCT anytime to ask questions and to access resources to help them carry out the important work of local government. **To learn more about the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, visit [vlct.org](http://vlct.org).** Recent audited financial statements are available at [vlct.org/AuditReports](http://vlct.org/AuditReports).

## TRORC Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee REGIONAL COMMISSION

### 2025 Year End Report

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

#### Technical Assistance on Planning Issues

With more than 100 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. Our staff has supported 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.

#### 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.

#### 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 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 federal funding.

#### Transportation

TRORC works with towns to identify needs and obtain funding for road, ditch and bridge improvement projects. We assist 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 conduct traffic counts and speed studies.

Specifically in Hancock, through the Thriving Communities grant, TRORC provided the Town with technical assistance and capacity building for planning transportation projects. Our team managed to completion a ditching project for Burles Road under a grant from VTtrans and applied for another grant to support ditching for Fassett Hill Road. TRORC staff provided guidance and technical assistance for the completion of annual reporting related to the Town's American Rescue Plan Act and for administering a Community Development Block Grant to prepare a feasibility study for housing development at Taylor Meadow. During the year, we also helped the Town successfully apply for and implement a grant from the Municipal Energy Resilience Program to make upgrades to the Town Hall, Town Office and Library to improve energy efficiency and reduce operational costs.

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

## WHITE RIVER VALLEY AMBULANCE

Thank you, neighbors, for your continued support to White River Valley Ambulance. We are a non-profit, professional emergency medical service and ambulance transport agency serving the towns of Barnard, Bethel, Braintree, Brookfield, Granville, Hancock, Pitsfield, Randolph, Rochester and Stockbridge, an area of over 500 square miles. We are designated as a Vermont Critical Care Paramedic service, the highest licensed skill level that the state recognizes. Our 14 full-time staff and several part-time staff maintain two ALS (Advanced life support) level staffed ambulances 24/7, 365 days a year. From January 1, 2025, through December 1, 2025, White River Valley Ambulance responded to 1,563 emergency calls and transfers. This includes Advanced Life Support transfer between medical facilities.

Training in emergency medical responses is also an important part of our mission. We are a regional American Heart Association Training Center, providing CPR and First Aid courses to community members across central Vermont. WRVA issued 430 AHA certifications so far in 2025. We also provide advanced practice training to emergency response professionals and volunteers throughout the state.

Funding for WRVA comes from billed insurance and budget allocations from the towns we serve. Every town pays the same amount per capita. In 2025, the per capita amount will increase from \$87.00- \$90.00.

Looking back on 2025 and ahead to 2026, we are ever grateful for the numerous first responders and fire departments with whom we work with and who volunteer their time to help a neighbor in need. Your dedication and commitment to serve make a difference in the lives of those who call for help. For that, we can never thank you enough. **3190 Pleasant St., Bethel, VT 05032 802-234-6800 [www.wvrva.org](http://www.wvrva.org)**

**Matthew Parrish,**  
**Executive Director**

## PARK HOUSE

Dear friends of Hancock,

All of us at Park House thank you for your support of our wonderful valley asset. Our official name, Rochester Community Care Home, Inc., is exactly what we are about.

Made possible by the Select Boards and other interested people from the five towns in our valley. Granville, Hancock, Pitsfield, Rochester and Stockbridge, the concept of a community home began in 1991. Since that time, Park House has been a home for many area residents. It has also been home to those from away who have moved to Park House to be closer to their children that live in the area.

Park House is many things to many people. We strive to be a community center and remain a beautiful landmark, but above all, it is a home for 16 people. Park House is affordable with 3 meals a day and light housekeeping. We are very fortunate to have been granted project-based housing assistance vouchers which reduces the rate of rental costs for those that qualify.

Our location in such a busy community with so many events awaits residents of things to do plus access to stores, library, church, restaurants, post office and the enjoyment of life in the park!

To the Town of Hancock, we thank you for the past support of the service we provide. Your contribution helps provide residents with a very special place to call home!

Respectfully submitted by:

Larry Pleasant

President Board of Trustees



GREEN UP VERMONT  
www.greenupvermont.org

Success on  
Green Up Day  
May 3, 2025



Green Up Day was a resounding success because your community joined the statewide clean-up effort. As you can see by the stats graphic the entire State got a wonderful spring cleaning with nearly all our city and town roads covered. Businesses are more successful with clean streetscapes, our real estate more valued, and our healthy way of life cherished. 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've been able to rally thousands of volunteers for special projects and flood clean-up across the State.

Support from your municipality is essential to our program. Funds help pay for Green Up Day supplies, promotional outreach, educational resources, contests for kids, and a \$1,000 scholarship. We are also incorporating an innovation challenge fair called *greenSTEM* in 2026 for students in grades 7-12. Our goal is to engage more students in finding environmental solutions and connect them to community service.

**We are requesting level funding for 2026.**

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](http://www.greenupvermont.org).

**2026 Green Up Day is May 2nd.**

*Green Up Vermont is a 501(c3) nonprofit.*

*Please include this in your town report as space allows. Thank you!*

## TRI-VALLEY TRANSIT (TVT) REPORT TO HANCOCK November 2025

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

TVT's Dial-a-Ride and Shuttle Bus Systems provided a total of 203,585 rides last year. TVT's transportation programs enable community members to maintain their independence, gain and keep employment, and access critical healthcare and quality-of-life services.

**Last year, your ongoing support helped us provide \$82 free Dial-a-Ride trips for Hancock residents either by volunteer drivers or on wheelchair accessible vehicles.**

**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 Hancock, residents can access:

- Randolph Shopper weekly service to Randolph from the Quin-Town Senior Center
- 89'er Commuter Routes to South Roydon, Sharon, and the Lebanon/Hanover WRJ area from stops in nearby Rochester

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](http://www.trivalleytransit.org) or contact us by email at [info@trivalleytransit.org](mailto:info@trivalleytransit.org) or by phone at 802-728-3773.





Advocacy, education, & social change  
to end gender-based violence.

Atria Collective, Inc,  
24-hour Hotline: 802-388-4205  
Business: 802-388-9180  
[info@atriacvt.org](mailto:info@atriacvt.org)  
[www.atriacvt.org](http://www.atriacvt.org)

## Town of Hancock Report Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2025

Atria Collective is a nonprofit serving all people in Addison County affected by dating, domestic, sexual violence and stalking. We are dedicated to empowering and safeguarding communities through our prevention work and ending gender-based violence through advocacy, education, and social change.

### In the Town of Hancock, Atria Collective provided:

- Advocacy services to at least 14\* residents, both adults and children affected by violence.
- \* For safety reasons, some people do not share their town of residence.

### In Addison County:

- 644 total adults and children were provided services through 12,843 total direct contacts.
- Worked with the parents/caregivers of a total of 452 children exposed to violence.
- Provided 549 presentations and outreach events as part of our Education & Prevention programming, reaching over 13,145 individual youth and adults.

Formerly

## Womensafe

We've launched our new brand, Atria Collective, to capture the diverse breadth of services our organization provides for Addison County & the Town of Rochester, VT.

PO Box 67 Middlebury, VT 05753 AtriaVT.org 802 - 388 - 9180 Hotline: 1-800-388-4205

### Quin-Town Center for Senior Citizens

P.O. Box 113

1097 Route 100

Hancock, VT 05748

December 2025

1-802-767-3763

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

To the Town of Hancock Select Board/ Budget Committee and Community Members:

Quin-Town Center for Senior Citizens is based in Hancock, VT and since 1973 has given Senior Citizens in the area a place to go for socializing, activities and homemade from scratch on-site meals every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 12:00pm. We also provide homemade nutritionally balanced meals delivered to homebound clients through our Meals on Wheels program.

The Quin-Town Center for Senior Citizens is requesting a donation from each of our surrounding towns. Our request from Hancock is \$2,716.00 for the coming year. The donation will be well spent. We have served over 7,286 meals this past year to Seniors at the center including our Grab N' Go Meals and our Meals on Wheels Program. This past year we have served 6 Hancock residents thru our Meals on Wheels Program, 7 days a week totaling 2,016 meals.

Your donation will cover a portion of our operating budget not reimbursed by our contract with the Central Vermont Council on Aging. Each contributing town and its citizens become participants in the successful operation of our program that provides fresh quality meals and social enrichment for our aging neighbors.

We continue to supplement our funds with a very successful annual appeal each fall and have increased our search for grants and other fundraising events. We would be glad to meet with you if you have any questions. Thank you for your generous support in the past and for considering our current request.

Sincerely,

Natalie Clook, President Quin-Town Board of Directors

### Board of Directors

~Natalie Clook, President/ Assistant Cook ~ Kent Butterfield, Vice President/ Treasurer

~ De'Lena Aldright, Secretary ~ Members: Annette West, Suzanne Ellis

~ Nicole Lambert, Executive Director ~ Pamela Gendron, Cook

## Central Vermont Council on Aging Annual Report of Services to Hancock (FY25 7/1/24-6/30/25)

Central Vermont Council on Aging (CVCOA) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the mission of supporting Central Vermonters to age with dignity and choice. For over 40 years, CVCOA has assisted older Vermonters age 60 and up to remain independent and in their homes for as long as possible.

### Services include:

- 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 13 nutrition sites. <sup>(U)</sup> 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, technology training and more.

CVCOA served 5,254 unduplicated clients from 07/01/2024 through 06/30/2025 and mobilized 268 volunteers who donated nearly 20,000 hours of their time, valued at over \$695,000. **Our staff provided one or more services to 29 (unduplicated) Hancock residents.**

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

<sup>(U)</sup> CVCOA does *not* directly operate a nutrition site.

### CLARA MARTIN CENTER

<p><b>Child and Family Services</b> 35 Avers Brook Rd, Randolph, VT 05060 (802) 728-4466</p> <p><b>Intensive Adult Services</b> 24 South Main St., Randolph, VT 05060 (802) 728-6000</p> <p><b>Intensive Adult Services</b> P O Box 278, Bradford, VT 05033 (802) 222-4477</p> <p><b>Safe Haven/Chris's Place</b> 4 Highland Ave., Randolph, VT 05060 (802) 728-4466</p>	<p><b>East Valley Academy</b> 579 VT Rte. 2A S., East Randolph, VT 05041 (802) 728-3896</p> <p><b>Wilder</b> PO Box 816, Wilder VT 05088 (802) 295-1311</p>	<p><b>Adult and Children Outpatient Services</b> 2483 Lower Plain Rd., Bradford, VT 05033 (802) 222-4477</p> <p><b>Chelsea Health Center</b> 356 VT Route 110, Chelsea, VT 05038 (802) 728-4466</p> <p><b>Adult Outpatient Services</b> 11 N. Main Street, Randolph, VT 05060 (802) 728-4466</p>
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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 59 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:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Outpatient Counseling</li> <li>➤ Psychiatric Services</li> <li>➤ Short-term crisis intervention</li> <li>➤ School and Home-based services</li> <li>➤ Education for families</li> <li>➤ Community resource assistance</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Hospital Diversion</li> <li>➤ Walk-in Clinic</li> <li>➤ Vocational Services</li> <li>➤ Substance Use Services</li> <li>➤ Justice Involved Services</li> <li>➤ 24-hour emergency system</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

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 59 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 have achieved certification as one of 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.

FY25 TOTAL SERVICES PROVIDED AT CMC	TOTAL SERVICES PROVIDED	HANCOCK
Children & Family Services	502	2
School Services	173	3
Vocational Services	58	0
Adult Services	769	1
CSP Services	150	0
Supportive & Transitional Housing	21	0
Substance Use Services	288	0
Corrections Services	103	1
Emergency Contacts/Walk-in Clinic	276	3
Access	130	1
Other	216	0
<b>Total Served – unduplicated individuals</b>	<b>1871</b>	<b>9</b>

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING  
TOWN OF HANCOCK, VERMONT  
MARCH 4, 2025, 10:00AM**

James Leno calls the meeting to order at 9:59AM, states some rules, and introduces the Warning.

The legal voters of the Town of Hancock, VT, are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Hancock Town Hall in said town to transact the following business by floor vote:

**Article 1:**

- To elect a Town Moderator for the next year ensuing. Janet Jesso nominates Scott Gillette. Dan Perera seconds. Town Clerk casts 1 vote for Scott Gillette.

Marge Ross moves to perform the Pledge of Allegiance. Seconded. Hand vote. So voted.

**Article 2:**

- To elect all Town Officers as required by law:
  - Selectboard Member – three year termDan Perera nominates James Leno. Marge Ross seconds. No further nominations. Town Clerk casts 1 vote for James Leno.

- Auditor- three year term
- Geraldine Twitchell introduces and explains the duties of this position. Marge Ross nominates Janet Jesso. She declines. Jim Denis nominates Janet Roth. Roger Comes seconds the nomination. No further nominations. Town Clerk casts 1 vote for Janet Roth.

- Constable - one year term
- Richard nominates Derek Dzhugashvili. Marge Ross seconds. No further nominations. Town Clerk casts 1 vote for Derek Dzhugashvili.

- Collector of Delinquent Taxes – one year term
- Dan Perera nominates Wendy Stender. Tom Patterson seconds. No further nominations. Town Clerk casts 1 vote for Wendy Stender.

- Cemetery Commissioner - three year term
- Marge Ross nominates Geraldine Twitchell. James Leno seconds. No further nominations. Town Clerk casts 1 vote for Geraldine Twitchell.

- Road Commissioner – one year term
- Geraldine Twitchell nominates James Leno. Marge Ross seconds the motion. No further nominations. Town Clerk casts 1 vote for James Leno.

- Library Trustee – five year term
- Stacey Peters nominates Garvey Jesso-White. Marge Ross seconds the motion.

**Article 3:**

Pursuant to 17 VSA § 2646a, shall the voters allow the election of non-residents to the position of town clerk, effective on passage of this article?

- Advisory Budget Committee – three year term
- Tom Patterson nominates Marge Ross. James Leno seconds the motion. No further nominations. Town Clerk casts 1 vote for Marge Ross.

No further nominations. Town Clerk casts 1 vote for Garvey Jesso-White.

**Article 4:**

James Leno moved the article, seconded by Geraldine Twitchell. James Leno takes over as moderator so that Scott Gillette can clarify the topic. Scott explains the difficulty in finding appropriate candidates for the position, as well as the financial constraints that can be alleviated if resources are pooled between towns with the hiring of a Town Manager that includes an attractive salary and benefits. Samantha Sheehan explains that the State has been increasing the demands of the Town Clerk and Town Treasurer position, which requires a highly qualified candidate. Select Board appointing a Town Manager will assist them to take on the tremendous amount of work, and this appointment can be reversed with a town petition vote. Discussion regarding pay, feasibility, and supervision of a Town Manager. Scott Gillette takes over as Moderator. Motion for vote, seconded. Hand vote. So voted.

Pursuant to 17 VSA §2646a, shall the voters allow the election of non-residents to the position of town treasurer, effective on passage of this article?

Dick Robson moved the article; seconded by Tom Patterson. Samantha Sheehan explains how there are other towns in Vermont who have adopted unions between municipalities successfully. James Leno explains that there is a vetting/hiring process in appointments of town positions. Monica Collins served on Select Board for 10 years - it is a very challenging position to will become more complicated over time. Motion to vote, seconded. Hand vote. So voted.

**Article 5:**

Pursuant to 17 VSA §2651e, shall the voters authorize the selectboard to appoint the town clerk, removing this as an elected position, until such time as the voters retract such authorization?

Geraldine Twitchell moved the article, seconded by James Leno. Dan DeLorm expresses his disdain with the Town Clerk being appointed without the vote of the town. Scott clarifies again that a special meeting will be held for the vote of this position if this Article does not carry. Stacey Peters questions if the appointment was warned for a prior Select Board meeting. Scott clarifies that yes, indeed it was. Motion to vote, seconded. Hand vote. So voted.

**Article 6:**

Pursuant to 17 VSA §2651f, shall the voters authorize the selectboard to appoint the town treasurer, removing this as an elected position, until such time as the voters retract such authorization?

Tom Patterson moved the article, seconded by Geraldine Twitchell. No discussion. Motion to vote, seconded. Hand vote. So voted.

Article 7: Shall the Town of Hancock adopt the town manager form of governance in accordance with the provisions of chapter 37 of Title 24 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated?

Marge Ross moved the article, seconded by Janet Roth. Scott Gillette explains that Two Rivers-Ottauquechee Regional Commission (TRORC) has been coordinating preliminary discussions with other towns and discovering benefits. Dan Pereira explains that this motion allows us to continue the discussions. Scott makes points that all discussions will be held at warned Select Board meetings. Article has been written with language suggested by VLCT. Samantha Sheehan points out that this would allow the Select Board to share duties with Town Manager. Scott Gillette speaking as chair of Select Board – has been overwhelmed with writing grants, funding, Federal contracts, and processing FEMA aid, which is outside of their area of expertise and time allotment. A Town Manager could fulfill this role more effectively and with greater expertise. Select Board is not equipped to perform expected duties with contracts, renovations, grants, administrative work, etc. on top of working their full-time jobs. Jeannette Bair expresses concern with financials of this position. Scott responds that Federal income taxes will not “return” to you if someone is not effectively applying for Federal grants. It is professional level work. Dick Robson – what is the alternative – to get more “free time” from the Select Board? That isn’t realistic, as there are less people stepping forward to fulfill such public positions. Motion to allow non-residents to speak in meeting; seconded. Hand vote. So voted. Kirk White steps forward to explain this critical issue towns are experiencing. Small towns don’t have the capacity to apply for grants or hire a grant writer. The are programs in Vermont that are working to provide assistance (ex. MTAP) to small towns to make them more aware and successful in applying for and receiving grants. Motion to vote, seconded. Hand vote. So voted.

Motion to vote for a break for Kirk White to speak, seconded. Hand vote. So voted.

Kirk White: Education Finance Reform has been a slow process. A bill has finally been presented by the Governor, but it will be a while until it is processed and discussed. A lot of the bill does not apply to the size of small towns in Vermont. Money from the State’s General Fund may be used to reduce tax burden. Housing is a hot topic in the legislature. Affordability of new construction is a great challenge to create long-term rentals at an affordable rent. Constituent services are available to everyone – contact Kirk for help with this, to find who in the State Government they need to talk to for help with a specific problem. Tariffs and Federal employee layoffs are causing a great deal of financial issues to businesses along the Canadian border, as well as the unemployment budget pool. Reform is being considered currently for Land Use program and Act 250 reform. Stacey Peters brings up the issues of school mergers and decoupling education tax from property tax. Granville and Hancock have taken on the highest tax increases without a school in either town. She further explains the reality of

“school choice” as it applies to Hancock now, and how it would apply to us with the Governor’s new education bill. Scott Gillette explains regressive vs. progressive taxes. Property tax is regressive and hurts the poor. Income tax is progressive and is affordable for the rich.

Article 8: Shall the voters appropriate a total of \$7,019.00 to the following social service agencies pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 2691:

Green-Up Vermont – supports Green Up Day	\$50.00
WomenSafe – Provides assistance related to sexual and domestic violence for people of all genders	\$500.00
Tri Valley Transit (Stagecoach) – provides regional mass transit	\$558.00
Central Vermont Council on Aging – provides services to seniors	\$800.00
Park House – Senior housing non-profit	\$600.00
Clara Martin Center – provides behavioral health care and substance abuse services	\$595.00
Quin-Town Senior Center – non-profit providing Meals on Wheels services to valley seniors.	\$2,716.00
Hancock Town Pride – fosters community spirit, beauty, & involvement, and offers events & activities.	\$1,200.00
TOTAL	<u>\$7,019.00</u>

Dick Robson moved the article, seconded by Geraldine Twitchell. Dan DeIorn would like appropriations for Town Pride to be used for moving the bus off the property adjacent to the Town Hall. James Leno clarifies that the vote is on the whole amount, not piecemeal discussion. Motion to vote, seconded. Hand vote. So voted.

Article 9: Shall the voters authorize the Selectboard to apply the remaining balance in the General Fund of FY24/25 to reducing the next fiscal year’s amount to be raised by taxes?

Geraldine Twitchell moved the article, seconded by Janet Roth. Scott Gillette explains the General Fund is the overall amount that was raised by taxes this fiscal year. Motion to vote, seconded. Hand vote. So voted.

Article 10: Shall the voters authorize the Town Treasurer to transfer the balance from the Road Commissioner Fund FY24/25 to the Highway Capital Fund?

Geraldine Twitchell moved the article, seconded by James Leno. Any surplus in the Road Commissioner Fund for a Fiscal Year must by law be moved into a Capital Fund.

it is like a savings account that pays for road repairs. Motion to vote, seconded. Hand vote. So voted.

Article 11: Shall the voters authorize the Town Treasurer to transfer the balance from the Fire Department budget into the Fire Department Equipment Fund?

Tom Patterson moved the article, seconded by Geraldine Twitchell. Scott Gillette states that for responsible fiscal auditing practices and transparency, this process must be performed. Rolling over surplus into an equipment fund will allow for responsible use of funds for very expensive fire trucks/equipment. Geraldine Twitchell reinforces that we've been doing this for years. Samantha Sheehan adds that this transfer alleviates the need to go into debt with loan interest to pay for equipment. Motion to vote, seconded. Hand vote. So voted.

Article 12: Shall the voters authorize the Town Treasurer to collect current taxes pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 4791, and if so, to set the payment dates. The dates being of four equal installments dated August 15, 2025; November 15, 2025; February 15, 2026; and May 15, 2026?

Tom Patterson moved the article, seconded by Geraldine Twitchell. Wendy Stender discusses different dates to be considered given that 11/15 and 2/15 land on weekends, as well as possibility to add a time deadline. Judy and Tony Seeger express disdain regarding the inability to utilize postmark for due date.

Scott Gillette proposes breaking out into 2 amendments. Part 1 is to change the dates as suggested by Wendy Stender. Motion for vote, seconded. Hand vote. So voted.

Part 2 is to add after May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026, "with payments received in the town office or in the secure drop by 3:00pm." Motion for vote, seconded. Hand vote. So voted.

Further discussion ensued regarding amending the article and possibility to add an amendment for the postmark. Motion to strike the amended statement of "with payments received in the town office or in the secure drop by 3:00pm.", seconded. Hand vote. So voted.

Article modified to state: Shall the voters authorize the Town Treasurer to collect current taxes pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 4791, and if so, to set the payment dates. The dates being of four equal installments dated August 15, 2025; November 17, 2025; February 17, 2026; and May 15, 2026? Motion to vote, seconded. Hand vote. So voted.

Shall the Town of Hancock appropriate the sum of \$427,244.00 to pay the current expenses for the general and highway funds for the ensuing twelve months, with 2025 - 2026 taxes becoming delinquent after May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026, and with the County and State taxes to be paid from the general fund.

Samantha Sheehan moved the article, seconded by Geraldine Twitchell. Geraldine stated the need to add the \$7,019.00 from Article 8 to this sum.

Dan Perera requests two amendments given information that was received after this Article was created. First, the Town must make a one-time \$6,000 match for funding provided for Taylor Meadow feasibility study grant. Second, the Fire Department asked for \$15,000 after the due date for budget, which would increase their funds an additional \$3,000.

Motion to vote on first item regarding \$6,000; seconded. Hand vote. So voted.

Motion to vote on increase in Fire Department funding; seconded. Hand vote. So voted.

Motion to amend article to add appropriations to the budget by Geraldine Twitchell; seconded by Steve.

Article now states: Shall the Town of Hancock appropriate the sum of \$434,263.00 to pay the current expenses for the general and highway funds for the ensuing twelve months, with 2025 - 2026 taxes becoming delinquent after May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026, and with the County and State taxes to be paid from the general fund?

Dan Deloun expresses concern about the parcel of land that was sold by the town for the amount of \$76,637.64. It is in a savings account right now. Scott Gillette informs him that it can be voted upon by the town at a properly warned public town meeting.

Motion to vote, seconded. Hand vote. So voted.

Article 14: To transact any non-binding business.

Scott Gillette explains that grievances can be aired, but no votes can be taken.

Stacey Peters discusses Green Up Day on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 and encourages participation. She also reminds voters that the GHUD School Board annual meeting Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 at the Hancock Town Hall. All are invited to attend.

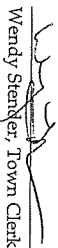
All town business is transacted in public meetings, so it is up to the residents to attend meetings to stay abreast of town happenings. Dan Perera states that the Hancock Select Board meets every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 6pm in the Town Office.

Further discussion about the Taylor Meadow study regarding the flood zone, scope of study, and land sale.

Motion to adjourn. Seconded. Hand vote. So voted.

Town Meeting adjourned at 1:17pm.

Attest:

  
Wendy Stender, Town Clerk

Addendum to minutes from Hancock Town Meeting on Tuesday, March 5, 2025 at 10:00AM, due to typographical error:

Article 13:

Shall the Town of Hancock appropriate the sum of \$427,244.00 to pay the current expenses for the general and highway funds for the ensuing twelve months, with 2025 – 2026 taxes becoming delinquent after May 15th, 2026, and with the County and State taxes to be paid from the general fund.

Samantha Sheehan moved the article, seconded by Geraldine Twitchell. Geraldine stated the need to add the \$7,019.00 from Article 8 to this sum.

Dan Perera requests two amendments given information that was received after this Article was created. First, the Town must make a one-time \$6,000 match for funding provided for Taylor Meadow feasibility study grant. Second, the Fire Department asked for \$15,000 after the due date for budget, which would increase their funds an additional \$3,000.

Motion to vote on first item regarding \$6,000; seconded. Hand vote. So voted.

Motion to vote on increase in Fire Department funding; seconded. Hand vote. So voted.

Motion to amend article to add appropriations to the budget by Geraldine Twitchell; seconded by Steve.

Article now states: Shall the Town of Hancock appropriate the sum of \$443,263.00 to pay the current expenses for the general and highway funds for the ensuing twelve months, with 2025 – 2026 taxes becoming delinquent after May 15th, 2026, and with the County and State taxes to be paid from the general fund?

Dan Delorm expresses concern about the parcel of land that was sold by the town for the amount of \$76,637.64. It is in a savings account right now. Scott Gillette informs him that it can be voted upon by the town at a properly warned public town meeting.

Motion to vote, seconded. Hand vote. So voted.

Attested:

  
Wendy L. Stender, Town Clerk

Date: 6/9/25

Addendum to minutes from Hancock Town Meeting on Tuesday, March 5, 2025 at 10:00AM:

Article 2: Library Trustee – five year term (expires 2030)

Rose Juliano nominated and seconded. Town Clerk casts 1 vote for Rose Juliano. Brought up that a three year term vacancy (expires 2027) exists with the resignation of Jody Jesso.

Stacey Peters nominates Garvi Jesso-White. Marge Ross seconds the motion. No further nominations. Town Clerk casts 1 vote for Garvey Jesso -White.

Attested:

  
Wendy L. Stender, Town Clerk

Date: 7/7/25

## **Who's Who in Local Government** **A Publication of the Office of the Secretary of State ~ 2018**

Serving in local office is a great way to give something back to our community. So why don't you take a turn? Here are the offices you can choose from:

### **Officials Elected at Town Meeting**

**Moderator** ~ Runs the Annual and Special Town/School Meetings. Should have a good sense of humor, be good at group process, and have experience following Roberts Rules of Order.

**Selectboard Member** ~ General supervision and control over town; enacts ordinances, regulations, and policies for town; oversees town property and personnel; prepares, presents, and manages budget; oversees roads, including laying out, discontinuing and reclassifying roads. Sits as local board of health, liquor control commission and sewer commission. Should know the town well, be able to understand all sides of complex issues, and have very thick skin.

**Town Clerk** ~ Records, preserves, and certifies the public records of the town. Issues dog, marriage, civil union licenses and motor vehicle, snowmobile, and motorboat renewals. Runs the local elections, serves as clerk of the Board of Civil Authority, and hears tax abatement requests and tax appeals. Should have the patience of a saint and be a good ambassador for the town.

**Town Treasurer** ~ Keeps the town and school accounts (unless a separate school treasurer is elected), invests money (with the approval of the legislative body), keeps a record of the taxes voted, and pays orders drawn on him or her. Should be very precise, detail oriented and good at math.

**Lister** ~ Appraise property within the town for the purpose of property tax assessment. Should be able to be polite, yet firm, and not oversensitive to criticism.

**Collector of Delinquent Taxes** ~ Collects delinquent taxes for the town and conducts tax sales. Should be good with numbers and able to work with people who are in difficult circumstances.

**Trustee of Public Funds** ~ Manages, invests, and reports on real and personal property held in trust by the town. This includes cemetery trust funds. Should like investing money.

**Cemetery Commissioner** ~ Responsible for the care and management of the town's cemeteries. Terms are for five years.

**Justices of the Peace** ~ Elected every two years. Duties of the Justices of the Peace fall into five categories of responsibilities: elections, tax abatement & appeals, marriages, oaths & Notary and Magistrate.

**Board of Civil Authority** ~ Members of Selectboard, Town Clerk, Justices of Peace

### **Local Officials Appointed by the Legislative Body**

**Health Officer** ~ Appointed by the Commissioner of Health to a 3-year term upon recommendation of the Selectboard. Enforces rules and regulations for the prevention and abatement of public health hazards.

**Constable (First & Second)** ~ Appointed by the Selectboard. Operating under Vermont Statutes, in some towns the constable is the town's local law enforcement officer, with all powers of search, seizure and arrest within the town. In other towns the constable only has the power to serve civil process, assist the health officer in the discharge of his or her duties, destroy unlicensed dogs, kill injured deer, remove disorderly people from town meeting, and, if the First Constable, to collect taxes, if no tax collector is elected. Should be good at de-escalating and resolving conflicts.

**Planning Commissioners** ~ Appointed unless town votes to elect. Duties include preparing a municipal plan, making recommendations on matters of land development, conservation, and preservation, and to participate in a regional planning program. Makes site plan and subdivision permit decisions unless there is a Development Review Board in town. Should have a good working knowledge of all aspects of the town and be able to listen to many sides of an issue.

**Zoning Administrator** ~ Appointed by the Planning Commission with the approval of the Selectboard. Approves or denies applications for zoning permits. Administers the municipal bylaws literally. Enforces regulations pertaining to the Zoning Ordinance.

**Fire Warden** ~ Appointed by the State Fire Commissioner with approval of the Selectboard. Prevents forest fires in the town by enforcing the laws designed to prevent forest fires. Issues permits for open burning within the Town. Term is for five years.

**Road Commissioner** ~ Appointed by the Selectboard, the Road Commissioner has no independent authority, but assists the Selectboard in overseeing town highways. Should have experience with town highways and be a good communicator.

**Regional Planning Commission Representative** ~ Appointed by the Selectboard. Helps develop the regional plan and assess municipal land use plans but has no independent authority.

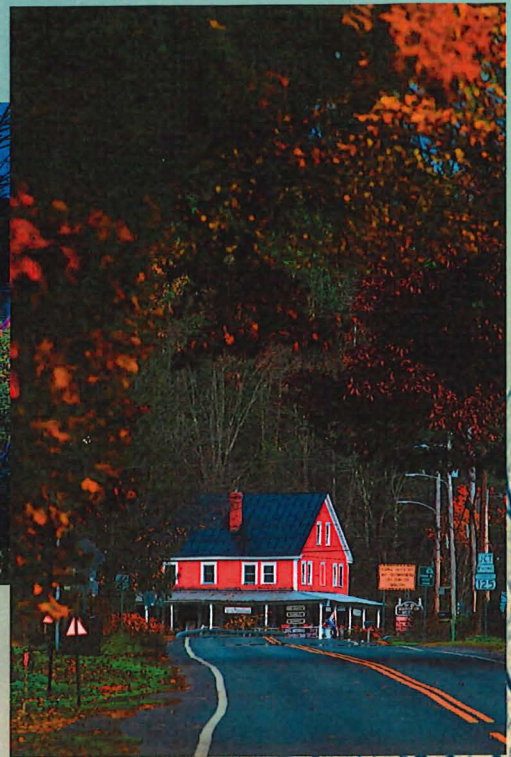
**Animal Control Officer (Pound keeper)** ~ Appointed by the Selectboard. Enforces ordinances and cares for the animals that are impounded within the town.

**Humane Officer** ~ Appointed by the Selectboard. Enforces State and Federal regulations surrounding the humane and proper treatment of all animals. Works closely with Animal Control Officer & Constables.

**Emergency Management Coordinator** ~ Responsible for the organization, administration and operation of the Town's committee that is formed for emergency management. The coordinator is under the direct control of the Selectboard but may coordinate his or her emergency management efforts with neighboring towns and cities and with the state emergency management division, and with the federal government.

**Tree Warden** ~ Appointed by the Selectboard. Plans and implements a shade tree preservation program for the purpose of shading and beautifying public places. Recommends the removal of diseased, dying, or dead trees which create a hazard to public safety or threaten the effectiveness of disease or insect control programs.

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To make a small town achieve its  
potential, you need everybody. When a  
blind person carries a crippled person  
who can see, both of them get where  
they're going.  
Unita Blackwell



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Kindness begins with understanding  
that we all struggle.  
Charles Glassman

