

Whiting, Vermont Town Report



Fiscal Year 2022

January 1, 2022 through
December 31, 2022

Annual Report of the
Officers of the Town of Whiting

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Whiting Town Officials

Elected Town Officials

	Term Expires
Auditor	
Pat Mattison	2024
Suzanne Denis	2023
Alison Remy	2025
Delinquent Tax Collector	
Rani Fallon	2023
First Constable	
Rusty Brigham	2023
Justices of the Peace	2 years
Peg Allen	2025
Stacey Freeguard	2025
Patricia Mattison	2025
Carolyn Schmidt	2025
Jeanne Leno	2025
Library Trustees	
Heather Mattison	2025-3yrs
Jaime Quenneville	2023-2yrs
Peg Allen	2023-3yrs
Tara Trudo	2023-2yrs
Tammy Wilbur	2023-3yrs
Listers	3 years
Peg Allen	2025
Rani Fallon	2024
Stacey Freeguard	2023
Moderator-Town	
Pat Mattison	2023
Road Commissioner	
Select Board	
Select Board	3 years
Steve Quenneville	2023
Marcia King	2025
Chair- Bob Wood	2024
Town Clerk	
Heather Bouchard	2023
Town Treasurer	
Heather Bouchard	2023
Board of Civil Authority	
Town Clerk	
Select Board	
Justices of the Peace	

Appointed Town Officials

	Term Expires
Forest Fire Warden	
Delwin Fielder	June 2023
Regional Planning Representative	
Vacant*	1 year
Regional Planning Alternate	
Gary Freeguard	2023
Town Health Officer	
Jeanne Lamoureux	2023
Planning Commission	
Heather Bouchard 3yrs	2024
Beverly Freeguard 3yrs	2023
Chair-Steve Quenneville 3yrs	2025
Greg Coleman 2yrs	2023
Bob Wood 3yrs	2023
Solid Waste Representative	
Eric Zuesse	2023
Solid Waste Alternate	
Carolyn Schmidt	2023
Town Juror	
Paul Quesnel	2023
Town Service Officer	
Grace Simonds	2023
Fence Viewers	
Delwin Fielder	2023
Juanita Hornbeck	2023
Gerald Quenneville	2023
Road Foreman	3 years
Bob Wood	2025
Town Hall Custodian	
Tammy Wilbur	2023
Green Up Chairman	
Rebecca Bertrand	2023
Zoning Administrator	
Keith Arlund	2022
Zoning Board of Adjustment	3 years
Heather Bouchard	2024
Beverly Freeguard	2024
Gary Freeguard	2023
Mike Wilbur	2022
Chair-Steve Quenneville	2023
Tree Warden	
Vacant *	

* If you are interested in any of the vacant positions, please contact the Selectboard

Cemetery Board: Beverly Freeguard

State Representative: Joe Andriano

Emergency Management Coordinator: Larry Wilbur

State Senators: Ruth Hardy, Christopher Bray

2022 Report of Town Assets

ASSETS:

ARPA Fund -----	\$57,887.57
Building Fund	\$4,001.58
Checking Acct	\$85611.00
Chloride Truck	\$5,000.00
Computer Replacement Fund	\$2,802.87
Equipment Fund	\$66957.39
Fire Station	\$653,304.00
Grader Purchased in 1997	\$15,000.00
International Truck Purchased in 2015	\$25,000.00
Land Record Books Upkeep Fund	\$5,469.24
Library	\$260,793.00
Lister Reappraisal Fund	\$17447.85
Loader Purchased in 2002	\$47,000.00
Old School	\$29,044.00
Recycling Shed	\$24,605.00
Sand/Salt Shed	\$102,418.00
Town Garage and Contents	\$307,562.00
Town Hall and Contents	\$1,062,025.00
Town Office and Contents	\$179,318.00
Truck Purchased in 1987	\$7,500.00
TOTAL ASSETS-----	\$2,672,216.50

2022 Tax Rates

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
Homestead Education	\$1.3398	\$1.2976	\$1.3472
Municipal Rate	\$0.6813	\$0.7281	\$0.7586
Veteran's Exemption	\$0.0023	\$0.0020	\$0.0159
Total Homestead Rate	\$2.1334	\$2.0277	\$2.1217
Non-Residential Rate	\$1.5669	\$1.5310	\$1.5456
Municipal Rate	\$0.6813	\$0.7281	\$0.7586
Veteran's Exemption	\$0.0023	\$0.0020	\$0.0159
Total Non-Residential Rate	\$2.2505	\$2.2611	\$2.3201

Dates to Remember

- **Town Meeting:** Tuesday, March 7th, 2023 @ 7:15pm @ **The Town Hall**
- **Rabies Clinic:** March 23rd, 2023, 5:30pm-6:30pm @ The Fire Station, \$20 per animal.
- **Dog Registration:** Due by April 1st, 2023
- **Green Up Day:** Saturday, May 6th, 2023
- **Taxes Due (in hand):** Thursday, December 1st, 2023

2022 Town Clerk and Treasurer Report

It has been a busy year with all the elections and property transactions this year and redoing the town hall.

I tried to make the polling site and Town Meeting as safe as possible. I would like to thank all the staff that worked at the polling site.

The Town Hall foundation is fixed. Inside we repaired the walls, refinished the floor, painted the ceiling and walls, and spruced up the entry way.

I took several different trainings/classes online this year. I have found that the people presenting the online trainings/classes have really improved them to be similar to an in-person training/class.

If you need something from the Town Office, you can email me at townofwhiting@shoreham.net or call me at (802) 623-7813 or (802) 623-8152.

Annual Reminders:

April 1st is the deadline for registering your dog(s). This is State law, not a Whiting request. The purpose of the law is to continue the reduction of cases of rabies. You can register your dog(s) anytime between January 1st and April 1st, you will need a current rabies certificate and \$11.00 for a spayed or neutered dog or \$13.00 for a not spayed or neutered dog. After April 1st they are late, and the fee goes to \$15.00 for a spayed or neutered dog or \$19.00 for a not spayed or neutered dog.

Property Taxes are due in hand by December 1st, 2023. You can bring your check to the town office (If you come outside of regular office hours, there is a secure drop box in the door.) or mail it to the town office (postmarks not excepted, they must reach the town office by 12/1/2023). If you would like a receipt, please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope and I will mail you your receipt. You can prepay your taxes at any time.

I would like to thank the town residents for the support they have given me. I would also like to thank Laurie Bertrand and Julie Delphia for all the guidance and help they continue to give me.

Sincerely,

Heather Bouchard

Town Clerk/Treasurer

2021 Dog Registration

Income		Expenses	
Female Spayed	\$506.00	State Fees	\$410.00
Male Neutered	\$264.00	Animal Control	\$ 60.00
Female	\$ 65.00	Supplies	\$ 81.18
Male	\$117.00	Total Expenses	\$551.18
<u>Late Fees</u>	<u>\$124.00</u>		
Total Income	\$1076.00		

All dogs must be registered by **April 1st, 2023:**

Spayed/Neutered Dogs \$11

Unspayed/Unneutered Dogs \$13

New Dogs must be registered within 30 days of adoption.

2022 Treasurers Report with the General Fund

<u>Beginning balance</u>	
NBM Checking Account	\$40,184.12
Equipment Fund	\$54,947.55
Lister Reappraisal Fund	\$15,487.74
Building Fund	\$2,000.00
Computer Replacement Fund	\$2,101.46
Land Records Book Repair	\$4,160.64
General Fund Total	\$118,881.51

<u>Receipts</u>	
ARPA Funds	\$61,458.27
Building Fund Receipts	\$2,000.00
Computer Replacement	\$700.00
Current Land Use	\$51,740.50
Current Taxes 2022	\$723,340.07
Del Taxes 2021	\$6,839.82
De Tax Expenses Received	\$27.75
Del Tax Interest Received	\$805.71
Del Tax Penalty Received	\$2,602.42
Dispatching Service Reim.	\$1,275.00
Dog Licenses/Fines	\$1,076.00
Equipment Fund Receipts	\$12,000.00
Grant in Aid Project	\$0.00
Hats and Tees Sales	\$30.00
Insurance Audit Return	\$287.00
Interest Income	\$117.47
Land Rec Book Repair Receipts	\$1,308.00
Lister Fund A	\$0.00
Listers Reappraisal	\$1,929.50
Misc	\$101.00
Municipal Tax Adjustment	\$596.00
Office Receipts	\$4,511.00
Otter Valley Refund	\$1,841.13
OV Vote Reimbursement	\$2,232.50
Overweight Permits	\$525.00
Pilot Program	\$178.68
Road Grant	\$40,125.73
Sexton Fund	(\$10,418.64)
State Aid for Highways	\$38,266.06
Town Hall Rent	\$40.00
Whiting Books	\$20.50
Zoning Permits	\$450.00
Total Receipts	\$946,006.47

<u>Bonds</u>	
Town Garage Bond: Amount Due	\$9,500.00
Int. Rate 3.50%, Principal Balance	\$152,000.00
Fire Department Bond: Amount Due	\$9,750.00
Int. Rate 3.50%, Principal Balance	\$156,000.00

<u>Disbursements</u>	
Appropriations Budget	\$5,584.00
Building Budget	\$82,204.20
County Budget	\$2,644.75
Fire Department Bond	\$5,794.69
Insurance Budget	\$18,634.50
Line of Credit Orwell Bank Repay	\$0.00
Listers Budget	\$312.42
Payroll	\$46,638.05
Public Safety	\$28,013.29
Road Budget	\$261,685.93
Social Services Budget	\$3,200.00
Taxes to School District	\$409,337.84
Town Garage Bond	\$5,646.12
Town Office Budget	\$9,450.42
Total Disbursed	\$879,146.21

<u>General Fund Ending Balance</u>	
ARPA Fund	\$ 57,887.57
NBM Checking Account	\$85,610.61
Equipment Fund	\$66,957.39
Lister's Reappraisal Fund	\$17,447.85
Building Fund	\$4,001.58
Computer Replacement Fund	\$2,802.87
Land Records Book Repair	\$4,160.64
Del Taxes Due	\$17,761.86
Ending Balance	\$256,630.37

2022 Board of Selectmen's Report

Town Website: If you are looking for more information about what is happening in Whiting, be sure to check out our town website. The website address is www.WhitingVT.com. On our website, you will find meeting agendas and minutes, maps, pictures, a calendar, forms, some interesting pieces of Whiting history and more.

Roads: We did culvert work on North Road, Sawyer-Needham Road, and Murray Road

Town Building Updates: Work was done at the Town Hall to fix the foundation and drainage issues. The Selectboard with the help of Heather and Tom Bouchard did an inside facelift which included painting, putting up new curtains and stripping and waxing the floor. The floor was repaired as needed as determined in the scope of the work that needed to be done. The Town Hall was reopened.

Our Whiting, The Old Addison Railroad and The Addison Road: These three books have a lot of interesting information about the History of Whiting. If you would like one, they are available at the town office for a small fee.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bob Wood
Steve Quenneville
Marcia King

Vital Statistics 2022

Births

Hudson Rich Hornbeck to Kira Simonds and Travis Hornbeck
Fiona Emelia Mayhem Haskins to Carly Lehrer and Glen Haskins
Davida Salazar Ryan to Samantha and Aidan Ryan

Deaths

Ronald Charles Hornbeck
Joan Rita Palin
Leonard Lionell Riendeau
Arthur Merle Stevens Jr
Verna Rose Thomsen

	<u>2021 Actual</u>	<u>2022 Actual</u>	<u>Budget 2023</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense			
CarryForward			\$ 85,611.00
Building Fund Receipts	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	
Computer Replacement	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	
Current Land Use	\$ 47,986.00	\$ 51,740.50	\$ 40,000.00
Current Taxes 2020	\$ 674,322.48	\$ 6,839.82	
Del Taxes for 2017	\$ 1,093.01	\$ 723,340.07	
Delinquent Tax Expenses Re	\$ 32.00	\$ 27.75	
Delinquent Tax Interest	\$ 1,692.68	\$ 805.71	
Delinquent Tax Penalty	\$ 3,124.13	\$ 2,602.42	
Dispatching Service Reimb	\$ 1,524.75	\$ 1,275.00	\$ 1,275.00
Dog Licenses/Fines	\$ 634.00	\$ 1,076.00	\$ 700.00
Equipment Fund Receipts	\$ 5,866.19	\$ 12,000.00	
Federal ARPA Funds	\$ 61,429.30	\$ 61,458.27	
Grant in Aid Project			
Hat & Tee Income	\$ -	\$ 30.00	
Insurance Audit Return		\$ 287.00	
Interest Income	\$ 60.32	\$ 117.47	
Land Rec Book Repair Recei	\$ 880.00	\$ 1,308.00	
Lister's Fund A	\$ 227.00	\$ -	\$ 220.00
Listers Reappraisal	\$ 1,929.50	\$ 1,929.50	
Misc		\$ 101.00	
Municipal Tax Adjustment	\$ 10,342.00	\$ 596.00	
Office Receipts		\$ -	\$ 3,000.00
Certified Copies	\$ -	\$ 20.00	
Fish & Wildlife Posting	\$ 10.00	\$ 5.00	
Green Mountain Passport	\$ 4.00	\$ 16.00	
Land Records	\$ 2,630.00	\$ 3,912.00	
marriage Licesence fee for	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	
Vault Copies	\$ 350.00	\$ 431.00	
Vault Time	\$ 87.00	\$ 102.00	
Office Receipts - Other	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00	
Otter Valley Refund	\$ 9,596.32	\$ 1,841.13	
OV Vote Reimbursement	\$ 975.50	\$ 2,232.50	
Overweight Permits	\$ 455.00	\$ 525.00	\$ 475.00
Penalties and Fines	\$ -		
Pilot Program	\$ 176.40	\$ 178.68	\$ 175.00
Road Grant	\$ 6,666.00	\$ 40,125.73	
Sexton Fund		\$ (10,418.64)	
State Aid for Highways	\$ 37,558.30	\$ 38,266.06	\$ 34,000.00
Town Hall Rent	\$ -	\$ 40.00	
Traffic Tickets	\$ 695.22	\$ -	
Whiting Books	\$ 41.50	\$ 20.50	
Zoning Permits	\$ 450.00	\$ 450.00	\$ 500.00
Total Income	\$ 873,563.60	\$ 946,006.47	\$ 165,956.00

Appropriations			
Green Up	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Humane Society	\$ 450.00	\$ 450.00	\$ 450.00
Library	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,000.00
MVAA	\$ 1,047.50	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
VLCT Dues	\$ 1,584.00	\$ 1,584.00	\$ 1,840.00
Whiting Cemetery Associati	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Total Appropriations	\$ 5,131.50	\$ 5,584.00	\$ 8,340.00
Bond Expenses			
Fire Department	\$ 15,500.00	\$ 15,500.00	\$ 15,500.00
Town Garage	\$ 15,500.00	\$ 15,500.00	\$ 15,500.00
Total Bond Expenses	\$ 31,000.00	\$ 31,000.00	\$ 31,000.00
Buildings Budget			
Buildings Fund	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Buildings Repairs	\$ 5,406.04	\$ 67,374.03	\$ 3,500.00
Buildings Supplies	\$ 27.36	\$ 14.31	\$ 50.00
Electric Town Hall	\$ 468.06	\$ 363.64	\$ 500.00
Electric Town Office	\$ 539.15	\$ 535.45	\$ 600.00
Electric Town Shed	\$ 587.55	\$ 502.65	\$ 600.00
Grounds Care	\$ 2,025.00	\$ 2,520.00	\$ 2,520.00
Heating Fuel Town Hall	\$ 2,252.50	\$ 3,510.00	\$ 3,000.00
Heating Fuel Town Office	\$ 413.76	\$ 885.30	\$ 900.00
Heating Fuel Town Shed	\$ 803.78	\$ 2,315.55	\$ 2,000.00
Municipal Water	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00
Street Lights	\$ 609.62	\$ 583.27	\$ 600.00
Total Buildings Budget	\$ 16,732.82	\$ 82,204.20	\$ 18,870.00
County Budget			
Addison Cty Court House Ta	\$ 1,768.80	\$ 2,098.00	\$ 2,200.00
Addison Cty Regional Plann	\$ 554.40	\$ 546.75	\$ 560.00
Total County Budget	\$ 2,323.20	\$ 2,644.75	\$ 2,760.00
		\$ -	
Election Grant			
Insurance Expense	\$ 15,010.75	\$ 18,634.50	\$ 20,000.00
Total Insurance Expense	\$ 15,010.75	\$ 18,634.50	\$ 20,000.00
Listers Budget			
Listers Apex Software Upda	\$ 344.00	\$ 285.52	\$ 465.00
Listers Dues	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 150.00
Listers Training	\$ 45.60	\$ 26.90	\$ 700.00
Total Listers Budget	\$ 439.60	\$ 312.42	\$ 1,315.00
Payroll			
Animal Control	\$ 202.50	\$ 60.00	\$ 200.00
Assistant Town Clerk	\$ 52.50	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,500.00
Auditors	\$ 1,155.75	\$ 390.00	\$ 500.00
Del Tax Collecting Fees	\$ 4,227.00	\$ 3,199.41	

Election Costs	\$ 975.50	\$ 3,723.58	\$ 1,000.00
Listers Hours	\$ 6,002.25	\$ 5,715.00	\$ 7,000.00
FICA	\$ 4,335.17	\$ 4,501.88	\$ 5,000.00
Payroll Expenses - Other	\$ 536.76	\$ 97.52	\$ 550.00
Total Payroll Expenses	\$ 4,871.93	\$ 4,599.40	\$ 5,550.00
Selectboard	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Town Clerk	\$ 14,500.00	\$ 14,500.00	\$ 14,500.00
Town Clerk Insurance Stipend	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Town Hall Custodian	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,200.00
Treasurer	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Website Coordinator	\$ 637.00	\$ 377.98	\$ 1,200.00
Payroll-other		\$ (27.32)	
Total Payroll	\$ 51,496.36	\$ 51,237.45	\$ 45,650.00
Public Safety			
911 Call Contract	\$ 3,049.50	\$ 2,550.00	\$ 2,600.00
Dog Registration Fees	\$ 305.00	\$ 491.18	\$ 500.00
Fire Department	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 17,500.00
Fire Inspection	\$ 1,199.61	\$ 1,412.61	\$ 1,500.00
First Response	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Recycling	\$ 5,700.75	\$ 5,218.00	\$ 5,500.00
Whiting Tees and Hats		\$ 841.50	
Total Public Safety	\$ 27,754.86	\$ 28,013.29	\$ 30,100.00
Road Budget			
Brush Removal-Labor		\$ -	\$ 15,000.00
Capital Construction-Paving	\$ 111,875.41	\$ 84,641.81	\$ 85,000.00
Diesel	\$ 2,421.40	\$ 4,732.09	\$ 5,000.00
Ditching-Labor	\$ 3,335.00	\$ 4,210.00	\$ 7,000.00
Equipment Parts	\$ 16,956.64	\$ 9,379.15	\$ 10,000.00
Equipment Repairs	\$ 5,001.73	\$ 6,408.30	\$ 12,000.00
Equipment Replacement	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 47,690.00	\$ 20,000.00
Equipment Signs		\$ 777.50	\$ 1,000.00
Equipment Supplies	\$ 162.00	\$ 994.39	\$ 2,000.00
Grant Road Work		\$ 21,284.35	
Highway Drug Tests-Divers	\$ 3.75	\$ -	\$ 50.00
Liquid Chloride	\$ 2,932.50	\$ 4,635.00	\$ 12,000.00
Road Commissioner Education		\$ -	\$ 100.00
Road Gravel	\$ 13,493.02	\$ 19,864.70	\$ 30,000.00
Road Labor	\$ 14,916.00	\$ 16,843.00	\$ 20,000.00
Road Salt	\$ 23,624.96	\$ 19,125.46	\$ 20,000.00
Road Winter Sand	\$ 6,213.34	\$ 4,968.18	\$ 7,500.00
Roadside Mowing	\$ 5,695.00	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 6,500.00
Trucking	\$ 10,973.75	\$ 9,132.00	\$ 15,000.00
Watershed Management	\$ 740.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,150.00
Whiting Road Meeting		\$ -	\$ 350.00
Total Road Budget	\$ 230,344.50	\$ 261,685.93	\$ 269,650.00

Social Services Budget			
United Way	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,700.00
Whiting Food Shelf	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,000.00
Total Social Services Budget	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 2,700.00
Taxes to School District	\$ 411,178.97	\$ 409,337.84	
Town Office Budget			
Advertising Meetings/Tax Sales		\$ 226.70	\$ 275.00
Bank Service Charges		\$ -	
Website Expenses	\$ 783.56	\$ -	\$ 5,800.00
Computer Replacement	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00
Copier Maintenance	\$ 459.70	\$ 413.72	\$ 4,000.00
Election	\$ 82.92	\$ 467.24	\$ 500.00
Interest Expense	\$ 560.95	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
Land Record Book Repairs		\$ -	
Land Records Book Repair Fund		\$ -	
Legal Fees	\$ 3,660.30	\$ 2,425.00	\$ 4,000.00
Office Repairs	\$ 165.38	\$ -	\$ 200.00
Office Supplies	\$ 1,589.13	\$ 2,248.24	\$ 3,000.00
Tax Maps	\$ 1,150.00	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00
Telephone & Computer Exp	\$ 1,786.84	\$ 1,783.52	\$ 1,800.00
Town Report		\$ -	\$ 150.00
Training-Town Clerk/Treasu	\$ 900.00	\$ 763.00	\$ 800.00
Training-Town Officers	\$ 76.00	\$ 28.00	\$ 150.00
Zoning Administrator	\$ 800.00	\$ 395.00	\$ 1,000.00
Total Town Office Budget	\$ 12,714.78	\$ 9,450.42	\$ 24,875.00
Total Expense	\$ 785,718.75	\$ 898,705.40	\$ 455,260.00
TO BE RAISED BY TAXES	\$ 277,525.02	291,088.38	\$ 289,304.00

LISTERS REPORT

The 2022 Grand List was filed with the Town Clerk totals of \$384,301.00 municipal, and \$377,212.00 education.

Listers grievances are generally held in June / July of each year, at which time any property owner may meet with us (In person or over the phone) to discuss their assessment. If you would like to request a grievance hearing with us, please do so in writing at any time during the year, and we will hold your letter until the next grievance period.

The Listers would like to remind everyone that if you own and occupy your Vermont residence as your primary dwelling on April 1, 2022, you must file your Homestead Declaration, Form HS-122, with the Vermont Department of Taxes on or before April 18th to ensure that the correct tax rate is billed.

If you have a survey of your property which has not been recorded with the Town Clerk's office, please consider bringing it in to our office so that we can make our tax maps as accurate as possible. Also, if you have a change of address in State or out of State, please notify us in a timely manner.

Due to Covid our office is by appointment only. Please feel free to call (802-623-7813) if you have any questions about your valuation. Our office is a resource for Property Record Cards, Tax Maps, Current Use, as well as other information relating to a parcel.

What do these numbers mean?

The Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) in 2022= 84.97%: Having the CLA greater than 100% results in a downward adjustment of tax rates, and a CLA less than 100% will result in upward adjustment. A CLA Below 85% necessitates a reappraisal. The Vermont Dept. of Taxes will send a letter in July requesting we reappraise due to our CLA being under 85%.

The Coefficient of Dispersion (COD) in 2022 = 13.90% A COD over 20% necessitates a reappraisal as that means many taxpayers are paying more than their fair share, and many are paying less. This number measures how fairly distributed the property tax is in our town.

We took an oath to be fair and equitable while we assess all property at Fair Market Value, we are required to work within the guidelines of constantly changing, and increasingly complex Vermont Legislation and mandates. We take many online classes and seminars to improve our knowledge and serve you better.

As always, we would like to thank you for the courtesy and cooperation extended to us during our visits to your property.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey Freeguard
Marguerite (Peg) Allen
Rani Fallon

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

It is important to remember that the Town needs to collect all the tax dollars owed to run smoothly. When tax dollars are not collected, the Town must borrow money to cover the shortfall. If you are currently delinquent, please take this into consideration and contact me to make acceptable payment arrangements at (802) 623-6221.

Respectfully submitted,

Rani Fallon, Delinquent Tax Collector

Grand total owed to the Town as of 12/31/2022 - \$17,761.86

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR'S POLICY Town of Whiting

1. All payments must be **in hand** on or before December 1. After December 1, they will be considered delinquent and subject to interest and fees.
2. It is requested that all back taxes be paid before current taxes are paid.
3. Partial payments will be taken at the tax collector's discretion, along with a signed contract and agreement that payment must be large enough to pay off the delinquent tax before the next current tax is due. Payments will be applied to interest and fee first and the remainder on the tax.
4. No post-dated checks will be accepted.
5. All bad checks will be redeposited and charged a \$25 fee.
6. Accounts 60 days delinquent can be sold at a tax sale at the discretion of the delinquent tax collector. (If no agreement has been arranged.)
7. All payments must be paid to the delinquent tax collector or the town clerk.
8. All taxpayers must notify the town of a change of address, in state or out of state, in a timely manner.

Whiting Free Library Annual Report

The library reopened on October 28th, 2022, after the town hall repairs were complete. We were also excited to receive a donation of new bookshelves from a local business for our adult fiction section. It was just in time as our shelves overflowed with some fantastic books. We have also added some new titles to our collection. We have added in all the sections adult fiction, nonfiction, junior fiction and nonfiction, picture books, and we are excited about our new graphic novel section for children.

Last year at the Town Meeting, a proposal was discussed about the library joining the Green Mountain Library Consortium specifically to access the eBooks and audiobook options. The trustees researched this option and found that participating would require the library to utilize a library database with a specific technology that would both assign a barcode identification number to a library card and automatically electronically exchange that data with the data system for Green Mountain Library Consortium. Additionally, the library would pay \$300 as a start-up fee plus \$250+ per year for fees to use this option.

Trustees explored the many options available for a library database; the options available to Whiting are limited due to the lack of ability to leave electronic equipment at the library and access to technical staff. The trustees found an option that would allow not only the technology to access audio and eBooks but also give access to search the libraries catalog online. We purchased a subscription to the database for one year. However, the library would need increased funding from the town to continue offering this option.

You can access the library catalog online now on our website: <https://www.whitingpubliclibraryvt.org/>

The trustees are asking the town to increase the amount of the budget to \$2000 per year. This will maintain the current level of programming, including the summer reading program, support the database subscription and allow us to join the Green Mountain Library Consortium.

Weather permitting the library is open every Saturday from 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM.

Whiting Free Library Financial Report 2022

Starting Balance	\$6433.29
Debits	
Books	\$1434.30
Technology	\$1712.00
Supplies	\$183.37
Credits	
Town Contribution	\$500
Book Sale	\$100
Interest	\$3.04
Ending Balance	\$3706.66

WHITING VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

We began the year with a checkbook balance of \$22,676.62, \$21,332.52 in our savings account and \$10,493.42 in the cadet program. Our expenses for the year were \$31,868.33. The breakdown is as follows:

ACFA/VSFA	2608.00
Building	0.00
Gas & Oil	1,591.35
Insurance	11,497.00
Miscellaneous	2,384.67
New Equipment & Repairs	4,546.59
Raffle	2,100.00
Truck Repair	4,583.42
<u>Utilities</u>	<u>2,557.30</u>
TOTAL	\$31,868.33

We had an income of \$46,658.51. We ended the year with \$22,466.80 in the checkbook, \$36,354.56 in the savings account and \$10,493.42 in the cadet program as of December 31, 2022.

Our income was from the following sources:

50/50 Raffle	3,563.00
Gun Raffle	7,633.00
Coin Drop	1,373.00
Donations	3,105.51
Memory Tree	984.00
Town of Sudbury	15,000.00
<u>Town of Whiting</u>	<u>15,000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$46,658.51

ESTIMATED INCOME FOR 2023

50/50 Raffle	3,600.00
Gun Raffle	5,000.00
Coin Drop	1,000.00
Donations	2,000.00
Memory Tree	900.00
Town of Sudbury	15,000.00
<u>Town of Whiting</u>	<u>\$15,000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$42,500.00

ESTIMATED EXPENSES FOR 2023

Dues and Fees	3,000.00
Gas & Oil	3,500.00
Insurance	12,000.00
Maintenance of Buildings	300.00

WHITING VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Maintenance of Trucks	5,000.00
Miscellaneous	1,200.00
New Equipment	10,000.00
Raffle Payments	1,800.00
<u>Utilities</u>	<u>3,000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$39,800.00

Thank you to all the townspeople for their continued support. I would also like to thank all members for their dedication, time and support.

Your present firemen are:

Steve White, Chief	Timothy Curran
Tom Bouchard, Assistant Chief	Randy Denis
Cody Quesnel, Assistant Chief	Gary Freeguard
Jonathan Ashley, Captain	Calvin Hogan
Austin Quesnel, Captain	Danielle Morse
Bob Wood, Captain	Lawrence Quesnel
Randy Bertrand, Training Officer	Larry Wilbur
Greg Kokinis, Training Officer	Mike Wilbur
Danielle Morse, Training Officer	Tiffany Wilbur
Stacey Freeguard, Secretary/Treasurer	
Elizabeth Curran	Cadet: David Curran

If you have a problem or question other than a fire, please call me personally at 462-2336. Please do not use the fire number except in emergencies. Call 911 for emergencies in our area for fire, medical or police to respond.

Thank you for your support.
Respectfully submitted,
Steve White, Chief

2022 Whiting First Response Report

During calendar year 2022 Whiting First Response responded to 71 calls in Whiting and Sudbury and one mutual aid call in Shoreham. We continue to be available for mutual aid to our neighboring towns when needed and able. Our transport agencies are Middlebury Regional EMS for Whiting and Brandon Area Rescue Squad for Sudbury. Both agencies bring a high degree of professionalism and have served our towns well this past year. As a squad we have done our best to keep current with the required training and protocol updates as required by the Vermont State EMS office. All of our active members are currently certified at the EMT or EMR level.

We would like to thank the towns of Whiting and Sudbury for their continued support in our efforts to provide a professional service to both communities. With that said, our members are getting older and some new and younger members would be a welcome addition to our squad.

The entry level of EMS certification here in Vermont is the Vermont EMS First Responder. The Vermont EMS First Responder (VEFR) course and level of certification are designed to introduce new individuals to EMS and provide additional basic first responders for local communities. The VEFR has a limited scope of practice including CPR, AED, bleeding control, assisting with an epinephrine auto-injector for anaphylaxis, assisting with a prescribed metered dose inhaler (rescue inhaler) with an asthma attack or COPD exacerbation, or administering naloxone. VEFR personnel's role will vary by agency and may include community first response, event standbys, community demonstrations, or acting as a driver for a licensed ambulance crew. Eligible candidates must be at least 16 years old at the time the course begins and be willing to commit about 30 hours to online course preparation (self-paced) and 7 to 9 hours for an in person skills and simulation lab. The VEFR level of certification would be a good introduction to Emergency Medical Services here in Vermont and help us provide initial care on scene here in Whiting and Sudbury. Further education and training at the EMR level and above can be obtained at a later date.

Whiting First Response meets the 3rd Monday of every month (7:00 PM) for a business meeting and the 4th Tuesday (7:00 PM) for training. We hold our meetings at the Whiting Fire Station.

For those of you that follow football and the news, this past winter you have had the opportunity to witness first hand the impact that rapid CPR and use of an AED can have following cardiac arrest, as seen with the recovery of Damar Hamlin of the Buffalo Bills. We would like to encourage everyone that is able, to spend some time familiarizing themselves with Hands Only (compression only) CPR. You can find training videos on the American Heart Association web site. Please contact our squad if you have some interest in learning more.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Hartline, Head of Service

Head of Services - Keith Hartline (EMT) 802-623-6686
Vice President - Rick Iffland (EMT)
Secretary - Tammy Wilbur (EMT)
Treasurer - Keith Hartline (EMT)
Training Officers - Larry Wilbur (EMT) / Tammy Wilbur (EMT)
Health Officer - Elizabeth Curran (EMT)
Safety Officer - Grant Thurston (EMR)
District Board Representative - Elizabeth Curran (EMT)

Members - Bob Wood (CPR), Anna Kranz (CPR), Timothy Curran (CPR)

2022 Accounting - Whiting First Response

Balance Forward 2021: **\$15118.69**
\$14551.20 in Savings and \$567.49 in Checking

Income 2022		Expenses 2022	
Interest	\$13.94	Medical Supplies	\$333.51
Rescue 1	\$500.00	Communication Expenses	\$555.33
Donations	\$945.00	Training Expenses	\$150.00
Whiting (2023)	\$2500.00	Vehicle Expenses	\$1718.10
Sudbury (2023)	\$2500.00		
Total	\$6458.94	Total	\$2756.94

Beginning Balance 2021	\$15118.69
Income 2020	<u>\$6458.94</u>
Total	\$21577.63
Expenses 2020	<u><\$2756.94></u>
Balance Forward for 2022	\$18820.69

As of 12/31/2022 - \$17965.14 Savings and \$855.55 Checking

2022 Town of Whiting Memory Tree

Amstein, Alex	Brener, Jordie	Currier, Scott
Amstein, Doris	Brookman, Hughette	Currier, Wayne
Amstein, Michael	Brunet, Elgear	Curtis, Patty
Amstein, Susan	Brunet, Fabiola	Davis, Kirk
Audet, Marcel	Bull, Lola	Davis, Rita
Audet, Yvonne	Burke, Betty	Davison, Ray
Baah, Charles	Burt, Bradley	Denis, Laurence
Bailey, Burton	Burt, Edson	Denis, Madeline
Bailey, Frank	Burt, Janice	Denis, Paul
Bailey, Hazel	Burt, Lisa	DeRepentigny, Aurore
Bailey, Richard	Butterfield, Marie	DeRepentigny, Deborah
Baker, Cushman	Cameron, Barbara	DeRepentigny, Ernest
Baker, Ellen George	Cameron, Charles	DeRepentigny, Leo
Baker, Jack	Cameron, Cynthia	Desautels, Laurie
Baldwin, Cynthia	Cameron, Peggy	Douglas, Judy
Baldwin, Russell	Capek, Michelle	Duclos, Norma
Baldwin, Wayne	Capek, Patricia	Dumas, Mary
Bathalon, Sheryl	Capek, Stanley	Emmons, Jake
Bearor, Florence	Cattell, Agnes	Emmons, Muriel
Bearor, Francis "Bud"	Cattell, Bill	Ethier Family
Benjamin, Jack	Cattell, Ginny	Flynn, Carrie
Berry, Barbara A.	Cattell, Richard	Flynn, Kevin
Berry, Dudley P.	Chadbourne, Barbara	Flynn, Olin
Bertrand, Henry	Chadbourne, Joan	Flynn, Terry
Bertrand, Noella	Chadbourne, Joe	Flynn, Tyler
Bertrand, Lawrence	Chadbourne, Joseph H.	Flynn, Unice
Bertrand, Leo	Chartrand, Jane	Fontain, Leonard
Bertrand, Theresa	Chartrand, Rita	Foster, Robert
Bilodeau, Diane	Chicoine, Guy	Freeguard, Angel
Bilodeau, Gaston	Christian, Marion	Freeguard, Anthony
Bilodeau, Germain	Christian, Rolland	Freeguard, Casey
Bilodeau, Justin	Coleman, Cristin	Freeguard, Roger
Bilodeau, Matt	Coe, Peter	Gallant, Brian
Bilodeau, Matthew	Cole, Burt	Gallant, David
Bilodeau, Michael	Coleman, Matthew	Gallant, Samantha
Bilodeau, Michelle	Condon, Douglas	Gariepy, Nancy
Bilodeau, Pauline	Condon, Liz	Gifford, Marie (Seguin)
Bilodeau, Pierre	Condon, Steven	Gill, Jim
Birchmore, Clarence	Cornell, Brad	Glidden, Edward
Birchmore, Elise	Cornell, Martha Coons	Goodnow, Susan E.
Birchmore, Elsie	Cousineau, George	Gosliga, Gerardus
Birchmore, Floyd	Cousineau, Rita	Gosliga, Grace
Birchmore, Luke	Cota, Arthur	Grandchamp, Vicki
Birchmore, Raymond	Cota, Vera	Grassi, Carlos
Bissonette, Diane	Crane, Olive Baldwin	Grassi, Vreni
Bissonette, James	Crawford, Robert	Grein, Hans
Bissonette, Kenneth Sr.	Cunningham, Alberta	Heath, Bea
Bissonette, Ronald	Cunningham, David Jr.	Heath, Beatrice
Boudette, M. Elaine	Currier, Charles	Heath, Floyd
Bourgues, Bernard	Currier, Grace	Heath, Floyd Sr.
		Hogan, Beth

2022 Town of Whiting Memory Tree

Hoover, Anne	Munger, Skip	Toth, Ruth
Hornbeck, Danny	Orleans, Cindy	Trayah, Lois
Hornbeck, Ed	Page, Fleur Ange	Trayah, Raymond
Hornbeck, Edward	Page, Marcel	Trombley, Boots
Hornbeck, James	Page, Monita	Trombley, Josie
Hornbeck, Ron	Palin, Joan	Trudo, Calvin
Hornbeck, Ronald	Patterson, Cindy	Trudo, Dorris
Hill, Thomas White	Piela, Alphonse	Turpin, Paul
Huber, John R, Jr.	Piela, Gertrude	Walker, David
Huber, John R, Sr.	Piper, Michael	Warren, Bobby
Keeler, Olivia	Pop, Brianna	Warren, Howard Sr.
Kerr, Sherry	Quesnel, Alice	Webster, Elizabeth
King, Jill	Quesnel, Clara	Webster, Harold
Kopper	Quesnel, Claret	Weber, Hanna
Kritkauskys, Joyce	Quesnel, Dominic	Weber, Max
Kurrelmeyer, Ellen	Quesnel, Dominique	Wetmore, Brian
Ladabouche, George	Quenneville, Ashley	Wetmore, Donald
Laduc, Barb	Quenneville, Claudette	Wetmore, Marilyn
Laduc, Phil	Quenneville, Christa	Whalen, Kenneth
LaMonda, Leonard	Quenneville, Guy	Wheeler, Kristle
Lamoureux, Aime	Quenneville, Lorraine	White, Ron
Lamoureux, August	Quenneville, Lucas	Whitney, Rodney
Lamoureux, Clarena	Quenneville, Rene	Wilbur, Annette
Lamoureux, Eddie	Quenneville, Roger	Wilbur Family
Lamoureux, Edgar	Quenneville, Vince	Grandpa Wilbur
Lamoureux, Helene	Quinn, Tristan	Wilbur, Robert
Lamoureux, Jean	Rawson, Curtis E.	Williams, Ben
Lamoureux, Leon	Rawson, Curtis M.	Williams Lillian
Lamoureux, Real	Rawson, Margaret	Wilson, Susan White
Lamoureux, Tristan	Rawson, Robert	Wimett, Arlene
Leno, Darlene	Raymond, George	Wood, Lillian M.
Leno, Emery	Reeve, Karen	Wood, Robert N.
Grandma Leno	Roorda, Gary	Wood, Roy
Leno, Kenny	Sabatini, Karen	Viets, Diana
Lillie, Bea	Salino, Barbara	
Lillie, Bernard	Sequin, Aime	Worcester, MA Firefighters who died Dec. 3, 1999
Litch, Josh	Sequin, Alban	Paul A.Brotherton
Little, Christa Quenneville	Sequin, Dorothy	Joseph P. McGuirk
Loizeaux, Connie	Sequin, Grace	Timothy P. Jackson
Loizeaux, Richard	Schmidt, Esther Mathews	Jeremiah M. Lucy
Lonergan, Margaret	Schmidt, Lawrence	James F. Lyons
Lord, Nate	Sherman Joshua	LT. Thomas Spencer
Marcelle, David	Simonds, Bill	
Mason, Travis	Simonds, E. Rich	In Memory of past Whiting Fire Chiefs
McGough, Athanasia	Simonds, Frances K.	Clayton Sawtelle
McGough, Ruth	Simonds, Rich	Bill Palmer
McGough, Thomas Jr.	Simonds, Wilson J.	Clarence Birchmore
McPeck, Daniel	Smith, Jason	
Minor, Louise (Sequin)	Swinington, Bill	
Morin, Ryan	Taylor, Bill	
Mottoa, Olga	Tilgner, Dave	
Mottoa, Vinicio	Toth, Louis Robert	

2022 Whiting Cemetery Report

The annual meeting was held August 15, 2022 at the Whiting Church with six people in attendance. Marguerite (Peg) Allen was elected secretary/treasurer as Grace Simonds retired.

There are a number of stones, especially in the older section, that have fallen over or broken and need to be repaired.

Gus Letourneau had the maintenance contract for 2022. His crew did a fine job.

The cemetery receives \$1000 from the town each year. Other income comes from the sale of plots and interest income. The balances as of 12/31/2022 were \$1982.81 in the savings, \$10,327.88 and \$546.86 in the certificates of deposit.

Current officers are President – Beverly Freeguard and Secretary/Treasurer – Peg Allen. Gary Stanley at Miller & Ketcham Funeral Home is our sexton.

Whiting Food Shelf

The food shelf is a ministry of the church. It is located at 7 North Main Street. We are open every Monday. Winter hours are from 9:00 – 10:00 am. Summer hours are from 8:00 to 9:30 am.

We had people come from Whiting, Shoreham, Brandon, Orwell, Leicester, Bridport and Cornwall. You don't have to show your income. We are open to everyone.

We served 27 families or 54 people. We get about 16 people a week. We still make boxes for the Holidays.

You can leave off donations on Mondays when we are open or at the box in the Post Office. If in need call me at 802-623-8033

Thank you,
God Bless
Beverly Freeguard

TIME TO SPAY AND NEUTER YOUR CATS AND DOGS!

The VT Spay Neuter Incentive Program (**VSNIP**), under the VT Department of Children & Families, is administered by VT Volunteer Services for Animals Humane Society. **Funded by a \$4.00 fee added to the licensing of dogs, this monetary resource is limited by the number of dogs licensed, which is required by law by six months of age.** Puppies and kittens can have the first rabies vaccination after 12 weeks of age. If unable to schedule an appointment with a veterinary office for this vaccination, Tractor Supply Stores hold monthly clinics as well as humane societies during the month of March. Call for their schedules. After the vaccination, contact your town clerk and provide proof of the rabies vaccination to license your dog.

Rabies IS in Vermont and it IS deadly.

Licensing a dog:

- 1) Helps identify your dog if lost.
- 2) Provides proof your dog is protected from rabies in the event your dog is bitten by a rabid animal {but still needs immediate medical attention}.
- 3) Protects your animal if they bite another animal {or person – which could result in the quarantine of your dog or possibly euthanized in order to test for rabies if not currently vaccinated}.
- 4) Pays for this necessary program addressing the population situation in VT.

For an Application for VSNIP and a List of Participating Offices, send a S.A.S.E. (a 9" Self-Addressed, Stamped Envelope) to: VSNIP, PO Box 104, Bridgewater, VT 05034. Or, to download and print, go to: VSNIP.VERMONT.GOV Indicate if it's for a cat, dog or both. Once *fully* completed, you will mail it back. If approved, you will receive your Voucher and instructions.

The cost for the surgery to you is only \$27.00, providing there are no complications. Fellow Vermonters pay the balance of your account from funds collected at the time of dog registration. Please be SURE your cat or dog is completely flea and tick free **before** the visit. Animals left UN-neutered are more prone to forms of cancer.

Thank veterinarians for their participation in this important program. If your veterinarian is not a participant, please encourage them to join. Several veterinarians have retired, leaving a reduced number of participating offices. VSNIP offices are accepting less reimbursement than what they would usually charge for their services. We NEED them :) Let them know you appreciate the difference they've made in our state over the years when euthanasia was the means of animal over-population control. Those days are behind us ~ let's keep it that way!

Sue Skaskiw, Administrator 1-800-HI VSNIP (1-844-448-7647)



Dear Residents of Brandon, Chittenden, Goshen, Leicester, Mendon, Pittsford, Sudbury, & Whiting:

I am pleased to write this report to capture RNEsu, Otter Valley Unified Union and Barstow Unified Union activities for 2022. Although each town and school within our system is unique, we are committed to supporting OVUU and BUU working together toward achieving RNEsu's vision and mission of educating every child in our eight towns.

In my first year as the RNEsu Superintendent, I feel a deep sense of pride in this great district and what we have collectively accomplished in providing an excellent education experience for each and every learner at all grade levels. Although we were all hopeful that COVID was behind us, the 2021-2022 school year was one that challenged all of us with unknowns and transitions back to the school buildings. In and out of masks and with evolving guidance from state and national leaders, students continually acknowledged the circumstances put in front of them by the ongoing pandemic... and yet they persisted. As we worked together as a community and state to make sense of the world around us, we also explored opportunities to innovate and maintain a sense of purpose amidst the challenges. We are grateful for our staff, students, families and community partners – all of whom stood up to the challenges and engaged in the hard work of becoming comfortable with discomfort and figuring it out together. Some of the lessons we learned were not easy, and others were not flattering, but I deeply believe that this is a community that is committed to doing what is best for our students and our schools.

Despite staffing shortages, rising costs, and the looming threat of a pandemic turned endemic, RNEsu continues to thrive in many ways. From new bleachers at OV, to modular units to support space needs, our facilities are in good shape and under the direction of a new Coordinator, Rich Vigue. Veteran Superintendent of Schools, Jeanne Collins, departed the District and we welcomed a new Curriculum Director, Tyler Weideman to the team. We said goodbye to long-time Principal Jim Avery and AP Geoffrey Lawrence and welcomed a new Principal, Michael Ruppel and a new Assistant Principal, Patrick Binder. Otter Creek Academy's Principal Thom Fleury retired, and we welcomed a former instructional coach, Brian Crane into the role. Although change is hard in many ways, it also presents us with new opportunities to create strong schools and build connections with the community. In addition to changes in leadership, we saw many instructional and support staff changes as well. Without these individuals, our buildings could not operate. Thank you to everyone who has continued

Brandon Chittenden Goshen Leicester Mendon Pittsford Sudbury Whiting



to step up and step forward to keep our schools open and thriving, prioritizing student learning and well-being.

Finally, I want to thank this outstanding community for such strong and consistent support, which has enabled us to be the district we've been throughout the pandemic and beyond. The last several years haven't been easy. When together we support the work, we're able to keep moving through hard times. Together, let's continue to re-imagine the possibilities and commit to what we want RNEsu schools to look like, for students, staff and families. Thank You.



Respectfully,
Kristin Hubert, Superintendent
RNEsu



**Please read the full Otter Valley Unified Union School District Annual Report
provided separately via mail and available online at www.rnesu.org.**



Brandon Chittenden Goshen Leicester Mendon Pittsford Sudbury Whiting

RUTLAND NORTHEAST SUPERVISORY UNION

ANNUAL BOARD REPORT

January 2023

The Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union (RNEsu) Board has been busy this year making sure that our two school districts (Barstow and Otter Valley) have the resources they need to continue to educate our children. The most important work we did this year was to hire our next Superintendent upon the retirement of Jeanne Collins in June 2022. After two rounds of advertising and interviews, we were successful in hiring our very own Curriculum Director, Kristin Hubert. We are super excited to have her with us, as she already knows our district and what our goals are. She will lead us well into the future! Kristin was successful in hiring Tyler Weideman as our new Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Director. Welcome Kristin and Tyler!



The Board has been managing the use of over \$10 million in ESSER and COVID monies over the last three years. We have used this money to provide more support staff in our schools to help our students get back on track with their learning. We have also used some of those funds to buy three modular units to alleviate space issues at OCA-Leicester, Neshobe and Otter Valley. We have the use of these funds for one more year and are already looking at how we will continue to educate our children once these funds are no longer available. We are calling this the ESSER Cliff, and will need to make some hard decisions about what is most beneficial to our kids and how to fund those needs going forward.

We were able to complete successful Negotiations for new three-year contracts with our Teacher and Para/Bus Driver Unions. This will allow for stability of staff and hopefully allow us to attract new staff to our ranks. We are currently hiring for bus drivers and paraprofessionals, so if you or someone you know is looking for a rewarding position, check us out!

The other important work of our board was creating the budget for Special Education, Technology, Central Office, and Transportation. We are committed to a 1:1 device initiative for our students. This means that all students will have a chromebook to help with learning. This year our budget reflects a 10.41% increase in spending. We are changing our Curriculum, Instructions & Assessment Director to an Assistant Superintendent. Essentially this means that we are not hiring new staff, but giving Tyler more responsibilities and will allow him to do his job more effectively. We have made no significant changes in programming.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jacob Powsner for his tireless work on behalf of the RNEsu Board, as he is not seeking re-election. Thank you for your support of our schools, staff and students! We look forward to continuing our mission of educating life-long learners. If you should have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact a board member or use the Let's Talk button on any school website.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie Bertrand
RNEsu Board Chair



**OTTER VALLEY UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANNUAL BOARD REPORT
JANUARY 2023**

**OTTER VALLEY
UNIFIED UNION
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Hello!

Another year has come and gone. I wish that I could finally say that COVID-19 is in our rearview window. Unfortunately, that isn't the case. We are still seeing the impact of the pandemic in many ways. Our administration, teachers and staff are doing their very best to keep the learning going in our classrooms and schools. We have been dealing with a staffing shortage which has hampered our ability to provide the very best to our students. However, I am happy to report that we were able to complete successful Negotiations with our Teachers and our Para/Bus Drivers. We are hopeful that this new three-year deal will provide stability in our staffing and attract additional staff to our district. To that end, if you or someone you know are thinking about a career change, we are currently hiring bus drivers and paraprofessionals. Come join the team!

The OVUU Board has taken this year to further define what our End Goals are for our students. What does this mean? We determined that we want Otter Valley Graduates to have Academic Proficiency, Communication Skills, Critical Thinking & Problem Solving skills, be Global Citizens, be Lifelong Learners, and have Mental Well-Being by the time they leave our halls. Our hope is that these skills will allow our students to be successful as they move on to the next phase of their lives.



With the help of the RNESU School Board ESSER Funds (Federal Grant Funds), the OVUU district has been able to obtain three new modular units to help with space issues at Otter Creek Academy at Leicester, Neshobe School and Otter Valley Middle/High School. At the time of this writing, the modular units at Otter Creek and Neshobe have been placed and are almost ready for use! The Otter Valley Unit is currently under order and should be ready for use by the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year.

We are also excited to notify everyone that we have reopened the Sudbury School! It is being used for elementary students who need a quieter, less stimulating environment to access their learning. Students receive intensive wrap around services that teach self-regulation skills to allow them to return to one of our larger school settings.



The Board would like to welcome our new School Administrators, Michael Ruppel, High School Principal and Patrick Binder, Associate Principal at Otter Valley. We would also like to welcome our new Otter Creek Academy Principal, Brian Crane.

Thank you for your support of our kids, staff and schools! As always, feel free to contact a Board Member with any questions you might have, or use the Let's Talk App on any school website. We look forward to hearing from you!

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie Bertrand
OVUU Board Chair

2022 WHITING ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 1st, 2022 @ 7:15PM

The legal voters of the Town of Whiting, Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Fire Station, in said Whiting on Tuesday March 1st, 2022 at 7:15pm to transact the following business:

The meeting opened at 7:15pm. Elizabeth Curran the 2021 Moderator explained the Moderator position and the Roberts Rules, to be used for Town Meeting.

ARTICLE I: To elect a Moderator for the ensuing year. Carolyn Schmidt nominated Patricia Mattison, second by Brett Cody. There were no other nominations, the clerk cast one vote for Patricia Mattison for Moderator for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE II: The receive and act upon the report of the Town Officers. Motion by Stacey Freeguard, second by Elizabeth Curran. Pat asked if anyone had something they would like to discuss? Carol Brigham wanted to know why it said Construction None. That just means that we did not have any building construction projects this year. The Motion passed with no opposing votes.

ARTICLE III: Will the Town elect the Officers as required by law in the following order:

- A. Select Board Member for 3 years -incumbent Marcia King. Motion made by Stacey Freeguard; Elizabeth Curran nominated Marcia King. No other nominations. The Moderator asked the Town Clerk to cast one vote for Marcia King for Select Board member for 3 years.
- B. Lister for 3 years - incumbent Peg Allen. Motion made by Stacey Freeguard; Elizabeth Curran nominated Peg Allen. There were no other nominations. The Moderator asked the Town Clerk to cast one ballot for Peg Allen for Lister for 3 years.
- C. Auditor for 3 years -incumbent Alison Remy. Motion made by Stacey Freeguard; Elizabeth Curran nominated Alison Remy. There were no other nominations. The Moderator asked the Town Clerk to cast one ballot for Alison Remy for Auditor for 3 years.
- D. Collect of Delinquent Taxes for 1 year -incumbent Rani Fallon. Motion made by Stacey Freeguard; Alison Remy nominated Rani Fallon. There were no other nominations. By voice vote Rani Fallon was elected for Delinquent Tax Collector for 1 year.
- E. Library Trustee for 3 years -incumbent Heather Mattison. Motion made by Stacey Freeguard; Suzanne Denis nominated Heather Mattison. There were no other nominations. By voice vote Heather Mattison was elected for Library Trustee for 3 years.
- F. First Constable for 1 year -incumbent Rusty Brigham. Motion made by Carolyn Schmidt; Steve Quenneville nominated Rusty Brigham. There were no other nominations. By voice vote Rusty Brigham was elected for First Constable for 1 year.

ARTICLE IV: Will the Town give the Delinquent Tax Collector the power to collect delinquent taxes? Motion made by Carol Brigham; second by Stacey Freeguard. Patricia Mattison explained that the Delinquent Tax Collector does not have the power to collect delinquent taxes until this is passed. By voice vote the Town gave the Delinquent Tax Collector the power to collect delinquent taxes.

ARTICLE V: Shall the Town authorize the Treasurer to collect real property taxes to the Treasurer on or before Wednesday, December 1, 2022? (In Hand, Postmarks not accepted) Motion made by Carol Brigham, 2nd Stacey Freeguard. By voice vote the Town authorized the Treasurer to collect real property taxes on or before December 1st, 2022 (in hand postmarks not accepted).

ARTICLE VI: Will the Town appropriate \$411,217.50 expenses and indebtedness of the town of which \$291,088.38 will come from taxes? Motion made by Elizabeth Curran, second by Stacey Freeguard. There were no questions. By voice vote the Town agreed to appropriate \$411,217.50 expenses and indebtedness of the Town of which \$291,088.38 will come from taxes.

ARTICLE VII: To transact any other nonbinding business deemed necessary and proper when met.

Motion made by Stacey Freeguard, second by Elizabeth Curran. Elizabeth Curran read a paper explaining some ideas that people from town would like to see implemented at the library (see attached).

Greg Vigne wanted to know how you would get books. The library would need a computer system for electronic books.

Pastor Brett Cody offered the fellowship hall to the library to hold events.

Heather Mattison asked about the plans for the Town Hall. The Select Board had decided to use the ARPA funds to repair the foundation and downstairs floor. They are hoping that the building will be open by next Town Meeting at the latest.

Heather Bouchard reminded everyone that the rabies clinic is March 10th, and masks, are required by the Vet doing the clinic.

Select Board Chair:

Bob Wood

Moderator:

Patricia Mattison

Town Clerk:

Heather Bouchard

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARNING

The legal voters of the Town of Whiting, Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Town Hall, in said Whiting on Tuesday March 7th, 2023 at 7:15pm to transact the following business:

ARTICLE I: To elect a Moderator for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE II: The receive and act upon the report of the Town Officers.

ARTICLE III: Will the Town elect the Officers as required by law in the following order:

- A. Town Clerk for 3 years, incumbent is Heather Bouchard
- B. Town Treasurer for 3 years, Heather Bouchard
- C. Select Board Member for 3 years -incumbent Steve Quenneville
- D. Lister for 3 years - incumbent Stacey Freeguard
- E. Auditor for 3 years -incumbent Suzanne Denis
- F. First Constable for 1 year -incumbent Rusty Brigham
- G. Collect of Delinquent Taxes for 1 year -incumbent Rani Fallon
- H. Library Trustee for 2 years -incumbent Jaime Quenneville
- I. Library Trustee for 2 years -incumbent Tara Trudo
- J. Library Trustee for 3 years -incumbent Peg Allen
- K. Library Trustee for 3 years -incumbent Tammy Wilbur

ARTICLE IV: Shall the Town authorize the Treasurer to collect real property taxes to the Treasurer on or before Friday, December 1, 2023? (In Hand, Postmarks not accepted)

ARTICLE V: Will the Town give the Delinquent Tax Collector the power to collect delinquent taxes?

ARTICLE VI: Will the Town appropriate \$455,260.00 expenses and indebtedness of the town of which \$289,304.00 will come from taxes?

ARTICLE VII: To transact any other nonbinding business deemed necessary and proper when met.

Select Board Chair:

Bob Wood

Steve Quenneville

Marcia King

Bob Wood 1-23-23
Marcia King 1/23/23
Steve Quenneville 1/23/23

Attested by: *Heather Bouchard* Town Clerk

Town of Whiting

29 S. Main St.

Whiting, VT 05778

www.WhitingVT.com

OFFICE HOURS

TOWN CLERK & TREASURER

Heather Bouchard

(802) 623-7813

townofwhiting@shoreham.net

Monday 7:30-11:00am

3:00-5:00pm

Wednesday 7:30-11:00am

And by appointment

BOARD OF LISTERS

(802) 623-7813

Listers@WhitingVT.com

**Available by
appointment only.**

RECYCLING:

2nd and 4th Saturday of month

9:30 – 11am at Town Shed

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE:

Peg Allen

Stacey Freeguard

Patricia Mattison

Carolyn Schmidt

Jeanne Leno

REGULAR MEETINGS

SELECTBOARD

4th Mondays at 5:00pm

Held at Town Office

FIRE DEPARTMENT

1st Monday at 7:30pm

(Business Meeting)

2nd Tuesday 6:30pm(Training)

Special Trainings TBA

Both held at Firehouse

FIRST RESPONSE

3rd Monday at 7pm

(Business Meeting)

4th Monday at 7pm (Training)

Both held at Firehouse

CONTACT

INFORMATION

(AS OF 1/1/2023)

1st Constable:	Rusty Brigham	345-6906
Animal Control:	Stacey Freeguard	623-6065
Auditors:	Alison Remy	623-7813
Board of Listers:	Stacey Freeguard	623-7813
Cemetery Board:	Beverly Freeguard	623-8033
Delinquent Taxes:	Rani Fallon	989-2614
Fire Dept non-emer:	Steve White	989-2773
Fire Warden:	Delwin Fielder	989-8986
First Resp non-emer:	Rick Iffland	236-1469
Food Shelf:	Beverly Freeguard	623-8033
Green-Up Chair:	Rebecca Bertrand	623-6325
Health Officer:	Jeanne Lamoureux	623-6385
Planning Comm:	Steve Quenneville	623-7813
Roads:	Select Board	623-7813
Select Board:	Bob Wood	623-7813
Town Clerk & Treasurer:	Heather Bouchard	623-7813
Town Hall:	Tammy Wilbur	623-7862
Zoning Admin:	Keith Arlund	465-8098
Zoning Board:	Steve Quenneville	623-7813

**TOWN OF WHITING
29 S. MAIN STREET
WHITING, VT 05778**

Please bring this report with you to:

TOWN MEETING

**Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 7:15 pm
at the Whiting Town Hall**