

TOWN OF SWANTON VERMONT



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Dedication: To the Youth of Our Community

This year, we are proud to dedicate our Town Report to the remarkable youth of Swanton, whose passion, creativity, and service have made an extraordinary impact on our community.

Our youth have shown an unwavering commitment to the betterment of Swanton through countless hours of volunteer service. From supporting local organizations like the Swanton Recreation Commission, the Swanton Public Library, the Swanton Historical Society, Abenaki Circle of Courage, and the Swanton Enhancement Project's Beautification Committee, to their involvement in prestigious groups such as the National Junior Honor Society, National Honor Society, National Art Honor Society, and the Boy Scouts of America, they embody the spirit of civic responsibility.

In May 2024, we celebrated their achievements and contributions at the first annual Youth Appreciation Gala. This memorable event highlighted their dedication to building a stronger, more vibrant community. Their work with the Vermont Youth Project, in collaboration with the Missisquoi Valley School District, has fostered partnerships that amplify youth voices and promote meaningful change.

Our youth have also stepped forward as event organizers, showcasing their leadership and vision. The Solar Soirée brought sustainability and creativity into the spotlight. The Youth Empowerment Summit provided a platform for young leaders to inspire and support one another. Teen Nights have offered a safe and engaging space for connection and fun.

Beyond these extraordinary events, Swanton's youth have contributed countless volunteer hours to community events, making celebrations and initiatives more inclusive and impactful for all. Their dedication to service and collaboration reflects the values that make Swanton such a special place to live.

To the youth of Swanton: thank you for your dedication, energy, and the many ways you inspire us. Your efforts today are shaping a brighter tomorrow for our community.

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SWANTON TOWN DIRECTORY

Meet on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm

Select Board

Chair	Joel A. Clark	296 Maquam Shore Rd, Swanton	868-9034
Vice-Chair	Earl Fournier	38 Campbell Bay Rd, Swanton	582-8539
	Steve Bourgeois	68 Maquam Shore Rd, Swanton	868-4447
	Nicole Draper	156 Hog Island Rd, Swanton	309-7892
	Brendan P. Long	110 Harvest Ln, Swanton	376-5713

Town Clerk's Office

Town Clerk & Treasurer	Cathy L. Fournier	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-4421
Asst. Clerk & Asst. Treasurer	Tamar Bouchard	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-4421

Town Administrator

	Brian K. Savage	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-7418
Assistant Town Administrator	Christina Candles	PO Box 711, Swanton	466-7142

Zoning Administrator

	Amy Giroux	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-3325
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Planning Commission

Meet on the 3rd Wednesday Monthly at 6:30 pm

Chair	Ross Lavoie	77 St. Albans Rd, Swanton	782-1925
	James Pratt	43 Sugar Maple Dr, Swanton	524-4404
	Andrew LaRocque	227 First St, Swanton	868-7203
	Heather Buczkowski	58 Grand Ave, Swanton	868-6258
	Oliver Manning	431 Bushey Rd, Swanton	393-0967

Development Review Board

Meet on 4th Thursday Monthly at 6:00 pm

Chair	Spencer LaBarge	97 Canada St, Swanton	868-4427
	Harold Garrett	2014 Highgate Rd, Swanton	752-7138
	James Pratt	43 Sugar Maple Dr, Swanton	524-4404
	Reg Beliveau	13 Jones Court, Swanton	868-3936
	Jennifer Yandow	480 Bushey Rd, Swanton	343-0495

Highway Department

Road Commissioner	Joel A. Clark	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-7281
Road Foreman	Kevin Lapan	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-7281
	Patrick Loyer	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-7281
	Brandon Calderwood	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-7281
	Jeff King	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-7281
	Mike Bockus	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-7281

Listers

Chair	David Horton	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-2232
	Amy Giroux	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-2232
	Kevin Nichols	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-2232

Animal Control Officer	Jim Benson	PO Box 711, Swanton	238-3246
Health Officer	Suzie Kelleher	PO Box 711, Swanton	782-7037

ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS

		TERM	EXPIRES
MODERATOR	Brian Savage	1 yr.	2025
TOWN CLERK & TREASURER	Cathy L. Fournier	3 yrs.	2026
SELECTBOARD	Earl Fournier	3 yrs.	2027
	Nicole Draper	2 yrs.	2026
	Joel A. Clark	1 yr. unexp.	2025
	Brendan P. Long	(unexp term)	2025
	Steven Bourgeois	3 yrs.	2026
TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC MONEY	Nicholas A. Brosseau	3 yrs.	2027
	Brian K. Savage	3 yrs.	2025
	Cody Hemenway	3 yrs.	2026
LISTERS	David Horton	3 yrs.	2027
	Kevin Nichols	1 yr unexp.	2025
	Amy Giroux	3 yrs.	2026
AUDITORS	Joyce Bombardier	3 yrs.	2027
	Diane Larocque	3 yrs.	2025
	Amy Giroux	3 yrs.	2026
CEMETERY COMMISSIONER	Cody Hemenway	5 yrs.	2029
	John Kaczowski	4 yrs. unexp.	2028
	Macy Lavoie-Dupont	2 yrs. unexp.	2025
	Brian Savage	5 yrs.	2026
	Nicholas Brosseau	5 yrs.	2027
LIBRARY TRUSTEES	Richard Kelly	5 yrs.	2029
	Kathy Kneebone	5 yrs.	2025
	Rebecca Rupp	5 yrs.	2026
	Bianca Braman	4 yrs. unexp.	2027
	Sarah Garvey	5 yrs.	2028
COLLECTOR OF DELINQUENT TAXES	Betty Cheney	1 yr.	2025

**JUSTICES OF THE PEACE
2 Year Term to Expire 2027**

Tamar Bouchard
Randy Brock
Nicholas A. Brosseau
Donald "Don" Collins
Edward F. Daniel
Stephanie Gagne
Steven Pike
Pamela Pouliot

Jeffery Raleigh
Joseph Raleigh
Brian K. Savage
Alan Shannon
Neal Speer
Suzanne Washburn
Matthew Walker

APPOINTED BOARDS AND OFFICIALS

Consulting Assessor
Tree Warden
Road Commissioner
Health Officer
Forest Fire Warden
Animal Control Officer

James Pratt
Frank Shumway
Joel A. Clark
Suzie Kelleher
Jon Barrette
Jim Benson

Planning Commission

	Term	Expires
Heather Buczkowski	4 years	June 2028
James Pratt	4 years	June 2025
Andy LaRocque	4 years	June 2025
Oliver Manning	4 years	June 2025
Ross Lavoie	4 years	June 2026
Christina Candels, Secretary		

Development Review Board

	Term	Expires
Reg Beliveau	4 years	June 2025
Spencer LaBarge, Chair	4 years	June 2026
Jennifer Yandow	4 years	June 2027
James Pratt	4 years	June 2027
Harold Garrett	4 years	June 2026
Christina Candels, Clerk		

Recreation Committee

Betsy Fournier, Board Chair	Nicole Draper, Executive Director
Vacant, Treasurer/Secretary	Jesse LeClair, Board Member
Ron Underwood, Board Member	Ben Kaufmann, Board Member
Joseph Raleigh, Board Member	Jon Nielsen, Board Member
Sophie Vibert, Board Member	Nick Michaud, Athletic Director/Operations Manager

**TOWN OF SWANTON
ANNUAL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2025**

The legal voters of the Town of Swanton, who are legal voters in Town Meeting, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Swanton Village Municipal Complex, First and Elm Streets, Swanton on Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at 7:00 a.m. to vote on the articles herein set forth. All articles are to be voted by the Australian Ballot system. The polls open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m.

Article 1: To elect from the legal voters of said Town the following officers:

Moderator, Town for a 1 year term
One Selectperson for a 3 year term
One Selectperson for a 2 year term
One Lister for a 3 year term
One Auditor for a 3 year term
One Trustee of Public Money for a 3 year term
One Library Trustee for a 5 year term
One Cemetery Commissioner for a 5 year term
Collector of Delinquent Taxes for a 1 year term

Article 2: Shall the Town appropriate \$1,121,129.71 for the operation and maintenance of the Town Highway Department?

Article 3: Shall the Town appropriate \$316,225.00 for fire protection?

Article 4: Shall the Town appropriate \$478,117.00 to provide police protection to the residents of the Town of Swanton?

Article 5: Shall the Town appropriate \$750,502.10 for the Town General expenses?

Article 6: Shall the Town appropriate \$307,776.36 towards the maintenance & employee benefits of the Swanton Public Library?

Article 7: Shall the Town appropriate \$80,260.00 towards the operating budget of the Swanton Public Library?

Article 8: Shall the Town collect its real and personal property taxes to defray the expenses of the Town for the fiscal year commencing January 1, 2025, and annually thereafter, by its actual receipt of payment (postmarks will not be accepted) at the Town Offices by 5 p.m. on October 15th, or if the 15th shall fall on a weekend or holiday, the following business day by 5 p.m., with an eight percent (8%) penalty and one percent (1%) interest per month (or portion thereof) due thereon for the first three months, and one and one half (1.5%) per month (or portion thereof) thereafter, to be charged for late payment of any installment?

Article 9: Shall the Town appropriate \$ 259,490.00 to provide rescue services to the residents of the Town of Swanton?

Article 10: Shall the Town appropriate \$239,600.00 towards the Operating and Maintenance Budget of the Recreation Department?

The legal voters of the Town of Swanton are further notified that an Informational Meeting will be held at the Swanton Village Complex, 120 First Street, Swanton, VT on Monday, February 24, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in person and via Teams for the purpose of explaining all budget items to the voters. Anyone desiring to participate and listen in on the meeting, join on your computer, mobile app or room device with Teams.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 288 697 899 111

Passcode: Dc6sN3hH

Dated at Swanton, Vermont this 22nd day of January, 2025.



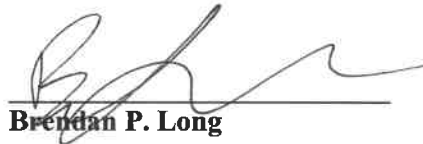
Joel A. Clark, Chair




Nicole K. Draper



Steven J. Bourgeois



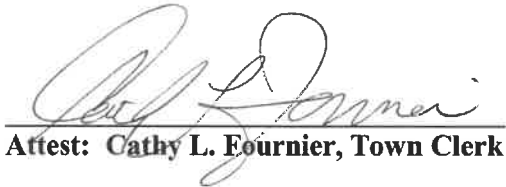
Brendan P. Long



Earl D. Fournier

SELECTBOARD

Dated and filed this 22nd day of January, 2025



Attest: Cathy L. Fournier, Town Clerk

SELECTBOARD'S REPORT

Preamble

Your Selectboard has had another busy year and is pleased to present you with this report of the activities for the Town for 2024.

The major event of 2024, was provided for no charge to the taxpayers, the Solar Eclipse on April 8th. This drew in hundreds, if not thousands, of visitors to our town from throughout many parts of the country. The view was spectacular for the once in a lifetime experience and having well mannered crowds of people enjoying the hospitality of our town and residents, was the best marketing tool a community could ask for.

Notes of the Year

At the beginning of 2024, the Selectboard consisted of Chair Earl Fournier, Nicole Draper, Cody Hemenway and Steve Bourgeois, with Joel Clark being appointed on January 2, 2024 to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Ed White, Sr. late in 2023. Joel's return to the Selectboard is a welcome addition. On Town Meeting Day, the voters decided to leave all of the incumbents on the Selectboard in office. On August 20th, Cody Hemenway tendered his resignation from the Selectboard due to personal reasons. We wish to thank Cody for his time and service while on the Board and wish him well in the future. On October 21, the Selectboard appointed Brendan Long to fill the vacancy until Town Meeting Day in 2025.

During 2024 we put a request for proposal to bid on the construction project for the Lamoille Valley Rail Trailhead but unfortunately we received no bids. Although it is unclear exactly why this was the case, it was probably due to the fact that all of the contractors were extremely busy doing work throughout the areas of the state affected by last summer's flooding. We are once again advertising for bids and are hopeful that we will have interest this time around.

We are continuing to have the soil tested on the former town garage site on Fourth Street. The state has required additional testing prior to allowing any development to take place. It is still our intent that this parcel of land will be used for recreational purposes, however it is not clear at this time just when this will occur, hopefully by the end of 2025.

The improvements to Swanton Hill Road will take place this year. Work will be to lower the grade of the hill but leave the roadway in place. It is our plan to have a contractor just for the blasting that will be needed with the rest of the project being done by our Highway Department staff.

Like any community, it is the residents that MAKE the town what it is. Swanton is no exception with many individuals who have given years of service to the community in various roles, Ed Daniel who has served has served years on the Board of Civil Authority, has been the Town Moderator and recently retired from the Planning Commission after serving many years. We wish to extend our sincere thanks to Ed for his years of service

Unfortunately, we have lost some of our long-time residents, longtime town auditor and member of the Board of Civil Authority John E. Hubbard, former Selectboard member Gary B. Rice, longtime member of the Development Review Board Robert Manning, and a lifelong resident and member of the business community who was active in many organizations, Charles E. Prouty, passed away on January 2, 2025.

Highlights of the Year

In 2024, we have continued to work on our town buildings. Last year we reported that we had Arnold and Scangas Architects addressing the icing issue that has plague the library for many years. A plan is in place, that will improve the thermal envelope of the library, this project is crucial as its long-term benefits include heating and cooling efficiency, which will reduce operating costs. It is anticipated that this work will commence in earl spring. While the work is being conducted, the library will need to be closed for safety reasons.

In late September it was discovered that there was a leak in the kitchen drain pipe at the Town Offices. This had been leaking for an extended period of time causing the floor in the kitchen as well as into the Clerk's area to rot and begin to give way. As there is just a crawl space and not a full basement under that portion of the building, the repairs had to be done from above. This necessitated relocating the Clerk's office into the boardroom and closing the front entrance to the building. The entire repair work took a little over a week and the Town Clerk moved back into their area shortly after. Given the fact the building is almost 200 years old; we did not know what to expect with getting into the repairs, but fortunately it was fully covered by our insurance and the cost to the town was \$1,000.00 representing the deductible on our policy.

Our long time Assistant Town Clerk, Tanya Dufresne, resigned her position in early May to accept a position in the private sector. We thank Tanya for her many years of service and wish her well in her future endeavors. As required by state law, the Assistant Clerk is appointed and reportable to the Town Clerk. The position was posted and by the end of May, Tamar Bouchard, a Swanton resident, was appointed as Assistant Town Clerk. We welcome Tamar to our organization. The Highway Department remains fully staffed with Kevin Lapan, Highway Foreman, Patrick Loyer, Jeff King, Brandon Calderwood and our part-time employee, Mike Bockus. In April of 2023 we hired a full-time administrative assistant for the Town Administrator and Zoning Administrator. Christina Candels has served extremely well in the capacity and has further expanded the role so that she is assisting with most of the other functions within the Town Offices. Given her increased responsibilities, it was our pleasure that effective December 17th, Christina was promoted to Assistant Town Administrator.

As was mentioned in last year's report, our Zoning By-laws would have to be updated to compliment the previously adopted new town plan. Our Planning Commission has spent countless hours revising our by-laws. The Selectboard contracted with Corey Parent of Leonine Associates to assist with the rewrite of the by-laws as recommended by the Planning Commission. We are presently at the point where the Planning Commission will soon be holding a public hearing on the proposed changes that will then be forwarded to the Selectboard for another public hearing. Once the hearings are completed, the Selectboard will vote to adopt the revised by-laws. The

primary aim of this revision is to make our by-laws more flexible, easier to interpret, and to comply with recent changes in the state statutes.

We would like to encourage all residents to review the changes being made to the zoning bylaws. Your engagement is critical to this process so that we can continue to comply with the changes coming from the State of Vermont, while supporting the community's vision of Swanton. You may find a draft copy of the proposed by-laws on our website under "Zoning and Planning".

General Budget

In 2024, the actual expenditures came in at \$906,883.47 compared to a budgeted amount of \$985,405.35, with the amount to be raised by taxes being \$814,927.61. Assuming all warned articles are approved, the proposed 2025 General Budget will be \$1,001,642.49 with \$750,502.10 to be raised by taxes. The Selectboard understands the financial challenges we all face and has worked hard to keep the budget as tight as possible while maximizing the value of your tax dollars. We encourage all Swanton voters to review and understand the budget and special articles on this year's ballot, if you need any additional information please review our budget discussions on the town's YouTube channel (@SwantonVermontInfoCentral-z7z) and/or attend informational meeting on Monday, February 24, 2025 at the Swanton Village Municipal Complex at 7:00 p.m. with your questions and comments.

Again, this year, the Town and Village will conduct a joint budget informational meeting, so that we can continue to work on community cohesion and collaboration. We look forward to seeing you then and on Town Meeting Day, Tuesday, March 4, 2025, the polls will be open from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm at the Swanton Village Complex. You may also request an Absentee Ballot by contacting the Town Clerk at 802-868-4421, we urge you to participate in the democratic process by exercising your right to VOTE!!!

Highway

In 2024, the actual expenditures came in at \$1,100,204.89 compared to a proposed budget of \$1,387,363.02, with the amount to be raised by taxes being \$1,285,363.02. Assuming all warned articles are approved, the proposed 2025 Highway Budget is \$1,358,951.94 with \$1,121,129.71 to be raised by taxes. As usual, the single largest expense in the Highway Budget is road resurfacing.

The following roads had resurfacing work done on them, Champlain Street, Church Road, Leduc Drive, Andy Ave, Woods Hill Road (Cold Plane and Overlay) and Lord Road. We are again allocating \$450,000.00 for resurfacing this year, which is the same as last year that was \$100,000.00 over the prior year. We are hoping to be able to get back to our schedule for resurfacing. We will be installing a culvert on Brooklyn Street this year. We had hoped to get it done last year, however the permitting process was longer than anticipated. We carried \$40,000.00 over from 2024 to cover the cost. It is our hope to have this project approved for a grant of approximately \$20,000.00 from the State of Vermont. This project will correct a situation where the storm water in that area is draining into the Village sewer system which is prohibited by state law

Last year, the Selectboard reported that Storm Water Permits issued by the State of Vermont needed to be renewed. The renewals come with additional requirements of compliance set by the State of Vermont. This has been a long process with the Town signing a contract with Ruggiano Engineering to do the permit work for Robin Hood Drive and Country Club Estates. Work is being concentrated on the permit involving Country Club Estates as residents are facing issues if they wish to sell their homes. Every effort is being made to get these permits renewed but it is unknown at this time to what extent it will cost the town, the homeowner's association or the individuals owning property to be in compliance.

Your Selectboard would like to recognize the efficiency of our Highway Department. The fleet is kept in excellent mechanical condition, the roads are well maintained summer and winter with the department showing sound fiscal management of its budget each year. It is through this efficiency that a new truck ordered in 2022 and expected to be delivered last spring or early summer, but due to supply issues has finally been delivered. This truck will be paid for from the carryover funds with no tax increase. Congratulations and thank you to Kevin, Patrick, Jeff, Brandon, and Mike for your hard work and dedication!

Every effort has been made to keep expenditures under control, however increases generally in areas that we have little or no control of such as insurance as well as being competitive in the salaries that we pay our hard-working employees. With the proposed budgets stated in the report it is expected that our tax rate will be stable, if not slightly decreased from that of the prior year.

Recreation

The Swanton Recreation Commission provides a wide variety of recreational activities for Swanton residents. It also maintains the John Raleigh Memorial Fields, Swanton Recreation Club House, and adjacent parking areas. It is noteworthy that the Recreation Commission raises much of the funding for its budget through registration fees, grants and other fundraising; additional details on personnel changes and new recreational activities can be found in the Recreation Commission's report elsewhere in the Town Report.

As has been reported in past years, the work on the proposed Recreation/Community Center has been placed on hold. The funds of \$600,000.00 remain committed to the project and your Selectboard fully supports moving the project forward at some future point. In the meantime, some much needed renovations were undertaken on the existing rec building that houses offices, storage and has been used for activities. There has been purchased a storage container that will be placed in the lower lot.

More information on the Recreation Department's sports activities and events can be found on its website at www.swantonrec.org or by calling Recreation Director Nicole Draper at 802-868-2493.

Law Enforcement

For the April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025 contracted year, the Swanton Village Police Department (SVPD) provided 10 hour per day coverage, seven days per week, 52 weeks per year. This was at

a cost of \$475,057.00. The amount being requested this year for the same scheduled hours is \$489,137.19. The SVPD, from April 1st to December 31st, provided just under 100 additional hours outside of the contract.

The police budget itself had several major increases for items such as the health insurance, workers comp insurance and dispatching costs which all had significant increases. In addition, to be competitive with surrounding municipal law enforcement agencies, the salaries needed to be adjusted. The law enforcement environment is very competitive and it is a problem faced by all communities. For further review of the total budget as well as the activity of the SVPD, please refer to their report found elsewhere in the Town Report.

Animal Control Officer

Jim Benson continues as Swanton's Animal Control Officer. He can be reached by cell phone at 802-238-3246. He can also be contacted by email at swantonaco@gmail.com. **The ACO deals only with dog issues. The ACO does not accept dogs that are no longer wanted by their owners. Cats and other animals are not handled by the ACO.** All issues concerning wild animals should be directed to a state fish and wildlife warden by contacting the Vermont State Police at 802-524-5993. The ACO works cooperatively with a professional dog trainer. To view a copy of the Town's *Dog Ordinance*, please visit the ACO page on the Town's website. All dogs must be registered by April 1st of each year at the Town Clerk's Office. Dogs will be impounded by the ACO if not properly registered. Proof of rabies inoculation is required.

Health Officer

The Town Health Officer is appointed by the Vermont Department of Health upon the recommendation of the Selectboard. Amber LaFountain who has served as the Town Health Officer since 2023 submitted her resignation this past spring. The Selectboard received an application for consideration and was pleased to recommend Suzie Kelleher to the State Health Commissioner, as the new Town Health Officer. The Town Health Officer's web page is on the town's website.

Economic Development

As your Selectboard, we are dedicated to building a strong, vibrant, and supportive community here in Swanton. We know that for our town to grow and thrive, it requires trust, collaboration, and a shared vision of economic development. That's why we've added additional focus to "Promote Swanton", a group composed of members of the town selectboard and the village trustees, local business owners and community stakeholders. We want to promote Swanton's natural beauty and outdoor opportunities that make our town unique, but also the local businesses and entrepreneurs who are helping to shape our future.

With your continued input, we are focusing on initiatives that bring us closer together. We're excited to see the progress on our town website (www.swantonvermont.gov), which serves as a hub for important information, events, and services. Alongside this, we are enhancing our community calendar, creating space for public meetings and local happenings, and working on an

updated business directory. These tools are meant to connect neighbors, support local entrepreneurs, and make it easier for everyone to find the services they need. If you have ideas on how we can further promote our town and connect with one another, we welcome your voice and encourage you to be part of this ongoing conversation.

We're also making strides in economic development. The Southern Growth District is a key area for us, and we're excited about the developments taking place. The new District Highway Garage project, supported by the Vermont Agency of Transportation, is nearing completion, and the adjacent land has been purchased for a future military readiness center by the Vermont National Guard. While we don't yet know the timeline for construction, we're hopeful that these projects will create new opportunities for our community. We continue to explore further infrastructure possibilities, such as extending water and sewer lines, and we remain open to discussions that can help support growth while maintaining the character of our town.

Our downtown district is also thriving, with new businesses breathing fresh life into the former Champlain Theater building. Green Mountain Bistro and the Missing Piece Bakery are wonderful additions, and we're also thrilled to welcome Topsy Daisy, a new floral shop, to First Street. These businesses represent the spirit of entrepreneurship that Swanton is known for, and we wish them long-term success as they contribute to our town's growth. While challenges exist, such as finding suitable land for large development projects due to conservation and wetland areas, we are committed to seeking out opportunities that will allow our town to grow in ways that align with our values and preserve the essence of what makes Swanton special. Together, we can continue to build a community that's not just sustainable but also a place where everyone can thrive. Let's continue to support one another, invest in our local businesses, and keep working to make Swanton the dynamic, engaged, and welcoming community we all know it can be

Recognition

The Swanton Selectboard would like to express its gratitude to all of our town employees, appointed board members and elected officials for their dedicated public service. It requires a tremendous amount of coordination between our employees, elected and appointed officials and volunteers dedicating their time and talents to keep our local government functioning properly and efficiently. We also are grateful for the input received from Swanton citizens on Town operations. Any citizen who is interested in volunteering for service on any particular Town board or committee may contact Town Administrator Brian Savage at 802-868-7418 for more details.

Swanton Town Ordinances

Enhanced 911 Road Naming, Road Sign and Addressing Ordinance
Regulating the Burning and Disposal of Solid Wastes
Culvert, Ditch, Right-Of-Way and Driveway Ordinance
Dog and Wolf-Hybrid Ordinance
Speed Limit Ordinance
Stop Sign Ordinance
Public Indecency Ordinance
Parking Ordinance
Child Safety Ordinance
Local Enforcement of Speed Limit on State Highway Ordinance
No Passing Zone Ordinance
Truancy Ordinance
ATV Ordinance

*Swanton Town Ordinances
are available to review online at:
<https://www.swantonvt.gov/town/ordinances-policies>*

My Voter Page

By using the My Voter Page, a registered voter can:

- * Check registration status;
- * View information on upcoming elections;
- * Access voter specific elections information, including directions to polling place and polling hours;
- * View a sample ballot;
- * Request and track an absentee ballot; and much more.

We encourage voters to log into their My Voter Page to learn more.

*Registered Voters can log in at:
<https://mvp.vermont.gov/>*

*Online registration can be found at:
<https://olvr.vermont.gov/>*

ABSTRACTS OF THE 2024 TOWN MEETING

TOTAL REGISTRERED VOTERS:	4799
TOTAL VOTES CAST:	1427
TOTAL ABSENTEES:	299

Article 1: To elect from the legal voters of said Town the following officers:

Moderator, Town for a 1 year term	Brian K. Savage	1353
One Selectman for a 3 year term	Earl Fournier	1312
One Selectman for a 2 year term	Nicole Draper	709
One Selectman for a 1 year unexp. term	Joel A. Clark	870
One Lister for a 3 year term	David Horton	1306
One Lister for a 1 year unexp. term	Kevin Nichols	1276
One Auditor for a 3 year term	Joyce Bombardier	1319
One Trustee of Public Money for a 3 year term.	Nicholas Brosseau	745
One Library Trustee for a 5 year term	Richard Kelley	1334
One Cemetery Commissioner for a 5 year term	Cody Hemenway	1351
One Cemetery Commissioner for a 4 year unexp term	John Kaczkowski	1274
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	Betty L. Cheney	1363

Article 2: Shall the Town appropriate \$1,285,363.02 for the operation and maintenance of the Town Highway Department?

YES	563
NO	287

Article 3: Shall the Town appropriate \$296,216.00 for fire protection?

YES	589
NO	262

Article 4: Shall the Town appropriate \$475,057.00 to provide police protection to the residents of the Town of Swanton?

YES	431
NO	419

Article 5: Shall the Town appropriate \$814,927.61 for the Town General expenses?

YES	792
NO	536

Article 6: Shall the Town appropriate \$212,502.88 towards the maintenance & employee benefits of the Swanton Public Library?

YES	740
NO	600

Article 7: Shall the Town appropriate \$70,900.00 towards the Operating Budget of the Swanton Public Library?

YES	798
NO	536

Article 8: Shall the Town collect its real and personal property taxes to defray the expenses of the Town for the fiscal year commencing January 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, by its actual receipt of payment (postmarks will not be accepted) at the Town Offices by 5 p.m. on October 15th, or if the 15th shall fall on a weekend or holiday, the following business day by 5 p.m., with an eight percent (8%) penalty and one percent (1%) interest per month (or portion thereof) due thereon for the first three months, and one and one half (1.5%) per month (or portion thereof) thereafter, to be charged for late payment of any installment?

YES 875
NO 458

Article 9: Shall the Town appropriate \$229,761.00 to provide rescue services to the residents of the Town of Swanton?

YES 982
NO 358

Article 10: Shall the Town appropriate \$149,562.97 towards the Operating and Maintenance Budget of the Recreation Department?

YES 827
NO 513

Article 11: Shall the Town establish a Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$25,000.00 annually for the future construction and maintenance of Town owned assets?

YES 813
NO 531

Dated at Swanton, Vermont this 22nd day of January, 2024.

Earl Fournier, Chair
Steven Bourgeois
Joel Clark
SELECTBOARD

Nicole Draper
Cody Hemenway

Dated and filed this 22nd day of January, 2024
Attest: Cathy L. Fournier, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF SWANTON
TOWN TREASURERS REPORT
12/31/2024**

RECEIPTS

Balance on Hand - Regular Accounts January 1, 2023		\$ 1,649,903.67
Balance on Hand - Reserve Accounts January 1, 2023		\$ 1,071,656.09
Taxes Collected		\$ 12,968,617.54
School Tax Money		\$ (9,610,852.10)
Recording Fees		\$ 53,559.26
Digitized Records Fees		\$ 10,906.00
Restoration Fees		\$ 21,804.00
Zoning & Planning Fees		\$ 43,566.15
Marriage License Fees		\$ 630.00
Interest on Delinquent Taxes		\$ 10,659.71
Delinquent Taxes Collected		\$ 316,996.89
Interest Income - General		\$ 58,558.06
Interest Income/Reserve		\$ 9,821.69
Dog Licenses (Town Share)		\$ 5,238.00
Railroad Tax Revenue		\$ 8,472.12
Fish & Game Fees (Town Share)		\$ 50.00
Beverage Licenses		\$ 1,370.00
General Miscellaneous		\$ 8,249.96
Highway Misc		\$ 212.91
Special Funds		\$ 1,024,433.15
Health Ded		\$ 6,000.00
Insurance Reimbursement		\$ 16,219.12
Land Use Fees		\$ 4,983.00
Re-Appraisal State		\$ 32,043.50
Grant Funds-		\$ 38,869.00
Highway Federal and State Aid/Grants		\$ 154,456.43
Highway Permits/Judicial Fees		\$ 10,630.04
Fish and Wildlife - Highway Funds		\$ 2,839.00
Capital Reserve Interest		\$ 2,193.32
Contingency Fund Interest		\$ 971.64
		\$ 7,923,058.15

DISBURSEMENTS

General Expenses & Ledger Entireties & Special		2,412,780.28
Library Expenses		228,262.79
Highway & Ledger Entries		1,882,749.45
Balance on Hand - Regular Accounts 12/31/24		1,892,079.81
Balance on Hand - Reserve Accounts 12/31/24		\$ 1,507,185.82
		\$ 7,923,058.15

Regular Accounts

Checkbook Balance 12/31/24	\$ 1,891,669.81	
Cash on Hand	\$ 410.00	
sub total	\$ 1,892,079.81	
HW Carry Over-Brooklyn Street Stormwater Issue	\$ 19,998.60	
HW Carry Over-Road Improvement	\$ 149,500.00	
HW Carry-Over Stormwater	\$ 38,837.50	
HW-Police to complete Contract Jan-March 2025	\$ 109,156.35	
Grant -	\$ 43,869.00	
HW Funds/GNRL Fund to offset taxes	\$ 234,490.49	
Balance	\$ 1,296,227.87	

Accounts

Reserve Accounts		
Reappraisal	\$ 650,622.20	
Town Highway Capital Reserve	\$ 356,546.31	
Digitized Account	\$ 170,720.32	
Health Care Account	\$ 37,956.86	
Restoration Account	\$ 134,820.38	
Emergency Management/Civil Defense	\$ 8,501.71	
Building Maintenance Acct	\$ 28,979.26	
Loan Fund	\$ 50,657.78	
Total General Fund Reserve Accounts	\$ 1,438,804.82	
Highway Contingency	\$ 68,381.00	
Total Highway Fund Reserve Accounts	\$ 68,381.00	
Balance on Hand - Reserve Accounts 12/31/24	\$ 1,507,185.82	

Respectfully Submitted: Cathy L. Fournier, Town Treasurer

TOWN AUDITOR'S REPORT 2024

Balance Due Town 2023 Report	\$ 131,789.98
Received from Town Treasurer Delinquent 2024	<u>443,537.22</u>
Amount Due Town	\$ 575,327.20
Deposited to Town Treasurer 2024	\$ (316,996.89)
Delinquent Taxes Collected in 2024 turned over to Town Jan. 2025	(54,415.17)
Taxes Abated 2024	<u>(1,105.41)</u>
Total Outstanding Taxes	\$ 202,809.73

OUTSTANDING TAXES AS OF 12/31/24

	2017 - 2020	\$ 7,390.59
	2021	2,962.12
	2022	3,185.41
	2023	27,497.30
	2024	<u>161,774.31</u>
BALANCE DUE TO TOWN		\$ 202,809.73

TOWN FUNDS

Balance on Hand 12/31/2024	\$ 234,490.49
Cash on Hand	410.00
Highway Contingency	68,381.00
Savings – Economic Fund	34,709.35
Mapping	2,916.56
Reappraisal Fund	650,622.20
Uncollected Taxes	202,809.73
Restoration Reserve Fund	134,820.38
Capital Reserve Highway	356,546.31
Digitized Computerized Records Fund	170,720.32
Town Garage Reserve Fund	0
Emergency Management Fund	8,501.71
Health Account	<u>37,886.87</u>
Total Town Funds	\$ 1,902,814.92

TOWN DEBT

Town Debt Statement	
Town Garage	\$ <u>241,683.83</u>
Total Debt	\$ 241,683.83

We have verified the existence of the stated cash balances and investments and examined the accounts of the Town of Swanton. The financial Statement described above results in an incomplete presentation; the reports and disbursements referred to above present fairly the financial position of the year ended 12/31/24.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce D. Bombardier
Diane Larocque

COMPARATIVE GRANDLIST AND RATE

Grand List

	<i>Town</i>	<i>Village</i>	<i>Total</i>
2020	\$5,238,241.00	\$1,624,633.00	\$6,863,558.00
2021	\$5,316,509.00	\$1,631,716.00	\$6,948,225.00
2022	\$5,413,144.00	\$1,650,493.00	\$7,063,637.00
2023	\$5,520,254.00	\$1,664,546.00	\$7,184,800.00
2024	\$5,630,787.00	\$1,675,862.00	\$7,306,649.00

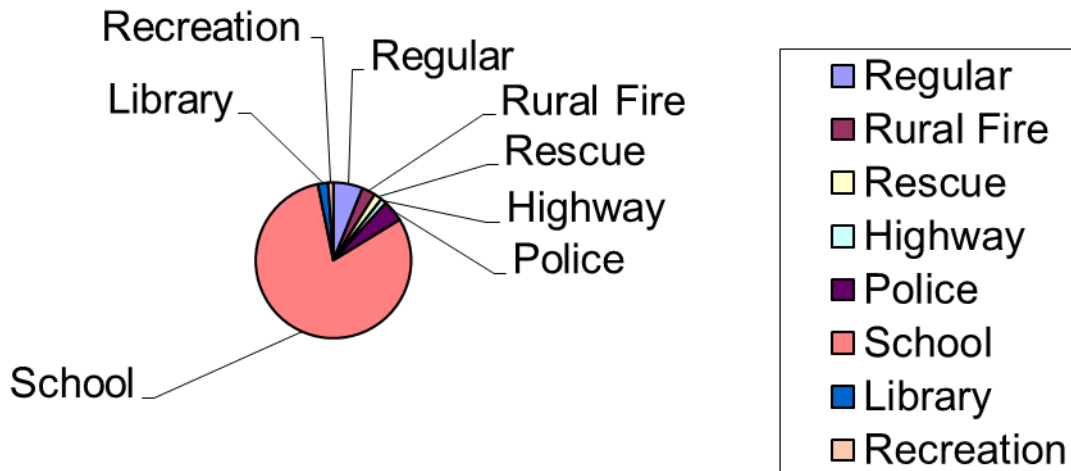
Tax Rate 2023

	<u>Town</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>Village</u>	<u>Village</u>
	<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-Resident</u>	<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-Resident</u>
Regular	0.0874	0.0874	0.0874	0.0874
Library	0.0094	0.0094	0.0094	0.0094
Library	0.0244	0.0244	0.0244	0.0244
Rescue	0.0277	0.0277	0.0277	0.0277
Recreation	0.0172	0.0172	0.0172	0.0172
Local Agreement	0.0038	0.0038	0.0028	0.0028
Highway / Police	0.2667	0.2667		
Fire	0.0504	0.0504		
School	<u>1.3849</u>	<u>1.5535</u>	<u>1.3849</u>	<u>1.5535</u>
Total	1.8718	2.0404	1.5547	1.7233

2024

	<u>Town</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>Village</u>	<u>Village</u>
	<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-Resident</u>	<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-Resident</u>
Regular	0.1153	0.1153	0.1153	0.1153
Library	0.0097	0.0097	0.0097	0.0097
Library	0.0291	0.0291	0.0291	0.0291
Rescue	0.0314	0.0314	0.0314	0.0314
Recreation	0.0209	0.0209	0.0209	0.0209
Local Agreement	0.0044	0.0044	0.0044	0.0044
Highway	0.0228	0.0228		
Police	0.0844	0.0844		
Fire	0.0526	0.0526		
School	<u>1.5162</u>	<u>1.7612</u>	<u>1.5162</u>	<u>1.7612</u>
Total	2.0923	2.3373	1.7270	1.9720

2024 Town of Swanton Tax Rate



ACCOUNTS RESERVED FOR PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ECONOMIC FUND—2024

Beginning Balance 01/01/24	\$ 34,187.83
Interest Earned	<u>521.52</u>
Balance on Hand 12/31/24	\$ 34,709.35

MAPPING ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance 01/01/24	\$ 2,872.88
Interest Earned	<u>43.68</u>
Balance on Hand 12/31/24	\$ 2,916.56

HIGHWAY CONTINGENCY FUND

Beginning Balance 01/01/24	\$ 32,011.39
Interest Earned	971.64
Fish & Wildlife Money	3,043.00
2023 Carry-Over Selectboard	<u>32,354.97</u>
Balance on Hand 12/31/24	\$ 68,381.00

2024 DOG FUND

Receipts:	
Licenses Issued	\$ 5,238.00
Animal Control Expense	<u>9,995.28</u>
Net Loss End of 2023	\$ - 4,757.28

2025 GENERAL BUDGET

	2024	2024	2024	2025	%
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE	BUDGET	CHANGE
Selectboard Salaries	\$ 8,900.00	\$ 9,691.66	\$ (791.66)	\$ 8,900.00	0.00%
Lister's Salaries / Property Assessments	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 69,637.82	\$ (4,637.82)	\$ 69,000.00	6.15%
Auditors Salaries	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ -	\$ 1,200.00	0.00%
Employees Salaries	\$ 303,478.50	\$ 304,522.55	\$ (1,044.05)	\$ 319,763.00	5.37%
FICA/ Medicare	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,719.36	\$ (719.36)	\$ 31,000.00	3.33%
Child Care Tax	\$ 1,486.00	\$ 1,103.32	\$ 382.68	\$ 1,486.00	0.00%
Retirement-VEMRs	\$ 22,000.00	\$ 21,552.66	\$ 447.34	\$ 23,000.00	4.55%
Health Insurance	\$ 100,895.34	\$ 68,500.70	\$ 32,394.64	\$ 100,895.00	0.00%
Health Insurance Expense	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ -	\$ 6,000.00	0.00%
Unemployment & Training	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 2,464.85	\$ 1,035.15	\$ 3,500.00	0.00%
Office Supplies	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 11,745.56	\$ (1,745.56)	\$ 10,000.00	0.00%
Postage	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 4,621.90	\$ 4,378.10	\$ 9,000.00	0.00%
Computer/Software Purchases	\$ 13,400.00	\$ 8,411.75	\$ 4,988.25	\$ 13,400.00	0.00%
Equipment Repair/Purchases	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 4,580.34	\$ 4,919.66	\$ 9,500.00	0.00%
Printing	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 6,248.18	\$ (748.18)	\$ 6,500.00	18.18%
Election Expense	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 9,248.15	\$ (1,248.15)	\$ 5,000.00	-37.50%
Tax Appeals	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 170.88	\$ 1,829.12	\$ 2,000.00	0.00%
Meetings, Mileage & Ed. Expense	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 3,613.02	\$ 3,386.98	\$ 7,000.00	0.00%
Natural Gas/Heating Oil	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,314.43	\$ 685.57	\$ 3,000.00	0.00%
Electricity	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 2,535.09	\$ 164.91	\$ 2,850.00	5.56%
Water & Sewer	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 1,834.98	\$ (184.98)	\$ 1,825.00	10.61%
Telephone	\$ 4,600.00	\$ 4,328.08	\$ 271.92	\$ 4,600.00	0.00%
Janitorial Supplies/Janitor/Trash	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 10,559.72	\$ 4,440.28	\$ 13,000.00	-13.33%
Water & Dispenser	\$ 300.00	\$ 377.89	\$ (77.89)	\$ 400.00	33.33%
Parcel Mapping Updates	\$ 6,800.00	\$ 6,950.00	\$ (150.00)	\$ 6,800.00	0.00%
Auditing	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 14,500.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 17,500.00	0.00%
Legal Fees	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 3,429.95	\$ 1,570.05	\$ 5,000.00	0.00%
Computer Consulting	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 7,045.61	\$ (2,045.61)	\$ 6,000.00	20.00%
Insurance	\$ 28,916.00	\$ 26,238.80	\$ 2,677.20	\$ 26,317.00	-8.99%
Animal Control	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 9,995.28	\$ (495.28)	\$ 10,000.00	5.26%
Health Officer	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 3,809.40	\$ 690.60	\$ 4,500.00	0.00%
Civil Defense	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	0.00%
Town Office Complex Maintenance	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 26,925.16	\$ (6,925.16)	\$ 20,000.00	0.00%
Interest Paid on Loans	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	0.00%
Franklin County Tax	\$ 68,822.51	\$ 68,783.82	\$ 38.69	\$ 67,821.29	-1.45%
Depot Maintenance	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 5,546.73	\$ 6,453.27	\$ 12,000.00	0.00%
Cemetery Maintenance	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 18,000.00	\$ -	\$ 18,000.00	0.00%
MISC Expense	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 4,222.80	\$ (1,722.80)	\$ 4,000.00	60.00%
Website Maintenance	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ (300.00)	\$ 4,104.00	173.60%
PC & ZBA Salaries	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 5,870.00	\$ 1,330.00	\$ 7,200.00	0.00%
Z&P Supplies & Printing	\$ 5,200.00	\$ 1,718.23	\$ 3,481.77	\$ 5,200.00	0.00%
Z&P Legal Fees	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 1,012.50	\$ 8,987.50	\$ 10,000.00	0.00%
Town Plan Exp	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	0.00%
Land Use & Dev Regs	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	-75.00%
Memorial Day	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 2,600.00	\$ -	\$ 2,600.00	0.00%
Franklin County Industrial Development	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 12,500.00	\$ -	\$ 12,500.00	0.00%
Economic Development Services	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	0.00%
Northwest Regional Planning Commission	\$ 8,006.00	\$ 8,006.00	\$ -	\$ 8,246.00	3.00%
Town Celebration-2019	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 945.00	\$ 4,055.00	\$ 5,000.00	0.00%
Vermont League Of Cities & Towns	\$ 10,243.00	\$ 10,243.00	\$ -	\$ 10,469.00	2.21%
Total General & Z&P	\$ 911,397.35	\$ 833,125.17	\$ 78,272.18	\$ 926,576.29	1.67%

2025 GENERAL BUDGET

APPROPRIATIONS:			\$ -		
			\$ -		
Abenaki Nation Pantry	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	0.00%
Watershed Mentoring	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	0.00%
Age Well	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00	0.00%
Northwest Access Recording	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00	0.00%
VNA & Hospice of Southwest Region	\$ 13,497.00	\$ 13,497.00	\$ -	\$ 13,497.00	0.00%
Franklin County Citizens Advocacy	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ 250.00	0.00%
Foster Grandparent Program	\$ 375.00	\$ 375.00	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
Franklin Grand Isle Restorative Justice Ctr	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	0.00%
Vermont Green Up	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ 250.00	\$ 300.00	20.00%
Northwest Unit for Special Investigations	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	0.00%
Northwestern Counseling & Support SVC	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ -	\$ 1,800.00	0.00%
Green Mountain Transit	\$ 2,625.00	\$ 2,625.00	\$ -	\$ 2,625.00	0.00%
Samaritan House	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	0.00%
Friends of Northern Lake Champlain	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	0.00%
MVU Graduation Celebration	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ -	-100.00%
Missisquoi River Basin Association	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	0.00%
Swan Care Maintenance	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	0.00%
CVOEO-NW Food Shelf	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	0.00%
VT CTR Independent Living	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	0.00%
Franklin Grand Isle Book Mobile	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	0.00%
Swanton Enhancement Project	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	0.00%
Adult Learning	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	0.00%
Laura's House	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	0.00%
Total Appropriations	\$ 40,297.00	\$ 40,047.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 40,472.00	0.43%
Previously Voted Article			\$ -		
Northwest Solid waste	\$ 8,711.00	\$ 8,711.30	\$ (0.30)	\$ 9,594.20	10.14%
SUBTOTAL	\$ 960,405.35	\$ 881,883.47	\$ 78,521.88	\$ 976,642.49	1.69%
Previously Voted Article					
Capital Reserve	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ -	\$ 25,000.00	0.00%
SUBTOTAL	\$ 985,405.35	\$ 906,883.47		\$ 1,001,642.49	1.65%
ARTICLES			\$ -		
Missisquoi Valley Rescue	\$ 229,761.00	\$ 229,761.00	\$ -	\$ 259,490.00	12.94%
Swanton Library	\$ 70,900.00	\$ 70,900.00	\$ -	\$ 80,260.00	13.20%
Swanton Recreation	\$ 149,562.97	\$ 149,562.97	\$ -	\$ 239,600.00	60.20%
Subtotal Articles	\$ 450,223.97	\$ 450,223.97	\$ -	\$ 579,350.00	28.68%
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 1,410,629.32	\$ 1,332,107.44	\$ 78,521.88	\$ 1,580,992.49	12.08%
Insurance Reimbursement-Town Hall			\$ 16,219.12		
ABENAKI GRANT	\$ 38,869.00	\$ 38,869.00	\$ 38,869.00		
Reserve Account			.		
Health Insurance Deductible	\$ 4,900.00	\$ 5,731.76	\$ 5,731.76		
Record Book Restoration	\$ 13,326.50	\$ 13,326.50	\$ 13,326.50		
		\$ 1,390,034.70	\$ 152,668.26		
ANTICIPATED GENERAL RECEIPTS			\$ -		
License & Recording Fees		\$ 50,000.00			
Zoning & Planning Fees		\$ 40,000.00			
Town Share Railroad Tax		\$ 8,472.12			
Balance on Hand		\$ 152,668.26			
TOTAL:		\$ 251,140.38			
	Proposed Tax Rates				
To Be Raised By Taxes	0.1028	\$ 750,502.10			
Total Budgeted		\$ 1,001,642.49			
To Be Raised For Articles					
Missisquoi Valley Rescue	0.0356	\$ 259,490.00			
Library Budget	0.0110	\$ 80,260.00			
Swanton Recreation	0.0328	\$ 239,600.00			
2025 Projected General Town	0.1822				
2024 Tax Rate	0.1759				
Increase	0.0063				

**2025
HIGHWAY BUDGET**

	2024	2024	2024	2025	% Change
		Actual	Variance		
Salaries	\$ 284,465.36	\$ 271,517.99	\$ 12,947.37	\$ 295,850.00	4.00%
Part Time Employee	\$ 15,555.00	\$ 16,563.72	\$ (1,008.72)	\$ 17,500.00	12.50%
Fica/Medi	\$ 21,500.00	\$ 21,012.44	\$ 487.56	\$ 21,500.00	0.00%
Retirement-VEMRS	\$ 20,700.00	\$ 18,619.44	\$ 2,080.56	\$ 21,500.00	3.86%
Health Insurance	\$ 79,977.66	\$ 82,764.70	\$ (2,787.04)	\$ 88,025.94	10.06%
Unemployment & Training	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 2,393.14	\$ 1,606.86	\$ 4,000.00	0.00%
Child Care Tax	\$ 1,318.00	\$ 561.76	\$ 756.24	\$ 1,333.00	1.14%
Natural Gas	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 5,547.56	\$ 2,452.44	\$ 8,000.00	0.00%
Electricity	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 2,841.83	\$ 1,158.17	\$ 4,000.00	0.00%
Street Lights	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 2,660.82	\$ (60.82)	\$ 2,600.00	0.00%
Telephone	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,811.26	\$ (311.26)	\$ 3,000.00	20.00%
Uniforms	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 9,129.11	\$ (3,129.11)	\$ 7,500.00	25.00%
Trash Removal	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 807.00	\$ 193.00	\$ 1,000.00	0.00%
Legal Fees	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,327.50	\$ 172.50	\$ 1,500.00	0.00%
Insurance	\$ 28,147.00	\$ 28,108.20	\$ 38.80	\$ 28,143.00	-0.01%
Stones	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 2,864.31	\$ 8,135.69	\$ 8,000.00	-54.55%
Sand	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 14,210.00	\$ 2,790.00	\$ 17,000.00	0.00%
Chloride	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	0.00%
Salt	\$ 33,000.00	\$ 26,490.48	\$ 6,509.52	\$ 33,000.00	0.00%
Hot/Cold Patch	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,407.20	\$ (307.20)	\$ 2,000.00	81.82%
Culverts & Signs	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,865.98	\$ 134.02	\$ 4,000.00	0.00%
Road Line Paint	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,134.62	\$ (134.62)	\$ 18,000.00	50.00%
Road Resurfacing	\$ 450,000.00	\$ 449,481.03	\$ 518.97	\$ 450,000.00	0.00%
Garage Maintenance	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 5,223.54	\$ 776.46	\$ 35,000.00	483.33%
Janitorial Supplies	\$ 500.00	\$ 60.54	\$ 439.46	\$ 500.00	0.00%
Parts Supplies Repairs	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 40,329.78	\$ (10,329.78)	\$ 30,000.00	0.00%
Gas, Oil & Grease	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 28,035.99	\$ 16,964.01	\$ 45,000.00	0.00%
Equip Rental/Purchase	\$ 28,000.00	\$ 2,811.29	\$ 25,188.71	\$ 15,000.00	-46.43%
Tool Upgrade/Rental	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 686.80	\$ 1,313.20	\$ 2,000.00	0.00%
Tree Service	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 12,000.00	20.00%
Storm Water Permits	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 10,001.40	\$ 19,998.60	\$ 10,000.00	-66.67%
Road Improvement Projects	\$ 162,500.00	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 149,500.00	\$ 60,000.00	-63.08%
Employee Training	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	0.00%
Road Side Disposal	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 510.16	\$ 489.84	\$ 1,000.00	0.00%
Interest On Loans	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	0.00%
Town Garage Loan	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	0.00%
Misc. Expense	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,572.60	\$ 427.40	\$ 2,000.00	0.00%
Beautification Project	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ 4,000.00	33.33%
Brooklyn Street Stormwater Issue	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 4,162.50	\$ 35,837.50	\$ -	-100.00%
Engineering Service	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 190.00	\$ 1,810.00	\$ 2,000.00	0.00%
SUBTOTAL	\$ 1,387,363.02	\$ 1,100,204.69	\$ 287,158.33	\$ 1,268,951.94	-8.53%
Previously approved articles			\$ -		
Capital Reserve/Equip	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00	0.00%
Town Garage	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ -	\$ 40,000.00	0.00%
SUBTOTAL	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 90,000.00	\$ -	\$ 90,000.00	0.00%
ARTICLES			\$ -		
Fire Protection	\$ 296,216.00	\$ 296,216.00	\$ -	\$ 316,225.00	6.75%
Police Protection	\$ 475,057.00	\$ 365,900.65	\$ 109,156.35	\$ 489,137.19	2.96%
Total Articles	\$ 861,273.00	\$ 752,116.65	\$ 109,156.35	\$ 895,362.19	3.96%
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 2,248,636.02	\$ 1,852,321.34	\$ 396,314.68	\$ 2,164,314.13	-3.75%
2025 Police Expense			\$ 109,156.35		
			\$ 287,158.33		
Carry over to 2025					
Brooklyn Street Stormwater Issue			\$ 19,998.60		
Road Improvement Projects			\$ 149,500.00		
Storm Water Permits			\$ 35,837.50		
Balance on hand to lower taxes			\$ 81,822.23		
ANTICIPATED HIGHWAY RECEIPTS					
Highway State Aid		\$ 150,000.00			
Judicial Fees/HW Permits		\$ 6,000.00			
Balance on Hand		\$ 81,822.23			
TOTAL:		237,822.23			
Projected	Tax Rates				
To Be Raised By Taxes	0.1994	\$ 1,121,129.71			
Budget Regular		\$ 1,358,951.94			
Fire Department	0.0562	\$ 316,225.00			
Police Protection	0.0870	\$ 489,137.19			
2025 Projected HW Rate	0.3426				
2024 Tax Rate	0.3652				
Proposed Decrease	-0.0226				

Swanton Public Library
Town Report 2024



The Swanton Public Library (SPL) has had a full and rewarding year providing books, information, technical assistance, computer and WiFi access, meeting spaces, and many programs, activities, presentations, and workshops for the public. The library gained over 300 new patrons this year; and library users collectively checked out about 21,000 books and 2300 audio books. The SPL added 1032 new books to the existing collection. As well as books, the library provided the community with a wide range of creative resources, including everything from Covid-19 test kits, snowshoes, sunscreen, and diapers to free passes to the ECHO Center, Vermont State parks and historic sites, the Vermont Historical Museum, the Birds of Vermont Museum, the Old Stone House Museum, the St. Albans Museum, and the Hard'ack Pool.

The library also collaborated with many community organizations, among them the Swanton Recreation Association, the Swanton Arts Council, the Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi, the Swanton Enhancement Project, the Swanton Historical Society, Northwestern Counseling and Support Services, Creative HeART Counseling, the Missisquoi Wildlife Refuge, the Vermont WIC, the Vermont Herpetofauna and Nature Center, and the Swanton schools. We participated in many all-community events, including Family Night on the Village Green, Green Up Day, the Memorial Day parade, National Night Out, Operation Happiness, and Halloween in the Park – for which last we sponsored Casper's Attic, which collects and distributes lightly used Halloween costumes, and handed out over 500 books for our annual Trick-or-Treat for Books. The SPL also, via a grant, was able to distribute over 500 pairs of eclipse glasses for observing April's total solar eclipse.

The library hosted 374 programs this year. These included Community Sing-Alongs with local musicians; Open Mic music and poetry slam events; author book talks and book signings; the annual Youth Art Show; game nights; square dancing; a cinematography workshop and a digital marketing seminar; a cat-themed art show and kitten adoption event; a Perennial Swap for plant lovers; a Banned Books & Ousted Authors panel with participants from across the state; a book-and-bake sale; and a very popular Antiques Show, organized by board member Kathy Kneebone.

Nearly 150 kids participated in the Summer Reading Program this year, which was kicked off with a visit from author Natalie Kinsey Warnock, with free book giveaways sponsored by the Children's Literacy Foundation.

The library hosts and implements many programs, camps, and activities for kids. This year these included Art Camp, a geography-based Passport to Adventure Camp, Pirate Camp – with a spectacular visit from Rockin' Ron the Pirate, Shakespeare Camp, Community Service

Camp – which included hosting a kid-made picnic for seniors, History Camp – which included a visit from the Planetarium Lady, Christmas Craft Camp, and Reader’s Theater Camp, which culminated in terrific performances of *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* and *The Frog Prince Continued*. The library also sponsors two kid’s book clubs – including a Read-Aloud Club for beginners, weekly Story Times, a Toddler Time weekly play group, an active homeschool group, arts and crafts classes for kids, a Lego Club, and Teen Night get-togethers with activities for kids in grades 7 and up. We also hosted our wildly popular annual Harry Potter Night, complete with Sorting Hat, potions, magical creatures, wands, spells, and Quidditch.

For adults, the library hosts two book clubs; Zumba, Yoga, and Bone Builders classes; an American Sign Language meet-up; an art journaling group; a writers’ group; a knitting group; a wide range of arts and crafts workshops – this year featuring everything from paper sculpture to embroidery, jewelry-making, and watercolor painting; and a cooking series, with classes on canning, sushi, yogurt making, sourdough bread, fire cider, and more.

We revamped and painted the Makerspace in the basement Community Room this year, and now have both space and supplies for any number of creative projects – this is open to the public; visitors, for example, can use art and craft equipment, sewing machines, a 3-D printer, and more. We also, thanks to the Swanton Enhancement Project and volunteers from MVU, now have a beautiful garden next to our First Street entrance.

Many thanks to all the people and groups who donated this year to help the library fulfill its mission, among them the Swanton Arts Council, Creative HeART Counseling, the Methodist Church, Holy Trinity Church, Franklin County Caring Communities, the Tyler Place, Peoples Trust Company, Friends of the Missisquoi Wildlife Refuge, NCSS, the Eloquent Page, the Children’s Literacy Foundation, Shaggy’s Pizza, Rich McVicker, and the many donors who made generous contributions in memory of Jean Hakey.

SPL Board of Directors: Becky Rupp (Chair), Rich Kelley, Sarah Garvey, Bianca Braman, Kathy Kneebone

SPL Staff: Abbey Gaudette (Director), Hilarie Santiago (Youth Services), Darla Blondo, Barb Switzer, Mel Berthiaume, Jodi Stone de Rodriguez, Allie Chapple

**Swanton Public Library
Operating Budget 2025**

Expenses	2024	YTD - 2024	Estimated Actual - 2024	2025 - proposed	% change
Financial					
Bookkeeping	1000	3900	3900	4800	+380%
Audit	3500	0	0	3500	0%
Total	4500	3900	3900	8300	+84%
Building and Grounds					
Cleaning	10,400	10,400	10,400	11,200	+7.7%
Trash	700	685	690	700	0%
Capital reserve	2500	2500	2500	2500	0%
General upkeep	1400	1126	1126	1000	-29%
Total	15,000	14,711	14,716	15,400	+2.7%
Operations					
Cleaning supplies	900	998	998	900	0%
Collection	9000	12,469	12,469	9000	0%
Giveaway books	0	2137	2137	1500	
Programs	3500	6029	6500	4000	+14%
Camps	0	5617	5617	0	
GMLC	1500	2176	2176	2660	+77%
Insurance	2800	3074	3074	3100	+10.7%
Advertising	100	490	490	200	+100%
Office supplies	2500	3465	3600	3000	+20%
Software	2500	3402	3402	3500	+40%
Postage/courier	1000	1256	1507	1000	0%
Tech support	600	600	600	500	-16.7%
Printer contract	900	1407	1407	900	0%
Total	25,300	43,120	43,977	30,260	+20%
Staff					
Memberships	400	218	400	400	0%
Training	500	540	540	700	+40%
Trustee stipends	3000	4200	4200	3000	0%
Total	3900	4958	5140	4100	+5%

Utilities					
Electricity/water	12,000	10,880	10,880	12,000	0%
Natural gas	4800	4085	4780	4800	0%
Telephone/Internet	5400	5290	5290	5400	0%
Total	22,200	20,255	20,950	22,200	0%
TOTAL	70,900	86,944	88,683	80,260	+13%
Revenue	2023	YTD - 2024		2025 - proposed	
Book sale	767	703		N/A	
Copier	879	765		N/A	
Donations	4679	5110		N/A	
Programs	2196	285		N/A	
SHS rent	250	0		?	
Room rent	350	88		N/A	
Grants	26,000	8413		N/A	
Webster trust	15,954	15,711		N/A	
Vera Cline trust	7,767	6520		N/A	
TOTAL	58,842	37,595		N/A	

**2025
Library Budget**

	2024	2024	2024	2025	% Change
		Actual	Variance		
Employees Salaries	\$ 154,416.00	\$ 146,318.14	\$ 8,097.86	\$ 173,270.00	12.21%
FICA/ Medicare	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 10,355.82	\$ 1,644.18	\$ 13,000.00	8.33%
Retirement-VEMRs	\$ 6,424.00	\$ 6,690.00	\$ (266.00)	\$ 7,000.00	8.97%
Health Insurance	\$ 23,000.00	\$ 28,533.21	\$ (5,533.21)	\$ 70,863.36	208.10%
Unemployment & Training	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,136.64	\$ 863.36	\$ 4,000.00	0.00%
Child Care Tax	\$ 680.00	\$ 289.82	\$ 390.18	\$ 680.00	0.00%
Building Maintenance	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 15,196.42	\$ (5,196.42)	\$ 20,350.00	103.50%
Alliance-Mechanical Company	\$ 3,650.00	\$ 5,352.88	\$ (1,702.88)	\$ 4,000.00	9.59%
Elevator-Alpha	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 3,053.00	\$ 547.00	\$ 3,600.00	0.00%
Johnson Fire	\$ 50.00	\$ 47.86	\$ 2.14	\$ 50.00	0.00%
Summit	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 848.00	\$ 552.00	\$ 1,400.00	0.00%
R & R Sprinklers	\$ 600.00	\$ 420.00	\$ 180.00	\$ 600.00	0.00%
Building Insurance	\$ 5,463.00	\$ 5,463.00	\$ -	\$ 5,463.00	0.00%
Workers Comp	\$ 1,803.00	\$ 2,558.00	\$ (755.00)	\$ 3,500.00	100.00%
	\$ 227,086.00	\$ 228,262.79	\$ (1,176.79)	\$ 307,776.36	35.53%
* Compressor Replacement	\$ 3,760.00				
Sprinkler System Replacement	\$ 6,590.00				
	Rates				
To Be Raised By Taxes	0.0421	\$ 307,776.36			

**2024 ANNUAL REPORT
TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC MONEY**

	Cemetery Fund	Barney Fund	Skeels Fund
Balance as of 12/31/24	\$160,356.75	\$20,000.00	\$8,995.44
Interest Earned	\$4,864.12	513.44	2.71
Interest Paid	<u>\$160,356.75</u>	<u>\$20,000.00</u>	<u>\$8,995.44</u>
Savings	4550.00		
CD—PTC	155,806.75	20,000.00	
CD—PU			8,995.44
	<u>\$160,356.75</u>	<u>\$20,000.00</u>	<u>\$8,995.44</u>

VITAL STATISTICS

Due to concerns of privacy, confidentiality and potential for fraud, the Town of Swanton has decided not to publish vital records in the Town Report. Below is a statistical list indicating only the numbers of births, deaths, and marriages recorded in 2024.

Births: 39 Females
39 Males

Marriages: 46
Deaths: 73

SWANTON CEMETERY COMMISSION

Cash on Hand December 31, 2023

\$65,732.86

2024 Transactions

Receipts:

Sale of Lots	\$4,000.00
Grave Openings	\$2,150.00
Town of Swanton Allocation	\$18,000.00
State of Vermont Easement proceeds	\$7,000.00
Misc. Receipts	<u>\$450.00</u>

Total Received: \$31,600.00

Total on Hand and Received: \$97,332.86

Disbursements:

Grounds Maintenance	\$25,999.98
Grave Openings	\$1,050.00
Misc.	<u>\$1,797.54</u>

Total Disbursed: \$28,847.50

Balance on Hand December 31, 2024: \$68,485.34

We are pleased to present the annual report of the Swanton Cemetery Commission. We were not able to get as much done this past year as originally planned, specifically in the Church Street Cemetery. It will be a priority this year to have the dead trees removed and back fence repaired.

Macy Lavoie-Dupont has decided not to seek re-election to the Board of Cemetery Commissioners. We wish to thank Macy for her hard work and service and wish her the all the best.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicholas Brosseau
John Kaczowski
Cody Hemenway
Macy Lavoie-Dupont
Brian Savage
Cemetery Commissioners

Swanton Zoning Office and Development Review Board Report

PLEASE CALL THE ZONING OFFICE FOR ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING IF A PERMIT IS NEEDED FOR BUILDING OR OPERATING A BUSINESS.

There were **99** zoning applications received and processed by the Zoning Administrator during **2024**. When complete applications are received by the ZA for processing they are issued, denied or referred to the Development Review Board for further action. Among the applications approved were permits for **19** new dwellings, **1** warehouse, **2** duplex, **8** sign permits, **6** Use Permit, **1** fence, **5** conversions, **4** porches, **17** sheds, **12** garages, **1** barn, **2** pools, **8** decks **8** additions, **2** patio, **2** fourplex's, & **1** wastewater facility units. Also issued were **95** Certificate of Compliance's and **35** Certificates of Occupancy.

The Development Review Board held **41** hearings for the following requests: **5** Minor Residential Subdivisions, **1** Major Residential Subdivisions, **1** Site Plan Amendment, **11** Boundary Line Adjustments, **9** Conditional Use Review, **5** Variance Reviews, **7** Conditional Use Less 30% Reviews and **1** Appeal.

Items exempt from a zoning permit are entry stairs, handicap ramps, fences or walls that do not exceed six feet in height (that don't extend into or obstruct the public right-of-way), temporary docks or one detached accessory structure not to exceed one hundred square feet or ten feet in height that meets the front yard setback requirement. Also accepted agricultural uses and structures, silviculture and forestry uses. **Although these items are exempt from a permit, a permit application and plat plan must be submitted to the Zoning Administrator for approval.**

These 2024 Zoning and Development requests generated \$43,566.15 of revenue, not including recording and map fees, which were deposited to the Town General Account.

Development Review Board Members	Planning Commission Members
Spencer LaBarge, Chairman	Ross Lavoie, Chair
Harold Garrett, Vice Chair	Oliver Manning, Vice Chair
Reggie Beliveau	Andy LaRocque
James Pratt	Heather Buczkowski
Jennifer Yandow	Jim Pratt-Interim
Christina Candels, Asst Town Admin	Christina Candels, Asst Town Admin

The Development Review Board meets monthly on the 4th Thursday of each month at the Swanton Town Office at 6:00 P.M. Dates are posted and published.

The Planning Commission meets monthly on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Swanton Town Office at 6:30 P.M. or upon request of Board or public. Dates and agendas are posted.

THE FEE SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE DURING THE YEAR PER ACTION OF THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE BODY.

Zoning Administrator

Zoning Office Hours are Monday's, Tuesday's & Thursday's 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Tel. 802-868-3325; Email: swanza@swantonvermont.org.

For notices, agendas and minutes visit: <https://www.swantonvt.gov/>

**SWANTON ZONING AND PLANNING
FEE SCHEDULE**

ZONING PERMITS NOT REQUIRING PUBLIC HEARING:

NOTE: 100% ADDITIONAL FEE ASSESSED FOR PERMITS “AFTER THE FACT” (as of 1/17/06)

ADDITIONS: To Garage or Storage Shed	\$35.00 + \$.15/sq ft
ADDITIONS: To Residence	\$65.00 + \$.15/sq ft
BARNS (agricultural) No waiting period, must meet setbacks	No Charge
BARNS additions (agricultural) No waiting period, must meet setbacks	No Charge
COMMERICAL/INDUSTRIAL CONSTRUCTION – Minor – less than 1,000 sq ft	\$200.00 Min
COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL CONSTRUCTION - \$.20/sq ft for all other construction	
ACCESSORY PERMITS (TENNIS COURTS, DECKS, PORCHES, GARAGES, CARPORTS, LEAN-TOS, RESIDENTIAL GREENHOUSES, STORAGE SHEDS AND PERGOLAS) – Up to 300 sq ft	
Over 300 sq ft	\$50.00 \$30.00 + \$.15 sq ft
POOLS – Above Ground	\$50.00
Inground	\$75.00
SIGNS – Minor (Home Occupation)	\$40.00
Major (All Others)	\$50.00
RESIDENTIAL	\$.15/sq ft
Certificate of Occupancy	\$10.00
Certificate of Compliance	\$30.00

ZONING PERMITS REQUIRING PUBLIC HEARINGS:

AMENDMENTS to Zoning Regulations	\$700.00
COMMERICAL/INDUSTRIAL* (Site Plan Review) each hearing	\$220.00
SKETCH PLAN, PRELIMINARY PLAT APPROVAL and FINAL PLAT	\$85.00/lot EACH
APPEAL – Decision of Administrative Officer (To Development Review Board)	\$165.00
CONDITIONAL USE	\$200.00
INTERPRETATION OF ZONING ARTICLE	\$95.00
VARIANCE & LESS THAN 30% CONDITIONAL USE	\$110.00

FEE SCHEDULE WILL BE WAIVED-In the event of destruction by fire. All structures shall be rebuilt Within one year by the same landowner.

*An applicant who requests a withdrawal of any zoning permit that requires a public hearing will not receive a refund of their application fee and will be required to pay the full amount of the application fee when they reapply. The applicant will not be charged if the application is postponed or tabled by the DRB.

Approved by Joint Legislative Body on September 2, 2003, Effective January 1, 2004

Amended by Joint Legislative Body on October 17, 2006 for 100% additional fee matter; effective 10/18/06

Amended by Joint Legislative Body on September 5, 2017; effective January 1, 2018

Amended by Joint Legislative Body on August 20, 2019; effective January 1, 2020

2024 Swanton Planning Commission Report

After 20 years of service on the Planning Commission, Ed Daniel stepped down in November of 2024. He has been an immeasurable asset to the board in his 20 years of service and his wisdom and knowledge of local history will be a big hole to fill. We would like to thank him for all he has done for our community.

2024 was easily the busiest year that I've seen in my 15-year tenure on the board. We've done Zoning Bylaw rewrites and Town Plan reviews, but none have ever been as in depth as the Bylaw rewrite we did last year and will be wrapping up by spring.

We performed an in depth, page by page, review of every section of the Zoning Bylaws resulting in a complete overhaul. Much of this work was done to align with state laws that were passed during the last legislative session. We also made some changes to help support growth and development in our community. This was mainly for infill of existing areas, especially where there is existing sewer and water services. Changes like decreasing minimum lot sizes, decreasing setbacks, increasing lot coverage for structures and parking along with clarifying definitions were some of the larger things we worked on.

We consolidated some zoning districts to make navigating our bylaws easier for the public and streamlined the permitting process. We also strived to make it easier not only for housing expansion, but business and industry expansion in our community to help us grow and thrive.

While working through this we had two long time members have some health issues and they both worked hard to continue to be involved as much as possible. One of those is Ed Daniel, who stepped down later in the year, and the other was Andy Laroque. We are thankful for how hard they worked to still come and give input at our meetings. Jim Pratt was appointed in December to help finish our Bylaw rewrite as he had attended many meetings to give input from his expertise as Lister. Without him, some areas of this plan would have still been murky and unpolished. We are thankful he stepped up to the plate to help. Jim's seat along with Andy's will be open for new appointments sometime later in the year and their shoes will be hard to fill.

If you have any interest in joining our team, we welcome you to any meetings to ask questions and learn more about what we do.

Respectfully,

Ross Lavoie, Planning Commission Chair



NORTHWEST REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

SWANTON VILLAGE REPORT - 2024

CONTACT

- ☎ (802) 524-5958
- ✉ cdimitruk@nrpcvt.com
- 📍 75 Fairfield Street
St. Albans, VT 05478
- 🌐 www.nrpcvt.com

NRPC PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

- Municipal plan and bylaw updates, technical assistance for local permitting
- Brownfields site assessments, cleanups and redevelopment plans
- Transportation planning and project management
- Bike and pedestrian planning and project management
- Emergency preparedness, disaster recovery and resilience
- Energy conservation, renewable energy plans and projects
- Water quality planning, grants and project management
- Regional plans for growth and development
- Geographic Information System maps and data
- Downtown and village revitalization and community development

ASSOCIATED PROJECTS MANAGED BY NRPC

- Northern Vermont Economic Development District
- Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail
- Northwest Vermont Regional Foundation, Inc.
- Clean Water Service Provider: Missisquoi & Lamoille River Basins

REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS

Heidi Britch-Valenta & Neal Speer

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Heidi Britch-Valenta, *Alt. William Sheets*

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

2024 SWANTON VILLAGE PROJECTS

- Updated the locally adopted Emergency Management Plan for the Town and Village.
- Served as local liaison to town officials for the State Emergency Operation Center during the January severe wind and July severe weather events.
- Participated in Public Safety planning for the April 8th Total Solar Eclipse event with Town and Village public safety officials.
- Provided planning and zoning technical assistance and consultation relating to possible stormwater projects.
- Supported the Northwest Communications Union District, in which Swanton Village is a member.
- Participated in and assisted with Swanton Energy Committee projects including outreach events.
- Completed a consultation of the municipal planning program.
- Provided \$32,200 in Brownfields funding to complete assessments, clean up alternatives and historic preservation compliance at the 6 South River property in Swanton Village.
- Provided \$23,300 in Brownfields funding to complete a clean-up assessment at the 124 First Street property.
- Provided \$37,000 in Brownfields funding to complete assessment and cleanup planning at the Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi Headquarters owned by the Maquam Bay of Missisquoi, Inc. on Grand Ave.
- Assisted with applications for mini grant funds, energy assessments for the Wastewater Treatment Plant and Village Municipal Complex, and construction funds through the Municipal Energy Resilience Program.
- Assisted with an application for Charge Vermont EV charging infrastructure.
- Supported the 2024 VTrans Bike/Ped Small Scale Grant application for village sidewalks – grant was awarded.
- Completed a sidewalk inventory.
- Consulted with local officials, identified projects and provided technical assistance for Municipal Roads Grants-in-Aid construction projects.
- Provided support to expand the boundaries of the Village Center Designation and supported a Neighborhood Development Area application.

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

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



FRANKLIN COUNTY
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION

FCIDC Annual Report for 2024

The Franklin County Industrial Development Corporation (FCIDC) was established in 1971. FCIDC was created to grow the economy and create job opportunities as our region was experiencing double digit unemployment figures. In years past, our county experienced too many people who wanted to work yet too few jobs were being offered. Now we have too many jobs open with not enough willing individuals to fill those positions despite a growth in our population. We can all comment on why we think this is happening, but the bottom line is our county has worked way too hard to get to this point and if we can't change that trajectory then companies will move to other states/countries where they can find the employees to run their businesses.

In an effort to impact this situation FCIDC has taken the initiative to engage with our five county high schools and two technical and career centers to educate both teachers and students as to what employment opportunities exist once an individual graduates from high school. A college education is not the answer for many students. FCIDC has and will continue to do student visits to a variety of employment sites. Local companies have been very willing to host students and educate them about what jobs are available and what pay and benefits they offer. Many of the employers offer education reimbursement so that students can attend college while working and those individuals could end up with no college debt. The timeline to receive a degree may take a little longer but the debt will be limited.

FCIDC also organized a Tech Discovery Day for eighth graders where they were able to interact with local businesses doing hands on activities such as using virtual goggles and operating robots. This coming spring FCIDC along with the local schools will be organizing an apprenticeship day, in order to showcase the businesses that are looking for apprentices. When employed as an apprentice the individual is paid while learning a skill or trade. There is usually some classroom training that goes along with the on-the-job training.

In 2024 FCIDC saw the completion of a couple large projects. FCIDC completed Phase I of the Perley Block project in Enosburg and this past fall we started Phase II. The second phase consists of constructing four new apartments on the second floor of the "Annex" which is the former warehouse building that was connected to the original Perley Block. Once completed the building will have 12 apartments in downtown Enosburg along with retail and office space. In the St. Albans Town Industrial Park Purpose Energy bought three acres of land from FCIDC and it is adjacent to Ben & Jerry's. The project consists of a bioreactor which transforms food waste (i.e. Ben & Jerry's) to energy by creating a biogas which is used to create electricity to send to the electrical grid.

Please check out our website at www.fcidc.com to learn more about FCIDC.

Respectfully submitted by,

Timothy J. Smith
FCIDC Executive Director

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LISTER'S REPORT 2024

The Lister's for the Town and Village of Swanton would like to take this opportunity to thank you, the taxpayers, for your cooperation.

Some highlights, among others, of the duties of Lister's are as follows: Maintaining the Town Grand List, which includes complete and accurate listing and assessing of property information-old and new-including recording, collecting and assessing all permits and property tax transfer returns within the Town and Village.

Duties also include maintaining many records such as: Homestead and House-site values, Veteran's Exemptions, Agricultural Current Use, Business Personal Property, Exempt Properties, maintaining and sending Change of Appraisal Notice, holding Grievance hearings and mailing results of Grievances in order to file the Final Grand List with the Town Clerk by August 4.

To be considered timely, both Homestead Declarations (HS-122) and State Property Adjustments (HI-144) must be filed on or before April 15, 2025. Filing after this date results in penalties. In the event that you are **filing an extension for your income taxes, please** be aware that your Homestead Declaration needs to be filed independently of your Income Tax Return, no later than April 15, 2024. Beginning in February, you may also easily file online at <https://tax.vermont.gov>

A Homestead is defined as the principal dwelling and parcel of land owned by a resident individual on April 1 and occupied as the individual's domicile. If the homestead is rented on April 1, it may still be declared as your homestead if you occupy it for at least 183 days out of the calendar year.

Tax booklets are no longer automatically distributed. To order booklets/forms please call 802-828-2515 or go <https://tax.vermont.gov/all-forms> to print forms directly. Photocopies cannot be processed and may be returned

REMINDER: IT IS REQUIRED THAT YOU FILE FOR HOMESTEAD DECLARATION & PROPERTY TAX CREDIT CLAIM (FORMS HS-122 & HI-144) ANNUALLY.

Your Lister's make every effort to run an efficient, as well as a transparent operation and are ready and willing to work with our taxpayers on any and all questions they may have.

Respectfully submitted,

David Horton, Amy Giroux, Kevin Nichols
Swanton Town Listers

The Vermont Property Tax Credit

The Vermont Property Tax Credit assists many Vermont homeowners with paying their property taxes. You may be eligible for a property tax credit based on your 2024/2025 property taxes if your property qualifies as a homestead and you meet the eligibility requirements described in this fact sheet. The maximum credit is \$5,600 for the education property tax portion and \$2,400 for the municipal property tax portion. This fact sheet outlines who can file, how to file, and frequently asked questions.

Who is Eligible to File a Claim

In order to file a Vermont Property Tax Credit Claim, you must meet all of the following eligibility requirements:

- Your property qualifies as a homestead, and you have filed a Homestead Declaration before the October 15, 2025, filing deadline.
- You were domiciled* in Vermont for the entire 2024 calendar year.
- You were not claimed as a dependent of another taxpayer for 2024.
- You occupy the property as your homestead as of April 1, 2025.
- Your Household Income did not exceed \$115,000 in 2024. See [Household Income](#) on page 3.

* Domicile is a legal concept that has implications for Vermont income tax, the statewide education tax, and property tax credit. See the [definition of “domicile”](#) (tax.vermont.gov/regulations)

The Property Tax Credit Claim for 2025 is due on April 15. Generally, claims cannot be accepted after October 15, 2025.

What is a Homestead

A Homestead Declaration (Form HS-122) must be filed each year so that you are correctly assessed the homestead tax rate on your property. A “homestead” is the principal dwelling and parcel of land surrounding the dwelling. It is your responsibility as the property owner to claim the property as a homestead if you meet, or expect to meet, the following requirements:

- You are a Vermont resident.
- You own and occupy a homestead as your domicile as of April 1, 2025.

Note: If you meet these requirements, except that your homestead is leased to a tenant on April 1, 2025, you may still claim it as a homestead if it is not leased for more than 182 days in the 2024 calendar year.

What Forms Are Needed to File

You need the following two forms to file a claim:

- Form HS-122: Section A: Homestead Declaration and Section B: Property Tax Credit Claim
- Schedule HI-144: Household Income

How to File Each Form

Homestead Declaration, Form HS-122, Section A

When filing this form, you need to have available the following:

- The property's School Property Account Number (SPAN) which can be found on your property tax bill; and
- Your Social Security Number

Important reminders:

- If you are filing an income tax extension, be sure that the Homestead Declaration is still filed by the April due date.
- Sign the Homestead Declaration at the end of section B on the reverse side of the form.
- Declarations received after the April due date may receive a penalty of up to 8% of the education tax owed. This penalty is assessed by your municipality.
- Only one Property Tax Credit Claim is allowed per household per year.

Property Tax Credit Claim, Form HS-122 Section B

When filing a claim, you need to enter the following information from your 2024/2025 property tax bill:

- Housesite Value
- Housesite Education Property Tax
- Housesite Municipal Tax

Important reminders:

- You must answer the eligibility questions and enter household income information from Form HI-144 before the claim can be processed.
- Generally, claims cannot be accepted after the October due date. Incomplete adjustment claims are considered not filed.
- Other information and forms may be needed, if applicable to your situation, such as:
 - Form LRC-147, Statement of Rent for Mobile Home Park Lot Rent, Co-ops, and Land Trusts (provided by lot owner)
 - Property Tax from Contiguous Property
 - Ownership Interest (percentage of ownership). For example, if there is an owner who doesn't reside in the home on April 1, enter the percentage of ownership of the owner(s) who does reside there.

Household Income, Schedule HI-144

Household income is different from the income reported on income tax forms. It includes all sources of income of any persons living in your household, including children, for any period during 2024. It includes both taxable and nontaxable income, such as the following:

- Social Security
- Veterans' benefits
- Some nontaxable pensions
- Support money

Here's a short checklist of what you need:

- Names and Social Security Numbers of all persons who lived with you and had income
- All sources and amounts of income of those persons while living with you
- Any allowable adjustments from the federal income tax return

Exceptions Applying to A Spouse or Civil Union Partner

The income of a spouse or civil union partner must be included in household income, even if the person does not live with you in the same home. Here are a few exceptions:

If your spouse or civil union partner is at least 62 years old and permanently living in a nursing home or other care facility with no reasonable prospect of returning home, you may exclude that person's income from household income.

Legal Separation or Divorce

If at any time during the tax year, you have become legally separated or divorced from your spouse or civil union partner by a signed judge's decree and the person does not live with you in the same home, you may exclude that person's income from household income. If, however, the spouse or civil union partner still lives with you in the same home, you must include that person's income in household income.

Protective Order

If you have a protective order against your spouse or civil union partner by a signed judge's decree in place before filing a Property Tax Credit Claim, you may exclude that person's income from household income. You may wish to consult a tax professional regarding limitations to these claims in the case of separation or divorce.

Frequently Asked Questions

What if I lease my home on April 1, 2025, and it ends up being leased for more than 182 days in 2025?

You must withdraw your Homestead Declaration and your Property Tax Credit Claim using paper form HS-122W, Vermont Homestead and/or Property Tax Credit Withdrawal.

What happens when a homeowner dies before April 1, 2025?

If the claim was filed by a single owner before their death, the claim will be processed. However, an estate is not eligible to file for a property tax credit. If the decedent did not file before death, the claim will be denied. In a case of two or more owners, the surviving owner(s) can continue filing for the Property Tax Credit.

What can I do if I make a mistake when filing HS-122?

You may amend the following lines on the HS-122:

- Housesite Value
- Housesite Education Tax
- Housesite Municipal Tax
- Ownership percentage

For all other errors, please contact the Vermont Department of Taxes for instructions.

What happens if I jointly own my home with my spouse, make a claim, and my spouse owes money to a Vermont state agency?

If your property tax credit was used to pay money owed to a Vermont state agency, the Department will notify you. You have 30 days from the date of the notice to submit an “injured spouse” claim. You may receive a portion of the credit equal to the percentage of your ownership of the homestead. For more details, see [Injured Spouse Claims](https://tax.vermont.gov/injured-spouse-claims) (tax.vermont.gov).

Repeal of Late Fee

In 2024, the Vermont Legislature repealed the \$15 late fee for Property Tax Credit Claims filed between April 15 and October 15. The repeal is effective for claims filed in 2024 and after See [Act 144, Secs. 6-7](https://legislature.vermont.gov/act-144-secs-6-7) (legislature.vermont.gov).

Resources

These related webpages can be found at tax.vermont.gov:

- [How to Determine Household Income](#)
- [Property Tax Credit](#)
- [Understanding Your Property Tax Bill](#)

File using [myVTax](https://myvtax.vermont.gov) (myvtax.vermont.gov)

Vermont Statute: [Chapter 154: Homestead Property Tax Credit and Renter Credit](https://legislature.vermont.gov/chapter-154) (legislature.vermont.gov)

Contact Us

If you have questions about the Vermont Property Tax Credit, please [send an email to tax.individualincome@vermont.gov](mailto:tax.individualincome@vermont.gov) or call 802-828-2865 or toll-free in Vermont at 866-828-2865.

DOG LICENSES

Dogs six months or older must be licensed by April 1st each year to avoid a penalty.

License fees are as follows:

	By April 1st	After April 1st
Spayed or Neutered	\$16.00	\$20.00
Not Spayed or Neutered	\$20.00	\$26.00

You will need to bring a copy of your dog's current rabies vaccination and certificate of neutering or spaying if applicable to the Town Clerk's Office to license your dog.

**If you lose your dog or find a lost dog please contact
Jim Benson, Animal Control Officer at 802-238-3246**

According to Swanton's Dog Control Ordinance, any impounded domestic pet or wolf-hybrid not redeemed within four (4) business days may be destroyed, sold or given up for adoption.



16 Jewett Street ~ PO Box 332, Swanton, VT 05488

802-868-2493

swantonrecreation@gmail.com

Swanton Recreation Department 2024 Annual Report

The Swanton Recreation Commission would like to take this opportunity to thank all our coaches, instructors, parents, volunteers, sponsors, donors, umpires, refs, regional partners, Village and Town Representatives, Missisquoi Valley Union High School athletes, students, and staff for their dedication and commitment throughout the past year.

For those who are not familiar with our services, we encourage you to visit our website at www.swantonrec.org or follow us on Facebook and Instagram. We work hard to keep our community up to date on all our latest news and events. Please feel free to contact us with suggestions and ideas.

2024 in Review

Participation in youth athletics at the recreational level (Ages 5-12 years old) continues to thrive in our community. In 2024, we supported a wide range of programs including these athletic programs broken down by season.

- **Spring Programs:** Swanton Recreation hosted Northwest Little League with 171 players across 10 teams, including hosting the 8-10 Softball District Tournament, we also hosted a Track and Field team with 15 participants.
- **Summer Programs:** We were very busy this summer with Tennis in Marble Mill Park, Skateboarding with CHILL Foundation at Marble Mill Park, and MVP Field Hockey Camp (19 participants).
- **Fall Programs:** Our fall offerings exploded this year with continued growth with our Northwest Valley Ducks program offering Flag Football for grades 1-4, Tackle Football for grades 5-8, Soccer for players from age 3- grade 4, Field Hockey for grades 3-6, and Fall Baseball Clinics.
- **Winter Programs:** Youth Basketball featuring 10 teams with leagues for played age 3 to grade 4.

In addition to our athletic offerings, our Third-Space/Out-of-School programs during winter and spring school vacations provided a safe, welcoming space for children to stay active. Activities included outdoor play, arts and crafts, indoor games, and healthy snacks. Summer vacation was filled with excitement through our Super Summer Days Vacation Camp and the

Counselor-in-Training Program. Our youth leaders volunteered over 200 hours each to provide mentorship to their peers and supporting daily camp operations.

We also supported our youth through Teen Leadership opportunities, Community Service programs, Teen Nights, and engaging clubs like Dungeons and Dragons, Youth Photography, and the Franklin County Youth Paranormal Investigators Club and Youth Chess Club. Our Kids Kitchen cooking classes and Safe Sitter workshops equipped youth with valuable life skills. The Vermont Youth Project supported our work with the MVSD Youth Council, led by local teens, was a standout success, utilizing participatory budgeting and learning about grant writing along the youth held their first-ever Franklin County Youth Empowerment Summit, which engaged 45 youth from around the county.

Community Engagement

We continue to partner with local stakeholders to deliver family-friendly community events, including:

- **Swanton Community Yard Sales** in May and July
- **Iron Sights Patriotic Celebration** on July 3
- **Family Night on the Green** on July 17
- **Corn Fest**, which featured games, entertainment, and the inaugural Corn Fest 5K Fun Run
- **National Night Out** and Swanton's Community Block Party

Facility and Equipment Updates

Our loaner equipment library expanded, now including snowshoes, hiking poles, kayaks, paddleboards, disc golf baskets, pickleball gear, yard games, fishing poles, and more—all available for the community to borrow with minimal costs.

Future Goals

We continue our work with the Selectboard to develop the concept of a community recreation center, as well as making upgrades to our current facility with vinyl siding and improved drainage. Upcoming plans include engaging community discussions, forming a fundraising committee, and working on pursuing different grants to advance this recreational development.

Grants and Funding

We secured significant grant funding to expand our programs:

- **United Way Prevention Grant:** \$15,000 Supported 3rd-space opportunities for youth, which enabled free June 2024 camp for 51 youth. We were invited to apply for funds for FY25 and were awarded \$25,000 to strengthen youth workforce opportunities, build on our thirdspace offerings, such as the creation of the Short Stop Teen Lounge at the Swanton Recreation Clubhouse.
- **Vermont Youth Project 2.0 Grants** written by the youth of the MVSD youth council brought in over \$14,000 of supplies that have supported youth events and our third space.

Stay Connected

We encourage you to check our website regularly for new programs and resources. Creating a member account is free! If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact us at swantonrecreation@gmail.com or call 868-2493.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to another successful year of serving the Swanton community.

Respectfully Yours, Betsy Fournier, Board Chair ~ Joseph Raleigh, Board Member ~ Sophie Vibert, Board Member ~ Ron Underwood, Board Member ~ Jon Nielsen, Board Member ~ Jesse LeClair, Board Member, ~ Nicole Draper, Executive Director ~ Nick Michaud, Athletic Director/Operations Manager

SWANTON RECREATION COMMISSION



SCAN THIS QR CODE WITH YOUR CAMERA FOR MORE ABOUT RECREATION IN SWANTON

	FY 24 Budget	ACTUAL 10/31	EST YR END	FY 25 BUDGET
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 240,520.00	\$ 212,718.20	\$ 253,707.44	\$ 324,342.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 72,850.00	\$ 63,316.13		\$ 84,740.00
TOWN APPROPRIATION	\$ 167,670.00	\$149,562.97	\$149,562.97	\$ 239,602.00

Swanton Recreation Revenue

Description	2024 Budget	ACTUAL as of Q3	2025 Budget
Baseball Registrations	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,345.00	\$ 6,200.00
Softball Registrations	\$ 4,040.00	\$ 3,615.00	\$ 4,100.00
Soccer Revenue	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 6,935.00	\$ 7,500.00
Basketball Revenue	\$ 5,110.00	\$ 3700.00	\$ 6,020.00
Zumba	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,235.00	\$ 1,000.00
Adult Fitness Class	\$ 100.00	\$0	\$ 100.00
Adult Volleyball	\$ 50.00	\$0	\$ 50.00
Yoga	\$ 100.00	\$0	\$ 100.00
Rec Run 5K Registration	\$ 200.00	\$540.00	\$ 200.00
Babysitting	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 990.00	\$ 1,250.00
Field Hockey	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 760.00	\$ 1,500.00
Field Hockey-contracted	\$0.00	\$8588.13	\$9000.00
Summer Camp	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 12,025.00	\$ 25,000.00
Early Release	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 200.00
School Vacation Camp	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,310.00	\$ 5,670.00
Great American Camp Out	\$ 100.00	\$0.00	\$ 100.00
Track & Field	\$ 100.00	\$ 450.00	\$ 350.00
Farmers Market	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 20.00	\$0.00
Football	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,330.00	\$ 4,000.00
Food Booth	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 2,664.00	\$ 4,000.00
Annual Special Events	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 2,550.00	\$ 5,000.00
Field Sponsors	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 3,000.00
Crafty Kids	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00
Cooking Class	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00
Town Appropriation	\$ 167670.00	\$ 149,562.97	\$239602.00
Capital Reserve	\$ 5,000.00	\$5000.00	\$5000.00
	\$240,620.00	\$215,979.10	\$329,692.00

Swanton Recreation Programs/Operational Expenses

Description	2024 Budget	Actual as of Q3	EST YR End	2025 Proposed Budget
LL Fees	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 55.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
LL Uniforms	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 5,725.95	\$ 5,725.95	\$ 6,000.00
LL Equipment	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,687.57	\$ 2,507.56	\$ 3,000.00
Soccer Uniforms	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 3,807.40	\$ 3,804.40	\$ 4,000.00
Soccer Equipment	\$ 300.00	\$ 218.95	\$ 218.95	\$ 300.00
Soccer Contracted	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,500.00
Field Hockey	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,678.32	\$ 1,678.32	\$ 2,500.00
Field Hockey- contracted		\$ 8,658.59	\$ 8,658.59	\$ 9,000.00
Basketball Registration		\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 0.00
Basketball Uniforms	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 783.00	\$ 2,583.00	\$ 2,000.00
Basketball Equipment	\$ 200.00		\$ -	\$ 300.00
Zumba	\$ 600.00	\$ 988.00	\$ 988.00	\$ 600.00
Fitness Class	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100.00
Yoga	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250.00
Rec Run	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 300.00
Cross Country	\$ 100.00			\$ 100.00
Babysitting	\$ 500.00	\$ 536.50	\$ 536.50	\$ 500.00
Summer Camp	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 2,633.46	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 5,500.00
Cooking Camp	\$ 250.00		\$ -	\$ 250.00
Early Release	\$ 250.00		\$ -	\$ 250.00
School Vacation Camp	\$ 500.00	\$ 25.96	\$ 325.96	\$ 500.00
Farmers Market	\$ 500.00	\$ 270.00	\$ 270.00	\$ -
Football	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 12,343.14	\$ 12,343.14	\$ 4,000.00
Special Events Expense	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 0.00
Food Booth Supplies	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,587.22	\$ 1,587.22	\$ 2,000.00
Food Booth Liab Ins	\$ 250.00	\$ 230.00	\$ 230.00	\$ 300.00
Special Funds Expense		\$ 770.00	\$ 770.00	\$ 0.00
Field Signs	\$ 500.00	\$ 576.75	\$ 576.75	\$ 500.00
Annual Special Events Fund	\$ 200.00			\$ 500.00
Scoreboard Supplies				
	\$ 33,950.00	\$ 44,435.81	\$ 49,164.34	\$ 45,750.00

Administrative Expenses

Description	2024 Budget	ACTUAL as of Q3	Estimate YR END	2025 Proposed
Rec Salaries	\$ 133,330.00	\$ 123,765.23	\$ 148,518.28	\$ 150,000.00
Board Member Payments	\$ 3,500.00	\$	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 4,000.00
Rec Fica/Medi	\$ 10,700.00	\$ 9,523.98	\$ 11,428.78	\$ 14,000.00
Health & Safety	\$ 200.00	\$ 230.84	\$ 230.84	\$ 200.00
CCC		\$ 548.10		\$ 700.00
Health Insurance	\$ 18,050.00	\$ 10,125.76	\$ 13,410.34	\$ 57,142.00
Municipal Retirement	\$ 6,790.00	\$ 5,360.69	\$ 6,432.83	\$ 7,200.00
Unemployment & Training	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,364.44	\$ 2,837.33	\$ 3,100.00
Office Supplies	\$ 300.00	\$ 137.84	\$ 165.41	\$ 300.00
Subscriptions	\$ 300.00		\$ -	\$ 500.00
Mileage	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00
Postage & Delivery	\$ 150.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 144.00	\$ 200.00
Computer Repair	\$ 100.00		\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
Website Maintenance	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,295.00	\$ 3,954.00	\$ 3,500.00
Copier Lease	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,658.15	\$ 1,989.78	\$ 2,000.00
Training	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 1,200.00
Gas	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 970.50	\$ 1,164.60	\$ 1,500.00
Electricity	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 1,066.76	\$ 1,280.11	\$ 2,500.00
Water	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 968.10	\$ 1,161.72	\$ 1,500.00
Telephone	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,854.00	\$ 2,224.80	\$ 2,600.00
Clothing Allowance	\$ 200.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 180.00	\$ 200.00
Parks Maintenance	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 11,793.63	\$ 14,152.36	\$ 8,000.00
Parks Rubbish Removal	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,430.00	\$ 1,716.00	\$ 1,500.00
Winter Parks Projects	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00
Advertising	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 215.00	\$ 258.00	\$ 1,400.00
Bank Service Charges		\$ 204.02	\$ 244.82	
Gas & Oil	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 581.89	\$ 698.27	\$ 1,000.00
Equipment repair and replacement			\$ -	\$ 6,000.00
Gifts/Donations	\$ 300.00		\$ -	\$ 300.00
Capital Improvements	\$ 5,000.00		\$ -	\$ 5,000.00
Misc Expense		\$ 0.44	\$ 0.53	
	\$ 206,570.00	\$ 176,489.37	\$ 215,842.78	\$ 278,592.00



ABENAKI NATION OF MISSISQUOI

St. Francis/Sokaki Band

100 Grand Ave, Swanton, VT 05488

Ph: (802) 868-6255

Abenaki Food Panty

Our Tribal office has a tremendous flow of traffic daily from folks accessing our food pantry and other services we provide. Our food pantry is the heart of our organization. In 2024 we fed 8,003 clients, 2509 families. This is a record number of clients. Unfortunately, this is a number no one wants to see increase. You do not need to be Abenaki to access our pantry, all are welcome!

Our clients are from all over Franklin County, and many are experiencing homelessness. Our data shows folks accessing our pantry who had never accessed a pantry in their lives. Folks on fixed incomes and parents with young families who might need added help to get through the month. In our Abenaki culture we believe in taking care of our families and our community. We do the best we can to help anyone in need. It is not an easy task surviving only on grants and donations. Our pantry has no paid positions, and it is run by volunteers and Chief Gagne as our leader.

We thank you for your past support and if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to us. Also, if you would like a tour of our pantry, please give us a call and we can arrange one for you.

Pantry hours are Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays from 9:00 am till 2:00pm. Please call your order in at 802-868-6255.

Thank you for your consideration,

Chief Brenda Gagne

SWANTON ENHANCEMENT PROJECT (SEP) Calendar Year 2024

April 2013, a small group of Swanton residents gathered in Sandy and Ron Kilburn's living room to discuss a vision of how to ensure a vibrant future for the Swanton community – a place where people would love to live, learn, work, and recreate. The Swanton Enhancement Project was born. The mission statement that evolved encouraged multi-cultural events, pedestrian and bicycle friendly circulation patterns, creation of attractive shops and cafes, a healthy drug free environment and citizen involvement in community development.

After two more years of SEP organizing and planning, it hosted a Community Visit facilitated by the Vermont Council on Rural Development that took place on January 28, 2015. More than 200 residents of our community and 70 volunteers from across the state participated in the day-long event featuring workshops and a community dinner at MVU.

The results of the visit and the following priority setting meeting attended by 75 community members led to the formation of five subcommittees of the SEP to focus on 1) expanding outdoor recreation opportunities; 2) creating an Arts Council; 3) building an economic development committee; 4) uniting the community to reduce substance misuse; and 5) improving traffic flow, walkability and parking in the downtown center.

This year the SEP marks 10 years of community development activity post the VCRD Community Visit. It is now a 501(c)(3) organization. The continuing reason for its existence is to CONVENE, INFORM and ENGAGE Swanton's residents in the work of ensuring a vibrant future for our community.

Among its accomplishments during the last 10 years, the SEP:

- Supported improvements at Marble Mill Park
- Contributed funding for wayfinding signs in key locations to highlight outdoor recreational opportunities
- Started the Swanton Arts Council, that was formed as a result of the Community Visit. It is now a 501(c)(3) organization that stages events and workshops throughout the year.
- Created and launched the Community Yard Sale, that attracts hundreds of people to Swanton every spring and is now in its 5th year.
- SEP supported grants that have been applied for and awarded for Sidewalk construction, scoping study of pedestrian safety and access in the Merchants Row area, traffic demonstration at the North end of the Village Green, improve pedestrian and bicycle safety along Lake Street and Maquam Shore Road.
- Formed the Beautification Task Force in 2019
- Sponsored local events including Food Truck Sundays, Community Block Parties, Notch Summer Camp, Events for Kids hosted by the Recreation Commission.

In 2024, SEP hosted or supported the following:

- Four community meetings featuring guest speakers – Felicia Cota, Creative Heart Inc.; Melinda White, CRC Turning Point of Franklin County Recovery Coach Supervisor - NMC Emergency Dept. and Denise Smith, the new CEO of the Vermont Council on Rural Development. The meeting in March also featured a review of Town Meeting results.

Each gathering includes reports from our 12 community partner organizations – MVSD, Swanton Arts Council, Swanton Public Library, Swanton Recreation Department, Swanton Historical Society, Swanton Chamber of Commerce, Town of Swanton, Village of Swanton, Beautification Committee, Healthy Communities Committee and Communications Committee. During these reports, upcoming dates and events are highlighted by the various organizations. SEP assistance, partnership or sponsorship is often the result of this exchange.

- A new group, Promote Swanton, has been formed as a partnership with the Village, Town, business owners, Chamber and SEP representatives to give a boost to marketing of our existing, new and future downtown business owners.
- Work continues on ensuring the full economic and recreational benefit to Swanton from the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail is achieved.
- The Swanton Beautification Committee of SEP thanks the many volunteers, the Swanton Selectboard and Village trustees, and donors of time and money for supporting Swanton beautification. Downtown 2024 has never looked so robust and inviting.

In 2024, we accomplished the following:

- Created a new garden at the Town Office Building
- Erected and planted window boxes at the Village office building
- Expanded plantings at Veterans Park
- Expanded the garden at the Swanton Library
- Doubled the number of hanging baskets on Grand Avenue to 12
- Created a small garden at Merchants Row laundromat
- Planted ten streetside trees on Canada Street

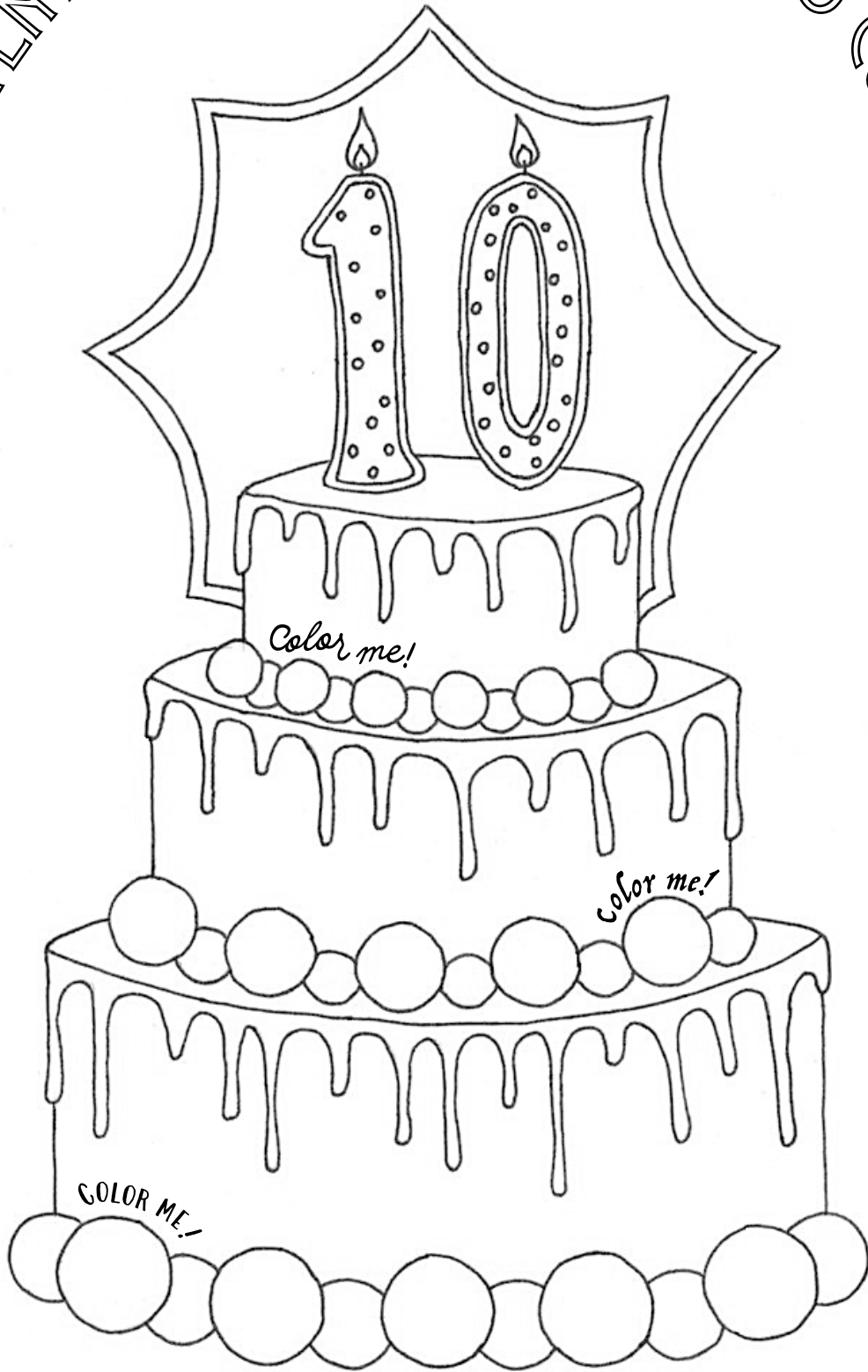
New activities in 2025 include:

- Landscaping near the new art board by the VFW building
- Plant numerous trees along our streets and in parks, pending approval of a grant proposal to the *Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program*

An invitation – We welcome volunteers to join in our efforts to beautify our community, perhaps an hour or two per week. All are welcome at our community meetings. Please join us every other month as we CONVENE, INFORM AND ENGAGE to ensure a vital future for this special place we call home! For more information follow us on Facebook or the Town Website:

<https://www.swantonvt.gov/>

HAPPY TENTH BIRTHDAY SWANTON ARTS COUNCIL!



Swanton Arts Council

Mission: to establish an artistic presence and develop the artistic community in Swanton

Thank you to all the wonderful artists, organizations, and local businesses who help bring art to Swanton, including but not limited to:

Swanton Public Library

Swanton Recreation

Swanton Public Art Network

Bees on Broadway

Divine Treasures

Creative heART

Are you or your organization helping to bring art to Swanton? Contact us at swantonartscouncil@gmail.com so we can praise your creativity and commitment to our arts community.

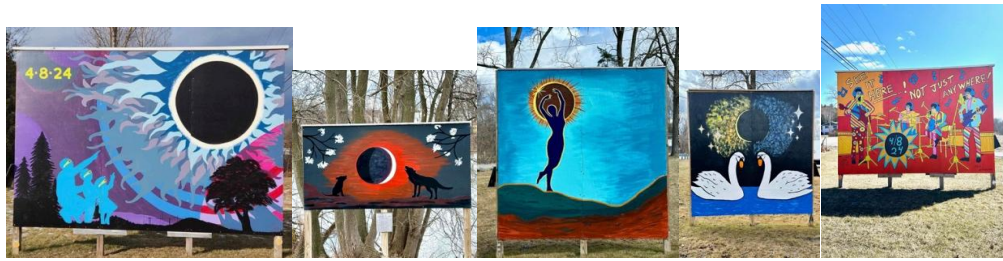
In 2024 Swanton Arts Council funded over 25 art opportunities which were attended by over 1000 people:

- ☆ Numerous art, crafting, and cooking classes
- ☆ Community films, “Fowl Play” and “Breaking News”
- ☆ Open mic night
- ☆ Community mural painting
- ☆ Youth art show
- ☆ Take-and-make kits at the library
- ☆ Contributed to free youth camps



Our meetings are free and open to the public. For more info, contact us at swantonartscouncil@gmail.com

Swanton Public Art Network



SPAN captured the total solar eclipse in the creation of our themed eclipse art boards. These boards were received with enthusiasm and an inspiration to creatively paint more art boards.

It was suggested that we offer an auction so they would not be reset/ painted over. Four of the five boards were bought and reside in Swanton where they are appreciated and admired. You might even catch a glimpse of one.

For these artboards to be successful, we need more folks to come forward and paint your heart out. It is a great way to spend some quality time with a friend or just enjoy the solitude and therapeutic value of painting a big canvas. We may be able to offer a small stipend and continue to promote public art.

We are hoping to have an event that will provide advice and techniques to paint an art board, TBA. Also, we will help anyone who is interested to sign up. All ages welcome!

Signing up with SPAN to paint an art board is a friendly process at span4art.org. Go to website, click programs, then click on user agreement, and you will be signed up for 2025.

Help keep Public Art alive in Swanton!

**2025 Swanton Historical Society
Annual Report of the President and the Trustees**



(Celebrating our volunteers!)

Winter:

During the December break we resumed the “Holiday Trains”, which is a popular annual tradition at the Ron Kilburn Transportation Museum. This is a fun event, and our volunteers decorated the depot to enhance the holiday spirit. We were open three days between Christmas and New Years and several community members, both train aficionados and families with young children took advantage of our programming. Additionally, the historical society partnered with Dr. Fred Wiseman, who provided several opportunities for the public to come and learn about antiques, model trains, and collecting.

Spring:

With the approaching warm weather, we prepared the Depot for reopening and the resumption of regular hours. Some of our passionate, younger volunteers spent a lot of time at the depot, reworking some of our displays and staining the platform. Older volunteers maintained our motor car. Every Friday and Saturday, from 11:00 to 3:00, we kept the building open to the public. Terry Tuck and Larry Rochon volunteered their time starting in late April and early May. Mason Landry and Caleb Ladieu donated time consistently on Tuesday afternoons.

Summer:

The Depot Museum was open all summer. With the continued use of the Rec Trail, we enjoyed another phenomenal season which brought a good number of travelers to our location on the west bank of the Missisquoi River. One of the primary questions that a Historical Society must answer is: What should be preserved? We discovered that there was significant long-term damage to the old Missisquoi Bay Bridge Toll House, and as this is a unique building, the society spent a considerable amount of money refurbishing and repairing it. This was made possible due to a generous donation from the Taylor family. The Toll House has now been repaired and will be open to the public. The

frequent heavy seasonal rains that damaged the Historical Society space in the library a couple of years ago has been dealt with, although the archive room is not open as much as we would like it to be. While our collection has been returned to that room and is out of the way of the library, the work in the basement must continue before the room can be consistently open to the public again.

Fall:

The SHS extended the summer hours at the Depot through most of the fall. We are proud that the Depot and the walking bridge are such popular locations. Partly due to the recent visibility of the Historical Society, area resident David Horton has generously decided to donate a prime piece of real estate for the community to enjoy into the future. Mr. Horton has gifted the “Old Bank Building” across from Merchants Row, by Ace Hardware, to the Historical Society. We are excited about the possibilities and look forward to this being a place where the community can continue to sample interesting aspects of Swanton’s History.

**Officers: President, Jason Barney
Vice-President & Treasurer, Glen Gurwit
Secretary & Trustee, Mike Barkyoumb**

**Trustees: Caleb Ladieu (1st Term, ending in 2027)
Nick Brosseau (2nd Term, ending in 2027)
Zoe Brosky (1st Term, ending in 2027)
Mike Barkyoumb (1st Term, ending 2025)
Heather Lavoie (1st Term, ending in 2025)
Bruce Spaulding (2nd Term, ending in 2026)
Mason Landry (1st Term, ending in 2026)
Rich Kelley (3rd Term, ending in 2026)
Ron Kilburn (Lifetime Trustee)
Linda Kelly (Lifetime Trustee)
1 Trustee Position Open (Term ending in 2025)**

Curator/Membership Chair: Open

Volunteer Opportunities: If you are interested in volunteering with the Swanton Historical Society, please contact Jason Barney at Jason.Barney@mvsdschools.org.

Once again we would like to thank Frances Hopkins for all of her hard work. Aside from Terry Tuck and Larry Rochon at the Depot, Fran is our primary volunteer. Much of our collection of ephemera and artifacts in the Research and Archive Room has been organized by her. She does exceptional work for the SHS.

Community Resources: The Ron F. Kilburn Transportation Museum hosts the Railroad Depot, the Missisquoi Bay Bridge Toll House, the caboose, and the popular Walking Bridge across the Missisquoi River. It is located at 58 South River St. To request information about Swanton’s

history, please contact 1-802-370-4883 (Jason Barney.) The Society also maintains a Research and Archive Room in the basement of the Swanton Public Library. This space is currently unavailable due to repairs on the building. Our facilities are fully accessible and open to the public by appointment. Visit our website at www.swantonhistoricalsociety.org

Swanton is a unique place. It has a long history. We have much to share and learn from each other. We welcome interested individuals to join our Society and help us preserve and appreciate this town's amazing heritage. I am proud of this area, and love the unique history of the region. I am honored to be a part of the Historical Society. We try to serve the community well and keep history alive.

Jason Barney
President

MISSISQUOI VALLEY RESCUE, INC.
2024 ANNUAL REPORT

<u>TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE:</u>	1,853
SWANTON:	927
HIGHGATE:	438
TRANSFERS:	279
MUTUAL AID:	206
-ST. ALBANS	170
-ALBURGH	14
-SHELDON	8
-FRANKLIN	5
-ISLE LA MOTTE	4
-ENOSBURGH	2
-FAIRFIELD	2
-GEORGIA	2
-RICHFORD	2
<u>TOTAL MEMBERSHIP:</u>	24
PARAMEDIC / PARAMEDIC IN TRAINING:	4
A-EMT / A-EMT IN TRAINING:	9
EMT / EMT IN TRAINING:	7
VEFR:	3
CPR/DRIVER:	1

From all of us at Missisquoi Valley Rescue (MVR), THANK YOU! We are proud to be a part of and serve such a great community. 2024 was a record year for us with 1,853 requests for service. This is up 130 calls or 7.5% over last year. We continue to see a significant number of responses to surrounding communities (mutual aid). Our mutual aid responses also hit a record this year with 209 requests, up 16.8% over last year.

Our CPR training center certified over 500 people in CPR/First Aid across Northwest VT. If you are interested in a CPR course please call our station to set one up! Please feel free to stop by for a free vitals signs check or to just say hi! We wish you all the best in the year ahead!

Respectfully Submitted,
Joshua W. Ramsdell
Office Manager
Missisquoi Valley Rescue, Inc.

New Station		37,112	2,420		2,500
Total Disbursements		981,543	1,100,526	931,610	1,060,500
Net Receipts over (under) Disbursemer		-122,864	-19,207	0	-11,000
** Professional fees :		2025 Budget	Bank Acct Balances	11/2024	
			Peoples Trust	\$48,660	
Billing fees		29,700.00	MTB	18,403	
Dispatching		48,000.00	Payroll Acct.	628	
Legal/other fees		1,000.00	LiveOak	85,953	
		78,700.00		153,644	

MISSISQUOI VALLEY RESCUE, INC.

Community Support Request

Swanton Community Support					
Swanton		\$259,490			

SWANTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

Established in 1889

The Swanton Village Fire Department had a busy year filled with motor vehicle accidents with the bulk of these accidents occurring on Interstate 89, the Woods Hill Road and Route 207 Intersection, and West Swanton on Route 78. We responded to 301 calls in 2024. Our call breakdown is as follows: 104 vehicle accidents, 8 vehicle fires, 34 fire alarms, 7 structure fires, 9 trash/rubbish calls, 2 brush/grassfire calls, 7 gas leaks, 5 burn complaints, 26 road hazards, 13 C.O. incidents, 26 medical assists, 8 good intent, 28 mutual aid, 4 boat rescues, 17 smoke investigations, and 3 ice water rescues.

	2024	2023	2022
Vehicle Accident	104	109	96
Vehicle Fire	8	4	7
Fire Alarms	34	36	18
Structure Fire	7	7	13
Trash/Rub	9	3	4
Brush/Grass	2	2	11
Gas Leak	7	5	2
Burn Complaint	5	4	10
Road Hazard	26	7	23
C.O. Incident	13	12	7
Hazmat	0	0	1
Med Assist	26	33	42
Good Intent	8	11	7
Mutual Aid	28	13	22
Boat Rescue	4	8	4
Smoke Invest	17	7	12
Ice Water Rescue	3	3	0
	301	264	279

Our fully volunteer/paid on call membership has 24 active firefighters and of those 20 are fully state certified to Level 1 or 2 Firefighters. We continue to strive to strengthen our skills to meet the needs of this community with professional, dedicated, and unwavering steadfast emergency responses.

Due to the rising costs of equipment, fuel and insurances the proposed budget increase for 2025 is 7.3%. The department continues to look for more ways to lower or cut cost where possible.

In 2024, the fire department took time out of already busy weekdays and weekends to go out into the community and assist in various events and activities. From setting up and tearing down the Easter Egg Hunt to removing Graffiti, placing flags in the park and helping plant flowers. We also helped to clean up the wildlife refuge and went out on Green Up Day. In total, the members collectively put in 405 hours of community service and outreach to give back to the community we truly care about.

Fire Department goals for 2025 are continuing with the trainings necessary to ensure that the best qualified emergency responders are arriving to handle any situation, while at the same time reengaging within our community through events and supporting the public in other areas outside of the normal first response duties.

In 2024, the department applied for grants to better the fire station and also the surrounding community. We applied for \$64,000 from the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant for an Exhaust Removal System. We should know in March of 2025 if we got the award. We also applied for an open Grant to VT Rural Protection Program for a Dry Hydrant for Johns Bridge Fish and Wildlife Fishing Access for \$10,000. Adding a dry hydrant to this location ensures a guaranteed water supply while adding a location for tankers to be loaded and return to traffic in a controlled environment.

The Fire department membership would like to thank its other team members, Swanton Town employees, Swanton Police Department, Swanton Village Electric and Swanton Village Public Works with helping whenever called upon to assist the Fire Department.

Swanton Fire Department Roster, Effective January 2025

Fire Chief Daniel R. Chevalier, Deputy Chief Troy Campbell, Lieutenant Lawrence Boussey, Lieutenant Matt Depatie, Firefighters: Chris Albertson, Kody Bruyette, Jordan Campbell, Jason Cross, Daryl Domina, Andre Fontaine, Sierra Francalanga, Cody Giroux, John Greer Jr, Gary Longe, Avery Mitchinson, Shayne Mott, Josh Packard, Lyndsay Potter, Matt Walker, Bruce Whalen, Barry Woods, and Caleb Vanslette.

CADETS: Abby Wilcox, Uriah Neabour.

*Sincerely,
Daniel Chevalier
Fire Chief*

**Swanton Village
General Fund
Income Statement
For The Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2024**

	2024 BUDGET	2024 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET
FIRE DEPARTMENT			
PROPERTY TAXES			
Property Taxes	\$88,480	\$88,483	\$94,457
PILOT	<u>2,205</u>	<u>2,411</u>	<u>2,605</u>
TOTAL PROPERTY TAXES	\$90,685	\$90,894	\$97,062
OTHER OPERATING REVENUES			
Other Revenues	\$0	(\$940)	\$0
Town Fire Assessment	296,216	296,216	316,225
Rev from Merch. Jobbing & Contract Work	0	6,619	0
Interest & Dividend Income	2,000	6,569	4,000
Non Cash Gift	0	23,000	0
Grant Income	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL OTHER OPERATING REVENUES	<u>\$298,216</u>	<u>\$331,464</u>	<u>\$320,225</u>
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	\$388,901	\$422,359	\$417,287
OPERATING MAINT EXPENSES			
Fire Salaries	\$40,000	\$38,888	\$40,000
Tools Expense	1,000	0	1,000
Department Supplies	<u>1,500</u>	<u>3,179</u>	<u>1,500</u>
TOTAL OPERATING MAINT EXPENSES	\$42,500	\$42,068	\$42,500
ADMIN & GENERAL EXPENSES			
Office Supplies	\$550	\$658	\$550
Telephone & Internet	5,735	5,014	5,735
Postage	190	220	225
Outside Services Employed	2,935	3,065	3,140
Accounting	3,750	3,958	4,125
Dispatching	21,546	21,546	23,700
Property Insurance	8,995	8,636	10,910
Workers Compensation	3,920	3,915	3,950
General Advertising Expenses	0	312	0
Miscellaneous General Expenses	100	1,036	100
Dues	1,200	1,275	1,200
Conventions, Meetings and Training	1,500	1,267	2,000
Annual Report	550	716	550
Fire Prevention	500	604	1,000
Rent	26,095	26,095	34,670
Transportation Expenses	44,500	37,801	45,000
Transportation Expenses - Labor	500	540	500
Shop Tools	<u>0</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL ADMIN & GENERAL EXPENSES	\$122,566	\$116,733	\$137,355

**Swanton Village
General Fund
Income Statement
For The Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2024**

	2024	2024	2025
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Social Security Taxes	\$3,060	\$2,982	\$3,060
Child Care Contribution	90	79	176
Truck Payment	118,385	118,382	116,896
 CAPITAL EXPENDITURES			
Equipment	\$15,500	\$55,233	\$15,500
Equipment Replacement Fund	70,000	70,000	85,000
Radio Equipment	1,800	858	1,800
Personal Protective Equipment	<u>15,000</u>	<u>13,036</u>	<u>15,000</u>
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	<u>\$102,300</u>	<u>\$139,127</u>	<u>\$117,300</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>\$388,901</u>	<u>\$419,371</u>	<u>\$417,287</u>
NET INCOME	\$0	\$2,988	\$0

SWANTON VILLAGE POLICE REPORT

The Swanton Village Police Department continued to work hard toward ensuring public safety for the citizens of Swanton in 2024. We appreciate the support of the Swanton community, and have added a full-time Administrative Assistant / Records Clerk, but have been unable to fill our open full-time police position resulting in minimum staffing for the police department. We have just enough officers to cover every shift, however if an officer is sick or on vacation we struggle to fill the vacancy.

Our Police Department consists of 8 full-time officers (authorized 9) that include: The Chief, 2 Sergeants, 1 Administrative Officer, 3 Patrol Officers, and 1 Student Resource Officer (SRO) at MVU. Swanton Village Police Department has 5 part-time officers who assist in filling open shifts, special details associated with the Governor's Highway Safety Details, Operation Stonegarden, and Extra Duty jobs.

We engaged in a lot of community outreach participating in many Village Open House events during the beginning of 2024 to allow the community to learn about the Village and the 8 departments: Police, Fire, Electric, Department of Public Works, Front Office, Hydro, Wastewater, and Water. The police department continues to struggle to operate within a facility that is inadequate for the demands of modern policing but looks forward to a time when we will be able to expand, once the Electric Department and Village Administrative staff move to a new facility.

Swanton Village Police Department could be a model for regional policing. The vision involves multiple municipalities coming together to share the cost of community policing services. Spreading the cost of police services across multiple communities would realize efficiencies of scale and would reduce the cost for all participating communities.

Swanton Village Police managed a total call volume of 3,250 incidents in 2024, an increase of approximately 18% from 2,759 in 2023 and an increase of 38% from 2,352 in 2022. Officers have continued to be very busy addressing crime and disorder as well as drug activity in Swanton.

We responded to 1,752 incidents in the Village, a decrease of 5% from 1,839 in 2023, and 1223 incidents in the Town of Swanton, an increase of 33% from 920 in 2023. We had 389 traffic stops total, a decrease of 13% from 446 in 2023, stopping 171 vehicles in the Village issuing 145 warnings and 61 tickets, and stopping 174 vehicles in the Town issuing 146 warnings and 66 tickets. We wrote \$24,502 worth of traffic tickets in Swanton with \$12,275 worth of traffic tickets in the Village and \$12,227 in the Town. Swanton Village Police Officers made 26 arrests for Operation after Suspension or Revocation of License, commonly referred to as DLS. There were 11 arrests for DLS in the Village and 15 arrests for DLS in the Town. We also made 16 Driving Under the Influence arrests, commonly referred to as DUI. There were 9 arrests for DUI in the Village and 7 arrests for DUI in the Town. Approximately 8% of traffic stops resulted in an arrest, given 389 traffic stops resulted in 30 arrests.

Officers continue to focus on drug enforcement. Swanton Village Officers continue to espouse a philosophy of assisting individuals with substance use disorders by linking them with treatment services. However, SVPD will not allow drug distribution and has aggressively addressed persistent problems through criminal enforcement. During 2024 most of the property crime and fraud in Swanton had a direct nexus to individuals suffering from substance use disorder.

The Swanton Village Police Department had 21 search warrant incidents in 2024 which led to criminal charges and the recovery of evidence related to drug trafficking, fraud, and property crime. Similar to 2023, the volume is indicative of the great investigative work by SVPD officers. The norm for SVPD over the past decade has been approximately 5 search warrants per year. Most of the search warrants in 2024 were associated with drug activity in the community. Some examples of the investigative work performed by SVPD officers are:

On January 1, 2024, officers executed a search warrant on a vehicle resulting in the seizure of .5 grams of crack cocaine, drug paraphernalia, 25 wax folds commonly used for distribution of heroin/fentanyl. The vehicle was initially seized pending application for the search warrant on December 28, 2023, when the investigating officer made observations of the occupants engaged in drug activity. Karen Rich, 28 years of age, was cited to appear in court for Possession of Cocaine.

On January 6, 2024, officers executed a search warrant at a residence in Swanton and located large quantities of drug paraphernalia as well as a container with 1 gram of a white powdery substance the suspect admitted was heroin/fentanyl. Casey Cassani, 35 years of age, was cited to appear in court for Possession of Heroin.

On January 14, 2024, officers executed a search warrant at a residence in St. Albans. Officers located drug paraphernalia, and many different electronics that appeared to be stolen. Officers arrested Trevor Lacross, 33 years of age, on an arrest warrant and cited him for possession of 2.4 grams of Cocaine. Officers also arrested Kaleb Lavallee, 26 years of age, on an arrest warrant and Lavallee was also cited for possession of 2.4 grams of Cocaine.

On March 16, 2024, officers performed a motor vehicle stop after suspicion of the vehicle being involved in drug activity. The vehicle was operated by Christina Johnson, 46 years of age, and the front seat passenger, who refused to identify himself, was later identified as Davidson Altimo, 28 years of age. On March 21, 2024, officers executed a search warrant on the vehicle locating drug paraphernalia.

Also in March, the School Resource Officer obtained a search warrant related to vapes being distributed at MVU.

In April officers obtained and executed a search warrant related to a stolen kayak.

In September officers conducted an extensive investigation involving the sale of crack cocaine on Elm Street. A search warrant was obtained for a residence on Elm St. and was executed on October 1, 2024. Mary Hodgdon, 54 years of age, was cited to appear in court for the Sale of Cocaine. Also present at the time of the search warrant was a 30-year-old male from Springfield,

MA who is believed to be the source of the cocaine. The investigating officer subsequently obtained multiple search warrants to further the investigation.

On October 27, 2024, officers stopped a vehicle for a stop sign violation after observing the occupants of the vehicle involved in suspicious behavior indicating possible drug activity. When interacting with the operator and passenger the officer observed drug paraphernalia in plain view in the vehicle. The vehicle was subsequently seized pursuant to application for a search warrant which was granted and executed on November 1, 2024. The search yielded 7 grams of methamphetamine, 2.2 ounces of cannabis, and an illegally modified .22 caliber pistol that had been turned into a short-barreled rifle. Steven Mashtare, 31 years of age, was cited to appear in court for driving with a Criminally Suspended License and possession of more than 2.5 grams of Methamphetamine. Kristin Reed, 38 years of age, was cited to appear in court for possession of more than 2.5 grams of Methamphetamine and possession of more than 2 ounces of Cannabis. The modified rifle is a federal crime, and this information was shared with the ATF.

The drug activity on Elm St. did not subside after the execution of the first search warrant on October 1, 2024. Officers continued to investigate the ongoing activity which resulted in the arrest of Davidson Altimo, 28 years of age from Springfield, MA on 11/22/2024 when he was observed leaving the residence at 22 Elm St. and subsequently fled from a traffic stop initiated on Robinhood Dr. resulting in him crashing his vehicle on Missisquoi St. and attempting to flee on foot. This vehicle was also occupied by a 23-year-old male from Springfield, MA. Search warrants were obtained for Altimo's vehicle and phone. Altimo was found in possession of 30 wax folds that tested presumptive positive for heroin/fentanyl and was in possession of a zip-lock style baggie containing powder with an approximate total weight of 5 grams also testing presumptive positive for the presence of heroin/fentanyl.

Altimo was subsequently charged with Trafficking Heroin. The statute provides that possessing an amount consisting of 3.5 grams or more with intent to sell or dispense shall be imprisoned for not more than 30 years or fined not more than \$1,000,000.00 or both. There shall be a permissive inference that a person who possesses heroin in an amount of 3.5 grams or more intends to sell or dispense heroin. Altimo was also charged with Possession of Regulated Drugs (Depressant, Stimulant, Narcotic), Gross Negligent Operation, Excessive Speed, Eluding a Police Officer, and Reckless Endangerment. Altimo is on probation in Massachusetts for armed robbery according to his probation officer.

On November 17, 2024, officers observed a U-Haul truck at several different locations known for drug activity in Swanton. Officers were advised this vehicle was reported as stolen to the Williston Police Department that evening. Officers located the vehicle in the McDonald's parking lot and observed drug paraphernalia in the cab of the truck. The truck was seized while officers applied for a search warrant and the operator, Emily Robtoy, 34 years of age, was cited to appear in court for Operation without Owners Consent, Impeding Public Officers, and Resisting Arrest. The passenger in the vehicle was a 30-year-old male from New York.

Upon obtaining a search warrant for the vehicle officers located approximately 70 wax folds containing heroin/fentanyl, .15 grams of crack cocaine, and 17 suboxone strips. Emily Robtoy

was subsequently charged with Conspiracy to distribute Fentanyl, Fentanyl Trafficking, Possession of Cocaine, and Possession of Narcotics.

The continuation of drug activity on Elm Street led to officers obtaining another search warrant for the residence in the month of December. This search warrant was not executed until January 2, 2025. Upon execution of the search warrant officers located approximately 19 grams of crack cocaine in an area occupied by Marques Jubrey, 23 years of age, from Springfield, MA. Jubrey was flash cited to appear in court for Sale of Cocaine and Possession of Cocaine. It is noteworthy that Jubrey was also arrested in March of 2023 upon SVPD officers executing a search warrant in Highgate where Jubrey was located in possession of 13.23 grams of crack cocaine and officers located an additional 2.4 grams of crack cocaine in the residence as well as 73 wax folds containing heroin/fentanyl.

In sum, most of the above investigative work is related to drug distribution in Swanton Village and Town. There are an extreme number of hours worked associated with these complex investigations by many officers.

Generally, the volume of crime and disorder has increased. Burglaries increased 133% (from 3 to 7 in 2024), Theft increased 6% (aggregating all types of theft from 50 to 53 in 2024), Vandalism increased 120% (from 10 to 22 in 2024), Family Disturbances increased 104% (from 24 to 49 in 2024), Motor Vehicle Complaints increased 15% (from 121 to 139 in 2024).

We provided SVPD officers with contemporary training in defensive tactics, firearms, and law. Training continues to be a challenge because of staffing but we strive to provide Swanton Village with excellent law enforcement service which requires well-trained officers.

Sergeant Gagne of the Swanton Village Police Department organized the 2024 National Night Out Event. The event was very successful again with a great turnout from the community and we thank all community members, sponsors, and volunteers for their participation and support.

The Swanton Village Police Department espouses a Community Oriented Policing Strategy. The Police Department is here to serve the community. We strongly believe crime control must be augmented with community-based strategies that help prevent neighborhood crime, reduce fear, and enhance the quality of life in Swanton. When community members work together in partnership with law enforcement, we can identify underlying causes and proactively solve local problems. We need to address crime and disorder before serious problems occur. Community policing requires community trust and engagement through clear communication built on a foundation of mutual respect. The Swanton Village Police Department embraces a philosophy of collaboration with community members to problem solve.

We can be found on the web at www.swantonvt.gov or check out our Facebook page.

As always, if you have any questions please call or stop by the Police Department, we are here to help you. We can be reached by phone 802-868-4100.

***Respectfully Submitted,
Matthew Sullivan, Chief of Police***

**Swanton Village
General Fund
Income Statement
For The Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2024**

	2024 BUDGET	2024 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET
POLICE DEPARTMENT			
PROPERTY TAXES			
Property Taxes	\$998,967	\$999,003	\$1,005,026
PILOT	<u>14,490</u>	<u>15,148</u>	<u>20,805</u>
TOTAL PROPERTY TAXES	\$1,013,457	\$1,014,151	\$1,025,831
OTHER OPERATING REVENUES			
Rent	\$8,800	\$9,533	\$8,800
Miscellaneous Income	5,000	13,781	5,000
School Resource Officer	98,750	96,258	113,170
Town of Swanton Police Contract	405,489	405,489	478,117
Fines	200	158	200
Fingerprint Center	16,000	25,090	20,000
Interest & Dividend Income	3,400	2,287	2,600
Grant Income	<u>12,000</u>	<u>282,041</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL OTHER OPERATING REVENUES	<u>\$549,639</u>	<u>\$834,636</u>	<u>\$627,887</u>
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	\$1,563,096	\$1,848,787	\$1,653,718
OPERATING MAINT EXPENSES			
Police Salaries	\$844,685	\$866,664	\$898,470
Tools Expense	1,000	0	0
Uniforms	4,600	935	4,600
Electricity	715	832	715
Department Supplies	12,000	44,770	20,000
Police K-9 Expenses	<u>500</u>	<u>327</u>	<u>500</u>
TOTAL OPERATING MAINT EXPENSES	\$863,500	\$913,529	\$924,285
ADMIN & GENERAL EXPENSES			
Office Supplies	\$10,000	\$6,647	\$10,000
Telephone & Internet	15,000	18,672	18,000
Postage	240	220	240
Subscriptions	768	0	0
Travel & Meals	1,500	917	1,500
Outside Services Employed	11,860	13,619	15,155
Accounting	3,750	3,958	4,125
Dispatching	65,000	65,000	110,000
Property Insurance	31,520	38,122	42,260
Workers Compensation	35,500	37,516	63,855
Employee's Retirement	84,215	87,526	97,615
Employee's Health and Insurance	237,345	178,968	249,655
Employee's Dental Insurance	9,875	7,684	9,540
Life and Disability Insurance	2,425	2,201	2,550

**Swanton Village
General Fund
Income Statement
For The Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2024**

	2024 BUDGET	2024 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET
General Advertising Expenses	500	404	500
Miscellaneous General Expenses	500	418	500
Dues	1,500	1,220	1,500
Conventions, Meetings and Training	20,000	4,399	15,000
Annual Report	550	716	550
Rent	9,860	9,858	13,105
Transportation Expenses	45,000	50,182	45,000
Transportation Expenses - Labor	0	83	0
Police Boat Expenses	<u>0</u>	<u>7,141</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL ADMIN & GENERAL EXPENSES	\$586,908	\$535,470	\$700,650
Social Security Taxes	64,620	64,961	68,730
Unemployment Compensation	1,100	976	995
Child Care Contribution	1,860	1,628	3,950
 CAPITAL EXPENDITURES			
Lease Expense	\$20,108	\$20,108	\$20,108
Equipment	10,000	185,139	10,000
Equipment Replacement Fund	<u>15,000</u>	<u>15,000</u>	<u>15,000</u>
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	<u>\$45,108</u>	<u>\$220,247</u>	<u>\$45,108</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>\$1,563,096</u>	<u>\$1,736,811</u>	<u>\$1,743,718</u>
NET INCOME	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$111,977</u>	<u>(\$90,000)</u>

Swanton Emergency Management
P.O. Box 711
Swanton, VT 05488

As I write this year's Annual Report, I reflect on the many years I've had the privilege of serving as your Emergency Manager. Having held this role since 1988, I look back at the emergencies our community has faced, such as the Ice Storm of 1998 and the devastating floods of 2018. Through these events, one thing stands out to me: while we have done well in preparing, we must always ask ourselves, *can we improve our response?*

Our strength lies in the ongoing efforts we make to communicate effectively with the community's emergency services.

Swanton Fire has continued to focus on keeping its volunteers trained and well-equipped to respond at a moment's notice, a vital component of both preparedness and mitigation.

The Swanton Village Police Department, under the leadership of Chief Sullivan, has officers who are second to none. For a community of our size, their unwavering commitment to service with respect and dignity exemplifies the vision Chief Sullivan has instilled in his team. This strengthens our ability to collaborate and establishes a unified command structure, which leads to positive and sustained outcomes.

Lastly, Missisquoi Rescue provides invaluable service to Swanton and Highgate, and their pride in serving our community is something we should all appreciate.

This past summer, I had the opportunity to attend the Vermont Emergency Preparedness Conference once again. The conference is a fantastic way to learn from experts in the field of emergency preparedness and discover new technologies in communication and strategy. It also provides the invaluable opportunity to exchange ideas with fellow Emergency Managers from across the state.

The role of Emergency Manager is a volunteer position, and while I cannot do this work alone, I am fortunate to have the incredible resources and support that Swanton offers. Knowing that I am never alone in this work gives me confidence in our collective ability to respond to any challenge that comes our way.

Be prepared, be aware, be kind.

Respectfully submitted,

Reginald R Beliveau Jr
Swanton Emergency Management Director

Jason Butler
Swanton Emergency Management Coordinator

Telephone: 802-524-5993

STATE OF VERMONT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
VERMONT STATE POLICE

FAX: 802-527-1150



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

January 8th, 2025

On behalf of the Vermont State Police, St. Albans Barracks, we are providing our 2024 Annual Report. This report will provide our mission, identify specialty services provided by the Troopers assigned to the St. Albans Barracks, and provide data for your respective town.

Mission Statement

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

Specialty Services Provided by Troopers assigned to the St Albans Barracks

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

The breakdown of these responses is as follows:

1 Trooper – Drug Recognition Expert (DRE)

4 Troopers – Tactical Services Unit (TSU)

3 Troopers – K9 Team

2 Troopers – Search and Rescue Team (SAR)

3 Troopers – Bomb Squad (EOD)

1 Trooper – CLAN lab team

1 Troopers – Crash Reconstruction Team (CRT)

1 Trooper – Crisis Negotiation Unit (CNU)

“Your Safety Is Our Business”

Annual Crime Statistics for the St. Albans Barracks:

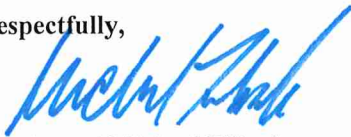
Total Cases:	6877
Total Arrests:	638
Total Tickets Issued:	229
Total Warnings Issued:	771
Fatal Accidents:	8
Total Burglaries Investigated:	59
Total DUP's:	62

Local Community Report: **Swanton**

Total Cases:	547
Total Arrests:	53
Total DUP's:	10
Total Accidents – Property Damage:	43
Total Accidents – Injury:	14
Total Vandalisms:	4
Total Alarms:	40
Total Burglaries:	2
Total Tickets:	26
Total Warnings:	90

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

Respectfully,



Lieutenant Michael Filipek
Station commander

Northwest Vermont Solid Waste Management District

158 Morse Drive, Fairfax, VT, 05454
802.524.5986 | nswsd.org | info@nswsd.org

2024 SUPERVISORS REPORT

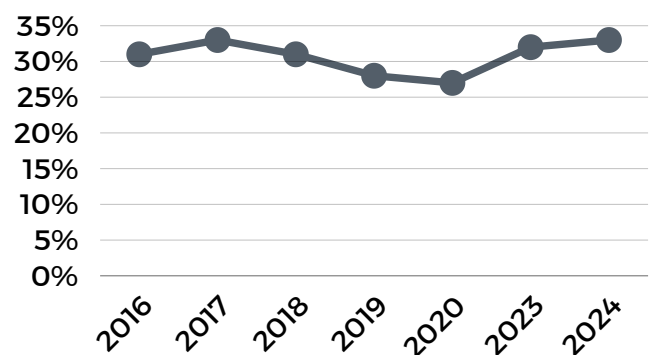
NWSWD is a legislatively chartered Municipal Corporation charged with planning, implementing, and regulating waste management strategies for our 19 member communities. The District's mission is to provide for the efficient, economical, and environmentally-sound reduction, reuse, recycling, and disposal of solid waste. Some of our 2024 highlights include:

- Services used over 54,000 times
- Increased diversion rate to 33%
- Composted 750+ tons of food scraps
- Collected 46 tons of HHW material from 2,967 residents & 55 businesses
- Expanded online presence to reach over 50,000 people on social media
- Provided outreach to more than 50 businesses and 10 schools



NWSWD updated all facility signage this year, including at the Alburgh Transfer Station, which is under NWSWD management as of December. We also began the long-awaited construction project at our Georgia Recycling Facility. These updates and expansions will improve public drop-off to make it more efficient and safe!

District Diversion Rate, 2016-2024



Facebook

Northwest Vermont Solid Waste Management District

Instagram

@northwest.vt.zerowaste

Newsletter sign-up via nswsd.org

858 TONS
LANDFILLED



1,807 TONS
RECYCLED





GREEN UP VERMONT
www.greenupvermont.org

**Success on
May 4, 2024**

**Requesting \$300
donation for 2025**



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

Swanton’s amazing town coordinator, Hank Lamberton, reported volunteers picked up 1.15 tons of litter and 67 tires on town roads. Principal, Chris Dodge at Swanton Elementary was a great leader in getting kids involved and through the participation of students, facility and staff helped us achieve a Guinness World Records title.

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

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

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

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

2025 Green Up Day is May 3rd.

Green Up Vermont is a 501c3 nonprofit.

Local Health Office Annual Report: 2024

St. Albans Local Health Office | 27 Federal St, Suite 201, St. Albans, VT
802-524-7970 | AHS.VDHStAlbans@Vermont.gov

Twelve Local Health Offices around the state are your community connection with the Vermont Department of Health. The St Albans Local Health Office provides essential services and resources to towns in Grand Isle and Franklin counties. Some highlights of our work in 2024 are below. For more information, visit HealthVermont.gov/local/st-albans



Children, Youth and Families

- In 2024, our **Women, Infants & Children (WIC) program** worked with over 1,500 participants from Grand Isle and Franklin counties.
- Our staff helped WIC families access **over \$190,000 in fruits and vegetables**.
- Our office helps participants feel confident and comfortable with breastfeeding. About **74% of WIC infants in our region have breastfed** in the past year.



Community Health and Safety

- This year, our office offered vaccines in a variety of places in Franklin and Grand Isle. These included **dairy farms, treatment centers, and the St Albans Pride Festival**.
- We work closely with Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) volunteers to **provide wound care and foot checks** every Thursday at Martha's Kitchen in St. Albans.
- Our office **distributed free water test kits** to people affected by the historic summer flooding. During specific times, residents can also bring their Health Department water test kits to our office. The office will then return the kits to the State's lab.
- Our experts carefully **watch for illnesses spread by mosquitoes**, such as West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE).



Working Together

- Our office is working with the **Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity** to help homeless residents find housing, food and health services.
- We now have regular WIC clinics in Alburgh, Enosburg, Richford, South Hero, and Swanton. This is **in partnership with libraries, health clinics, and senior centers**.





Town of Swanton
1 Academy Street
Swanton, VT 05488

January 2, 2025

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to you on behalf of Green Mountain Transit, the provider of essential public transportation services in our region. As we strive to serve our communities, we want to highlight the meaningful impact that public transit has on our rural areas.

Rural communities are the heart of our state, and we deeply appreciate the unique challenges and strengths that come with living in these beautiful but often isolated areas. GMT takes pride in connecting residents to vital resources like jobs, healthcare, education, and cultural activities. Accessible public transportation provides more than just convenience; it is fundamental to the health, well-being, and vibrancy of our region. Here are some key benefits:

- **Accessibility:** Public transit ensures that all community members, including those without access to a personal vehicle, can reach essential destinations like workplaces, medical offices, grocery stores, and social events.
- **Economic Development:** A strong public transportation network attracts businesses and supports the growth of existing enterprises. By connecting people with jobs and markets, GMT contributes to the economic vitality of our region.
- **Environmental Impact:** Public transit reduces the number of vehicles on the road, helping lower greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution—an important step toward a sustainable future for Vermont.
- **Quality of Life:** Public transit enhances quality of life by reducing traffic, promoting community connection, and offering an affordable alternative to the costs of car ownership.

While we receive funding from various sources, including grants, the financial sustainability of our services is an ongoing challenge. It is with this in mind that we kindly request your support in the form of an annual contribution. Your financial support will directly benefit our rural communities and help ensure the continued availability and expansion of our transportation services.

It is with recognition and appreciation for all levels of support that Green Mountain Transit (GMT) would like to submit a funding request for FY26 in the amount of **\$2,625** be placed before voters for consideration. The requested funding directly supports GMT's ongoing operations of fixed route and demand response services.



In FY 24 Swanton residents were provided demand response services totaling 2,739 rides. These services offer direct access to medical treatment, social services, shopping trips and more.

In FY24, total GMT ridership on local and commuter routes that travel in Franklin and Grand Isle Counties was 50,356. This general public transportation ridership was *in addition to* demand response ridership, (above), and is available through a variety of services including:

Alburgh- Georgia Commuter: 5,815 rides

Richford- St. Albans Commuter: 5,186 rides

St. Albans Downtown Shuttle: 24,430 rides

Price Chopper Shopping Special: 788 rides

St. Albans LINK Express: 50,356 rides

If you have any questions or would like to arrange a meeting, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at 802-540-2537 or cdamiani@ridegmt.com. Your consideration of this request is invaluable to us and the rural communities we serve.

Thank you for your time and attention. We look forward to collaborating to create a brighter, more connected future for our region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christopher Damiani', written over a white background.

Christopher Damiani
Director of Planning
Green Mountain Transit
cdamiani@ridegmt.com
802 540 2537

THE VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING #03-0271000

TOWN OF SWANTON

SUMMARY REPORT

Request Amount: \$500.00

For over 45 years, The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) has been teaching people with disabilities and the Deaf how to gain more control over their lives and how to access tools and services to live more independently. VCIL employees (85% of whom have a disability) conduct public education, outreach, individual advocacy and systems change advocacy to help promote the full inclusion of people with disabilities into community life.

In FY'24 (10/2023-9/2024) VCIL responded to thousands of requests from individuals, agencies and community groups for information, referral and assistance and program services for individuals living with a disability. VCIL Peer Advocate Counselors (PACs) provided one-on-one peer counseling to **293** individuals to help increase their independent living skills. VCIL's Home Access Program (HAP) assisted **233** households with information on technical assistance and/or alternative funding for modifications; **115** of these received financial assistance to make their bathrooms and/or entrances accessible. Our Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF) provided **149** individuals with information on assistive technology; **43** of these individuals received funding to obtain adaptive equipment. **320** individuals had meals delivered through our Meals on Wheels (MOW) program for individuals with disabilities under the age of 60. Our Vermont Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (VTEDP) served **38** people and provided **31** peers with adaptive telecommunications enabling low-income Deaf, Deaf-blind, Hard of Hearing and individuals with disabilities to communicate by telephone.

VCIL's central office is located in downtown Montpelier (although we are working from home as our office (along with so many others) was devastated in the July flood and we have four branch offices in Bennington, Chittenden, Rutland and Windham Counties. Our PACs and services are available to people with disabilities throughout Vermont.

During our FY'24, **10** residents of **Swanton** received services from the following programs

- Home Access Program (HAP)
(over **\$23,900** spent on modifications and 2 residents on waiting list for modifications in FY'25)
- Meals on Wheels (MOW)
(over **\$1,800.00** spent on meals for residents)
- Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF)
(**\$1,500.00** spent on assistive technology)
- Peer Advocate Counseling (PAC)
- Information, Referral and Assistance Program (I,R&A)



Friends of Northern Lake Champlain Town Report 2024

www.friendsofnorthernlakechamplain.org

The Friends of Northern Lake Champlain (FNLC) is a non-profit organization that acts to clean the waters of northern Lake Champlain and its watershed by collaborating with citizens, businesses, farmers, and government in order to reduce land-use pollution. We thank you for your continued support of our work in your community!

Kiersten Bourgeois represents Swanton on the FNLC Board of Directors.

Water Quality Projects

Since the completion of the FNLC/LCBP Swanton Stormwater and Shoreline Erosion Assessment, a grant for 100% design and implementation for a bioengineered project at the Town Beach and along North Maquam Shore road has been granted by the Lake Champlain Basin Program. Construction will occur in the spring of 2025 which will include further community education and outreach about the project process and outcomes.

Additionally, as of this summer, FNLC has completed three years of water sampling along a small tributary on Maquam Shore Road known as Sucker Brook. Once this data has been verified by the state, FNLC will be sharing the data with the town and helping to facilitate next steps to improve the health of this waterway.

Basin Water Quality Councils (BWQC)

FNLC has a seat on the Missisquoi BWQC which serves Swanton. The function of the BWQC is to prioritize and approve water quality improvement projects using State Clean Water Investment funds. As always, we invite more project suggestions from community members.

Community Engagement

At St. Albans Bay Park, FNLC brought watershed organizations together to bring Lake Lessons close to 200 fourth graders from Georgia, St. Albans Town and City, Swanton, and Highgate fourth graders, faculty, and parents. Presenters were from St. Albans Museum, the Agency of Agriculture Foods and Marketing, Lake Champlain Basin Program, Missisquoi River Basin Association, Franklin County Natural Resource Conservation District, USDA-NRCS, and Northwest Regional Planning Commission.

Collaborating with Agricultural Partners

In March, we hosted our annual producer meeting with UVM Extension and the Farmer's Watershed Alliance to bring new field techniques to local farms and to view best management practices on good conservation farms in the water basin.

Fundraising Events

Many thanks to the community for participating in and supporting our annual fundraiser Bike for the Lake as well as the return of our Annual Gathering at the Tyler Place. This year's annual gathering featured our state climatologist, Dr. Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux who talked about the intersection between water quality and climate resiliency.



December 30, 2024

Town of Swanton
P.O. Box 711
Swanton, VT 05488

Dear Swanton Selectboard members and Residents of Swanton,

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

MRBA Projects and Programs:

EEcological restoration, invasive species, water sampling, and river clean-up efforts:

During 2024, as in most years, MRBA volunteers helped pull trash from our riverbanks - including 2 tires and a lot of metal and glass debris from 1.5 miles of the river in Swanton! - assisted with our continued study of non-chemical ways to combat Japanese knotweed, collected water quality samples from 19 locations within our watershed, and assisted with tree plantings. An additional 750 trees were planted along our waterways in 2024. Our thanks to the volunteers and landowners we worked with this year!

Assisting farmers and landowners: In addition to implementing projects (tree plantings, etc.), we also conducted several site assessments this year. These are designed to help residents and landowners understand what water may be doing on these properties, and ways any negative impacts may be mitigated. We really enjoy providing these "Stream Wise" assessments - let us know if you have a stream you'd like us to come walk with you in 2025!

Educational programs: We are always excited to connect with our younger watershed residents, and enjoy providing hands-on educational opportunities to students through our watershed model, rainfall simulator, Bugworks program, and by hosting high school summer interns. In 2024, we again played an integral role in Lake Lessons. We were very pleased to host Swanton 4th graders during this fun water-focused field trip, and are looking forward to next year!

We respectfully request the Town's support of MRBA through a \$500 donation so that we may continue to serve our community with these programs. Your appropriation will help us continue to provide programs, assist landowners, and will help us continue expanding and increasing the skills of our team, so that we may better serve our watershed towns.

Your support of our organization in past years is so greatly appreciated and the funds have been put to good use. We thank you very much for your consideration of our 2025 request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Little".

John Little, MRBA President

Missisquoi River Basin Association (MRBA)

2839 VT Route 105 East Berkshire, VT 05447

Tel: (802) 933-3645 E-mail: lindsey@mrbavt.com Website: www.mrbavt.com

TOWN OF SWANTON
 ANNUAL REPORT OF BETTY L CHENEY
 SWANTON DELINQENT TAX COLLECTOR
 JANUARY 1, 2025

The following list represents tax balances effective for the year end December 31, 2024. These balances change frequently as payments are received.

There are a number of payment plans which have been established. I continue to work with taxpayers to bring their accounts current. Tax sale proceedings are forthcoming.

The Legislative changes to the Tax Collection Statutes have, in my opinion, made tax collection more challenging, mostly especially for the delinquent taxpayer. Tax sale proceedings may not proceed until one year after taxes become delinquent except under specific circumstances. There is no advantage for taxpayers, delinquent taxpayers or the municipality with these changes. That said, I will proceed with tax collection as prescribed by these laws.

If there are any questions regarding this report, I can be reached at 802-310-0522 (if I am unable to answer, please leave a message and I will respond) or via email (bettychenev8@gmail.com).

Year(s)	Balances	Abated	Collected	Balance 12/31/2024
2024	\$ 443,537.22		\$281,762.91	\$161,774.31
2023	\$109,917.98	\$ 793.71	\$ 81,626.97	\$ 27,497.30
2022	\$ 9,260.54	\$ 311.70	\$ 5,763.43	\$ 3,185.41
2021	\$ 3,736.09		\$ 773.97	\$ 2,962.12
2017-2020	\$ 8,875.37		\$ 1,484.78	\$ 7,390.59
Totals	\$575,327.20	\$1,105.41	\$371,412.06	\$202,809.73

Total 2024 Real Estate Taxes Collected: \$371,412.06

Total 2024 Interest Collected: \$ 12,201.87

Town of Swanton Tax Administration
Outstanding Principal Report

Owner Name	Tax Year	Principal Due
1 DEPOT STREET LLC	2023	1,644.03
1 DEPOT STREET LLC	2024	1,881.28
12 BLAKE STREET LLC	2023	2,781.41
12 BLAKE STREET LLC	2024	3,182.81
12 J REALTY LLC	2024	1,013.81
134 GRAND AVENUE PLANNED COMMUNIT	2024	439.40
AUSTIN STUART EST OF	2024	133.23
AVENU GOVERNMENT RECORDS SERVICES	2024	10.96
BABCOCK STEVE	2024	7.41
BAILEY MIKE	2024	67.78
BARRETTE CHRIS TAMMIE	2024	263.81
BELISLE DYLAN	2024	130.89
BELLROSE KYLE	2024	276.32
BENOIT BARBARA	2024	3,346.61
BESSETTE ERIC	2023	128.96
BESSETTE ERIC	2024	151.93
BEVINS JOE	2024	617.05
BILODEAU GARY	2024	126.21
BLANCHARD CHARLES	2024	701.19
BOIVIN THOMAS	2024	1,473.90
BRAULT MICHEL	2024	156.60
BUSHEY PAULA	2024	149.22
CAPSEY MARGARET	2024	4,106.64
CAPSEY MARGARET	2024	4,228.17
CAPSEY MARGARET	2024	4,199.37
CAPSEY MARGARET	2024	6,072.31
CASSANI NICHOLAS BRENDA	2024	3,825.79
CASTILLO ANTHONY WENDY	2024	347.07
CATTON JANE	2024	77.91
CHARBONNEAU MARTHA	2024	3,085.23
CHRISTOPHER AUSTIN	2023	499.90
CHRISTOPHER AUSTIN	2024	572.63
CLEMENT JASON JONELLE	2024	123.87
CLOUTIER TODD	2024	70.12
CORRON DAVID	2021	114.98
CORRON DAVID	2022	112.84
CORRON DAVID	2023	118.34
CORRON DAVID	2024	135.56
COTA SR. JEFFREY	2024	1,629.10
COUTURE TIFFANY	2024	151.93
COVILLON CHRISTOPHER / COSTELLA K	2023	2,836.16
COVILLON CHRISTOPHER / COSTELLA K	2024	3,248.85
CROSS STEVEN THERESA	2024	324.89
DANIELS WILLIAM JR	2023	1,454.81
DANIELS WILLIAM JR	2024	1,666.50
DARNELL-MARTIN RENICK	2024	5,089.73
DOMINA BRITTANY	2024	21.08
DOYLE MICHAEL	2024	128.56
DUPREY KIMBERLY	2024	518.10
EDE SARAH / RIVERS JULIE	2024	564.15
FITZPATRICK KAREN	2023	510.10

Town of Swanton Tax Administration
Outstanding Principal Report

Owner Name	Tax Year	Principal Due
FITZPATRICK KAREN	2024	583.72
FLOWER GEORGE	2024	184.64
FOWLER SARAH-MARIE	2023	333.44
FOWLER SARAH-MARIE	2024	599.48
FOXWORTH NATHAN	2023	915.37
FRANOLICH BRITNY	2024	219.70
FREEMAN JACK	2024	11.49
FREEMAN JACK JR JENNIFER	2024	12.27
FULLER COLLEEN	2024	306.19
GABOURY CHRISTOPHER	2024	166.85
GABREE RAYMOND KIM	2024	1,199.35
GAGNER RAYMOND	2024	238.40
GAGNER RONALD	2024	192.79
GARCEAU ANNE	2023	153.03
GARCEAU ANNE	2024	150.30
GARGUILO LUKE	2024	20.84
GARIEPY DANIEL	2024	1,245.78
GARRISON RAYMOND	2024	271.19
GERO TIMOTHY	2024	2,608.43
GREENIA CHRISTOPHER	2024	361.23
HARVEY JESSICA	2023	9.79
HARVEY JESSICA	2024	274.09
HAZARD DANIEL JR RUTH	2024	3,805.15
HAZARD DANIEL JR RUTH	2024	2,622.45
HENDERSON CYNTHIA	2024	1,702.66
HOULE DEBBIE JEAN	2024	133.23
HOWRIGAN DAVID PEGGY	2023	4,105.28
HOWRIGAN DAVID PEGGY	2024	4,646.56
HUNTINGTON TECHNOLOGY FINANCE	2024	21.08
JARVIS CHRISTINE	2024	119.20
JERRY RICHARD	2024	53.29
JOHNSON CHAD	2024	158.93
JOYCE STEPHANIE	2024	296.34
LAFLAM KAREN	2023	387.68
LAFLAM KAREN	2024	107.54
LAMOTHE NORMAN LIFE EST	2024	6,670.65
LAMOTHE NORMAN MONIQUE LIFE EST	2024	5,343.06
LAROCHE ROSAIRE	2024	11,611.68
LEVESQUE CODY	2024	3,933.68
LEVESQUE DANIEL EST OF	2023	3,433.99
LEVICK TAMYRA	2024	149.59
LIMOGE KEITH	2024	158.93
LITWIN MICHAEL	2024	194.00
LOZ MICHAEL / LOX JANICE REVOCABL	2024	2,819.15
LUNEAU MATTHEW ILZE	2023	398.10
LUNEAU MATTHEW ILZE	2024	2,011.00
LYKENS PATRICIA / BELLIMER RONALD	2023	196.46
LYKENS PATRICIA / BELLIMER RONALD	2024	224.81
MANY JENALEE	2023	174.38
MANY JENALEE	2024	191.72
MARTIN PETER II GREGORY JACOB	2024	285.65

Town of Swanton Tax Administration
Outstanding Principal Report

Owner Name	Tax Year	Principal Due
MATHIEU INVESTMENTS LLC	2024	7,572.85
MAYER RICHARD	2024	1,077.49
MCGILLIS SHANNON	2024	107.52
MIDNIGHT SEW WHAT!?	2024	33.94
MILLER JUSTIN	2024	115.08
MILLER LINNIE	2023	99.98
MLI ACQUISITION CORP II	2024	1,496.65
MLI ACQUISITION CORP II	2024	26.59
MOBBS JAMES	2024	130.89
MORRIS JAMES	2020	91.51
MORRIS JAMES	2021	172.46
MORRIS JAMES	2022	169.25
MORRIS JAMES	2023	177.51
MORRIS JAMES	2024	203.34
NELSON JEREMIAH	2024	1,640.78
NOLAN ZACH	2024	144.91
NUTTING BRIAN E	2024	1,080.68
NUTTING BRIAN E	2024	1,221.06
ONEILL MICHAEL	2023	46.93
ONEILL MICHAEL	2024	53.76
PAQUETTE SHAYNE	2023	61.22
PAQUETTE SHAYNE	2024	70.12
PARADEE DUSTY VERONICA	2024	9.55
PATOINE PATTY	2024	154.26
PEARCE BETSY	2024	165.95
PEDEN VICTORIA	2024	82.46
PHANEUF HILLARY	2024	502.15
PIANOWSKI BOB / MCFARLAND BRYAN	2024	102.84
PORTER MATT	2024	172.96
QUINTIN EUGENE JR	2024	133.23
R GIROUX REPAIR	2024	57.61
RAINE STACY	2024	84.07
RAMSDELL JOSHUA	2024	2,246.11
REDBOX AUTOMATED RETAIL, LLC	2024	6.75
REMILLARD KRISTOPHER / MYERS TIER	2024	68.37
RICHARD CAREY	2023	114.27
RICHARD CAREY	2024	130.89
RILEY LAURA	2024	489.60
ROBERTS FRANK ELIZABETH	2024	647.63
ROBINSON RALPH	2019	263.58
ROBINSON RALPH	2020	1,004.60
ROBINSON RALPH	2021	991.15
ROBINSON RALPH	2022	972.75
ROBINSON RALPH	2023	1,020.20
ROBINSON RALPH	2024	1,168.65
ROX ASHLEY	2024	2,028.47
SARFATI GERALD	2024	308.53
SARTELLE CHRIS SHERRY	2024	238.40
SAYERS TERRANCE JR	2024	3,915.11
SHEDRICK ADAM	2024	21.08
SMITH CRYSTAL / BARRON WILLIAM	2024	77.45

Town of Swanton Tax Administration
Outstanding Principal Report

Owner Name	Tax Year	Principal Due
SMITH EDWIN	2021	118.93
SMITH EDWIN	2022	116.73
SMITH EDWIN	2023	122.42
SMITH EDWIN	2024	140.24
SNIDER BRUCE JR HEATHER	2024	523.56
SNIDER JULIE	2024	165.95
SOUTIERE NICHOLAS	2024	137.90
ST FRANCIS LORENZO LIFE EST	2024	225.76
STARK LAURA	2024	151.93
STETSON CHRIS	2024	341.04
SWEETSER MIKAYLA	2024	320.21
T & M CONSTRUCTION & DEV CORP	2024	3,601.78
TASTY DELITES NORTHEAST LLC	2024	132.38
TATRO DAVID	2023	132.63
TATRO DAVID	2024	151.93
TAYLOR DANIELLE	2024	4,249.21
TAYLOR DANIELLE	2024	142.57
THERRIEN ROBERT CHRISTINE	2024	707.20
THOMLINSON CODY WILEY	2024	182.31
THORNTON JAMES	2023	635.37
TR STRIPING & PROPERTY MAINTENANC	2023	3,132.96
TR STRIPING & PROPERTY MAINTENANC	2024	3,585.09
VINCELETTE JEFFREY EST OF	2017	1,434.59
VINCELETTE JEFFREY EST OF	2018	1,493.37
VINCELETTE JEFFREY EST OF	2019	1,518.27
VINCELETTE JEFFREY EST OF	2020	1,584.67
VINCELETTE JEFFREY EST OF	2021	1,564.60
VINCELETTE JEFFREY EST OF	2022	1,500.62
VINCELETTE JEFFREY EST OF	2023	1,544.08
VINCELETTE JEFFREY EST OF	2024	1,766.92
WAGNER STEVEN TRACEY	2024	372.41
WALTON JEFFREY	2024	156.60
WARD TAMMY	2024	78.74
WESCOTT CARRIE	2022	313.22
WESCOTT CARRIE	2023	328.50
WESCOTT CARRIE	2024	376.30
WESTCOTT ROBIN	2024	151.93
WHITAKER KEITH	2024	170.63
WHITTEMORE SCOTT	2024	10.91
ZORN JOSEPH JR	2024	5,917.97
*** Total outstanding principal ***		202,809.73



SWANTON

Town Forest Fire Warden

Jon Barrette

Home Phone: 802-868-7097

Cell Phone: 802-233-4260

Work Phone: 802-868-3327

Deputy Town Forest Warden

Tim Girard

Cell Phone: 802-582-9547

By state law, if you wish to burn natural wood or debris outdoors, you must obtain a burning permit form the Town Forest Fire Warden. The warden in your town will be able to advise you on local burning regulations and current conditions. Remember, "Only YOU can prevent forest fires!"



TOWN OF SWANTON

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE
FOR MORE CONTACTS & INFORMATION

<https://www.swantonvt.gov>

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Town Administrator

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Email: townadmin@swantonvermont.org

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Town Clerk & Town Treasurer

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Asst. Town Clerk & Asst. Treasurer

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Email: asstclerk@swantonvermont.org

AMY GIROUX

Zoning Administrator

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Email: swanza@swantonvermont.org

DAVID HORTON, AMY GIROUX, KEVIN NICHOLS, Listers

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Email: listers@swantonvermont.org

KEVIN LAPAN

Highway Foreman

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Email: highwaydept@swantonvermont.org

BETTY L. CHENEY

Delinquent Tax Collector

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Email: bettycheney8@gmail.com

JIM BENSON

Animal Control Officer

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Email: swantonaco@gmail.com

SUZIE KELLEHER

Health Officer

Phone: (802) 782-7037

Email: skelleher@swantonvermont.org

JON BARRETTE

Fire Warden

Phone: (802) 868-3327

(802) 868-7097



Swanton's Youth
are our future!

