

TOWN OF SWANTON, VT



ANNUAL INFORMATIONAL MEETING

February 24, 2025

2024 SWANTON HIGHLIGHTS

- *After the 2024 Annual Town Meeting, your Selectboard consisted of Chair Earl Fournier, Joel Clark, Nicole Draper, Steve Bourgeois and Cody Hemenway.*
- *In August, Mr. Hemenway resigned from the Board due to personal reasons. In his short time on the Board, served well and we wish to thank him for service.*
- *Brendan Long, was appointed to fill the seat for the remainder of the term.*

2024 SWANTON HIGHLIGHTS

*To stay informed, we invite you to view the Joint Town and Village
Website at*

www.swantonvt.gov

*We also maintain a Facebook Page
Town of Swanton Vermont*

2024 SWANTON HIGHLIGHTS

EDWARD F. DANIEL

A lifelong member of the community who has served in a variety of capacities stepped down after service on the Planning Commission from 2005 to 2024. In addition, he served as Town Moderator from 2000 to 2008, then again in 2011.

The Selectboard thanks Ed for his years of service and wishes all the best for years to come.

2024 SWANTON HIGHLIGHTS

Throughout the year work on updating the Zoning By-laws to be “in sync” with the Town Plan has been occurring. The Planning Commission has spent many hours in this process. The job is just about complete and there will be a public hearing held by the Planning Commission. After that hearing the Selectboard will hold its own public hearing and if all is in order, officially adopt the new regulations. It is expected the new regulations will be in effect early this spring.

2024 SWANTON HIGHLIGHTS

- *The Selectboard has worked with Laz Scangas of Arnold and Scangas Architects addressing the icing issue that has plagued the Swanton Public Library for years.*
- *A plan has been designed and work will commence in mid spring that will provide insulation and other improvements in the attic.*
- *While the work will be taking place, the Library will have to closed for safety reasons.*

2024 SWANTON HIGHLIGHTS

- *Site assessment work on the former site of the Town Garage on Fourth Street is continuing. This work is a slow process but is required by the State of Vermont.*
- *Hopefully, the next testing will be completed by April and barring any further testing requirements from the State, work can commence on developing the site into recreational uses.*
- *In September, it was discovered that that the kitchen drain at the Town Offices had leaked causing serious rot in the beams supporting the floor. The repairs totaled approximately \$17,000.00 all of which was covered by our insurance company except for the \$1,000.00 deductible portion.*

2024 SWANTON HIGHLIGHTS

- *In the Highway Department, 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.*
- *There will be a new culvert installed on Brooklyn Street this year.*
- *The long overdue reconstruction of the Swanton Hill Road, will occur this year. Plan will be for a contractor to do the necessary blasting and the Highway Department personnel will do the rest of the work.*

2024 SWANTON HIGHLIGHTS

- *In 2024 we solicited bids for the construction of the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail. Unfortunately, no bids were received.*
- *This winter we solicited bids once again, there has been interest with the bid deadline being February 18, 2025.*
- *Five bids were received ranging from a low of \$458,466.99 to a high of \$1,074,741.99.*
- *The low bid is in process of being certified.*
- *Target date of completion is August 1, 2025*

2024 SWANTON HIGHLIGHTS

Having been hired as the Administrative Assistant to the Town Administrator and the Zoning Administrator in April of 2023, Christina Candels has expanded her duties to the point of assisting in most of the areas in the Town Office operations.

The Selectboard is pleased to announce that effective December 17, 2024, Christina was promoted to Assistant Town Administrator.

2024 SWANTON HIGHLIGHTS

- *Swanton's Animal Control Officer is Jim Benson. He can be reached by cell phone at 802-238-3246 or by email at swantonaco@gmail.com. The ACO only deals 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.*
- *The Town Health Officer is Suzie Kelleher she can be reached at 802-782-7037 or via email skelleher@swantonvermont.org*

SWANTON PROJECTS FOR 2025

- *Construction of the LVRT Trailhead*
- *Reconstruction of Swanton Hill Road*
- *Installation of new culvert on Brooklyn Street*
- *Repairs to attic at the Swanton Public Library for icing problems*
- *Annual re-surfacing of Town Highways after review in the Spring*
- *Continuing economic development efforts*

2025 BUDGET REQUESTS SUMMARY
(If All Voted Articles Are Approved)

- Total General Budget.....\$1,580,992.49
 To Be Raised By Taxes.....\$ 750,502.10
- Total Highway Budget.....\$2,164,314.13
 To Be Raised By Taxes.....\$1,121,129.71
- Library Budget..... \$307,776.36
 Library Appropriation..... \$80,260.00
 To Be Raised By Taxes..... \$388,036.36

2025 General Budget

- **If All Articles Approved - \$1,580,902.49**
- **To Be Raised by Taxes - \$ 750,507.10**
- **2025 Projected Tax Rate - \$.1712**
- **2024 Tax Rate - \$.1720**
- **2025 Tax Rate Decrease - \$ (.0008)**

VOTE on Tuesday, March 4, 2025 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

WHAT MAKES UP THE GENERAL TAX

	<u>2024</u>	<u>Tax Rate</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>Tax Rate</u>
Regular:	\$814,928.00	\$0.1153	\$750,502.10	\$0.1028
Rescue:	\$229,761.00	\$0.0314	\$259,490.00	\$0.0356
Recreation:	\$149,562.00	\$0.0209	\$239,600.00	\$0.0328

2025 HIGHWAY BUDGET

• If All Articles Approved	-	\$2,164,314.13
• To Be Raised By Taxes	-	\$1,926,482.88
• 2025 Projected Tax Rate	-	\$.3426
• 2024 Tax Rate	-	\$.3652
• 2025 Tax Rate Decrease	-	\$ (.0226)

VOTE on Tuesday March 4, 2025 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

WHAT MAKES UP THE HIGHWAY TAX

	<u>2024</u>	<u>Tax Rate</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>Tax Rate</u>
Regular:	\$1,285,363.02	\$0.2329	\$1,121,129.71	\$0.1994
Police:	\$ 475,057.00	\$0.0861	\$ 489,137.19	\$0.0870
Fire:	\$ 296,216.00	\$0.0536	\$ 316,225.00	\$0.0562

2025 LIBRARY BUDGET

• If Both Articles Are Approved	-	\$388,036.36
• To Be Raised By Taxes	-	\$388,036.36
• 2025 Projected Tax Rate	-	\$.0531
• 2024 Tax Rate	-	\$.0388
• 2025 Tax Rate Increase	-	\$.0143

2025 TAX PROJECTIONS

	TAX RATE	
<u>TAX FUND</u>	<u>TOWN</u>	<u>VILLAGE</u>
GENERAL	\$.1712	\$.1712
HIGHWAY	\$.3426	N/A
LIBRARY	<u>\$.0531</u>	<u>\$.0531</u>
TOTAL	\$.5569	\$.2243

Please note – tax rate is based on the 2024 Grand List. The 2025 Grand List will not be available until mid summer.

2025 TAX PROJECTIONS

ESTIMATED MUNICIPAL TAX

<u>ASSESSED VALUE</u>	<u>TOWN</u>	<u>VILLAGE</u>
\$150,000.00	\$880.35	\$336.45
\$200,000.00	\$1,133.80	\$448.60
\$250,000.00	\$1,417.25	\$560.75
\$350,000.00	\$1,984.15	\$785.05

SPECIAL FUNDS (Formerly ARPA Funds)

Due to Congressional action, all ARPA funds have been redesignated by resolution of the Selectboard as “Special Funds”. The following is an accounting of the balance of these funds:

Total ARPA Received:	\$1,249,506.37
Expended:	\$ 231,492.79
Balance:	<u>\$1,018,013.59</u>
Balance Committed:	\$ 854,883.75
Balance of Special Funds:	\$ 163,129.83

CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE

Town Moderator (Vote for no more than 1, 1 Year Term)

Brian K. Savage

Selectperson (Vote for no more than 1, 3 Year Term)

Joel Clark

Allen Letourneau

Selectperson (Vote for no more than 1, 2 year term)

Nicholas Brosseau

Brendon Kelley

Brendan P. Long

CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE.....

Lister (Vote for no more than 1, 3 year term)

Kevin Nichols

Auditor (Vote for no more than 1, 3 year term)

Dianne LaRocque

Trustee of Public Money (Vote for no more than 1, 3 year term)

Brian K. Savage

CANIDATES FOR OFFICE.....

Library Trustee (Vote for no more than 1, 5 Year Term)

Kathy Kneebone

Cemetery Commissioner (Vote for no more than 1, 5 Year Term)



Collector of Delinquent Taxes (Vote for no more than 1, 1 Year Term)

Betty L. Cheney

CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE.....

**VOTE – MARCH 4, 2025 7 AM TO 7 PM
VILLAGE COMPLEX
120 FIRST STREET
OR REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT
FROM THE TOWN CLERK**



Thank You for attending and your support!