UPCOMING DATES & WORKPLAN

11/17/2026	**Selectboard – approve bid requests**
12/1/2026	**Selectboard**
1/14/2027	Deadline to receive appropriations letters & petitions
1/15/2027	**Selectboard**
	Deadline to return plowing, roadside mowing, cemetery mowing & sexton bids
	Select bids
	Finalize & approve budget and warning for Town Report
1/20/2027	Town Report draft to printer
2/2/2027	**Selectboard**
2/12/2027	Town Report copies back from printer – ideally
2/16/2027	**Selectboard**
2/20/2027	Town Report copies available – STATUTORY DEADLINE
3/2/2027	**Town Meeting Day**
3/4/2027	**??? Reschedule SB meeting**

TOWN OF WHEELOCK SELECTBOARD MEETING

November 5th 2026 at 6PM Upstairs at Wheelock Town Hall

Present: Wheelock Selectboard Members Ann Lawless, Mike Richardson and Chuck Dill; Carol Rossi, Nathan Davis, Meaghan Rinehart. Via zoom: Enid Ellis, Teresa Stimpson and Michael Miller.

Call to Order 6PM

Any changes to agenda: Suggestion from Teresa added to New Business
Insurance Values due 11/13 added to New Business

ADOPT MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING(S)

Adopt minutes of Selectboard meeting 10/20/2026 Chuck motions, seconded by Mike to adopt minutes of 10/20/26 All in favor, so voted.

NEW BUSINESS

Teresa Stimpson Suggestion

Teresa brought it to the attention of the Selectboard that the town-owned Sulphur Spring Pavilion has items stored under it that do not belong to the town. It was mentioned that the snow roller that previously there is stored and displayed at the Caledonia County Fair. The selectboard will draft a letter to the neighboring homeowner asking if they are responsible to please remove the items.

Carol Rossi, Road Budget

Carol appreciates the work done so far on budgets but implores the Selectboard to not increase taxes. She spoke of her tax increases over the years and the Town demographics. She requests $85,000 should be removed from the draft. Carol would like voters to consider their neighbors when voting in the budget at Town meeting. Selectboard members responded that budget drafts are still in progress and the Town is looking to plan ahead and that overall costs for the Town have increased citing fuel, supply and equipment costs. Both parties acknowledged all points made.

BOND BANK RE FEMA embankments

Ann contacted VT Bond Bank and we are encouraged to submit the application by Monday 11/9 for a disaster loan to help with the embankment projects on Boulay Rd. and S Wheelock Rd.. The request will be for $237,300 over 5 years to cover disaster costs not yet paid. Total project cost is $271,512, but we have already paid for engineering on both embankments and tree cutting on S Wheelock Rds. The Town anticipates 75% to be reimbursed by FEMA for the entire project after project completion. The State will reimburse 7.5%. Ann motions, second by Mike to apply for a Bond Bank loan for $237,300 for the embankment projects. All in favor, so voted.

Lister Request: 2027 budget - $5,300 for Reappraisal Reserve Account

Carol explained the State requires reappraisals every 6 years and would like this amount to be an article on the 2027 Town Meeting warning. Chuck motions, seconded by Mike to place this item on the Town Meeting warning: Shall the Town raise $5,300 for deposit into the Reappraisal Reserve fund in accordance with 24 VSR 284-A. All in favor, so voted.

Town Hall Projects: Carol reported that heating duct cleaning is scheduled for 11/9 $1,115. She requested several bids and received one bid from Tops for $1,115. This could be paid from the annual budget line item or the Long-Term Facilities Maintenance fund. Chuck motions, seconded by Mike to have Tops clean ducts for $1,115 paid from Maintenance Fund. All in favor, so voted.

Request for Bids, paint town hall Carol requested to put out a draft bid request for Town Hall exterior painting. Ann motioned, seconded by Chuck to put Town Hall exterior painting out to bid. All in favor, so voted.

Plumbing Repair, washrooms Exhaust fans are not functioning properly, Ann will contact MERP to see if this falls under this grant.

Street light on pole on Sutton Rd to light parking area

Ann submitted the request to VT Electric Coop for the new light to replace the ones on the building that have been disconnected. (After meeting it was apparent it had been installed.)

NEK Broadband service

Plans were considered for Town Hall and Town Garage. It hasn't been determined if service is available at both locations yet. Discussion was had regarding whether VOIP phone from NEKBB ($35/mo per site) could effectively replace landline phone service. More information is needed. If service is available, the Selectboard recommends 100mb up/down ($79/mo) plan for Town Hall and 50mb up/down ($59/mo) plan for the garage.

PACIF Insurance Valuations

The Selectboard viewed documents regarding payrolls, properties and vehicles. Changes and additions were suggested. Valuations are due to be updated 11/13.

OLD BUSINESS

2027 Budgeting

Erin has requested expanding minutes clerk position to include other duties. The Selectboard discussed this request and viewed budget drafts. Mike requested Budgets be put first on the next agenda.

2024 Audit

The citizen auditors have accepted the RHR Smith 2024 audit and request it be accepted by the Selectboard. Mike motioned, seconded by Chuck to accept 2024 audit. All in favor, so voted.

Capital Budget Planning – road equipment & start on facilities & recreation

Throughout the meeting budgeting was discussed but there was no direct capital discussion. The Selectboard is moving on from this topic due to time and will address in

future meetings.

CLERK TREASURER'S REPORT

N/A

ROADS

- Eileen Boland would like to include a photo and a welcome to Joe Gilbert in the WCI newsletter.
- 2019 truck has been repaired and returned.
- The road crew is continuing road maintenance.
- Chuck met with our engineer and state river engineer regarding S Wheelock and Boulay Rd embankment projects. S Wheelock Rd will be down to one lane for duration of project starting next week for about 2 weeks.
- Nathan Davis gave his estimate for winter plowing Boulay Rd. of $3,800 and including use of town sand. No action was taken.

Grant updates

- Grants in Aid FY 2027 is done, report sent and funds received.
- Better Roads FY 2026 report was resubmitted.
- Better Roads FY '28 has deadline extended to 11/20/26. Chuck reported it may not be a good fit. He will check with Elise on Grants in Aid FY 2028.
- HSIP (guardrails and sight improvements) is ready to go with all permits, contracts etc. Chuck suggested HSIPo guardrails won't start yet as the Lafayette C. is a sub-contractor on the two embankments.
- CBDG Still waiting on state award agreement to be signed. Engineering contractor hopes to start on 11/13. Contracts are ready for the contractors but will only be signed after the state award agreement.
- Mini MERP final report submitted. Project closed.
- MERP quarterly report and requisition for expenses submitted. We have a contract for sheetrock; still awaiting confirmation of scheduling. MERP ADA door contract is signed. Waiting on scheduling.

- Preservation Trust/Sincerbeaux Fund Carol reported that the timber frame expert came to assess, and stated no corrections are needed; however no basement interior walls or supporting columns should be removed.

CORRESPONDENCE

NEKCV (NEK Broadband) Public Hearing Notice 11/12/2026

VISITOR COMMENTS

Request for citizens to come to meetings and give feedback on budgets.

ADMINISTRATIVE & ADJOURNMENT

Chuck motions, seconded by Mike to sign administrative paperwork and adjourn. All in favor, so voted. Meeting adjourned at 8:54pm.

Next Meeting Tues. 11/17, Jen Botzojorns, Superintendent, Kingdom E School District

Submitted by Meaghan Rinehart

Ann Lawless

_____

Mike Richardson

_____

Chuck Dill

_____

General Fund Revenue

	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2026 Budget	2026 YTD oct 26	2027 Budget	notes
Tax Revenue and State Payments, Programs						
Current Taxes for Budget	$ 255,620	$ 94,064.04	$ 262,945.00	$ 114,778.33		
PILOT	$ 16,444	$ 16,443.45	$ 16,444.00	$ -	$ 16,444	
Total	**$ 272,064**	**$ 110,507.49**	**$ 279,389.00**	**$ 114,778.33**	**$ 16,444**	
Town Office Revenue						
Dog License Fees	$ 650	$ 644.00	$ 650.00	$ 549.00	$ 500	
Liquor License	$ 70	$ -	$ 70.00		$ 70	
Marriage License Fees	$ 15	$ -	$ 80.00	$ 15.00		
Office Fees & Recording Fees	$ 5,000	$ 6,633.00	$ 5,000.00	$ 8,212.00	$ 7,000	
Record Restoration Fees	$ 300	$ 44.00	$ -			
NEMRC Land Record Fees	$ -	$ 256.00	$ -			
Traffic Ticket Fees Collected	$ -		$ -			
Total	**$ 6,035**	**$ 7,577**	**$ 5,800.00**	**$ 8,776.00**	**$ 7,570**	
Listers Revenue						
Reappraisal & Equalizaion Study State Payment	**$ 5,600**	**$ 5,586.00**	**$ -**			Moved to reappraisal fund
Delinquent Tax Revenue						
Tax	$ -	$ 144,921.85	$ -	$ 66,063.64		
Interest	$ 2,000	$ 10,676.74	$ 2,000.00	$ 7,348.38		
Penalty	$ 3,000	$ 4,744.34	$ 3,000.00	$ 3,851.83		
Tax Sale Cost	$ -	$ -	$ -			
Total	**$ 5,000**	**$ 160,342.93**	**$ 5,000.00**	**$ 77,263.85**	**$ -**	
General Government Revenue						
Interest on Checking	$ 50	$ 123.57	$ 50.00	$ 96.70	$ 50	
Interest on Non-Arbitrage	$ 100	$ 4,836.38	$ -	$ 13,854.47		
Town Hall Rental Income	$ -		$ -			
Other/Unbudgeted	$ -	$ 46,866.59	$ -	$ 19,543.31		Mostly education refund & state pmt in 2025
Hold Harmless - State Current Use Payment	$ 65,000	$ 82,549.00	$ 65,000.00	$ 4,030.00	$ 65,000	
interest on debt card				$ 0.19		
	$ 65,150	**$ 134,375.68**	**$ 65,050.00**	**$ 37,524.67**	**$ 65,050**	
Cemetery						
Lot Sales	$ 300	$ 300.00				

General Fund Revenue

	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2026 Budget	2026 YTD oct 26	2027 Budget	notes
Perpletual Care/Fees	$ 1,450	$ 200.00				
Fees Collected/Due to Sexton	$ 1,000	$ -	$ 1,300.00	$ 350.00	$ 1,000	
Grant	$ -	$ -	$ -			
Total	**$ 2,750**	**$ 500.00**	**$ 1,300.00**	**$ 350.00**	**$ 1,000**	
Transfer In	**$ 32,100**	**$ 32,100.00**				From reappraisal reserve - thisis all in the reserve instead now
			.			
Total Revenue	**$ 388,699**	**$ 450,989.10**	**$ 356,539.00**	**$ 238,692.85**	**$ 90,064**	

	C	G	H	I	J	K	L	N	O
1	**GENERAL FUND EXPENSES**							Committed funds	
2									
3									
4		**2025 Budget**	**2025 Actual**	**Spent vs. Budget %**	**2026 Budget**	**2026 as of oct 26**	**2027 Budget**	Notes:	
5									
6	**Town Office Staff**								
7	Assistant Town Clerk	$ 10,460	$ 5,785.75	55%	$ 10,774.00	$ 6,701.72	$ 10,834	Carol has volunteered a bunch & I will be needing her more during tax time so this should not be lessened.	
8	Assistant Treasurer	$ -	$ -			$ -			
9	Town Clerk	$ 18,802	$ 18,684.34	99%	$ 19,366.00	$ 15,641.85	$ 19,367	No pay raise so the Board can make better use of their employees without raising the budget	
10	Town Treasurer	$ 22,978	$ 22,951.75	100%	$ 23,667.00	$ 19,115.88	$ 23,667	No pay raise so the Board can make better use of their employees without raising the budget	
11	Town Share FICA	$ 3,996	$ 5,515.49	138%	$ 4,116.00	$ 4,710.45	$ 5,516	This has Town Share for all including highway	
12	Town Share Retirement	$ 2,350	$ 2,328.26	99%	$ 2,421.00	$ 2,031.69	$ 2,600	VMERS changes rates annually in July.	
13	Town Share Health Insurance	$ 12,839	$ 8,220.10	64%	$ 13,531.00	$ 11,647.48	$ 13,881	BCBC Platinum, same as last yr ($17,350.92) X 80%	
14	Training	$ 11,000	$ 1,498.75	14%	$ 2,500.00	$ 245.00	$ 750		
15	**Total**	**$ 82,425**	**$ 64,984.44**	79%	**$ 76,375**	**$ 60,094.07**	**$ 76,614**		
16									
17	**Town Office Expenses**								
18	Supplies	$ 2,000	$ 3,187.48	159%	$ 2,500	$ 1,475.36	$ 2,500		
19	Postage	$ 2,000	$ 2,199.84	110%	$ 2,000	$ 1,664.29	$ 2,000		
20	Printing Town Report	$ 600	$ 522.32	87%	$ 600	$ 640.98	$ 641	based on 1 quote for 2026. 3 yr contract is over. Still getting quotes	
21	Computer Equipment Expense	$ 150	$ 277.18	185%	$ 150	$ 350.00	$ 200		
22	Computer Cloud & Support	$ 6,000	$ 6,301.44	105%	$ 6,000	$ 1,043.40	$ 6,000		
23	Copier	$ 2,500	$ 2,320.35	93%	$ 2,500	$ 1,700.73	$ 2,500		
24	Mileage - Clerk, Treasurer	$ 550	$ 491.11	89%	$ 550	$ 462.97	$ 550		
25	Record Restoration	$ 2,000	$ -	0%					
26	Animal Control Fees	$ 550	$ 1,123.34	204%	$ 1,800	$ 1,000.00	$ 1,000	Has the board made a contract with Riverside rescue for 2027? This is 2026 rate	
27	Marriage License State Fee	$ 65	$ -	0%	$ 65			This is entered as a liability and paid out of that so I don't think it should be in rev or expense...	
28	**Total**	**$ 16,415**	**$ 16,423.06**	100%	**$ 16,165**	**$ 8,337.73**	**$ 15,391**		
29									
30	**Town Offices Staff & Expenses**	**$ 98,840**	**$ 81,407.50**	82%	**$ 92,540**	**$ 68,431.80**	**$ 92,005**		
31									
32	**Lister Expenses**								
33	Lister Wages	$ 6,000.00	$ 6,318.75	105%	$ 7,000	$ 4,989.10	$ 7,000		
35	Supplies	$ 150.00	$ 31.96	21%	$ 150	$ 93.49	$ 150		
36	Software License Fee	$ 500.00	$ 655.00	131%	$ 655	$ 286.00	$ 286	contract	
37	Computer Equipment & Maintenance	$ 150.00	$ 304.90	203%	$ 150		$ 150		
38	Computer - Cloud Services	$ 2,000.00	$ 3,483.33	174%	$ 2,000	$ 1,937.88	$ 2,000		
39	Mileage	$ 200.00	$ 94.47	47%	$ 200	$ 143.38	$ 200		
40	Property Map Update	$ 600.00	$ -	0%	$ 600	$ 1,500.00	$ 1,500	contract	

	C	G	H	I	J	K	L	N	O
1	**GENERAL FUND EXPENSES**							Committed funds	
2									
3				Spent vs.		2026 as of oct			
4		**2025 Budget**	**2025 Actual**	**Budget %**	**2026 Budget**	**26**	**2027 Budget**	Notes:	
41	Transfer to Reappraisal	$ 5,024.00	$ 5,586.00	111%				money from state - this is now all happening in the reserve account. Keep at zero	
42	Town-Wide Reappraisal	$ 32,100.00	$ 32,232.20	100%				This activity is in reserve fund now	
43	**Total**	**$ 46,724.00**	**$ 48,706.61**	104%	**$ 10,755**	**$ 8,949.85**	**$ 11,286**		
44									
45	**Delinquent Tax Expense**								
46	Penalty Paid to Collector	$ 3,000	$ 4,793.16	160%	$ 3,000.00	$ 2,597.71	$ 3,000.00		
48	Tax Sale Cost Paid by Town	$ -	$ -			$ -			
49	**Total**	**$ 3,000**	**$ 4,793.16**	160%	**$ 3,000.00**	**$ 2,597.71**	**$ 3,000.00**		
50									
51	**General Government Staff**								
52	Administrative Assistant	$ 2,400	$ 2,671.75	111%	$ 2,400.00	$ 1,600.00	$ 8,950.00	I strongly recommend the board considers hiring their own administrative assistant to address your needs. $6000 based on 3.5 hours per meeting including minutes, 2 meetings a month and 3 hours a week at $21.00. SB discussed. Personally I don't think this is enough to make a difference in reducing your workload and what I am doing as SB volunteer. Person would need to be good with and have Excel, Word, Adobe, and experience w grants and financial management. Could cost more than $21/hr.	
53	Auditors (3)	$ 1,200	$ 683.33	57%	$ 1,200.00	$ 600.00	$ 1,200.00		
54	BCA & Election Workers	$ 300	$ 135.00	45%	$ 1,942.00	$ 697.50	$ 300.00		
55	Emergency Management Coordinator	$ 260	$ 260.00	100%	$ 260.00		$ 260.00		
56	911 Coordinator	$ 260	$ 260.00	100%	$ 260.00		$ 260.00	suggest hourly pay rate @$20.00 per hour or as part of Road Foreman duties. Ann puzzled. Good to have fire chief do i	
57	Selectboard (3)	$ 3,600	$ 4,100.00	114%	$ 3,600.00	$ 2,700.00	$ 3,600.00	2025 odd because Scott had missed a time frame so paid for all at once	
59	Workers Comp	$ 406	$ 263.77	65%	$ 458.00	$ 499.91	$ 500.00		
60	Childcare Tax Town Share General Gov't Staff	$ 7,168	$ 653.25	9%	$ 1,000.00	$ 554.48	$ 1,000.00	includes all departments	
61	Continuing Education	$ 100	$ -	0%	$ 300.00		$ 300.00		
62	Mileage - General Gov't Staff	$ 100	$ 91.12	91%	$ 200.00	$ 4.02	$ 200.00		
63	**Total**	**$ 17,300**	**$ 9,118.22**	53%	**$ 11,620.00**	**$ 6,655.91**	**$ 16,570.00**		
64									
65	**General Government Other Expenses**								
66	Gift Cards	$ -	$ -			$ -			
67	Advertising	$ 1,500	$ 1,086.00	72%	$ 1,500.00	$ 773.00	$ 1,500.00		
68	Legal Expenses	$ 520	$ 3,535.64	680%	$ 5,000.00	$ 3,969.50	$ 5,000.00		
69	Dues, Membership	$ 2,850	$ 3,046.00	107%	$ 3,300.00	$ 2,396.19	$ 3,300.00		
70	Liability Insurance	$ 4,500	$ 3,893.87	87%	$ 7,600.00	$ 7,395.19	$ 7,800.00		
71	Non-Arbitrage Interest/bond bank	$ 1,250	$ 10,863.48	869%	$ 2,000.00		$ 2,000.00	2025 we had to take out more loans to cover expenses from disaster recovery Ann put it up to $3K vs Erin's $2K	
72	County Tax	$ 9,000	$ 9,045.23	101%	$ 9,100.00	$ 4,338.00	$ 9,100.00		
73	E-mail & Archiving	$ 288	$ -	0%		$ -			

	C	G	H	I	J	K	L	N	O
1	**GENERAL FUND EXPENSES**							Committed funds	
2									
3				Spent vs.		2026 as of oct			
4		**2025 Budget**	**2025 Actual**	**Budget %**	**2026 Budget**	**26**	**2027 Budget**	Notes:	
74	Town Website	$ 920	$ 920.00	100%	$ 920.00	$ 920.00	$ 920.00		
75	Zoom Subscription	$ 200	$ 198.88	99%	$ 210.00	169.9	$ 210.00		
76	Professional Audit	$ 13,000	$ 6,600.00	51%	$ 6,600.00	6500.00	6600.00		
77	Unbudgeted/Miscellaneous	$ -	$ 1,510.63		$ 500.00	515.13	500.00		
78	**Total**	**$ 34,028**	**$ 40,699.73**	120%	**$ 36,730.00**	**$ 26,976.91**	**36930.00**		
79									
80	**General Government Staff & Expenses**	**$ 51,328**	**$ 49,817.95**	97%	**$ 48,350.00**	**$ 33,632.82**	**53500.00**		
81									
82	**Buildings & Grounds Staff**								
83	Town Hall Janitor	$ 2,700	$ 2,617.75	97%	$ 2,781.00	4381.69	3000.00		
85	Park Mowing	$ 4,000	$ 5,996.80	150%	$ 2,500.00	1700.85	2500.00		
86	Unemployment Insurance	$ 20	$ 54.60	273%	$ 20.00	74.58	78.00		
87	**Total**	**$ 6,720**	**$ 8,669.15**	129%	**$ 5,301.00**	**6157.12**	**5578.00**		
88									
89	**Buildings & Grounds Expenses**								
90	Town Hall Supplies	$ 500	$ 235.16	47%	$ 500.00	551.98	500.00		
91	Town Hall Electricity	$ 1,300	$ 1,362.49	105%	$ 1,800.00	1214.14	1800.00		
92	Street Lights	$ 2,400	$ 2,358.20	98%	$ 2,800.00	2014.90	2800.00		
93	Telephone & Internet	$ 2,200	$ 2,472.37	112%	$ 2,500.00	2009.75	1486.00	NEK BB + $35.00. SB 11/5 : 100M @ $79/mo + phone $35/mo = 1386 No battery but includes $100 installation	
94	Town Hall & Lot Water	$ 900	$ 900.00	100%	$ 900.00	900.00	900.00		
95	Town Hall Heat	$ 2,000	$ 1,901.21	95%	$ 2,200.00	1679.82	2500.00		
96	Town Hall Generator Service	$ 400	$ 195.00	49%	$ 400.00	449.85	500.00		
97	Town Hall Repair & Maintenance	$ 2,000	$ 1,492.54	75%	$ 2,000.00	508.86	2000.00		
99	Land Purchase Debt Payment	$ 5,971	$ 5,970.95	100%	$ 5,971.00	5970.95	6000.00		
100	ADA Porta Potty Rental	$ 2,700	$ 3,125.00	116%	$ 2,700.00	2250.00	2700.00		
101	Disaster Expenses	$ -	$ 1,301.73		$ -				
102	Miscellaneous/Unbudgeted	$ -	$ 2,222.00		$ 200.00		200.00		
103	**Total**	**$ 20,371**	**$ 23,536.65**	116%	**$ 21,971.00**	**17550.25**	**21386.00**		
104									
105	**Buildings & Grounds Staff & Expenses**	**$ 27,091**	**$ 32,205.80**	119%	**$ 27,272.00**	**23707.37**	**26964.00**		
106									
107	**Cemetery Expenses**								
108	Sexton Contract	$ 1,500	$ 1,500.00	100%	$ 1,500.00	1500.00	1500.00	Has the board put this out to bid yet? Update when new numbers come in. Doing that now	
109	Sexton Burial Fees Processed	$ -	$ -		$ 1,000.00	350.00	1000.00		
110	Cemetery Mowing	$ 8,500	$ 8,500.00	100%	$ 8,500.00	8500.00	8500.00	Has the board put this out to bid yet? Update when new numbers come in. Doing that now	
111	WW & Drown Cemeteries	$ 1,000	$ 500.00	50%	$ 1,000.00	1000.00	1000.00		

	C	G	H	I	J	K	L	N	O
1	**GENERAL FUND EXPENSES**							Committed funds	
2									
3									
4		**2025 Budget**	**2025 Actual**	**Spent vs. Budget %**	**2026 Budget**	**2026 as of oct 26**	**2027 Budget**	Notes:	
113	Supplies, Tools, Other Expenses	$ 100	$ 422.90	423%	$ 500.00	372.04	750.00	Request from Liz. Town Report 2025 p21 - Cem Reserve $7235.16.	
115	Total	**$ 11,100**	**$ 10,922.90**	98%	**$ 12,500**	**11722.04**	**12750.00**		
116									
117	**Total Expenses**	**$ 238,083**	**$ 227,853.92**	96%	**$ 194,417**	**149041.59**	**199505.38**		
118	Separate Article to Reappraisal Reserve						5300.00	Suggestion as the Town required to have appraisal every 6 years, state only gives us 5,000.00 per year. Carol recomm	
119	**total with separate article**						**204805.38**		
120									
121									
122									
123									
124									
125									
126									
127									
128									
129									
130									
131									
132									

yellow cells can be changed	Hourly rate	$ 21.00	
	Meetings per month	2	
	hours per meeting	3.5	
	meeting hours per year	84	0
	hours per week	3	
	weeks per year	52	
	non-SB mtng hours/yr	156	
	meeting + non mtng hrs/yr		240
	yearly cost	$ 5,040.00	

SB 11/5 good discussion. Mike looked up Goshen to see the grand list. Wealthy town. I looked at how many gran have a call in. Personally I don't think this is enough to make a difference in reducing your workload and reducir have Excel, Word, Adobe, and experience w grants and financial management. Could cost more than $21/hr.

$	21.00		$ 25.00	person expected to have software
		We actually have more than 2/mo, and I've		
	2.25	been doing mins/ probably illegal!	2.5	
	5	It takes longer to fix typos, add a bit of context.	5	
	135		150	
		I don't believe 3 is enough. Work from home;		
	4	weekly mtng w SB chair, Treas during your hrs	4	
	52		52	
	208	You are not counting meeting hrs & other hrs	208	
	343		358	
$	7,203.00		$ 8,950.00	

ts they managed. Very few. One large that probably had a built in mgr. I
ıg what I am doing as SB volunteer. Person would need to be good with and

& proficiency, Word Excel, ADOBE & grants mgmt experience

	B	F	G	H	I	J	K	M
1	**HIGHWAY FUND**							committed funds
2	**Updated 11/17/2026**							Best NOT to include any FEMA unknowns as revenue
3								Please make best estimates for projects and grants in 2027
4		**2025 Budget**	**2025 Actual**	**Spent vs. Budget %**	**2026 Budget**	**2026 Actual as of 8/31/26**	**2027 Budget**	**Notes:**
5	**HIGHWAY FUND REVENUE**							
6	Current Taxes for Budget	$ 459,305	$ 459,305.00		$ 479,466.40	$ -	$ 570,268	As of 10/19/26 version we would need.....Almost 100k over last year and does not include S wheelock road or Boulay road projects
7	State Aid to Highways	$ 33,360	$ 34,350.51		$ 66,725.00	$ 51,982	$ 66,725	
8	Grant Income	$ 38,990	$ 539,012.89		$ 11,500.00	$ 16,016	$ -	2025 FEMA is bulk of this
9	Loan Proceeds	$ -	$ 250,000.00			$ 150,000.00		
10	Loan Proceeds from Bond Bank	$ -	$ 230,000.00		$ -			
11	Overload & Access Permits	$ 150	$ 295.00		$ 250.00	$ 155	$ 150	
12	Road Fund Interest	$ -	$ 0.67		$ -			
13	Insurance Reimbursement	$ -	$ 9,522.03					
16	Other/Unbudgeted	$ -	$ 15,000.30			$ 11,178.15		mostly auction both years
17	Transfer In: Bridge Reserve; General Fund	$ 20,000	$ 70,421.21		$ 561.00			2025 Transfer from reserve fund for truck purchase $50k, road signs, 2026 road sign
18	Use of fund balance				$ 30,000.00			The unassigned fund balance is pretty much spent and not a sustainable way to budget going forward.....
19	**TOTAL HIGHWAY REVENUE**	**$ 551,805**	**$ 1,607,907.61**		**$ 588,502.40**	**$ 229,331.24**	**$ 637,143**	
20								
21	**HIGHWAY FUND EXPENSES**							
22	**ROAD STAFF**							
23	Road Crew Wages	$ 140,000	$ 118,968.00	85%	$ 144,200.00	$ 90,082.11	$ 148,526	*note that highway typically has more OT in winter when extrapolating
24	Temporary Staff Wages	$ 10,000	$ 12,782.00	128%	$ 10,300.00	$ 7,863.75	$ 10,609	
25	Town Match FICA & MEDI	$ 11,475	$ 9,686.38	84%	$ 11,819.00	$ 7,308.00	$ 12,174	
26	Workers Comp	$ 10,038	$ 5,011.73	50%	$ 10,038.00	$ 6,110.80	$ 10,339	
27	Unemployment Insurance	$ 400	$ 392.40	98%	$ 400.00	$ 122.86	$ 412	
28	Road Crew Health Insurance	$ 20,000	$ 14,704.08	74%	$ 13,531.00	$ 9,020.32	$ 13,881	2027 BCBS Platinum (1 person, same as 2026) $17,350.92 X 80%
29	Road Crew Retirement	$ 8,111	$ 6,814.25	84%	$ 8,354.00	$ 5,426.26	$ 8,605	
30	Health Insurance Opt Out	$ -	$ 1,711.80		$ 5,160.00	$ 3,175.11	$ 5,552	40% (of town's share)
32	Training	$ 200	$ 60.00	30%	$ 200.00	$ 90.00	$ 100	2 osha in barton. SB to schedule. VT Local Rds Leadership Academy (free, 10 days, in B
33	Rented Equipment- Staff mile	$ 1,800	$ 3,341.56	186%	$ 1,800.00	$ 1,993.74	$ 2,500	
34	**Total**	**$ 202,024**	**$ 173,472.20**	86%	**$ 205,802.00**	**$ 131,192.95**	**$ 212,697**	
35								
36	**EQUIPMENT**							
37	Grader Maintenance	$ -	$ 822.97		$ 1,000.00	$ 237.06	$ 1,500	
38	JD Grader Repair						$ -	
39	Backhoe Maintenance					$ 350.00	$ 1,000	
40	Loader Maintenance	$ -	$ 1,257.88		$ 1,000.00		$ 1,000	
41	Truck Maintenance	$ 6,500	$ 1,345.88	21%	$ 6,000.00	$ 2,618.18	$ 6,000	

	B	F	G	H	I	J	K	M
1	**HIGHWAY FUND**							committed funds
2	**Updated 11/17/2026**							Best NOT to include any FEMA unknowns as revenue
3								Please make best estimates for projects and grants in 2027
4		**2025 Budget**	**2025 Actual**	**Spent vs. Budget %**	**2026 Budget**	**2026 Actual as of 8/31/26**	**2027 Budget**	**Notes:**
42	09 International Repair	$ 9,000	$ 2,124.21	24%	$ -			
43	09 Plow Sand Equip/Repair	$ 3,000	$ 1,336.13	45%	$ -			
44	19 International Parts & Repair	$ 9,000	$ 17,577.71	195%	$ 10,000.00	$ 8,039.39	$ 20,000	
46	19 Plow Sand Equipment/Repair	$ 3,000	$ 1,860.40	62%	$ 3,000.00	$ 903.48	$ 2,000	
47	2025 Western Star Parts/repair	$ -	$ 872.53		$ 1,000.00	$ 213.63	$ 1,000	
48	2025 Western Star plow repair		$ 893.69		$ 500.00	$ 1,565.94	$ 1,000	
49	97 Galion Grader Repair/Maintenance	$ 2,000	$ -	0%	$ -			Add the mower somewhere?
51	Volvo Grader Repair	$ 15,000	$ 4,374.96	29%	$ 15,000.00	$ 4,636.39		
52	Loader Repair	$ 1,000	$ 919.25	92%	$ 1,000.00		$ 1,000	
53	Tires	$ 7,000	$ 5,385.08	77%	$ 3,500.00	$ 1,121.50	$ 2,500	
54	Tire Chains	$ 4,000	$ 6,029.87	151%	$ 2,000.00		$ 4,000	
55	DEF	$ 850	$ 752.24	88%	$ 850.00	$ 996.95	$ 1,500	
56	Diesel	$ 40,000	$ 32,287.82	81%	$ 40,000.00	$ 29,667.34	$ 50,000	
57	Gasoline	$ 100	$ 55.57	56%	$ 100.00	$ 51.16	$ 100	
58	Payment on Loader	$ 10,634	$ 10,634.35	100%	$ 10,634.00	$ 10,634.35		
59	Payment on Truck	$ 40,000	$ 300,020.30	750%	$ -			DO NOT USE - use lines below for principal and interest
60	2025 Truck Interest Payment	$ -	$ 6,918.90		$ 13,838.00	$ 11,864.44	$ 9,329	
61	2025 Truck Loan Payment	$ -	$ 22,012.28		$ 44,025.00	$ 45,997.92	$ 48,533	
62	state grader loan payment						$ 30,000	
63	State grader interest						$ 3,000	
64	loan for embankments						$ 237,300	application pending
65	interest for embankments							
66	bond bank Grader Loan Payment					$ 200,000.00	$ 27,800	
67	bond bank grader Interest Payment						$ 4,412	
68	Interest on whatever other loans the board takes on in 2026							
69	**TOTAL**	**$ 151,084**	**$ 417,482.02**	276%	**$ 153,447.00**	**$ 318,897.73**	**$ 452,974**	
70								
71	**INFRASTRUCTURE**							
72	Culverts	$ 4,000	$ 17,150.46	429%	$ 6,000	$ 5,207	$ 4,000	
73	Guardrails	$ -	$ -		$ -			
74	**TOTAL**	**$ 4,000**	**$ 17,150.46**	429%	**$ 6,000**	**$ 5,207**	**$ 4,000**	
75								
76	**ROAD MAINTENANCE**							
77	Grant Expense	$ 42,212	$ 45,574.23	108%	$ 47,682.40	$ 4,009.54	$ 5,000	
78								
79	Chuck Hill - Plowing	$ 2,000	$ 2,000.00	100%	$ 2,000.00	$ 2,000.00	$ 2,000	No bids in hand yet -Chuck to do

	B	F	G	H	I	J	K	M
1	**HIGHWAY FUND**							committed funds
2	**Updated 11/17/2026**							Best NOT to include any FEMA unknowns as revenue
3								Please make best estimates for projects and grants in 2027
4		**2025 Budget**	**2025 Actual**	**Spent vs. Budget %**	**2026 Budget**	**2026 Actual as of 8/31/26**	**2027 Budget**	**Notes:**
80	Greensboro - Plowing	$ 2,250	$ 2,262.50	101%	$ 2,250.00	$ -	$ 2,250	No bids in hand yet -Chuck to do
81	AKA - Plowing	$ 1,500	$ 1,500.00	100%	$ 1,500.00	$ 300.00		SB to follow up pricing. We have AKA bid but did not vote to accept it yet.
82	Roadside Mowing	$ 5,000	$ 4,500.00	90%	$ 5,000.00	$ 7,282.00	$ 5,000	based on one pass. Bid request draft in SB 11/17 pkt
83	Equipment/Services; rented/contracted	$ 5,000	$ 117,287.89	2346%	$ 5,000.00	$ 765.00	$ 3,500	
84	**TOTAL**	**$ 57,962**	**$ 173,124.62**	299%	**$ 63,432.40**	**$ 14,356.54**	**$ 17,750**	
85								
86	**MATERIALS**							
87	Chloride	$ 16,500	$ 20,142.91	122%	$ 16,500.00	$ 16,522.38	$ 16,500	
88	Gravel	$ 14,000	$ 42,034.53	300%	$ 16,000.00	$ 13,739.57	$ 16,000	
89	Repaving Material	$ 200	$ 236.67	118%	$ 200.00	$ 232.72	$ 250	
90	Salt	$ 4,000	$ 4,464.00	112%	$ 4,500.00	$ 4,415.34	$ 4,500	
91	Sand	$ 22,000	$ 20,672.15	94%	$ 24,000.00	$ 26,634.50	$ 20,000	
92	Staymat	$ 8,000	$ 729.59	9%	$ 2,000.00	$ 310.86	$ 3,000	
93	Stone	$ 6,000	$ 15,463.89	258%	$ 10,000.00	$ 4,028.09	$ 7,000	
94	**TOTAL**	**$ 70,700**	**$ 103,743.74**	147%	**$ 73,200.00**	**$ 65,883.46**	**$ 67,250**	
95								
96								
97	**ROAD MAINTENANCE & MATERIALS TOTAL**	**$ 128,662**	**$ 276,868.36**	215%	**$ 136,632.40**	**$ 80,240.00**	**$ 85,000**	
98								
99	**GARAGE**							
100	Electricity	$ 1,200	$ 2,055.68	171%	$ 2,200	$ 1,217.29	$ 2,200	
101	Telephone	$ 650	$ 599.98	92%	$ 650	$ 463.83	$ 1,238	NEK BB basic $59/mo. Can get phone $35/mo + $100 one time fee for battery.. Need to
102	Water	$ 450	$ 450.00	100%	$ 450	$ 337.50	$ 450	
103	Heating Fuel	$ 2,000	$ 2,477.07	124%	$ 2,500	$ 1,607.39	$ 2,600	
105	Restroom Supplies & Tank Pump	$ 670	$ 850.00	127%	$ 670	$ 395.00	$ 670	
106	Repairs	$ 350	$ 5,362.27	1532%	$ 350	$ 392.62	$ 500	
107	Furnace Repairs/Replacement	$ -	$ 972.04		$ 650	$ 20.97	$ 500	
108	**TOTAL**	**$ 5,320**	**$ 12,767.04**	240%	**$ 7,470**	**$ 4,434.60**	**$ 8,158**	
109								
110	**OTHER EXPENSES**							
111	Advertising	$ 400	$ 942.00	236%	$ 400	$ 168.00	$ 400	
112	Tire Disposal	$ 500	$ 175.00	35%	$ 500	$ 121.00	$ 300	
113	Safety Equipment/Boot Allowance	$ 500	$ 478.08	96%	$ 900	$ 387.20	$ 900	
114	Watershed Management Fee	$ 1,765	$ 1,350.00	76%	$ 1,765	$ 1,350.00	$ 1,350	
115	Liability Insurance	$ 5,600	$ 4,136.91	74%	$ 8,025	$ 5,978.38	$ 8,200	
116	Shop Supplies & Tools	$ 5,000	$ 4,431.25	89%	$ 5,000	$ 3,008.48	$ 4,000	
117	Road & 911 Signs	$ -	$ 421.21		$ 561	$ 1,881.55	$ 2,000	

	B	F	G	H	I	J	K	M
1	**HIGHWAY FUND**							committed funds
2	**Updated 11/17/2026**							Best NOT to include any FEMA unknowns as revenue
3								Please make best estimates for projects and grants in 2027
4		**2025 Budget**	**2025 Actual**	**Spent vs. Budget %**	**2026 Budget**	**2026 Actual as of 8/31/26**	**2027 Budget**	**Notes:**
118	Disaster Expenses	$ -	$ 12,278.82			$ 60,300.00		2026 unbudeted engineering costs to date
119	Miscellaneous/Unbudgeted	$ 2,000	$ 230,160.73	11508%	$ 2,000	$ 433.91	$ 2,000	2025 mostly fall brook
120	**TOTAL**	**$ 15,765**	**$ 254,374.00**	1614%	**$ 19,151**	**$ 73,628.52**	**$ 19,150**	
121								
122	**HIGHWAY BUDGET SUBTOTAL**	**$ 506,855**	**$ 1,152,114.08**	227%	**$ 528,502**	**$ 613,601.07**	**$ 781,979.58**	
123								
124								
125	**VOTED ARTICLES - EXPENSES**							
126	Road Equipment Reserve	$ 30,000	$ 30,000.00	100%	$ 20,000		$ 80,000	Notes from 10/9 say 30k here +. Does that mean 80k?
127	Road & Bridge Major Repair Reserve	$ 10,000	$ 10,000.00	100%	$ 10,000		$ 10,000	
128	Disaster fund				$ 30,000		$ 30,000	
129	Total	**$ 40,000**	**$ 40,000.00**	100%	**$ 60,000**	**$ -**	**$ 120,000**	
130								
131	**HIGHWAY INCLUDING RESERVE ARTICLES**	**$ 546,855**	**$ 1,192,114**	218%	**$ 588,502**	**$ 613,601.07**	**$ 901,980**	**% increase from 2026 to 2027 for budget**
132								**35%**

	B	E	F	G	H
1	**Separately Voted Articles**				
2					
3		**2024**	**2025**		
4		**Actual**	**Budget**	**2025 Actual**	**2026 Budget**
5					
6	**Revenue**				
7	Taxes & General Fund Revenue	$ 102,720	$ 156,659	$ 110,507	$ 297,390
8	**Total**	**$ 102,720**	**$ 156,659**	**$ 110,507.49**	**$ 297,390**
9					
10	**Expenses**				
11	**Transfer Station Expenses**				
12	Staff	$ 17,071	$ -	$ 1,314.00	$ -
13	Town Match FICA & MEDI	$ 1,281	$ -	$ 100.54	$ -
14	Workers Comp	$ 1,216	$ -	$ -	$ -
15	Unemployment Insurance	$ 86	$ -	$ -	$ -
16	Per Capital Assessment	$ 880	$ 900	$ 880.44	$ 900
17	Liability Insurance	$ 398	$ -	$ 584.07	$ 730
18	Transfer Station Appropriation	$ 18,879	$ 39,064	$ 19,532.11	$ 33,851
19	**Total**	**$ 39,811**	**$ 39,964**	**$ 22,411.16**	**$ 35,481**
20					
21	**S/W Fire Department**				
22	Utilities	$ 1,770	$ 3,000	$ 1,846.77	$ 3,300
23	Liability Insurance	$ 1,000	$ 857	$ 1,752.23	$ 825
24	S/W Fire Dept Appropriation	$ 28,325	$ 29,675	$ 29,675.00	$ 31,475
25	**Total**	**$ 31,095**	**$ 33,532**	**$ 33,274.00**	**$ 35,600.00**
26					
27	**Lyndon Rescue**	**$ 36,284**	**$ 38,130**	**$ 22,878.12**	**$ 43,130**
28					
29	**Reserve Fund Appropriations**				
30	Long Term Maintenance & Repair	$ 30,000	$ 30,000	$ -	$ 10,000
31	Town Hall Reserve	$ 10,000	$ 10,000	$ -	$ 30,000
32	**Total**	**$ 40,000**	**$ 40,000**	**$ -**	**$ 40,000**
33					
34	**Social Service Agency Articles**	**$ 4,757**			
35	Umbrella	$ -	$ 600	$ -	$ 600
36	Caledonia Home Health Care	$ -	$ 300	$ -	$ 300
37	Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging	$ -	$ 300	$ -	$ 300
38	Darling Inn Senior Meal Siste	$ -	$ 500	$ -	$ 500
39	NEK Human Services				$ 1,622
40	NEK Youth Services				$ 300

	B	E	F	G	H
1	**Separately Voted Articles**				
2					
3		**2024**	**2025**		
4		**Actual**	**Budget**	**2025 Actual**	**2026 Budget**
41	RTC				$ 1,422
42	**Total Social Service Agencies**	**$ 4,757**	**$ 1,700**	**$ -**	**$ 5,044**
43					
44	**Other Appropriation Requests**				
45	Fairbanks Museum	$ 1,133	$ 1,133	$ -	$ 1,133
46	Powers Park	$ 1,000	$ 1,000	$ -	$ 1,000
47	Cobleigh Library	$ 1,000	$ 1,200	$ -	$ 1,200
48	Sheffield Food Pantry				$ 400
49	**Total Other Appropriation Requests**	**$ 3,133**	**$ 3,333**	**$ -**	**$ 3,733**
50					
51	**Individual Articles (General Fund)**	**$ 155,080**	**$ 156,659**	**$ 78,563.28**	**$ 162,988**
52					
53	**General Fund Expense**	**$ 161,575**	**$ 238,083**	**$ 227,853.92**	**$ 149,042**
54					
55	**General Fund + Individual Articles**	**$ 316,655**	**$ 394,742**	**$ 306,417.20**	**$ 312,029**

EMPLOYEE OPT-OUT REFERENCE SHEET

FOR HEALTH INSURANCE

11/11/2026

The Wheelock Personnel Policy amended 2026-10-13 addresses Health Insurance and Opt-Out payments on p. 26, as stated below. Intentionally, the amount of an opt-out payment is not specified in the policy. It is up to the Selectboard at the time of hire or during employment.

> ***Opt-Out*** *Any employee or elected official determined to be eligible for benefits who elects not to enroll in /opt out of the health insurance program will be paid a stipend. The value of the stipend will be determined by the Selectboard and based on the insurance plan and carrier. The stipend will accrue from start date and be paid in one check at the end of the year. This is taxable income separate from employment compensation. Employees desiring to opt out must provide proof of other health insurance coverage.*

It is useful to have a record of past and current opt-out payments so we can be consistent. For the most recent hires (Oct 2025, Nov 2026) the town paid 40% of the town's cost for health insurance.

This could be updated every year at the time that the Town updates its health insurance coverage.

HOPEFULLY HELPFUL, ABSOLUTELY FREE ADVICE FROM CAROL ROSSI Nov. 15, 2026

1. Please pass a motion stating that the minutes reflect the following expenditures not included in the approved budget for 2026, therefore creating a deficit, shall be addressed as follows: the $50,000 downpayment for the Western Star truck shall be paid in full from unassigned funds; the $60,300 expense coded as 'disaster expense' shall be paid for partially by anticipated FEMA reimbursement of 75% with the balance being paid for from unassigned funds; the balance of the expense for alternative projects, believed to be about $74,090.24, shall be paid for from unassigned funds. I believe this will exhaust all unassigned funds. Should the Board not vote on addressing the deficit, statute requires the Board to add 5% to the 2027 tax rate.

2. Please review the attached sheet estimating the impact on the highway fund tax rate.

Keeping it simple

1. The increase in new highway equipment expense in the 2027 budget is about $55,000. Amount of paid off loader loan already deducted.
2. Loss of revenue for 2027 is $30,000 covered by unassigned funds in 2026.
3. Begin by slashing the 2026 approved budget by $20,000.
4. Decide how much if any funds can be raised for any highway reserve accounts.
5. After cutting out the first $20,000, look for lines that can be reduced further to allow you to increase other lines. If you increase any line, you have to decrease an equal amount somewhere else.
6. Complete work on General Fund budget so you can see that impact on the tax rate.
7. Don't give up.

HOPEFULLY HELPFUL PERSPECTIVE for HIGHWAY FUND BUDGETING FOR 2027

FROM CAROL ROSSI

OPTION 1: **0%** Increase in Highway Fund Tax Rate

Highway Reserve Funds		$00.00
Article 5 from 2026 Warning		$558,502
Plus New Equipment Increase	+	$ 54,578
Reduction needed to budget approved for 2026	-	$ 55,000
Total Funds to be Expended for 2027		**$558, 080**

OPTION 2: **11.68%** Increase in Highway Fund Tax Rate

Highway Reserve Funds	$00.00
Article 5 from 2026 Warning	$558,502
Plus New Equipment Increase	$ 54,578
Total Funds to be Expended	**$613,080**

OPTION 3: **5.42%** Increase in Highway Fund Tax Rate

Highway Reserve Funds		$ 00.00
Article 5 from 2026 Warning		$558,502
Plus New Equipment Increase	+	$ 54,578
Reduction needed to budget approved for 2026	-	$ 30,000
Total Funds to be Expended		**$583,079**

NOT TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION

$? Loan Payment for $217,000 Bond Bank loan for embankment project

<N.B. from Ann – the loan request is for $237,300. It has not been approved yet. The Bond Bank Board meets mid Dec. I don't know when we might receive the payment.>

Subject: Justice of the Peace Appointment
From: Swen Johnson <swenjohnson@gmail.com>
Date: 11/11/2026, 1:09 PM
To: alawless.townofwheelockvt@gmail.com

Ann,

It was nice running into you today and "re-meeting" you! 🫣

Please consider this email as my application for consideration for the open Justice of the Peace position, to be appointed by the Select Board. I will be happy to serve.

I am a military veteran, PhD Sociologist, and father to a son in Lyndon Institute.

Swen Johnson
231 John Rock Rd
Wheelock, VT 05851
802.397.1778

TOWN OF WHEELOCK
P.O. BOX 1328
LYNDONVILLE, VT 05851
802-626-9094 (phone)
802-626-8894 (fax)
wheelocktown@gmail.com

TOWN OF WHEELOCK
REQUEST FOR BIDS FOR ROADSIDE MOWING

The Town of Wheelock is seeking bids for double pass roadside mowing of approximately 28.15 miles for 2027. Bids must be received by December 14, 2027 at noon. Please include a copy of current certificate of insurance. Bids may be emailed to Wheelock Town Clerk wheelocktown@gmail.com or delivered to the Town Clerk's office at 1192 Route 122 during office hours, listed on the town website at https://townofwheelockvt.org/. Please write MOWING BID in the email subject line or on the outside of the envelope.

Cemetery Maintenance & Sexton Bid Request – BIDS DUE 1/15/2027

Town of Wheelock
PO Box 1328, 1192 Route 122, Wheelock, VT 05851
wheelocktown@gmail.com 802-626-9094 phone 802-626-8894 fax
https://townofwheelockvt.org/

MAINTENANCE OF 3 LOCAL CEMETERIES

1. The local cemeteries are: Wheelock Village Cemetery, Sulphur Springs Cemetery (the only active cemetery) and South Wheelock Cemetery. Services include mowing and trimming, and also the following:

a. Open cemeteries May 1 (remove any fallen tree branches, etc.).
Close cemeteries right after Veterans Day November 11.

b. Notify clerk of damaged flags that need replacement during season. (Volunteers to place & remove prior to opening & closing and during season.

c. Keep the Town Clerk informed at all times of issues that may come up and recommend any further actions (damaged or leaning stones, monument repairs, water repairs, trimming, cutting or removing trees and shrubs).

2. Requirements

Insurance
The Contractor's policies shall name the Town of Wheelock as an additional insured.
Experience providing cemetery maintenance for a municipality
Valid Driver's License
Excellent care and attention to prevent damage to gravestones
Communicate effectively with town employees/officials, and the public always

MAINTENANCE OF OUTLYING WHEELOCK CEMETERIES

3. Maintenance of two outlying Wheelock cemeteries: West Wheelock and Drown
The goal is to keep brush from growing back in, not to create a park-like environment.

Mow once between July 1 and July 15 (in anticipation of neighborhood volunteer workday in August)

SEXTON

1. The Sexton shall coordinate burials at the Town's Sulfur Springs Cemetery

a. Notify clerk of burial a minimum of one week prior. (Task Force goes in to make it all look good prior to the burial)
b. Work closely and compassionately with the persons/family seeking the burial.
c. Oversee the burial: Marking out grave location, digging and re-covering
d. Order/place the four corner stones of each new lot sold.
e. Direct all monies received (grave openings, sale of lots, etc.) and all related paperwork to the town clerk/treasurer within 5 days.

f. Date and sign all burial permits and bring them to the town clerk within five days of the burial.
g. Sexton shall be consistent with the current Wheelock Cemetery Policy.

2. Sexton Requirements

Insurance
The Contractor's policies shall name the Town of Wheelock as an additional insured.
Experience working with municipalities as sexton
Knowledge of best practices for burial and of cemetery laws and regulations in Vermont
Valid Driver's License
Excellent organizational and coordination skills
Excellent attention to detail and accuracy
Communicate effectively with town employees/officials, and the public at all times
Good judgement and the ability to prioritize
Tact and compassion in dealing with people in bereavement

TO APPLY

Bids must be received by Tuesday Jan. 15, 2027 at noon. Bids may be sent via email to wheelocktown@gmail.com or hand delivered in a sealed envelope to the town office address above. Please write "CEMETERY BID" on the outside of the envelope.

Please provide separate bid amounts for Cemetery Maintenance (Local and Remote) and for Sexton work. And note that for the remote cemeteries, please bid per mowing (of both cemeteries together). The Town may require two mowings, depending on town budget and the weather and growing season.

Please include a copy of current certificate of insurance: (1) Commercial General Liability insurance coverage with a policy limit of at least $1,000,000 per occurrence and $2,000,000 in aggregate; (2) Business Automobile Liability coverage with total liability limits of at least $1,000,000; and (3) Statutory Workers' Compensation insurance. If Contractor is not required by law to carry workers' compensation insurance, in place of proof of workers' compensation insurance Contractor may provide a fully executed Non-Employee Work Agreement specifying the particular provision of 21 V.S.A §601(14)(F) that exempts Contractor from having to carry such coverage.

The Job	Your Bid
Maintenance - Local Cemeteries	
Maintenance - Remote Cemeteries (Cost to mow both one time) Two mowings may be needed; weather dependent	
Sexton	

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	**GRANT NAME**	**GRANT #**	**Description**	**Special Instructions**	**Amount**	**Match**	**Start Date**	**Status**	**Comple-te Date**	**Final Report Requirements**
2	Grants in Aid FY 2027	GA1404			$8,000	$2,000 IK	7/1/26	Chuck needs to meet with Elise to plan project & start work.	9/30/27	* One, color photograph per Road Segment, showing the road segment after completion. *Municipal Grants in Aid Invoicing Spreadsheet using the template provided by State.
3										
4	Better Roads FY2028		Completion date 9/30/28	Application deadline extended to Nov 20.				Chuck to plan project with Vtrans staff.		
5										
6	HSIP - Highway Safety Improvement Program	HSIP017-26	Guardrails, Lafayette. Clear view Burroughs & Cold Hill		$49,961	nope		GUARDRAILS: AOT Notice to Proceed in hand. Contract w Lafayette is executed. They submitted more paperwork. We are waiting for their start date. CLEAR VIEW: AOT Notice to Proceed in hand. Can start any time - now outside of bat		
7										
8	CDBG - Hydrology & Resilience Planning	07110-PG-25-Wheelock-223	Hydrology and cost estimates on 4 bridges & 2 culverts. Public meeting. IK match from Wheelock Community Initiative & SB time to do outreach and plan the public meeting		$60,000	$6,000 IK	TBD. No grant agreement yet.	Still waiting for grant agreement. Then I can sign. Contracts signed by Emily Finnegan (grant admin & project work) and Evan, Fitzgerald Engineering Assoc. I will sign as soon as I sign the grant agreement. Admin Startup date & Field work start date tabled. Emily will need to meet with Erin & me.		
9										
10	Municipal Planning Grant	MPG-07110-MP-2026-Wheelock-52	Planning Commission - new Town Plan, with Alison Low, NVDA planner	included community survey, public meeting	$12,739	$1,416	12/1/25	Chugging along. PC asked SB to review draft on 10/20.	12/31/27	
11										

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	**GRANT NAME**	**GRANT #**	**Description**	**Special Instructions**	**Amount**	**Match**	**Start Date**	**Status**	**Comple-te Date**	**Final Report Requirements**
12	Mini-MERP (Act 172 Community Capacity Building Mini-Grant)	01155_A172_5851_T_WHEELOCKXX_M	Energy efficiency in the community - 2025 Energy Fair		$4,000	NOPE	5/5/23	Project completed. We rec'd the funds as an advance in 2023. Report sent 10/28. **Waiting for approval.** We spent $4,051.29 on the energy fair & approved expenses for big MERP (contractor procurement ads, lunch for electrical students). **Over budget $51.29**		
13										
14	MERP Implementation (ACT 172 COMMUNITY CAPACITY IMPLEMENTATION GRANT)	01155_A172_5851_T_WHEELOCKXX_I	Town Hall energy efficiency improvements: restore windows; new wiring/light fixtures & bulbs; automate ramp ADA door.		$62,750.60	NOPE	12/16/24	Amended grant agreement in place. There will be another to extend project completion deadline to 12/31/2026. **Electrical** will return after Thanksgiving. Cost $2618. Below budget! Hoping specs from Jeremy to maybe get additional $$ from Efficiency VT. **Sheet rock** underway. **ADA Door operator** installed 11/11. Likely will cost less. **Windows** on track. **Attic dam** to do to keep insulation level around hatch. I will request **financial hardship advance** when Erin has updated 2026 YTD.		
15										
16	FEMA		Donated svcs (Scott Lange) $11,000 + **ERAF Payment for DR-4810 work completed**					No news at meeting on 10/20. Miranda (VEM) has requested we get our final payment from VT for work completed to date. I sent in the form**. Will be about $36,000.**		
17										
18	FEMA Embankments		**10/20 FEMA meeting. No more news on final approval of embankments.**			**S Wheelock** completed. **Boulay** Site meeting 11/3 1pm with contractor Northwoods Excavating, ANR river engineer, Alan, Chuck, went well. Alan managing an issue re specifics. Start date TBD.				
19										
20	VT Bond Bank							**requested**		**237,300.00**
21										

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	**GRANT NAME**	**GRANT #**	**Description**	**Special Instructions**	**Amount**	**Match**	**Start Date**	**Status**	**Comple-te Date**	**Final Report Requirements**
22	Preservation Trust of VT - Sincerbeaux Fund		Assess structural elements now visible w ceiling down		$250.00		DONE	Contractor invoiced us $. PTV will reimburse us $250		
23										
24	Preservation Trust of VT, Schwanke Fund	up to $1,000	rolling application deadline.					I will apply for $1,000 for meeting food. That could be 3 meetings. One will be CDBG Hydrology & Resilience.		
25										
26	AARP Winter Placemaking 2026 **AWARDED 11/3/2026**		$200 stipend to support town custodial svcs. Events: 12/13 wreathmaking; 1/17 Indoor /Outdoor Games (quoits); 2/21 Crafting Circle; 3/14 Rose O'Brien's	need W-9. We can't announce publicly until after Thanksgiving.	$3,640.00	no		Setup is in process. We can't announce publicly until AARP does before Thanksgiving	4/1/27	We will receive the grant payment ahead of the project work. Eileen Boland is lead planner. **Insurance waiver?**
27	**TOTAL**				**$201,341**					



ANR Photo 1 dated Nov. 4, 2025: Thousands of waste tires illegally disposed in Glover, Vermont.

Department of Environmental Conservation

2027 Biennial Report on Solid Waste

Submitted to the Vermont Legislature
House Environment and Senate Natural Resources & Energy Committees

Planned submittal January 15, 2027

VERMONT
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Contact Information

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Vermont's Waste Tire Problem

Scale of the Problem

Vermont has a significant problem with illegally dumped tires (see Photo 1 on the title page) and bills like H.204 (2025/2026) would have developed a program for waste tires.

State records show approximately **450,000 tires** have been dumped at **72 locations**.

Some piles are old, but new tire dumping still happens often and can be hard to fix. People may dump tires illegally to avoid paying disposal fees, which can cost up to **$7 or more per tire**. Some illegal haulers charge auto repair shops less than legal tire collectors, then dump the tires instead of disposing of them properly.

This is unfair and creates tire piles that may never get cleaned up. Landowners can be tricked or left responsible for large piles of tires.

Dumped tires are dangerous because they can:

- Catch fire,
- Collect water and attract mosquitoes that can cause diseases,
- Lower property values,
- Make areas look dirty and neglected.

Roadside tire dumping is also an issue. The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) picks up about 30-70 tons of dumped waste tires annually at a cost of $7,500 - $17,500 per year ($250/ton).

According to Green Up Vermont, more than 16,000 waste tires were collected during 2026 Green Up Day. That was nearly a 70% increase compared to 2020. Tire disposal costs are paid for by municipalities.

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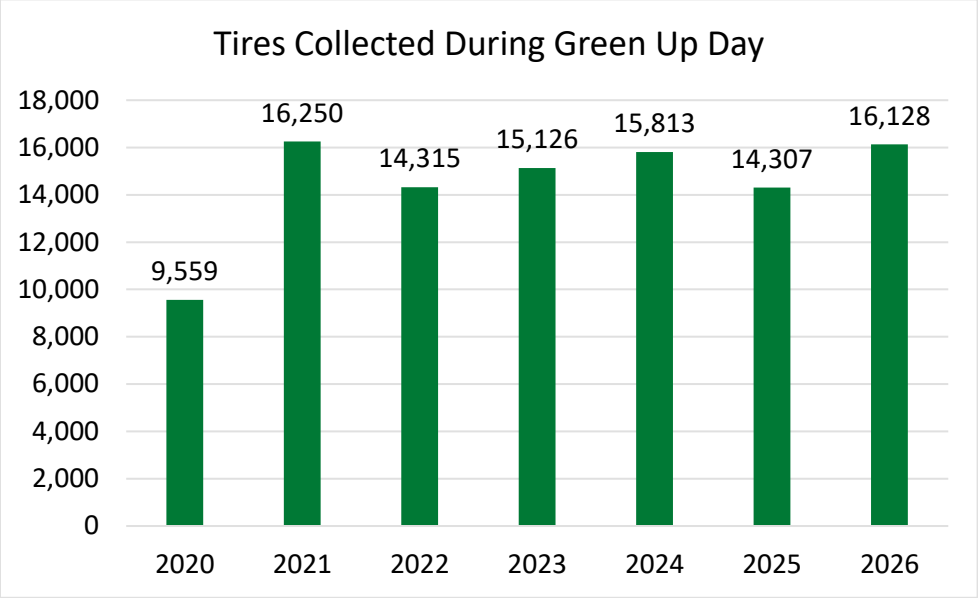


Figure 1. Data from Green Up Vermont showing the number of tires collected during each Green Up Day from 2020 through 2026.

Programs and Policy

About 80% of U.S. states have tire fees or laws to help manage waste tires. In 39 states, people usually pay a tire fee when they buy new tires. That money helps pay for collecting and cleaning up waste tire piles.[1]

Connecticut passed the first law that makes tire manufacturers responsible for dealing with tires at the end of their life.[2] This is called extended producer responsibility, or EPR. Under this type of program, people can drop off old tires for free at locations around the state.

The Agency has published two reports on scrap tires:

- 2016 Tire Stakeholder Group Report; and
- 2013 Report on Problem Scrap Tire Piles.

The 2016 report recommended changing when tire disposal fees are paid. Instead of paying when tires are thrown away, people would pay a fee when they buy new tires. This fee could help pay for:

- Collecting old tires,

[1] TireBuyer.com, "Tire Disposal Fees," https://www.tirebuyer.com/education/tire-disposal-fees-collected-by-tirebuyer

[2] CT.gov, "EPR & Product Stewardship" https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/P2/Product-Stewardship/Product-Stewardship

- Cleaning up old tire piles, and
- Creating new markets and uses for recycled tires.

In 2025 the Vermont Legislature introduced H.204 to establish an extended producer responsibility program for waste tires. Similar bills have been introduced since 2015.

If tire companies are responsible for waste tires, then people and businesses would not have to pay to get rid of them. This would remove one major reason people dump tires illegally and stop illegal haulers from making money dumping tires. It could also save towns and residents money and encourage tire companies and recyclers to find new uses for old tires.

Tonnage of Waste

Recycling Success:

- Recycling is Real. In 2025, 89% of materials processed by Vermont's two Materials Recycling Facilities were sent to recycling markets (Figure 2, below).

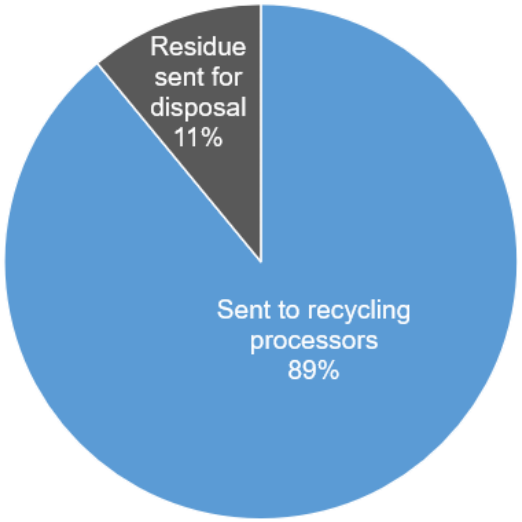


Figure 2: Destination of single-stream recycling processed by Vermont's two Materials Recycling Facilities (MRFs).

- At 41%, Vermont achieved one of the highest rates ever for overall diversion of municipal solid waste in 2025 (Figure 3, below). This is likely an under-estimate, as the State does not receive data for all diversion activities like small-scale composting, animal feeding, scrap metal recycling, and reuse.

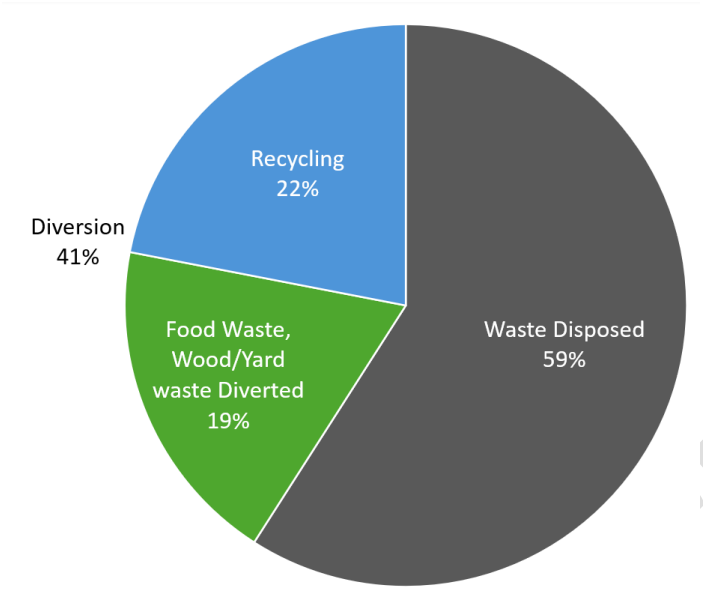


Figure 3: 2025 Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) disposal and diversion. The MSW category (59%) is all trash that was disposed; the Food, Wood, and Yard Waste category (19%) includes material that was composted, anaerobically digested, and donated through the Vermont Food Bank; the Recycling category (22%) includes single-stream recycling that was sent to Vermont's two MRFs and other sources of recyclables, such as such as bottle bill containers, Special Recycling (electronics, paint, batteries, and mercury products). This data primarily comes from facilities that are required to report to ANR, which means that there are data gaps and actual diversion is higher than 41%.

- From 2023-2025, diversion (reuse, recycling, composting) increased, and waste disposal decreased slightly each year.
- Each year Vermont's 28 Solid Waste Management Entities educate at least 95 schools and 780 businesses on proper recycling, food scrap composting, and safe waste management.

Bright Spots:

- **87% of Solid Waste Compliance letters were resolved this past year.** Agency staff are responsive to complaints and get people to clean up, obtain hauler permits, reduce hazards at waste facilities, and get manufacturers to pay fees that fund Special Recycling Programs. This protects the environment, human health, and maintains a level playing field.

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- **U.S. EPA grants $1,034,647 to Vermont for Recycling/Waste Reduction.** In 2023 and 2026 the EPA gave Vermont a *Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling* (SWIFR) grant that is being used to:
    - Support schools with recycling, food waste composting, and waste reduction through "SCRAPI," the School Composting and Recycling Action Planning Institute (see Photo 2, below),
    - Develop ReuseVT – a statewide network and annual conference to support and build Vermont's reuse, repair, and share economy,
    - Create a web-based recycling and waste guide to help Vermonters recycle correctly and safely manage waste,
    - Launch a Media Campaign on waste reduction, recycling, and reuse, and
    - Provide $200,000 in municipal recycling/composting grants.



ANR Photo 2 dated April 20, 2026. Woodstock High School students sorting waste at a SCRAPI training.

Vermont Disposal Capacity Report

In 2025, DEC Solid Waste Management Program hosted four public meetings with waste disposal experts discussing the benefits and barriers to in-state disposal capacity. The resulting Vermont Disposal Capacity Report (August 2026) highlights some of the inherent challenges and most likely options for Vermont's future disposal capacity.

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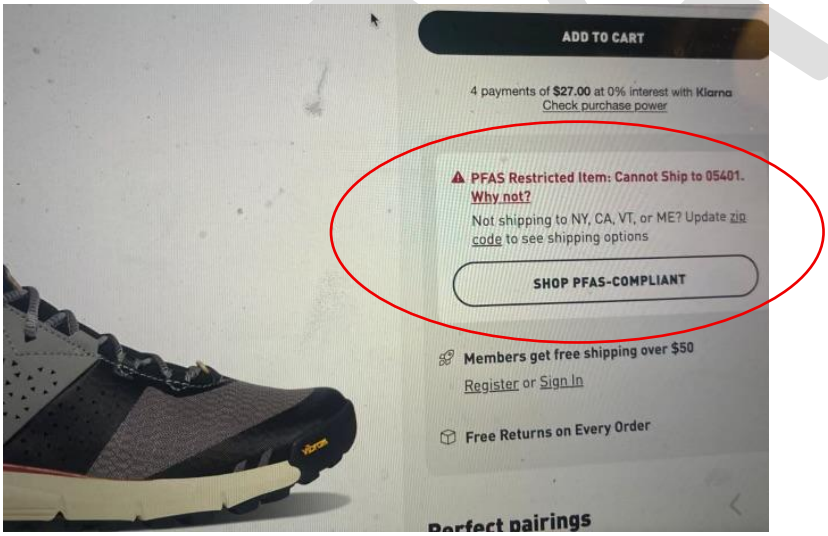
Toxicity of Waste

Hazardous Products EPR Program Launch

Vermont's Household Hazardous Product Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Program will start on January 1, 2027. Manufacturer fees pay for the program lowering costs for municipalities and Vermonters. For more than 30 years, Vermont Solid Waste Management Entities have safely collected household hazardous waste (HHW) as required by law. Manufacturers direct consumers to dispose of hazardous products at their municipal household hazardous waste event or facility. Municipalities advocated for this law after HHW program costs rose sharply.

PFAS Products Ban

The State law (9 V.S.A. Subchapter 12A) banning PFAS in products is getting some results (see Photo 3, below). Per- and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) chemicals are harmful at very low concentrations and found in many consumer products, from clothes, furniture, and carpets, to food packaging and ski wax. It is extremely costly for municipalities and waste managers to treat for these chemicals in drinking water, wastewater, biosolids, landfills, recycling, and composting. The most effective means to protect public health and the environment are upstream product bans that reduce PFAS use at their source.



ANR Photo 3 dated 2025: Online sale of PFAS product is restricted. This is evidence of the effective ban.

Mercury Bulb Recycling Program

In accordance with 10 V.S.A. § 7161, the Agency again recommends that the General Assembly continue to require the manufacturer-led mercury bulb recycling program. This important program protects human health and the environment from mercury

poisoning as many of these bulbs are still used in housing, businesses, schools, and institutions. LED lamps and bulbs make lighting more efficient and less toxic, but it will be many years before all the remaining mercury bulbs and lamps have been replaced and safely collected by this program.

Development Soils

Section 16. of Act 69 of 2025 required the Agency of Natural Resources to report on the status of the management of development soils in the State under 10 V.S.A. § 6604c. "The report shall include:
(1) the number of insignificant waste event approval authorizations issued by the Secretary in the previous two years for the management of development soils;
(2) the number of certified categorical solid waste facilities operating in the State for the management of development soils;
(3) a summary of how the majority of development soils in the State are being managed;
(4) an estimate of the cost to manage development soils, depending on management method; and
(5) any additional information the Secretary determines relevant to the management of development soils in the State."

IWMEAs and Categorical Disposal Facilities. The Agency's, DEC, Waste Management & Prevention Division has issued two insignificant waste management event approvals (IWMEAs):

- Dredged soils from Burlington Harbor met the development soils standard and the Division approved the City of Burlington for an IWMEA with a topsoil capping layer. This saved the City an estimated $800,000.

- Parking lot soils from repaving at the Newport State Police Barracks also met the development soils standard and were approved for an IWMEA with a capping layer. The estimated cost savings are likely greater than $20,000.

The Division has issued one categorical disposal facility certification to the City of St. Albans for the ongoing management of development soils. The City disposed of about 6,900 cubic yards of development soils at this site, saving an estimated $4,800,000.

Soil Management & Cost Estimates. In 2025 the New England Waste Services of Vermont (NEWSVT) landfill in Coventry reported disposing of 18,972 tons of contaminated soils, with 16,737 tons used as "alternative daily cover" (ADC) material and 2,234 tons simply disposed. According to Casella, the landfill owner, most of the ADC material is in-state development soils that cost significantly less to dispose of than the nearly $180 per ton posted price for trash (as of October 2026).

Development soils are also managed through the sites management section (SMS) under soil management plans or corrective action plans. The SMS does not specifically track the volume of development soils managed in this way.

Conclusion. The Division estimates most development soils are still being disposed of at the landfill with most used as alternative daily cover. This costs less for waste generators and uses less virgin soil by the landfill operators.

The ability to apply for a categorical disposal facility permit, an IWMEA, or to manage development soils through a soil management plan continue to provide more affordable options than landfill disposal. Anecdotal information suggests that having multiple options for the management of soil has been the reason that a project has been financially viable.

DRAFT

CALEDONIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

970 Memorial Drive
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819
(802)748-6666
SHERIFF BRANDON THRAILKILL

Dear Selectboard,

I am pleased to announce that as 2026 is coming to a close, much of what I had spoken of in 2025, and throughout this year, has been accomplished. Our services have increased at an extraordinary rate, along with our staff. A year ago, we had one full-time Deputy assigned to patrol. Today, we have **three** full-time Deputies whose primary function is to patrol our communities. Additionally, we have added two part-time Dispatchers to our Communication's Office which has allowed us to discontinue the dispatch fee for the outside of normal business hours requests. For the first time in many years we are projected, by the end of shift on 12/31/26, to fulfill all of our contracted patrols. This is an amazing accomplishment by our team.

Looking forward to 2027, our goal continues to be providing our services to your community. Our aim is to continue growing together and striving to provide professional law enforcement across the County. When I provided a six month update this summer, I asked Towns to consider what they would like to see from us in the future, and I offered some of my goals.

Since the six month update, we have acquired a couple new patrol contracts as part of our growth. As the end of the year is approaching, I am reaching out to plan for the upcoming year (2027) and get a sense of what growth towns are anticipating. My hope is your town is amenable to increasing our patrol contract or adding to the services we provide, such as answering calls for service in addition to daily motor vehicle enforcement.

It should be noted, I will not be increasing our patrol rate for 2027, we will remain at $60.00 per hour and I have removed our dispatch fees. Our objective is for an increase in overall hours so we can continue working toward safer communities. I have attached our annual patrol contract.

Please feel free to contact me at any time.

Respectfully,
Sheriff Brandon Thrailkill

Date: 11/04/2026

Brandon Thrailkill, SHERIFF
CALEDONIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
970 Memorial Drive
St. Johnsbury, Vermont 05819
802-748-6666 Fax/802-748-1684
Email: brandon.thrailkill@vermont.gov

****SERVICE CONTRACT** Town of Wheelock 2027**

AGREEMENT: made this 1st day of January 2027, between the Caledonia County Sheriff's Office (Department) and the Town of Wheelock and shall remain in effect until the 31st day of December 2027.

1. Services Provided: The Department shall provide the Town of Wheelock patrol services in conjunction with agreed upon traffic plan, from January to December with and **not to exceed** (Dollar amount)_____ for the contract year.

2. Officers and equipment: The Department shall provide all equipment reasonably necessary for basic patrol and investigatory work and traffic control. Such equipment shall include vehicles, radio equipment, radar units, etc. Officers shall be duly authorized Deputy Sheriffs or the Sheriff and shall be certified by the Vermont Law Enforcement Training Council. Further, Officers shall be certified to utilize the equipment, which they employ during this contract.

3. Time charges and Rate: The Sheriff's Department shall be paid at the rate of $60.00 per hour per Officer provided. Travel to and from the job shall be included in the time charges. Further, the Department shall charge the above hourly rate for patrols, investigations, office work, such as compiling reports and arrest records and for all COURT related proceedings such as conferences with the prosecutor, depositions, attendance at hearings and trials.

4. The Sheriff's Department shall be the owner of all equipment acquired for use in the furtherance of this contract and shall pay for the same.

5. Control: The Department shall remain in control of all discretionary police practices, such as forwarding criminal activity. The parties shall decide, in consultation with each other, what police activities should be regularly or specifically conducted.

6. Disputes: Should disputes arise under this contract regarding the quality of, or manner which, police protection is being provided, the parties shall, after written notice, review this contract to specifically delineates the services to be provided, and if agreement cannot be reached, the contract shall terminate.

7. Enforcement: The Department shall enforce all State Statues. If municipal ordinances are to be enforced, the Town must provide a current copy of all such ordinances to be enforced and further, must make concrete arrangements with a prosecuting officer to prosecute the same.

8. Expenses: The Town of Wheelock shall reimburse the Sheriff for the following expenses incurred in the performance of his duties:

    1. Officer time at the rate of $60.00 per hour
    2. Court time at the rate of $60.00 per hour
    3. All other agreed upon expenses.

9. Payment: Payment on all accounts is due when services are rendered. All overdue accounts will be charged interest at the rate of 1 ½% per month, 18% per annum. Invoices will be billed monthly.

10. Termination: This contract may be terminated by either party after a thirty (30) day notice to the other, in writing, however the Town of Wheelock shall remain responsible for payment to the Department at the hourly rate specified above, for all the pending prosecuting as per paragraph 3.

11. The Caledonia County Sheriff's Office shall fully defend, indemnify, and hold the Town and any and all Town officials or employees or former officials, agents or employees harmless for any and all claims for damages of any kind, attorneys' fees, equitable relief, administrative fines, civil money penalties, other penalties or interest asserted against all or any of them, relating to any police services provided under this agreement including but not limited to any claims under: the United States or Vermont constitution, any labor contract or labor law, any employee benefit or pension plan, any state, federal or municipal law, ordinance or common law claim, any workers compensation, workplace health and safety, civil right, labor or employment statute, regulation, rule, policy of contract, any claim that the Town is an employer or joint employer of the police officer(s), or any claim by taxing authorities that the Town has failed to satisfy its obligations to the law enforcement officers under any and all tax laws, regulations, rules or policies unless the claims arise from the Towns bad faith or intentional malfeasance.

12. The Caledonia County Sheriff's Office agrees to maintain workers compensation coverage for its officers, as required by Vermont Statute for the duration of this Agreement.

13. The Caledonia County Sheriff's Office agrees to maintain general liability coverage, including coverage for law enforcement liability for the duration of this Agreement. Limits shall be no less than $10,000,000 per occurrence for both coverages.

14. The Caledonia County Sheriff's Office also agrees to provide comprehensive auto coverage including auto liability, with limits of at least $1,000,000 per occurrence.

15. To the extent that the Caledonia County Sheriff's Office has liability coverage or insurance covering the services to be provided to this contract the Town shall be named as an additional named insured or additional covered party, on a primary and noncontributory basis, and the Caledonia County Sheriff's Office shall provide to the Town evidence of such coverage.

16. Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. section 291a the Sheriff of the County, as administrator of the agreement may be compensated at a rate of up to 5% of the total contract. (Included, not added to the contract) and shall be paid in the same calendar year in which the contract payments are received by the Department under the contract.

Brandon Thrailkill, Sheriff

Chairman, Select Board

11/4/26
Date

Date