Town of Middlesex, Vermont

Annual Report For The Year Ending June 30, 2025



Town Meeting – Tuesday, March 3, 2026
Rumney Memorial School • 433 Shady Rill Road
Polls Open 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM
In-Person Meeting starts at 4:30 PM

Please Bring This Report To The Meeting

Town Meeting Word Search

U O E X A I R E C R E A T I O N M N Z Z
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R E V E Q Q Z I Q A B A G D K E E G I Q
K F H S J J C I S Z E V A N U G I Z U O
S T W V S U O J U S N K N P Y H A Z W U
A S S I S T A N T T R E A S U R E R R B

Assistant Treasurer	Assistant Clerk	Town Meeting
Recreation	SelectBoard	Treasurer
Potholes	Highway	TownClerk
Budget	Zoning	Audit
Listers	Snow	Clerk

Answer Key is on the back cover.

Cover Photo Credit : Photo of Culver Hill by Mark Bushnell

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IMPORTANT NOTICE TO VOTERS

Please bring this report to Town Meeting!

TOWN MEETING DINNER

Planning is in the works for our annual spaghetti dinner, to be served at Rumney School right after Town Meeting. Menu details and more will be available at www.whatsnextmiddlesex.org in February, or call Susan Clark, Middlesex Solutions Committee, 802-223-5824. See you there!





Potluck Desserts Wanted! Here is your chance to show off a wonderful cake or cookie recipe, or the best fruit salad ever! Please bring your favorite after-dinner treat to the Town Meeting Dinner to share. (Due to allergies, please, no nuts.) If you'd like to help with meal prep, serving or clean-up, please contact Susan at sclarkmountains@gmail.com

FREE TOWN MEETING CHILD CARE

Childcare for kids ages 5 and older will be available free of charge at Rumney School on Tuesday, March 3 from 4:15-7:15 pm so that parents can attend Town Meeting. Pre-registration is required. Space is limited so be sure to reserve a spot before school break (deadline Friday, 2/20, 3:00 pm). Thanks to the Middlesex Community Fund for their support! For more information, please contact Kimberly Bolduc, Community Connections, 802-223-7936 x305, or email kbolduc@u32.org

Middlesex never wants the cost of childcare to be a barrier to participating in Town Meeting. If you have kids under age 5 and you need a childcare stipend, please contact Brigid Browning, Middlesex Community Fund, 802-249-5198 or email info@middlesexcommunityfund.org

NEED A RIDE TO TOWN MEETING?

The Middlesex Solutions Committee will be glad to coordinate transportation to and from Town Meeting for any Middlesex voters needing a ride. Please contact Dave Shepard, 802-229-1744.

TOWN OF MIDDLESEX FEES

ZONING FEES:

Residential or alteration/addition/accessory structure under $25,000 ... $ 80.00
Single-family dwelling, garage or other construction over $25,000..... $205.00
Commercial Project (new construction or alteration/addition..... $330.00
Change of Use ..... $ 80.00
Home Industry $130.00
Sub-Division Fees (per lot) $155.00/lot
Boundary Line Adjustment (separate application required) ..... $ 80.00
(Above fees include a $15.00 recording fee.)

- " Per lot" means the altered original lot plus each newly created lot
- Zoning permits are required for erecting, constructing, enlarging, or moving any buildings or structures, excavation or landfill, any change in the use of any building or other structure, or land or extension of use of land.
- Applications for Zoning Permits and Access Permits are at the Town Clerk's Office or online at: www.middlesexvermont.org

HEARING FEES:

Development Review Board..... $150.00 + $10/per abutting owner notification

ACCESS PERMIT FEES:

Access permits are required for the installation of driveways.
Access Permit Fees ..... $ 35.00

ABOVE FEES DOUBLE FOR PROJECTS WHICH HAVE INITIATED CONSTRUCTION PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF A PERMIT

DOG LICENSE FEES:

If Registered Before April 1

Neutered/Spayed ..... $ 9.00
Un-neutered/Spayed $13.00

If Registered After April 1

Neutered/Spayed ..... $ 11.00
Un-neutered/Spayed ..... $ 17.00

All dogs 6 months of age or older <u>must be licensed</u>

MARRIAGE LICENSE FEES ..... $ 80.00

CERTIFIED BIRTH, DEATH AND MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES
(may be produced only after completion of application) .....$ 10.00

RECORDING FEES:

Land Records (per page) ..... $ 15.00
VT Property Transfer Tax Return $15.00
Survey Maps (Mylar) ..... $ 25.00

IMPORTANT NUMBERS – KEEP THEM HANDY!

Middlesex Fire Department - Emergency 911
Middlesex Fire Department - Station..... (802) 223-5525
Middlesex Fast Squad 911
Montpelier Ambulance – Emergency 911
Vt. State Police - Emergency 911
Vt. State Police - K Troop (Non-Emergency) ..... (802) 229-9191
Fire Warden (Burn Permits) Jason Merrill..... (802) 793-6069

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE:
Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday - Thursday - Closed Fridays
Telephone..... (802) 223-5915
Fax ..... (802) 223-1298
Clerk Email: clerk@middlesexvermont.org
Asst. Clerk Email:.....assistant.clerk@middlesexvermont.org
Treasurer/Tax Collector Email: .....treasurer@middlesexvermont.org
Website: ..... www.middlesexvermont.org

LISTERS:
Office Hours: Available Upon Request
Telephone ..... (802) 223-5915
E-mail: ..... listers@middlesexvermont.org

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
Ela Chapin..... (802) 821-1004
Emai: .....ela@elachapinvt.com

TOWN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:
Town Shed, 481 Shady Rill Road..... (802) 229-0838
Road Foreman\Road Commissioner- Eric Metivier ..... (802) 752-5092
Email: ..... eric.metivier@middlesexvermont.org

ZONING DEPARTMENT
Office Hours: Wednesday 2 pm – 4 pm and by appointment
.....(802)595-3464
.....Email: Kevin.Thompson@middlesexvermont.org

" The ballot is stronger than the bullet"- Quote by Abraham Lincoln

TOWN OF MIDDLESEX CONTACTS

Please keep in mind that some of these positions are volunteer roles. We ask that you be considerate and respectful when reaching out to individuals at their personal phone numbers, particularly outside of normal hours. Leave a message and they will get back to you or contact the Town directly at (802) 223-5915.|

Animal Control Officer
Christina Steinbrecher 802-223-7694
Elizabeth Fortman, Alternate 802-249-1058

Assistant Town Clerk
Brenda Edelschick 802-223-5915

Bandstand-Martha Pellerin & Andy Shapiro Memorial Bandstand
Paul Boffa 802-522-4810

Budget Committee
Mark Harris, Chair 802-522-7362
Sam Beaudoin 802-522-3770
Elias Gardner 802-778-0899
Zara Vincent 802-355-1400
Matt Rkiouak 802-223-5915

Cemetery Contacts (Carr, North Branch & Village cemeteries)
Matt Rkiouak 802-223-5915
Adell (Dell) McDonough 802-279-9874
Elizabeth (Betsy Davis) Davis

Private Cemetery-Middlesex Center
Steve Martin 802-371-8697

CV Fiber Delegate
David Lawrence 802-249-0235

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission Representative
Ronald Krauth 802-229-5496
Mitch Osiecki 802-760-9674

Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District Representative
Adell (Dell) McDonough 802-229-9874

Collector of Delinquent Taxes
Cheryl Grandfield 802-223-5915

E-911 Coordinator
Mitch Osiecki 802-760-9674

Emergency Management Chair
Vacant

TOWN OF MIDDLESEX CONTACTS

Fire Warden (Call 911 for Emergencies)		
Jason Merrill		802-229-4797
	cell	802-793-6069
Health Officers		
Dr. Robert Penney		802-734-6075
Elizabeth Fortman-Dpty		802-249-1058
Justice of the Peace		
Dorinda Crowell		802-223-7781
John Demeter		802-272-3548
Chris McVeigh		802-272-7871
Jan Thuron		802-793-1177
Listers		
Shelly Desjardin		802-223-5915
Samnatha Desjardin		802-223-5915
Sean McVeigh		802-223-5915
Moderator		
Susan Clark		802-223-5824
Recreation Director		
Mitch Osiecki		802-760-9674
Road Commissioner\Forman		
Eric Metivier		802-752-5092
Planning Commission		
Sandra (Sandy) Levine, Chair		802-223-1192
Mitch Oseicki, Vice Chair		802-760-9674
Tom Jackman		
David Magida		
Paula Otenti		
Select Board		
Elizabeth (Liz) Scharf, Chair		802-279-1711
Zara Vincent, Vice Chair		802-793-7635
Stacey Skadberg		443-812-4343
Lawrence (Larry)Rooney		802-760-0872
Paul Cerminara		802-399-7216
Town Clerk\Treasurer		
Cheryl Grandfield		802-223-5915
Wrightsville Beach District Representative		
Aric Brown		802-461-8303
Zoning Administrator		
Kevin Thompson		802-223-3464

INFORMATION ON REGISTERING TO VOTE

How to register to vote in Middlesex Vermont

To register to vote in Vermont you must be a U.S. citizen, be a resident of Vermont and of the town or city where you register, be 18 years old on or before Election Day (you may register before 18 if you turn 18 by the next general election).

You must take the Voter's Oath (first-time Vermont voters only).

Vermont does not have party registration—when voting by mail every voter receives ballots for all major parties in a primary and chooses which party to vote for. When voting in person, the voter is asked which ballot they wish to vote for, thus avoiding them having 3 ballots in their hand.

Ways to Register:

1. Online
   - You can register online through the state's official portal My Voter Page (MVP) at mvp.vermont.gov.
   - First-time online registrants must upload a copy of an acceptable ID (e.g., driver's license, passport, utility bill).

2. By Mail
   - Download and print the Vermont voter registration form (called Application for Addition to the Checklist) and mail it to the Middlesex Town Clerk's office.
   - Include a copy of acceptable ID if it's your first time registering.

3. In Person- Check your polling place and hours on Vermont's voter portal (My Voter Page) or with the Town Clerk

You can register in person:
   - At the Town Clerk's Office in Middlesex-5 Church Street, Middlesex, Vermont 05602
   - The Department of Motor Vehicles when applying for or renewing a driver's license

4. Same-Day Registration
   - Vermont allows same-day registration on Election Day at your polling place. There is no registration deadline; you may register up to and on Election Day.

INFORMATION ON REGISTERING TO VOTE

Please Note:

Voter's Oath- First-time Vermont registrants must take this oath—usually included on the form and can be self-administered.

Voter Registration Card-You won't receive a voter registration card after registering; your status is confirmed by the town clerk. After you register online or by mail, it's a good idea to check your status on the My Voter Page or with you're the Town Clerk to make sure you're on the checklist before Election Day.

Where to Find Forms & Info:

- Vermont Secretary of State – Voter Registration: Search for Vermont voter registration or visit sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/registration/
- My Voter Page: mvp.vermont.gov – start your online registration and check your status.

If you have questions, want to vote early in person, or request an absentee ballot:

Call the Middlesex Town Clerk 802-223-5915

Email: Clerk@middlesexvermont.org

A few Voting Resources:

https://vote.gov/register

https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/voter-faqs

https://whatsnextmiddlesex.org/town-meeting.html

https://www.usvotefoundation.org/state-voter-information/vermont

"Our political leaders will know our priorities only if we tell them, again and again, and if those priorities begin to show up in the polls." ***Peggy Noonan***

STATUTORY DUTIES OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

Selectboard- The selectboard is the governing body that broadly supervises and controls town matters. It enacts ordinances, regulations, and policies; oversees town property and personnel; prepares, presents, and manages budget; and oversees roads. 24 V.S.A. § 872; 17 V.S.A. § 2649.

Town Clerk- The town clerk records, preserves, and certifies a town's public records. The clerk has many responsibilities, including running local elections; recording town meeting proceedings; and issuing dog, marriage, hunting, and fishing licenses. 17 V.S.A. § 2651e See Generally 24 V.S.A. §§ 1151-1179

Town Treasurer- The town treasurer keeps an accounting of all the town's finances. They are responsible for keeping the town's accounts, investing the town's money (with the selectboard's approval), keeping record of the taxes voted, and paying orders drawn on them. 24 V.S.A. § 1571.

Collector of Delinquent Taxes (DTC)- The DTC notifies taxpayers of overdue taxes, arranges for late payments, and takes formal collection actions (including tax sales of property) when necessary. They also record delinquent accounts for the town auditor. 17 V.S.A. § 2651d.

Lister- Listers serve on a board to determine the fair market value of real and personal property taxed by the selectboard. The board of listers' duties are similar to a professional assessor's role. 17 V.S.A. § 2649.

Moderator- The moderator runs all annual and special town meetings according to Robert's Rules of Order. They decide questions of order and germaneness and declare the results of votes taken. In towns that have opted for the Australian ballot, the selectboard is responsible for the required informational hearing but often request the moderator preside over it. 17 V.S.A. § 2658

Cemetery Commissioner- Cemetery commissioners are responsible for the care and management of the town's cemeteries. (elected) 18 V.S.A. § 5373.

Justice of the Peace- Justice of the peace candidates are nominated by party caucus and, if they consent, are added to the ballot for election. 17 V.S.A. § 2413 and 17 V.S.A. § 2385. A justice of the peace administers oaths of office, solemnizes marriages, and sits on their town's board of civil authority. Through the board of civil authority, justices of the peace assist in elections, maintain registered voter checklists, and hear property tax assessment appeals. 24 V.S.A. § 801. For more information, please see the VT Secretary of State's publication, "The Vermon Justice of the Peace Guide" (March, 2025).

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Name	*Year Elected*	*Term*	*Term Expiration*
Select Board:			
Liz Scharf	2024	2-year term	2026
Zara Vincent	2024	2-years of a 3-year term	2026
Paul Cerminera	2025-appointed *	Until 3/2026	2027
Stacey Skadberg	2025	2-years of a 3-year term	2027
Lawrence Rooney	2025	3-year term	2028
Town Clerk:			
Cheryl Grandfield	2025	1-year of a 3-year term	2026
Treasurer:			
Cheryl Grandfield	2025	1-year term	2026
Delinquent Tax Collector:			
Cheryl Grandfield	2025	1-year term	2026
Cemetery Commission:			
Gary Lamell	2023	3-year term	2026
Matt Rkiouak	2025-appointed*	Until 3/2026	2028
Betsy Davis	2025-appointed*	Until 3/2026	2027
Dell McDonough	2025-appointed*	Until 3/2026	2028
Listers:			
Shelley Desjardin	2025	3-year term	2028
Samantha Beaudoin	2024	3-year term	2027
Sean McVeigh	2025-appointed*	Until 3/2026	2026

"In small towns, public service is not abstract-it has a face, a name and a neighbor"
- Unknown

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Name	*Year Elected*	*Term*	*Term Expiration*
Planning Commission:			
David Magida	2025	3-year term	2028
Mitch Oseicki	2024	3-year term	2027
Sandra Levine	2024	3-year term	2027
Paula Otenti	2025	3-year term	2028
Tom Jackman	2025	1-year of a 3-year term	2026
Budget Committee:			
Elias Gardner	2024	3-year term	2027
Mark Harris	2024	3-year term	2027
Samantha Beaudoin	2024	2-years of a 3-year term	2026
Zara Vincent	2024	2-years of a 3-year term	2026
Matt Rkiouak	2025-appointed*	Until 3/2026	2028

** Please note that if a position is vacated mid-term, it will be filled by an appointed official. This appointment expires at the following Town Meeting. A candidate will run to complete the original elected seat's term. Once the original term expires, then they can run for the original term.*

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Animal Control Officer	Christina Steinbrecher
Assistant Town Clerk	Brenda Edelschick
CV Fiber Delegate	David Lawrence
Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission	Ron Krauth Mitch Oseiecki
Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District	John Udis Adell McDonough
Conservation Commission	Adrienna Magida, Chair Lawrence Becker Kimberley Hagan David Shepard, Secretary John Udis Lee Rossberg Owen Dalton Ross Lieblappen Aric Brown Tom Jackman Sage Romey Katy Faber
Development Review Board	Sandra Levine Stacy Skadberg Lawerence Rooney Peter Raymond Mitch Osiecki
Emergency Management Coordinator	Vacant
Emergency Management Committee	Eric Metivier Dr. Robert Penney Elizabeth Scharf Christina Steinnrecher Jeff Koonz Chris McVeigh Lauri Scharf Honi Bean Barrett
Fire Warden	Jason Merrill
Health Officers	Dr. Robert Penney Elizabeth Fortman, Assistant
Recreation Director	Mitch Osiecki
Road Commissioner	Eric Metivier
Wrightsville Beach Board Member	Aric Brown
Zoning Administrator	Kevin Thompson

BOARDS, COMMITTEES & COMMISSION MEMBERS

SELECT BOARD
Elizabeth Scharf, Chair
Zara Vincent, Vice Chair
Paul Cerminara
Lawrence Rooney
Stacey Skadberg

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD
Peter Raymond, Chair
Stacey Skadberg, Vice Chair
Mitch Osieski
Sandra Levine

BOARD OF ABATEMENT
Elizabeth Scharf
Zara Vincent
Paul Cerminara
Lawrence Rooney
Stacey Skadberg
Dorinda Crowell
Jan Thuron
Chris McVeigh
John Demeter
Mary Just Skinner
Cheryl Grandfield

BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY
Elizabeth Scharf
Zara Vincent
Paul Cerminara
Lawrence Rooney
Stacey Skadberg
Dorinda Crowell
Jan Thuron
Chris McVeigh
John Demeter
Mary Just Skinner
Cheryl Grandfield

CEMETERY COMMISSION
Matt Rkiouak
Betsy Davis
Adele McDonough

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Lawrence Becker
Kimberly Hagen
Adrienne Magida
Dave Shepard
John Udis
Ross Lieblappen
Aric Brown

TRAILS COMMITTEE
Adrienne Magida
Dave Shepard
John Udis
Sage Romey
Sven Coenye

BAND STAND COMMITTEE
Linda Belt-Burnier
Emily Boedecker
Paul Boffa
Danielle Mishkit
Ron Sweet

BUDGET COMMITTEE
Mark Harris
Elias Gardner
Sam Beaudoin
Matt Rkiouak
Zara Vincent

BOARDS, COMMITTEES & COMMISSION MEMBERS

ENERGY COMMITTEE:

Lauri Scharf
Greg and Barb Whitchurch
Enrique Bueno
Mitch Oscieski
John Rahill
Whitney Matchnik
Marge Dethloff

FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

Dave Magita
Zara Vincent
Dorinda Crowell
Sarah Merriman
Sandra Levine
Susan Clark
John Lund
Ken Davis
John Rahill
Dexter Lefavour
Larry Ronney
Eric Metivier
Jay Files
Ben Abare
Kevin Thompson

MIDDLESEX ROAD COMMITTEE

Zara Vincent
Paul Cerminara
Eric Metivier
Mike Kline
Sandy Levine
Dexter Lefavour
Susan Warren
Marianne Mullin
Jessica Millard
Hilton Dier III
Ken Davis
Scott Gurley
Steve Martin
John Rahill
Vic Dwyer
Richard Cowles

TOWN MEETING SOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Susan Clark
Honi Bean Barrett
Joanne Breidenstein
Mark Bushnell
Kimberly Hagen
Kimberly Jessup
Chris and Nancy Reilly
Lauri Scharf
Dave Shepard
Barb and Greg Whitchurch
Bennett Shapiro (Mad Tech Sound)
The Selectboard
Town Clerk's Office

"When people volunteer for their municipality, they don't just support local services—they help build a stronger, more connected future for everyone." ***- Unknown***

OPEN MEETINGS AND ETHICS

Open Meeting Law

In Act 133 (2024) and Act 51 (2025), the Vermont Legislature enacted permanent changes to the Open Meeting Law (OML). Summaries of these changes are available in the resources referenced below, including a Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) webinar that incorporates the 2024 amendments. Please note that the VLCT webinar does not satisfy the State's required annual Open Meeting Law training.

Beginning January 1, 2025, annual Open Meeting Law training is required for Chairs of State non-advisory (decision-making) public bodies, Chairs of local legislative bodies, Municipal managers and Mayors. The required training is offered by the Vermont Secretary of State.

Transparency is a cornerstone of democratic government. In Vermont, transparency is ensured through the Open Meeting Law, 1 V.S.A. §§ 310–314, and the Public Records Law, 1 V.S.A. §§ 315–320, which implement Chapter I, Article 6 of the Vermont Constitution. These laws affirm that public officials are "trustees and servants" of the people and are always accountable to them.

The Open Meeting Law declares that all meetings of a public body are open to the public, except as specifically allowed for executive sessions. The law is intended to ensure meaningful public access to and participation in government decision-making.

The Open Meeting Law applies to all municipal boards, councils, commissions, and committees ("public bodies"). A gathering is subject to the law when a quorum is present, Members are discussing or acting, and the subject matter is within the body's authority or responsibility.

All such meetings must comply with the Open Meeting Law unless a statutory exception applies.*To file a complaint: https://middlesexvermont.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Public-Complaint-Fomr.pdf*

Ethics

In 2024 the Vermont Legislature passed Act 171 (H.875) requiring all municipalities to post the Vermont Code of Ethics, to adopt an ethics-violations investigation and enforcement ordinance and to post a complaint form for those who feel the Town had violated the above.

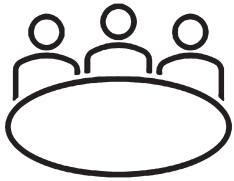
Select Board Chair Liz Scharf has been appointed liaison to the Vermont Ethics Commission. To read the Code of Ethics in its entirety-Sec. 22. 24 V.S.A. chapter 60

To file a complaint: https://ethicscommission.vermont.gov/sites/ethics/files/doc_library/Complaint-Form_Word_2022.docx

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Town Hall-5 Church Street and Zoom
Agendas posted on middlesexvermont.org





Select Board	1st & 3 Tuesday 5:00pm
Budget Committee	3rd Tuesday 4:00pm
Planning Commission	3rd Wednesday
Facilities Improvement Team	1st Wednesday 5:00 pm
Conservation Commission	4th Tuesday 7:00 pm
Trails Committee	2nd Monday 7:00pm
Cemetery Commission	TBD-once positions are filled
Energy Committee	3rd Monday 5:30 pm
Roads Sub Committee	3rd Thursday 5:00 pm

Please Note: Recordings are available on the Town's Website *https://middlesex-vermont.org/open-meeting-laws-act-133* or by request to email *Clerk@middlesex-vermont.org* Meeting time or place could change for reasons beyond our control *(i.e. inclement weather, illness or not enough members to have a quorum)*



Fire Department
Middlesex Fire Department
Welch Park
1st & 3rd Tuesday 7:00 pm

WARNING FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: MARCH 3, 2026

The legal voters of the Town of Middlesex are hereby notified and warned to meet at RUMNEY MEMORIAL SCHOOL, 433 Shady Rill Road, in said Town of Middlesex on Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 4:30 p.m.to act on the following business: (Voting by Australian ballot will be from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Rumney School gym.)

ARTICLE 1: To elect a Moderator for the ensuing year

ARTICLE 2: To elect all necessary officers for the ensuing year. (To be voted by Australian ballot.)

Town Clerk	3-year term
Treasurer	1-year term
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	1-year term
Select Board	1 year of a 2-year term
Select Board	2-year term
Select Board	3-year term
Budget Committee	3-year term
Budget Committee	3-year term
Budget Committee	2 years of a 3-year term
Cemetery Commission	3-year term
Cemetery Commission	1 year of a 3-year term
Cemetery Commission	2 years of a 3-year term
Planning Commission	3-year term
Lister	3-year term

ARTICLE 3: To hear Town Officers' reports

ARTICLE 4: Shall the Town voters authorize payment of all property taxes to the Town Treasurer, as provided by law and without discount, in four installments as follows: the first installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM, August 20, 2026; the second installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM, November 20, 2026; the third installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM, February 20, 2027, and the fourth installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM, May 20, 2027, except if postmarked by the US Postal Service on or before the aforementioned dates accordingly? (32 V.S.A. § 4773)

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town vote that taxes payable in installments will bear interest at a rate not to exceed 0.5% per month or fraction thereof from the due date of each installment? (32 V.S.A. §4873)

ARTICLE 6: To vote a fiscal 2026-27 budget of $2,261,978.14 to meet the expenses and liabilities of the Town and authorize the Select Board to set a tax rate sufficient to provide the same. (THIS ARTICLE WILL BE CONSIDERED AS A SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS AT 5:15 PM)

ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town voters authorize the Select Board to appoint a Town Clerk for a 3-year term as provided in (17 V.S.A. § 2651e) and authorize non-resident appointments for the Town Clerk position, as provided in (17 V.S.A. § 2646a)?

WARNING FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: MARCH 3, 2026

ARTICLE 8: Shall the Town voters authorize the Select Board to appoint a Treasurer for a 1-year term as provided in (17 V.S.A § 265lf) and authorize non-resident appointments for the Treasurer position, as provided in (17 V.S.A. § 2646a)?

ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town voters appropriate expenditures of $1,050.00 to support the Central Vermont Council on Aging? (By Petition)

ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures of $4,500.00 to support Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice? (By Petition)

ARTICLE 11: Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures of $38,480.00 to support the Kellogg-Hubbard Library? (By Petition)

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures of $6,000.00 to support the Montpelier Senior Activity Center? (By Petition)

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures of $2,500.00 to support the North Branch Nature Center? (By Petition)

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures of $7,500.00 to support the Waterbury Area Senior Center Association's (WASCA) Meals on Wheels program which serves the residents of Middlesex? (By Petition)

ARTICLE 15: Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures of $1,500.00 to Youth First Mentoring? (By Petition)

ARTICLE 16: Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures of $1000.00 to The Children's Room (By Petition)

ARTICLE 17: Shall the Town voters appropriate the sum of $5,000 to the Middlesex Conservation Fund? (By Select Board)

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town of Middlesex will appropriate a sum not to exceed $3,742.00 to support the following organizations, pursuant to (24 V.S.A. § 2691):

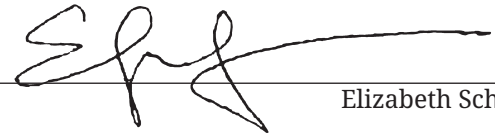
American Red Cross	$250.00
CV Adult Education	$250.00
CV Economic Development Corp	$250.00
Circle	$199.00
Community Harvest of CV	$250.00
Elevate Youth Services	$250.00
Family Center of Wash. Cty	$250.00
Green Mt. Transit Agency	$249.00
Green Up Vermont	$100.00
Montpelier Veterans Council	$250.00
MOSAIC (Sexual Assault Crisis Team)	$250.00
Our House of CV	$250.00
VT Assoc for Blind & Visually Impaired	$249.00

WARNING FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: MARCH 3, 2026

VT Center for Independent Living	$195.00
VT Family Network	$250.00
Wash. County Diversion	$250.00

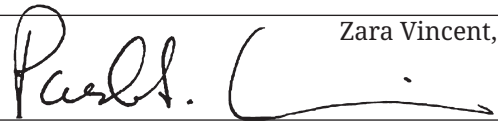
ARTICLE 19: To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Approved as a warned agenda item at a regular meeting of the Middlesex Select Board on January 20, 2026, by the MIDDLESEX SELECT BOARD:



Elizabeth Scharf, Chair

Zara Vincent, Vice Chair



Paul Cerminara

Lawrence Rooney



Stacey Skadberg

I attest that this Warning for the 2026 Town Meeting was approved by the above Select Board members and recorded in the Middlesex town records on January 20, 2026.



Cheryl Grandfield, Middlesex Town Clerk

TOWN MEETING BALLOT: MARCH 3, 2026

TEST 2026-01-29 14:09:34

OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF MIDDLESEX, VERMONT
MARCH 3, 2026

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- Use BLACK Pen to fill in the oval. **DO NOT USE PENCIL.**
- To vote for a person whose name is printed on the ballot, fill in the oval to the right of the name of that person.
- To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the person's name in the blank space provided and fill in the oval to the right of the write-in line. Please use block letters and stay within the box provided for write-ins.
- Do not vote for more candidates than the "VOTE for NOT MORE THAN #" for an office.
- If you make a mistake, tear, or deface the ballot, return it to an election official and obtain another ballot. DO NOT ERASE.

TOWN CLERK
3 - YEAR TERM
Vote for not more than ONE

- BRIGID BROWNING ○
- (Write-in) ○

TREASURER
1 - YEAR TERM
Vote for not more than ONE

- CHERYL GRANDFIELD ○
- (Write-in) ○

COLLECTOR OF DELINQUENT TAXES
1 - YEAR TERM
Vote for not more than ONE

- CHERYL GRANDFIELD ○
- (Write-in) ○

SELECT BOARD
1 YEAR OF A 2 - YEAR TERM
Vote for not more than ONE

- PAUL CERMINARA ○
- (Write-in) ○

SELECT BOARD
2 - YEAR TERM
Vote for not more than ONE

- ELIZABETH J. SCHARF ○
- (Write-in) ○

SELECT BOARD
3 - YEAR TERM
Vote for not more than ONE

- ZARA VINCENT ○
- (Write-in) ○

BUDGET COMMITTEE
3 - YEAR TERM
Vote for not more than TWO

- SAMANTHA BEAUDOIN ○
- DORINDA CROWELL ○
- (Write-in) ○
- (Write-in) ○

BUDGET COMMITTEE
2 YEARS OF A 3 - YEAR TERM
Vote for not more than ONE

- (Write-in) ○

CEMETERY COMMISSION
3 - YEAR TERM
Vote for not more than ONE

- GARY LAMELL ○
- (Write-in) ○

CEMETERY COMMISSION
1 YEAR OF A 3 - YEAR TERM
Vote for not more than ONE

- (Write-in) ○

CEMETERY COMMISSION
2 YEARS OF A 3 - YEAR TERM
Vote for not more than ONE

- (Write-in) ○

PLANNING COMMISSION
3 - YEAR TERM
Vote for not more than ONE

- THOMAS JACKMAN ○
- (Write-in) ○

LISTER
3 - YEAR TERM
Vote for not more than ONE

- SEAN J. MCVEIGH ○
- (Write-in) ○

SAMPLE

TOWN MEETING MINUTES MARCH 4, 2025

Announcements
Moderator Susan Clark introduced Selectboard members Liz Scharf and Zara Vincent; Peter Hood (watching via Orca Media); outgoing Town Clerk Sarah Merriman; and noted Randy Drury and Vic Dwire are not in attendance. Thanks were extended to Persons Brothers Farms for donating the meat, Red Hen Bakery for donating the bread and to Sabrina Bador for preparing tonight's Town Meeting dinner. Attendees were reminded to complete Town Meeting evaluation forms.

Sarah Seidman explained that the Middlesex Historical Society is not town-supported and that copies of *Middlesex in the Making* are available for purchase in the lobby. The Historical Society meets at Worcester Town Hall due to accessibility limitations at the Middlesex Town Hall.

Susan Clark reviewed Robert's Rules of Order, noting that only registered Middlesex voters may speak or vote unless the assembly approves an out-of-town speaker. Questions are encouraged at any time.

The Civil Invocation was read by18 year old Josephine Mikus, who is attending Town Meeting for the first time as a voter.

Article 1: To elect a Moderator for the ensuing year. Anne Greensfelder nominated Susan Clark; Hugo Leipman seconded. Passed by voice vote.

Article 2: To elect all necessary officers for the ensuing year, voting by Australian ballot.

Article 3: To receive and act upon the reports of the Town Officers. Liz Scharf moved; Greg Whitchurch seconded.

Recognition of Service
Liz Scharf recognized three people who have served the community for a long time:

- Randy Drury for his thoughtful and fair service on the Selectboard and always having good thoughts for others to consider.
- Peter Hood for over 30 years of service in Middlesex and Central Vermon in various capacities, including 22 years as Selectboard Chair. Liz notes that Peter has been working remotely for the past year. Always funny and contributed in ways to really help Middlesex. He would always tell us, when we were at the last minute of working on the budget and frustrated about getting it balanced, to go home and do some soul-searching about it and come back and we'd be ready to know how to settle the budget. Liz also remembers that about six years there was a big snowstorm and that she couldn't get to the Select Board meeting. So, Peter attached a rope to her car and dragged her all the way home. Liz believes that these are some difficult and scary times in our country, and that Peter is the type that "would set aside politics and simply look at the problems in a practical way and get them solved." Peter receives a standing ovation from the assembly for his service.
- Sarah Merriman, Town Clerk and Selectboard Assistant for 12 years is an invaluable asset to the Town both as Town Clerk and Selectboard Assistant. She takes minutes for the Select Board. She is the mayor and town crier and the

editor of the entertainment section of the Middlesex daily news. She is a Town Clerk extraordinaire! Sarah Merriman also receives a standing ovation from the assembly.

Welch Park Association

The town is now formally divorced from the Welch Park Association - an office park off US Route 2. A deed transfer was approved for Welch Park Drive - transferring it from the Association to the Town itself.

Flood Recovery and Financing

Liz Scharf points people to the handout about flooding costs. The most important business, and biggest hurdle for the Town, is dealing with the impact of the 2023 and 2024 floods and working with FEMA for the financial support needed for repairing roads, bridges and homes. Liz acknowledges Zara Vincent and Road Foreman Eric Metevier for their work on managing the paperwork to get reimbursed by FEMA, keeping track of all the work that has been done for repairs by Dirt Tech and other road construction crews. Costs for 2023 and 2024 have come in around 9 million dollars. Liz explains that Dirt Tech was deployed to help with emergency repairs in 2024 (because they were already doing the 2023 work and were on site), and that some of those repairs ended up being "permanent" repairs. Liz notes that the work for 2024 is not completed yet and that the town is waiting for hydraulic studies to come back before they can determine what needs to be done and then putting that work out to bid. To date the town has received only $1.26 million from FEMA and the town has paid out $7.8 million. Liz explains that some of that money is work that Eric and the road crew completed and that FEMA will reimburse for those costs, but that the town has had to borrow $5 million to cover the cost of the bills to Dirt Tech and other contractors. The town borrowed $3 million from Community Bank and two $1 million bonds from the VT Bond Bank which were deemed "Emergency Bonds" not requiring town vote/approval and for the purpose of paying for emergency repairs. When the town receives any money from FEMA, the Bond bank requires that half of what we get goes back to paying down the bond. On the Community Bank loan, the town owes $92K in interest. Furthermore, $8.11million has been spent on the 2023-2024 repairs, and the town still needs to pay another $1 million for 2023 repairing 4 box culverts: 2 for Center Road,1 for Notch Road and 1 for South bear swamp Road. Liz notes that the town does not have these millions of dollars but explains that there's an opportunity to borrow more money from the bond bank from the Municipal Climate Recovery Fund Loan. Liz explains that we are currently waiting for about $1.12 million from FEMA which has been approved and we should get it in the next few weeks, but that another $7.2 million needs to be approved by FEMA-it has been submitted to FEMA (multiple times over), but they haven't approved the paperwork. Liz worries that given the federal government climate right now, and its dislike of FEMA, that there's a possibility that the Town will not get reimbursed by FEMA or at least not fully reimbursed. She stresses that she didn't know, but it's what worries her right now-we could get it all, or we could be on the hook for more than we anticipated. Best case scenario, if FEMA comes through and pays for everything that the town hoped for, for 2023 flood, the town is still responsible for 2% of the costs and for the

TOWN MEETING MINUTES MARCH 4, 2025

2024 flood, the town is responsible for 7.5% of the costs. Zara further explains that the town did the work to get the Hazard Mitigation Plan in place, which dramatically reduced the amount that Middlesex is responsible for. Liz explains that the town could also apply for a "regular" bond from the Vermont Bond Bank, meaning the town could borrow, for example, 10 million dollars to cover the costs of the flood and the money already borrowed from the bank and pay it off over 5-10 years. The problem with that kind of bond is that if FEMA repays us, the Town can't prepay the bond-the Town must stick to the payment schedule. So, it is not ideal that in the past there was always a reserve fund of $200-400K to pay for unexpected expenses and that the Town doesn't have that right now because it was spent on the floods and explains that we are borrowing to pay our bills. Liz expresses concern that the tight budget that the town is voting on doesn't have room for extra expenses. Liz explained that, for instance, if we need an extra $3OK to pay for stone and gravel, we wouldn't have it. Liz summarizes by explaining that if the town needs to go for a traditional bond, that it would be within a month's time that the Select board would decide to pursue that option.

Susan Clark, Moderator, opens the floor to comments and questions.

Dexter Lefavour, Dolan Rd, asks if it is possible to ask the people present if they approve of the town borrowing up to $2 million from the Bond Bank. He expresses concern that the townspeople should have a say in how much the town goes into debt given the Town isn't certain that FEMA is going to come through with payments. Liz explains that at the very least $1 million had to be spent on the box culverts and the town didn't have the million dollars on hand to pay for that expense. Zara says that she has already submitted that request to FEMA and that the Bond Bank emergency money was used to pay down Community Bank's higher interest rate on the $3 million line of credit. Liz and Zara explain that it is in the town's interest to keep that line of credit available. The town also used ARPA money and tax revenue to pay bills incurred for the flood. Liz notes that in a regular bond, the town would require voter approval, but during emergencies, the select board has the authority to borrow on the emergency bond, and that they made the decision based on the best interest of the town. Liz stresses that Middlesex isn't the only town in this situation, that other towns are having the same issues and that the VT Bond Bank is aware of this and working toward making it easier for towns to borrow money for weather-related repairs. Liz expresses concern about uncertainties in future FEMA funding but notes that hazard mitigation planning significantly reduces the Town's financial exposure.

Energy Committee Report

Lauri Scharf, speaking on behalf of the Energy Committee as its Coordinator, outlined initiatives for weatherization of the Fire Station and Town Hall. This includes Window Dressers, or low-cost insulating window inserts, and dark sky efforts. We need volunteers! May 17th is our annual Energy Fair at Camp Meade and we want it to be a Middlesex Community Festival including local crafts and hobbies. There will be info on electric vehicles and other electric tools. Please come and be educated about all the possibilities.

At 5:15 PM Susan Clark reminds folks it is time to discuss the budget as per the

TOWN MEETING MINUTES MARCH 4, 2025

Warning. Zara Vincent moved to postpone the remainder of Article 3 until after Article 6; Barb Whitchurch seconded. The motion passed by voice vote.

Article 6: To vote on a FY 2025–26 budget of $2,026,928 to meet the expenses and liabilities of the Town and authorize theSelect Board to set a tax rate sufficient to provide the same. Mark Harris moved; Mary Skinner seconded.

Mark Harris of the Budget Committee reports that balancing the budget was more of a challenge this year than ever. Usually, we see big ticket items that create a steep budget increase. This year a surprise increase was the ambulance service from Montpelier. Often, we can use grants to help with these big increases, but BCBS announced a huge deficit, and the town was hit with a 23% increase in health care premiums. In addition, the listers' budget increases since we now have a full complement of three listers. The next big item is gravel for the roads, $23,000. Last year we approved a purchase for a new excavator. T hose are the big items that add up to over $200,000. Then lots of smaller items. But he explains that after a lot of hard work and input from many, they got an increase down to 9.8% for the town taxpayers. He thanks the selectboard and department and committee heads for being thoughtful, inclusive, and committed to this hard task.

Linda Belt-Burnier moved that the budget be amended by $2,000, to reinstate support for the Middlesex Bandstand. Ron Sweet seconded. Paul Boffa speaks for the Bandstand Committee. He is a Worcester voter - Susan confirms there is no objection to him speaking. Paul explains the volunteer Bandstand Committee had asked the town for support for $1,500 last year to support the free concert series they organize and upped the request to $2,000 for this year. He notes that Sarah Merriman had informed him they had removed the Bandstand funding from the Warning. He said the Bandstand Committee is sensitive to the budget crisis we are in. Liz Scharf notes that there actually is still $1,500 in the budget for the Bandstand. She explains that when committees put in requests to the Select Board, we take them into consideration, but that does not constitute approval. Sarah Merriman said in the past the only way the Town supported Bandstand in the budget was the lawn mowing. It is a 501(c)(3) non-profit. Paul Boffa said if there is $1,500 in the budget, then he thanks the Town for this support, and Linda Belt-Burnier withdrew the motion.

Debbie Goodwin asks for the chart showing the cost tax burden per household value (p.49 of town report) to be explained. Cheryl Grandfield, Town Treasurer, explains it.

Dave Shepard - Middlesex Conservation Commission - Conservation Fund has had its own article and has been supported in past years, but this year the Selectboard did not put it on the warning due to budget constraints. We are okay with that but hope to be financially supported again in future. We help with conserving properties by acting as a match for grants, for instance the town forest. We also provide stewardship services - trail clean up from storm damage, water bars to prevent water damage, signage for trails, etc. Zara Vincent - As you decide what special articles you vote for, understand that it will add to the budget. Mark Harris -

TOWN MEETING MINUTES MARCH 4, 2025

We are in a strange year for special articles. They usually run around $60,000. Last year it was double - due to a $65,000 study to assess the work needed on the Town Hall last year. So, this year we have a 50% reduction over last year's request under Special Articles.

Todd Daloz - An ambulance question - why is it so much more expensive this year? And why do we contract Montpelier? Are there other options? Mark Harris/Liz Scharf - We are contracting Montpelier because they are the closest. Eric Metivier, Fire Chief - They are really our only option.

Article 6 passed on a voice vote.

Return to Article 3: To receive and act upon the reports of the Town Officers.

Zara Vincent - Chair of the Road Committee – The Road Commission is comprised of 17 townspeople. She urges people to go to the "What's Next Middlesex" website to read their reports. We do our best to save you money on taxes. The committee does incredible things. Paul Cerminara - Congratulations to the Road Committee which found a boatload of money for the town. Great folks that did a great deal of work. A round of applause for the Road Committee. Liz Scharf - also a great shout out to the Middlesex Fire Dept. They are now incorporated into the town. The Fire Dept does need volunteers. This includes lots of training, not just fighting fires.

Article 3 passed by voice vote.

Article 4: Shall the Town voters authorize payment of all property taxes to the Town Treasurer, as provided by law and without discount, in four installments as follows: the first installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM, August 20, 2025; the second installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM, November 20, 2025; the third installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM, February 20, 2026, and the fourth installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM, May 20, 2026, except if postmarked by the US Postal Service on or before the aforementioned dates accordingly? (32 V.S.A. § 4773) Lauri Scharf moved; Jan Thouron seconded. Article 4 passed on a voice vote.

Article 5: Shall the Town vote that taxes payable in installments will bear interest at a rate not to exceed 0.5% per month or a fraction thereof from the due date of each installment? Eric Benedict moved, Mark Harris seconded. Article 5 passed on a voice vote.

Article 7: Shall the Town voters appropriate expenditures of $850 to support the Central Vermont Council on Aging? Greg Whitchurch moved, Rob Penney seconded. Article 7 passed on voice vote.

Article 8: Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures of $4,500 to support Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice? Mark Harris moved, William McManis seconded. Article 8 passed on a voice vote.

Article 9: Library - Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures of $37,359 to support the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. Barb Whitchurch moved, Elliot Burg seconded. Sarah Seidman, Middlesex's rep to the library, reports

TOWN MEETING MINUTES MARCH 4, 2025

on restoration after flooding. Discussion regarding costs, funding a building outside of Middlesex, value of "third spaces." Fred McCullough moved to amend by reducing appropriation to $20,000. Paul Cerminara seconded.

After discussion, amendment failed on voice vote. (Ayes were heard.)

Main motion passed on voice vote. (Noes were heard.)

Article 1O: Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures of $6000 to support the Montpelier Senior Activity Center? Hugo Liepman moved, Anthony Polina seconded. Discussion. Passed on voice vote.

Article 11: Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures of $2500 to support the North Branch Nature Center? Jan Thouron moved, Mark Harris seconded. Passed on voice vote.

Article 12: Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures of $7500 to support Waterbury Area Senior Center Meals on Wheels program which serves residents of Middlesex? Elliot Burg moved, Lisa Carlson seconded. Lindsey Bolger, Board member, is from Waterbury; Susan confirmed there is no objection to her speaking. She explains that their request is less this year because there are fewer Middlesex participants this year. Article passed on voice vote.

Article 13: Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures of $1500 to Youth First Mentoring? Deb Wolf moved, Eric Benedict seconded. After discussion of need for mentors, article passed on voice vote.

Article 14: To see if the Town of Middlesex will appropriate a sum not to exceed $4,242 to support the following organizations, pursuant to 24 V.S .A. § 2691

American Red Cross	$250.00
CV Adult Basic Ed	$250.00
CV Economic Development Corp	$ 250.00
Children's Room	$ 250.00
Circle	$ 199.00
Community Harvest of CV	$ 250.00
Elevate Youth Services	$ 250.00
Family Center of Washinton County	$250.00
Good Samaritan Haven	$ 250.00
Green Mt. Transit Agency	$ 249.00
Green Up Vermont	$ 100.00
Montpelier Veterans Council	$ 250.00
MOSAIC (Sexual Assault Crisis Team)	$ 250.00
Our House of CV	$ 250.00
VT Assoc for Blind & Visually Impaired	$ 249.00
VT Center for Independent Living	$195.00
VT Family Network-Washington County Division	$250.00

Mark Harris moved; Mary Skinner seconds. Article 14 passes on a voice vote.

TOWN MEETING MINUTES MARCH 4, 2025

Article 15: To transact any business that may legally come before the meeting.

Susan Warren - Referring to the "Mysteries of Middlesex Happy Hour" online event in January, we all learned about so many things folks are doing in this town. Thank you for those that do these things for the town. Event was organized by Middlesex Solutions Committee. Round of applause.

August Burns - We have a table out front about Gov Scott's education program. It will change our control of our education system as we know it, taking power and control away from the communities and give it to the state, creating only five districts in the state. Get involved to save our schools.

Ela Chapin - State Rep of our district in Vt House. She is from East Montpelier; Susan confirmed there is no objection to her speaking. Ela said each of the 150 representatives represents approximately 5000 residents. She sat on the Judiciary Committee last biennium. Now on Environmental Resources Committee. Regarding education, ed finances, and property taxes, the Governor came out with a proposal and we are just digging into the details now. I encourage you to look into this. We are in this situation because of the property tax situation. Pay attention to these details. A survey is being is available by the Speaker of the House. Take the survey online - she put link in her Front Porch Forum post. Impacts from federal changes - many folks deeply affected, whether due to losing jobs, or tariffs, or other impacts. There is a task force and organization collecting information. Many committees are looking at what Vermont House can do to deal with these changes. Especially impacts on those who work for federal government. We probably won't pass as many bills as in previous years due to focus on education. Lot of work on health care going on. Encourages voters to contact her with thoughts or questions.

Susan Clark - Expressed appreciation for those who spoke out publicly here and especially honored those who spoke on behalf of what may turn out to be a minority viewpoint. We are all working to support our community's best interest as we see them. It takes courage to speak out and it is appreciated. Applause. Please leave your comments on the survey about this town meeting. A round of applause for student microphone runners.

Adjournment

Zara Vincent moved; Liz Scharf seconded.

Meeting adjourns.
Minutes taken by Kimberly Hagen.

SELECT BOARD REPORT

It's been a year since we all gathered together for annual Town Meeting and since then, a lot of activities have taken place in our little town. We had three new board members who jumped in and have been enthusiastic, curious, and thoughtful-Larry Rooney, Stacey Skadberg were elected in 2025, and Paul Cerminara (appointed by the board upon the resignation of board member Victor Dwyer) joined Chair Liz Scharf and Vice Chair Zara Vincent. Each member offers insight and a skill set that balances out the board nicely.

If we had to choose one word to describe the bulk of our time spent in one of the worst years of drought in our lifetimes, it would be FLOODS. We spent a lot of time and money and handwringing on flood repairs for our 42 miles of dirt and 6 miles of paved roads. Many thanks to Zara Vincent, Eric Metivier and Cheryl Grandfield for their perseverance in working with Dirt Tech and FEMA's 12 different Project Development Managers to ensure that we were reimbursed. As of press time, mid December 2025, we have received approximately $7,200,000 in FEMA prepay and reimbursement, have paid Dirt Tech+/- $7,350,000 and other contractors +/- $1,700,000 in response to the 2023 and 2024 floods. We are uncertain how much more we will spend in 2026, but it will be in the millions. Many thanks to the VT Bond Bank and Community Bank for loaning us money to help us pay our flood bills. Compare this to 1995 when we had $300,000 in flood damage and a $500,000 budget! Nearly every road in Middlesex was damaged in either 2023 and/or 2024. Then, in April 2025, Old Brook Road began to sink and crumble into the river and thankfully, it was determined that it was undermined due to the July 2024 flood, so it could be included in FEMA funded projects. Whew!

In August we learned from the Agency of Natural Resources (ANR} that our six box culverts on Notch, South Bear, Center (2), Portal and East Hill Roads had myriad deficiencies primarily related to Aquatic Organism Transport and wetland disruption, along with some safety concerns. With support from board member Paul Cerminara and Road Foreman Eric Metivier and the folks at ANR, we have begun the onerous but necessary process of working with Dirt Tech to correct the deficiencies which must be completed by October 2026. We believe this is a reasonable timeline and we hope to have most of the work completed by the summer of 2026. Any additional costs will likely be related to safety improvements such as installing guardrails or shoring up bank stabilization with more stones. If these two years taught us anything, it would be the need for a Clerk of the Works or Town Administrator to handle the complexity of managing 10-15 million dollars worth of road repairs.

The 2023 flood also resulted in 9 buyouts of Middlesex properties primarily on Three Mile Bridge and Lower Sunnybrook Roads. Most of the buyouts are complete and awaiting demolition. What this means for Middlesex is a loss of tax revenue in perpetuity, as no future development can occur on properties in the Federal buyout program. While we lose tax revenue, we can sleep at night knowing that property owners who chose to participate at least were offered pre-flood assessment valuations on their homes, allowing them the opportunity to move on to a home that hopefully will be less prone to natural disasters.

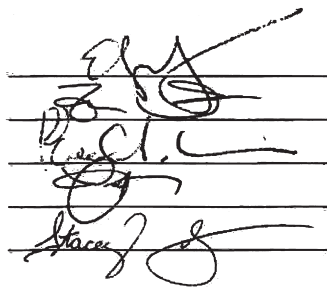
SELECT BOARD REPORT

While the bond vote for a Town Hall renovation failed at last Town Meeting, it didn't stop the Town from forming a new committee to address all the tired facilities in Middlesex. Team FIT (Facilities Improvement Team, spearheaded by Zara Vincent and chaired by volunteer Dave Magida) was formed in the fall of 2025 to revisit both the Town Hall needs and the aging Town Garage. The Town Garage has been identified as a building with a lot of deficiencies and was never meant to stand as long as it has. Kicking the can down the road can only go so far-when you reach the cliff at the end of the road…well, let's try to avoid that! Fortunately, despite a failed bond, our Energy Committee, led by Lauri Scharf and supported by many volunteers, weatherized the Fire Department and the Town Hall attic, including shoring up the roof to support any extra snow load because of a warmer building. Special thanks to Randy Drury of Brookside Building Solutions of Middlesex who provided the time and equipment to blow in the insulation. Additionally, the Energy Committee hired a contractor to mitigate the radon in the vault. Both projects were paid out of the Building Fund that is funded each year in our annual budget.

While the Board wasn't discussing floods and tired buildings, we were working on updating our Purchasing Policy, (project led by the capable Stacy Skadberg); hiring a contractor to build a new website (in process and led by volunteers with support from Cheryl and Brenda), the Welch Park Association Dissolution (begrudging led by Liz Scharf), approving the annual Emergency Management Plan, working with the budget committee on creating wage bands for municipal employees, discussing the need for a Town Administrator position to support the Town Clerk and Select Board, cheering on the Fire Department and their amazing work, and generally working together as a cohesive team. The board would like to thank Cheryl Grandfield (outgoing Town Clerk) for her hard work this past year filling in for the final year of a 3-year term and working many hours and on the weekends to ensure that the town ran smoothly. She put her heart into the work as Treasurer, Delinquent Tax Collector, and Town Clerk and will continue to run for the other two positions, so hopefully we will continue to see her friendly face in the office. Thank you Cheryl!

We hope you stay in touch, and we look forward to serving the Town in the year ahead.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Liz Scharf, Chair

Zara Vincent, Vice Chair

Paul Cerminara

Larry Rooney

Stacey Skadberg

1/6/2026

SELECT BOARD ANALYSIS OF PROPOSED BUDGET

FY2027 July 1,2026-June 30, 2027

The Select Board's proposed budget for FY 2027 is $2,261,978, an 11.6% increase ($235,050) over the FY 2026 budget of $2,026,928.

This is the largest requested increase in our town's budget in its recent history. It is slightly larger than the FY 2021 increase of 11.45% and the FY 2025 increase of 11.36%. There are several factors driving this increase:

- The budget includes salary and benefits for a new full-time (40-hr) Town Administrator position. Duties that were previously spread among employees and volunteers will be consolidated into this new position. Among other responsibilities, this role will focus on grant writing, municipal compliance, flood recovery coordination, and more. There is a strong feeling that our town needs a dedicated professional to address the ever-growing list of requirements that need sustained focus and attention. It's also felt that consolidating a wide range of duties in a single role will result in more efficiency in addressing them.
- For our last budget, the Town Clerk and Treasurer positions were combined, with the thinking that this would save money and increase efficiency. Unfortunately, that didn't turn out to be the case, as the combined duties became too much for a single person to handle. The new budget increases the Town Clerk role to a full-time (32-hr) position.
- Health Care costs continue to rise. The addition of coverage for the new Town Administrator (2-person) and the upgrade of coverage for the Town Clerk (single to 2-person) account for 74% of the total healthcare cost increase in the budget. For the first time, town employees have dental and vision coverage, at a nominal cost to our town.
- Public Works has incurred a significant increase for Winter Sand. Here's the backstory:
  - In FY 2021, we were budgeting $70,000 for Sand and Trucking
  - During that year, The Road Commissioner and the Highway Foreperson took the initiative to determine, via digging, if there was sand available in our town
  - They found sand, and that sand pit, plus the reduced trucking costs from there, have reduced Winter Sand costs by approximately $150,000 over the past 5 years
  - Our sand pit is now exhausted, so beginning in FY 2027, we'll resume buying and trucking sand from Barre, at a higher cost, though it favorably compares to the cost incurred in FY 2021

SELECT BOARD ANALYSIS OF PROPOSED BUDGET

The $235,050 increase of 11.6% is best explained by the following:

- A $51,000 net increase for the Town Administrator salary (with the elimination of part-time positions) plus a $21,000 increase to move the Town Clerk position from part-time to full-time. Combined, these changes represent a 3.6% increase to the budget.
- A total increase of $64,281 in health care costs, due to premium increases and the coverage changes noted above. This cost represents a 3.2% increase to the budget.
- An increase of $75,000 in the Winter Sand budget to reflect the change to obtain sand from Barre, and the higher trucking costs to do so. This cost represents a 3.7% increase to the budget.
- We've budgeted an additional $22,500 in Legal fees, as the installation of six (6) box culverts as part of the flood repairs resulted in Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) violations, so legal help will be needed to navigate through the fixes, the cost of which will be borne by the contractor. This legal cost represents a 1.1% increase to the budget.

The FY 2027 budget continues to be burdened by loan payments on debts incurred during the 2023/24 flood cleanup. Without these loan payments, the FY 2027 budget increase would be 8.64%.

The proposed budget does not include Special Articles, which are subject to approval by voters on Town Meeting Day.

The Select Board and the Budget Committee have made our best efforts to limit the budget increase while focusing on serving both current and future needs of our town.

COMPARATIVE BUDGET REPORT

	Budget FY 2024/2025	**Actual FY 2024/2025	Budget FY 2025/2026	Proposed Budget FY 2026/2027	$ Change	Percentage Change
	July 1,2024 June 30,2025	*July 1,2024 June 30,2025*	*July 1,2025 June 30,2026*	*July 1,2026 June 30,2027*		
GENERAL GOVERNMENT						
Wages: Selectboard	$4,018.00	$3,881.35	$3,500.00	$3,500.00	$-	0.00%
Wages: Selectboard Clerk	$30,814.00	$23,350.65	$7,500.00	$-	$(7,500.00)	-100.00%
Wages: FEMA Project Mgr	$0.00	$24,000.98	$9,085.00	$-	$(9,085.00)	-100.00%
Wages: FEMA Office Staff	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
Wages: Town Administrator	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$72,800.00	$72,800.00	NEW
Wages: Payroll Tax(SS, CCC & MED)	$2,818.00	$4,486.05	$1,389.88	$6,508.39	$5,118.51	368.27%
Wages: Retirement	$2,157.00	$1,511.14	$543.75	$5,460.00	$4,916.25	904.14%
Wages Health Insurance	$6,273.00	$4,913.87	$7,554.19	$30,696.74	$23,142.55	306.35%
Wages Insurance: Life/LTD/AD&D Coverage				$444.00	$444.00	NEW
Wages Dental Insurance				$924.00	$924.00	NEW
Wages Vision Insurance				$104.00	$104.00	NEW
Wages Insurance: Workers Comp	$370.00	$1,742.14	$59.25	$575.12	$515.87	870.67%
Wages Insurance: Unemployment Comp	$70.00	$60.35	$72.52	$135.00	$62.48	86.16%
Insurance: Property & Casuality	$8,538.00	$10,058.50	$4,259.20	$11,636.11	$7,376.91	173.20%
Insurance: Directors & Officers			$4,818.86	$1,891.96	$(2,926.90)	-60.74%
Advertising/Printing	$1,000.00	$913.38	$1,160.00	$1,600.00	$440.00	37.93%
Selectboard Courses	$0.00	$35.00	$250.00	$250.00	$-	0.00%
Town Property Maintenance	$175.00	$29.80	$200.00	$1,050.00	$850.00	425.00%
Welch Park	$0.00	$785.42	$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
General Govt-Flood 2023	$0.00		$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
Email & Meeting Expense	$1,350.00	$2,918.83	$2,500.00	$3,000.00	$500.00	20.00%
Discretionary Fund	$4,000.00	$3,979.00	$4,000.00	$4,000.00	$-	0.00%
Legal Fees	$5,000.00	$6,447.50	$7,500.00	$30,000.00	$22,500.00	300.00%
Town Report	$4,000.00	$3,172.00	$4,000.00	$4,000.00	$-	0.00%
VLCT Dues	$3,500.00	$3,549.00	$3,700.00	$3,734.00	$34.00	0.92%
County Tax	$20,573.00	$19,142.00	$22,630.30	$20,270.00	$(2,360.30)	-10.43%
CV Solid Waste	$1,800.00	$1,805.00	$1,900.00	$2,340.06	$440.06	23.16%
CV Reg Planning Comm	$2,366.00	$2,366.07	$2,455.02	$2,521.31	$66.29	2.70%
Conservation Commission	$500.00	$212.36	$500.00	$500.00	$-	0.00%
Elections Expenses (Poll Workers-Misc)	$2,000.00	$2,599.12	$2,000.00	$3,000.00	$1,000.00	50.00%
Misc Expense	$250.00	$227.11	$300.00	$300.00	$-	0.00%
Building Fund-MOVED to Capital Planning	$0.00		$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
Tax Abatements	$7,000.00	$10,319.37	$5,000.00	$3,000.00	$(2,000.00)	-40.00%
Future Grant Match	$2,500.00	$2,358.50	$3,000.00	$3,000.00	$-	0.00%
TOTAL GENERAL GOVT	**$111,072.00**	**$134,864.49**	**$99,877.97**	**$217,240.69**	**$117,362.72**	**117.51%**
ADMINISTRATION						
Wages: Office*(Clerk,Ass't Clerk,Treas,Bookeep)*	$94,396.00	$106,099.28	$116,350.69	$129,726.60	$13,375.91	11.50%
Wages: Lister	$18,750.00	$26,521.40	$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
O/S: Payroll Tax (SS, CCC & MED)	$9,389.00	$10,281.24	$9,644.26	$10,494.88	$850.62	8.82%
O/S: Retirement	$5,912.00	$7,610.64	$8,171.52	$8,714.00	$542.48	6.64%
O/S: Unemployment	$175.00	$87.56	$168.19	$21.60	$(146.59)	-87.16%

COMPARATIVE BUDGET REPORT

	Budget FY 2024/2025 *July 1,2024 June 30,2025*	**Actual FY 2024/2025 *July 1,2024 June 30,2025*	Budget FY 2025/2026 *July 1,2025 June 30,2026*	Proposed Budget FY 2026/2027 *July 1,2026 June 30,2027*	$ Change	Percentage Change
O/S Insurance: Health Care Coverage	$29,276.00	$32,796.45	$34,348.44	$61,393.47	$27,045.03	78.74%
O/S Insurance: Life/LTD/AD&D	$816.00	$674.97	$816.00	$840.00	$24.00	2.94%
O/S Insurance: Workers Comp	$1,504.00	$383.82	$1,410.22	$1,024.84	$(385.38)	-27.33%
O/S Insurance: Dental Coverage	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$1,848.00	$1,848.00	NEW
O/S Insurance: Vision Coverage	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$208.00	$208.00	NEW
Wages: Delinquent Tax Collector	$2,912.00	$1,649.24	$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
Clerical Mileage	$200.00	$206.26	$200.00	$250.00	$50.00	25.00%
Office Supplies	$3,600.00	$3,100.30	$3,725.00	$4,000.00	$275.00	7.38%
Office Equipment Repair	$1,000.00	$0.00	$1,000.00	$1,000.00	$-	0.00%
Office Equipment Purchase	$10,000.00	$0.00	$13,000.00	$4,000.00	$(9,000.00)	-69.23%
Telephone & Internet	$5,000.00	$6,142.97	$5,500.00	$6,500.00	$1,000.00	18.18%
Postage	$3,500.00	$3,172.05	$3,850.00	$4,000.00	$150.00	3.90%
Auditing	$11,000.00	$16,000.00	$15,000.00	$30,000.00	$15,000.00	100.00%
Listing Mileage/Expenses	$1,000.00	$1,124.66	$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
Clerk's Office Seminars	$2,000.00	$381.57	$2,600.00	$1,500.00	$(1,100.00)	-42.31%
Listing Mapping	$250.00	$0.00	$0.00		$-	0.00%
Copier Lease	$1,500.00	$2,018.38	$2,000.00	$2,962.32	$962.32	48.12%
Computer Maintenance	$40,000.00	$24,646.89	$20,000.00	$20,000.00	$-	0.00%
NEMRC Assessor Contract	$26,500.00	$26,500.00	$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
Consultant Fees	$10,500.00	$0.00	$0.00	$5,986.00	$5,986.00	0.00%
Website Development	$0.00	$0.00	$10,000.00	$2,900.00	$(7,100.00)	-71.00%
Lister Computer	$1,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	**$280,180.00**	**$269,397.68**	**$247,784.32**	**$297,369.71**	**$49,585.39**	**20.01%**
TOWN HALL						
Electricity	$3,500.00	$3,200.63	$3,500.00	$3,500.00	$-	0.00%
Heat	$3,000.00	$2,122.27	$3,000.00	$3,000.00	$-	0.00%
Grounds	$1,080.00	$1,543.00	$1,880.00	$1,880.00	$-	0.00%
Building Repairs	$3,500.00	$2,100.33	$0.00	$0.00	$-	0.00%
Street Lights	$2,200.00	$2,063.01	$2,500.00	$2,500.00	$-	0.00%
Janitorial	$1,500.00	$1,464.31	$1,500.00	$1,500.00	$-	0.00%
TOTAL TOWN HALL	**$14,780.00**	**$12,493.55**	**$12,380.00**	**$12,380.00**	**$0.00**	**0.00%**
PUBLIC SAFETY						
Wages: Health Officer	$886.00	$51.11	$885.83	$912.39	$26.56	3.00%
Wages: Animal Control Officer	$738.00	$0.00	$738.19	$760.28	$22.09	2.99%
P/S : Payroll Tax (SS, CCC & MED)	$131.00	$4.13	$139.58	$135.33	$(4.25)	-3.04%
P/S Insurance : Workers Compensation	$103.00	$121.17	$64.43	$66.36	$1.93	3.00%
P/S Insurance: Unemployment	$0.00	$3.61	$7.96	$15.05	$7.09	89.07%
Courses/Seminars	$0.00		$200.00	$100.00	$(100.00)	-50.00%
Ambulance	$75,000.00	$80,490.00	$115,635.00	$115,635.00	$-	0.00%
Speed Enforcement	$2,500.00		$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
Dog Pound	$300.00	$883.74	$300.00	$300.00	$-	0.00%
Emergency Management	$500.00		$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	**$80,158.00**	**$81,553.76**	**$117,970.99**	**$117,924.41**	**-$46.58**	**-0.04%**

COMPARATIVE BUDGET REPORT

	Budget FY 2024/2025 *July 1,2024 June 30,2025*	**Actual FY 2024/2025 *July 1,2024 June 30,2025*	Budget FY 2025/2026 *July 1,2025 June 30,2026*	Proposed Budget FY 2026/2027 *July 1,2026 June 30,2027*	$ Change	Percentage Change
FIRE DEPARTMENT						
FD-Insurance: Property & Casualty	$7,500.00	$12,207.92	$11,362.97	$11,978.91	$615.94	5.42%
FD-Supplies	$600.00	$682.28	$600.00	$600.00	$-	0.00%
FD-Equipment Repair	$9,000.00	$7,519.68	$9,000.00	$9,000.00	$-	0.00%
FD-Equipment Purchase	$4,200.00	$9,226.50	$4,200.00	$5,000.00	$800.00	19.05%
FD-Telephone	$1,560.00	$1,602.15	$1,750.00	$1,750.00	$-	0.00%
FD-Fast Squad	$1,500.00	$241.05	$1,000.00	$1,000.00	$-	0.00%
FD-Courses/Seminars	$300.00	$0.00	$500.00	$500.00	$-	0.00%
FD-Electricity	$2,415.00	$2,831.21	$2,415.00	$2,415.00	$-	0.00%
FD-Fuel - Heat	$4,515.00	$3,448.68	$4,515.00	$4,515.00	$-	0.00%
FD-Building Maintenance	$4,250.00	$2,971.50	$4,500.00	$3,500.00	$(1,000.00)	-22.22%
FD-Radio Dispatch	$33,696.00	$34,254.67	$36,026.44	$36,556.81	$530.37	1.47%
FD-VSFA/Dues/Accounting/Training	$1,875.00	$691.36	$1,700.00	$1,700.00	$-	0.00%
FD-Forest Fire Warden	$250.00	$0.00	$250.00	$250.00	$-	0.00%
FD-GAS & Diesel	$1,500.00	$0.00	$1,000.00	$1,000.00	$-	0.00%
FD-Stipends	$18,000.00	$17,006.02	$22,000.00	$22,000.00	$-	0.00%
F/D : Payroll Tax ((SS, CCC & MED)	$0.00	$1,621.92	$1,779.80	$1,779.80	$-	0.00%
F/D Insurance: Workers Compensation	$1,300.00	$1,494.06	$1,300.00	$1,300.00	$-	0.00%
FD-Communication/Radio	$1,200.00	$561.00	$1,200.00	$1,200.00	$-	0.00%
E911 Signs	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
FD: Subcontractor	$0.00	$0.00	$300.00	$300.00	$-	0.00%
FD: Towing	$0.00	$800.00	$0.00	$1,000.00	$1,000.00	100.00%
TOTAL FIRE DEPARTMENT	**$93,661.00**	**$97,160.00**	**$105,399.21**	**$107,345.52**	**$1,946.31**	**1.85%**
FIRE DEPARTMENT DEBT SERVICE						
Fire Station Bond	$40,000.00	$40,000.00	$40,000.00	$40,000.00	$-	0.00%
Fire Station Interest	$10,548.50	$8,908.18	$8,699.70	$6,817.23	$(1,882.47)	-21.64%
Freightliner Tanker - PRIN	$14,593.00	$14,593.43	$14,593.00		$(14,593.00)	-100.00%
Freightliner Tanker - INT	$876.00	$976.64	$437.49		$(437.49)	-100.00%
F/D DEBT SERVICE Sub Total	**$66,017.50**	**$64,478.25**	**$63,730.19**	**$46,817.23**	**$(16,912.96)**	**-26.54%**
TOTAL FIRE DEPARTMENT	**$159,678.50**	**$161,638.25**	**$169,129.40**	**$154,162.75**	**-$14,966.65**	**-8.85%**
PUBLIC WORKS-HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT						
Wages and Benefits						
Wages: Highway	$277,226.00	$262,262.30	$288,000.96	$296,635.93	$8,634.97	3.00%
Wages: Road Commissioner				$9,360.00	$9,360.00	NEW
Wages-FEMA			$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
HWY: Payroll Tax (SS, CCC & MED)	$22,428.00	$21,118.13	$23,299.28	$24,755.07	$1,455.79	6.25%
HWY Insurance: Unemployment	$280.00	$315.43	$290.08	$624.24	$334.16	115.20%
HWY: Retirement	$19,406.00	$18,308.39	$20,880.07	$22,247.69	$1,367.62	6.55%
HWY Insurance: Life/LTD/AD+D	$1,620.00	$1,324.83	$1,620.00	$1,692.00	$72.00	4.44%
HWY Insurance: Health Care Coverage	$60,148.00	$60,087.28	$85,580.93	$93,440.21	$7,859.28	9.18%
HWY Insurance: Workers Compensation	$19,855.00	$31,886.06	$21,312.07	$22,643.70	$1,331.63	6.25%
HWY Insurance: Dental Coverage	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$2,838.00	$2,838.00	NEW
HWY Insurance: Vision Coverage	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$312.00	$312.00	NEW

COMPARATIVE BUDGET REPORT

	Budget FY 2024/2025 *July 1,2024 June 30,2025*	**Actual FY 2024/2025 *July 1,2024 June 30,2025*	Budget FY 2025/2026 *July 1,2025 June 30,2026*	Proposed Budget FY 2026/2027 *July 1,2026 June 30,2027*	$ Change	Percentage Change
Insurance: Property & Casualty	$13,300.00	$13,564.34	$11,800.00	$9,915.80	$(1,884.20)	-15.97%
Uniforms/Safety Equipment/DOT	$5,000.00	$4,504.08	$5,000.00	$5,000.00	$-	0.00%
Courses/Seminars	$300.00	$40.00	$300.00	$-	$(300.00)	-100.00%
Mileage	$500.00	$479.72	$500.00	$500.00	$-	0.00%
HWY FEMA Mileage	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
Winter Maintenance						
Road Salt	$19,800.00	$19,877.58	$19,800.00	$20,400.00	$600.00	3.03%
Winter Sand	$25,500.00	$36,844.00	$30,000.00	$65,000.00	$35,000.00	116.67%
Trucking	$25,000.00	$33,625.00	$25,000.00	$65,000.00	$40,000.00	160.00%
Tire Chains	$10,500.00	$4,357.50	$12,500.00	$8,000.00	$(4,500.00)	-36.00%
Salt Shed	$0.00	$1,786.65	$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
Summer Maintenance						
Chloride	$23,000.00	$27,878.12	$23,000.00	$28,000.00	$5,000.00	21.74%
Seed	$2,000.00	$0.00	$2,000.00	$-	$(2,000.00)	-100.00%
Hot Mix/Cold Patch	$1,000.00	$2,981.27	$1,500.00	$2,000.00	$500.00	33.33%
Stone ditch lining	$0.00	$757.20	$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
Road Gravel	$40,000.00	$27,340.33	$60,000.00	$60,000.00	$-	0.00%
Roadside Mowing	$7,000.00	$0.00	$10,000.00	$11,000.00	$1,000.00	10.00%
Rental Equipment	$3,000.00	$3,774.68	$3,000.00	$3,000.00	$-	0.00%
Tree Services	$5,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$5,000.00	$5,000.00	100.00%
Storm Water Discharge Fee	$1,590.00	$1,350.00	$1,590.00	$1,590.00	$-	0.00%
Green-Up	$500.00	$520.59	$1,500.00	$1,000.00	$(500.00)	-33.33%
Equipment Maintenance						
Equipment Repairs	$38,000.00	$50,679.92	$43,000.00	$44,000.00	$1,000.00	2.33%
Equipment Parts	$20,000.00	$16,231.33	$20,000.00	$20,000.00	$-	0.00%
Plow & Sander Equipment	$8,000.00	$12,394.26	$8,000.00	$8,000.00	$-	0.00%
Bulk Oil &DEF	$5,200.00	$2,042.25	$5,200.00	$5,200.00	$-	0.00%
Inspections	$750.00	$458.00	$750.00	$750.00	$-	0.00%
Tires	$9,000.00	$13,605.53	$10,000.00	$23,000.00	$13,000.00	130.00%
Used Oil Recyling	$400.00	$0.00	$500.00	$500.00	$-	0.00%
Towing	$2,500.00	$1,650.00	$3,000.00	$3,000.00	$-	0.00%
Specialized Services and Software						
SubContractor	$30,000.00	$26,916.75	$20,000.00	$30,000.00	$10,000.00	50.00%
Highway Inventory Software	$0.00	$0.00	$6,600.00	$4,000.00	$(2,600.00)	-39.39%
Garage Maintenance						
Shop Supplies (towels,etc)	$2,000.00	$4,041.18	$2,500.00	$3,000.00	$500.00	20.00%
Waste Disposal	$2,000.00	$2,490.06	$2,700.00	$2,700.00	$-	0.00%
Air Gas Service Contract	$775.00	$888.03	$775.00	$1,000.00	$225.00	29.03%
Small Tool Purchases	$1,500.00	$428.17	$1,500.00	$1,500.00	$-	0.00%
Fuel Tank Maintenance	$500.00	$0.00	$500.00	$500.00	$-	0.00%
Garage DoorMaintenance	$500.00	$460.00	$500.00	$500.00	$-	0.00%
Office Supplies & Misc	$500.00	$85.07	$500.00	$500.00	$-	0.00%

COMPARATIVE BUDGET REPORT

	Budget FY 2024/2025 *July 1,2024 June 30,2025*	**Actual FY 2024/2025 *July 1,2024 June 30,2025*	Budget FY 2025/2026 *July 1,2025 June 30,2026*	Proposed Budget FY 2026/2027 *July 1,2026 June 30,2027*	$ Change	Percentage Change
Utilities						
Electricty	$4,000.00	$2,737.87	$4,000.00	$3,500.00	$(500.00)	-12.50%
Heat	$6,500.00	$10,088.73	$6,500.00	$7,500.00	$1,000.00	15.38%
Phone	$1,000.00	$1,373.21	$1,500.00	$1,500.00	$-	0.00%
Gas /Diesal						
Gas	$6,000.00	$5,333.21	$6,000.00	$6,000.00	$-	0.00%
Diesel	$60,000.00	$39,704.75	$60,000.00	$60,000.00	$-	0.00%
HWY/Misc						
Culverts	$9,000.00	$11,321.64	$14,000.00	$14,000.00	$-	0.00%
Signs	$4,000.00	$560.22	$7,000.00	$4,000.00	$(3,000.00)	-42.86%
Equipment Purchase	$1,500.00	$0.00	$1,500.00	$1,500.00	$-	0.00%
Guardrails	$5,000.00	$0.00	$5,000.00	$12,000.00	$7,000.00	140.00%
Grants-Town Match	$0.00	$0.00	$50,000.00	$25,000.00	$(25,000.00)	-50.00%
Construction						
Gravel	$10,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
Ditch Stone	$10,000.00	$3,770.39	$10,000.00	$15,000.00	$5,000.00	50.00%
Hydro Seeding	$5,000.00	$0.00	$5,000.00	$5,000.00	$-	0.00%
Ledge Removal	$6,000.00	$0.00	$6,000.00		$(6,000.00)	-100.00%
Erosion Matting	$600.00	$0.00	$600.00	$600.00	$-	0.00%
Mud Season Mitigation	$37,500.00	$255.50	$20,000.00	$10,000.00	$(10,000.00)	-50.00%
Flood						
Flood 2023	$0.00	$2,179,005.96	$0.00	$-	$-	
Flood 2024		$3,156,718.18		$-		
PUBLIC WORKS-HIGHWAY DEPT SUBTOTALS	**$871,678.00**	**$6,118,223.69**	**$971,598.39**	**$1,073,704.64**	**$102,106.25**	**10.51%**
PUBLIC WORKS-HIGHWAY DEBT SERVICE						
2019 Freightliner Dump	$21,409.00	$21,408.57	$21,409.00	$-	$(21,409.00)	-100.00%
2019 Freightliner Dump - INT	$1,393.00	$1,364.34	$695.00	$-	$(695.00)	-100.00%
2021 JD Grader-Principal	$18,700.00	$18,700.00	$18,700.00	$18,700.00	$-	0.00%
2022 JD Grader-Interest	$5,964.00	$5,975.14	$5,491.00	$5,039.65	$(451.35)	-8.22%
2023 Kenworth Principal	$40,000.00	$40,000.00	$40,000.00	$40,000.00	$-	0.00%
2024 Kenworth Interest	$3,889.00	$3,860.99	$2,768.00	$1,653.80	$(1,114.20)	-40.25%
2024 Case Excavator Principal	$0.00	$0.00	$18,200.00	$18,200.00	$-	0.00%
2024 Case Excavator Interest	$0.00	$0.00	$10,865.00	$9,778.86	$(1,086.14)	-10.00%
CBNA LOC Princ 1104	$10,734.72	$1,500,000.00		$-	$-	0.00%
CBNA LOC Interest 1104	$36,000.00	$36,000.00		$-	$-	0.00%
VBB 2023 Flood Loan Principal-006	$0.00	$0.00	$60,000.00	$60,000.00	$-	0.00%
VBB 2023 Flood Loan Interest-006	$10,820.84	$10,820.84	$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
VBB 2024 Flood Loan Principal-002	$0.00	$0.00		$-	$-	0.00%
VBB 2024 Flood Loan Interest-002	$2,444.44	$2,444.44		$-	$-	0.00%
P/W DEBT SERVICE -Sub Total	$151,355.00	$1,640,574.32	$178,128.00	$153,372.31	-$24,755.69	-13.90%
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS-HIGHWAY DEPT	**$1,023,033.00**	**$7,758,798.01**	**$1,149,726.39**	**$1,227,076.95**	**$77,350.56**	**6.73%**

COMPARATIVE BUDGET REPORT

	Budget FY 2024/2025 *July 1,2024 June 30,2025*	**Actual FY 2024/2025 *July 1,2024 June 30,2025*	Budget FY 2025/2026 *July 1,2025 June 30,2026*	Proposed Budget FY 2026/2027 *July 1,2026 June 30,2027*	$ Change	Percentage Change
CEMETERY						
Labor	$7,500.00	$6,900.00	$6,500.00	$8,500.00	$2,000.00	30.77%
Flood 2023	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
TOTAL CEMETERY	**$7,500.00**	**$6,900.00**	**$6,500.00**	**$8,500.00**	**$2,000.00**	**30.77%**
RECREATION						
Wages: Recreation	$7,098.00	$4,712.74	$4,724.10	$4,866.54	$142.44	3.02%
Rec: Payroll Tax (SS, CCC & MED)	$575.00	$385.13	$382.18	$393.71	$11.53	3.02%
REC Insurance:Workers Compensation	$527.00	$674.24	$363.76	$374.72	$10.96	3.01%
Rec Insurance:Unemployment	$0.00	$18.05	$23.15	$43.80	$20.65	89.20%
Wrightsville Beach Dues	$4,520.00	$4,447.50	$4,700.00	$4,700.00	$-	0.00%
Town BOR- mowing, brush hog, aerating	$5,250.00	$3,639.14	$5,050.00	$5,050.00	$-	0.00%
Portalet Rental	$1,000.00	$2,331.30	$1,000.00	$1,200.00	$200.00	20.00%
Property & Casualty	$0.00	$0.00	$209.58	$131.69	$(77.89)	-37.16%
Recreation Supplies	$0.00	$0.00	$1,200.00	$1,000.00	$(200.00)	-16.67%
Learn to Swim	$700.00	$0.00	$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
Rec: Ice Rink	$500.00	$0.00	$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
Bandstand Expenses	$0.00	$0.00	$1,500.00	$1,500.00	$-	0.00%
Walter Kelly Park-Mowing & Portalet	$2,510.00	$2,075.00	$3,125.00	$3,325.00	$200.00	6.40%
Facility Maintenance	$1,680.00	$0.00	$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
TOTAL RECREATION	**$24,360.00**	**$18,283.10**	**$22,277.77**	**$22,585.46**	**$307.69**	**1.38%**
ZONING/BRD OF ADJUSTMENT						
Wages: Zoning	$9,238.00	$7,182.69	$9,547.68	$9,524.77	$(22.91)	-0.24%
Wages: Fema			$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
Zoning: Payroll Tax (SS, CCC & MED)	$748.00	$566.53	$772.41	$770.55	$(1.86)	-0.24%
Zoning Insurance: Workers Compensation	$110.00	$0.00	$75.43	$75.25	$(0.18)	-0.24%
Mileage/expenses	$250.00	$78.52	$250.00	$250.00	$-	0.00%
Fema Mileage	$0.00		$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
Advertising	$400.00	$141.17	$500.00	$500.00	$-	0.00%
Postage	$300.00		$300.00	$300.00	$-	0.00%
Zoning: Legal/enforcement	$3,000.00	$549.98	$2,000.00	$2,000.00	$-	0.00%
Courses/Seminars	$250.00		$250.00	$250.00	$-	0.00%
TOTAL ZONING/BRD OF ADJUSTMENT	**$14,296.00**	**$8,518.89**	**$13,695.52**	**$13,670.57**	**-$24.95**	**-0.18%**
					$-	
PLANNING COMMISSION					$-	
Advertising	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
Mapping	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
Mail Drop/Postage	$800.00	$392.10	$800.00	$1,200.00	$400.00	50.00%
Printing & Copying	$150.00	$0.00	$150.00	$150.00	$-	0.00%
Consultation	$3,500.00	$0.00	$3,500.00	$3,500.00	$-	0.00%
Future Grant	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
TOTAL PLANNING COMMISSION	**$4,450.00**	**$392.10**	**$4,450.00**	**$4,850.00**	**$400.00**	**8.99%**

COMPARATIVE BUDGET REPORT

	Budget FY 2024/2025 *July 1,2024 June 30,2025*	**Actual FY 2024/2025 *July 1,2024 June 30,2025*	Budget FY 2025/2026 *July 1,2025 June 30,2026*	Proposed Budget FY 2026/2027 *July 1,2026 June 30,2027*	$ Change	Percentage Change
LISTERS						
Wages: Listers	$0.00	$0.00	$52,610.88	$46,420.46	$(6,190.42)	-11.77%
Lister- FICA\MC PR Tax	$0.00	$0.00	$4,024.73	$3,551.17	$(473.56)	-11.77%
Listers-Child Care Contri	$0.00	$0.00	$235.00	$204.25	$(30.75)	-13.09%
Listers-Workers Compensation				$366.72	$366.72	NEW
Listers-Office Equipment & Supplies	$0.00	$0.00	$275.00	$4,525.00	$4,250.00	1545.45%
Listers-NEMRC Assessor Co	$0.00	$0.00	$20,000.00	$-	$(20,000.00)	-100.00%
Listers-Courses\Training	$0.00	$0.00	$400.00	$500.00	$100.00	25.00%
Listers-Postage-Mailings	$0.00	$0.00	$150.00	$-	$(150.00)	-100.00%
Listers Mileage\expenses	$0.00	$0.00	$1,000.00	$1,000.00	$-	0.00%
Lister Mapping	$0.00	$0.00	$2,000.00	$2,000.00	$-	0.00%
Listers Computer Prog\upd	$0.00	$0.00	$1,000.00	$1,500.00	$500.00	50.00%
Listers-Publications & Postings	$0.00	$0.00	$440.00	$150.00	$(290.00)	-65.91%
TOTAL LISTERS	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$82,135.61**	**$60,217.60**	**-$21,918.01**	**-26.69%**
TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET	**$1,719,507.50**	**$8,452,839.83**	**$1,925,927.97**	**$2,135,978.14**	**$210,050.17**	**10.91%**
CAPITAL PURCHASES						
2013 FD Rescue Truck	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDS						
Town Hall Building Fund	$30,000.00	$30,000.00	$10,000.00	$10,000.00	$-	0.00%
Highway Garage Building Fund	$5,000.00	$5,000.00	$5,000.00	$5,000.00	$-	0.00%
Bridge Fund	$6,000.00	$6,000.00	$6,000.00	$6,000.00	$-	0.00%
Paving & Construction Fund	$30,000.00	$30,000.00	$30,000.00	$30,000.00	$-	0.00%
Resurfacing Fund-Tennis Court	$5,000.00	$5,000.00	$0.00	$5,000.00	$5,000.00	100.00%
Reappraisal Fund	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$20,000.00	$20,000.00	100.00%
Asset Equipment Fund	$50,000.00	$50,000.00	$50,000.00	$50,000.00	$-	0.00%
TOTAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDS	**$126,000.00**	**$126,000.00**	**$101,000.00**	**$126,000.00**	**$25,000.00**	**24.75%**
TOTAL TOWN BUDGET	**$1,845,507.50**	**$8,578,839.83**	**$2,026,927.97**	**$2,261,978.14**	**$235,050.17**	**11.60%**
SPECIAL ARTICLES						
American Red Cross	$250.00	$250.00	$250.00	$250.00	$-	0.00%
Childrens Room	$250.00	$250.00	$250.00	$1,000.00	$750.00	300.00%
Circle	$199.00	$199.00	$199.00	$199.00	$-	0.00%
Community Harvest of Central Vt	$250.00	$250.00	$250.00	$250.00	$-	0.00%
CV Adult Education	$250.00	$250.00	$250.00	$250.00	$-	0.00%
CV Council on Aging	$850.00	$850.00	$850.00	$1,050.00	$200.00	23.53%
CV Economic Development	$250.00	$250.00	$250.00	$250.00	$-	0.00%
CV Home Health & Hospice	$4,500.00	$4,500.00	$4,500.00	$4,500.00	$-	0.00%
Family Center of Wasington County	$250.00	$250.00	$250.00	$250.00	$-	0.00%
Youth First Mentoring	$1,500.00	$1,500.00	$1,500.00	$1,500.00	$-	0.00%

COMPARATIVE BUDGET REPORT

	Budget FY 2024/2025 *July 1,2024 June 30,2025*	**Actual FY 2024/2025 *July 1,2024 June 30,2025*	Budget FY 2025/2026 *July 1,2025 June 30,2026*	Proposed Budget FY 2026/2027 *July 1,2026 June 30,2027*	$ Change	Percentage Change
Good Samaitian Haven	$250.00	$250.00	$250.00	$-	$(250.00)	-100.00%
Green Mtn Transit	$249.00	$250.00	$249.00	$249.00	$-	0.00%
Kellogg-Hubbard Library	$35,580.00	$35,580.00	$37,359.00	$38,480.00	$1,121.00	3.00%
Middlesex Conservation Fund	$2,500.00	$2,500.00	$0.00	$5,000.00	$5,000.00	100.00%
Montpelier Senior Center	$4,000.00	$4,000.00	$6,000.00	$6,000.00	$-	0.00%
Montpelier Veteran's Council	$250.00	$250.00	$250.00	$250.00	$-	0.00%
Mosaic Sexual Assault Crisis Team	$250.00	$250.00	$250.00	$250.00	$-	0.00%
North Branch Nature Center	$2,500.00	$2,500.00	$2,500.00	$2,500.00	$-	0.00%
Our House	$0.00	$0.00	$250.00	$250.00	$-	0.00%
Peoples Health & Wellness	$250.00	$250.00	$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
TH Design Plan	$65,000.00	$48,960.31	$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
Vermont Family Network	$250.00	$250.00	$250.00	$250.00	$-	0.00%
VT Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired	$249.00	$249.00	$249.00	$249.00	$-	0.00%
VT Center for Independent Living	$195.00	$195.00	$195.00	$195.00	$-	0.00%
VT Green Up	$100.00	$100.00	$100.00	$100.00	$-	0.00%
VT Rural Fire Prot Task Force	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$-	$-	0.00%
Washington County Diversion	$250.00	$250.00	$250.00	$250.00	$-	0.00%
Elevate Youth Services	$250.00	$250.00	$250.00	$250.00	$-	0.00%
Waterbury Area Senior Meals on Wheels	$10,000.00	$10,000.00	$7,600.00	$7,500.00	$(100.00)	-1.32%
TOTAL SPECIAL ARTICLES	**$130,672.00**	**$114,633.31**	**$64,551.00**	**$71,272.00**	**$6,721.00**	**10.41%**
TOTAL TOWN BUDGET INCLUDING SPECIAL ARTICLES	**$1,850,179.50**	**$8,567,473.14**	**$1,990,478.97**	**$2,333,250.14**	**$342,771.17**	**17.22%**

** Please note that 2025 Actual does not include final numbers. Pending Adjusting\Audit Entries.

TOWN OF MIDDLESEX 2026-27 PROJECTED SALARIES COMPARISONS

Position	F/Y 25-26 Budgeted Wages	F/Y 25- 26 Budgeted Annual Hours	F/Y 26-27 Budgeted Wages	F/Y 26-27 Budgeted Annual Hours
Select Board				
Chairman	$700.00	Flat Rate	$700.00	Flat Rate
Member	$700.00	Flat Rate	$700.00	Flat Rate
Member	$700.00	Flat Rate	$700.00	Flat Rate
Member	$700.00	Flat Rate	$700.00	Flat Rate
Member	$700.00	Flat Rate	$700.00	Flat Rate
SB Assistant	$7,500.00	848	$0.00	0
FEMA Coordinator	$9,085.00	0	$0.00	0
Town Administrator	$0.00	0	$72,800.00	2080
Administration				
Clerk	$39,305.34	816	$51,417.60	1664
Assistant Clerk	$34,100.00	1664	$11,140.48	416
Treasurer	$39,305.34	250	$64,769.04	1664
Assistant Treasurer	$3,640.00	0	$2,399.49	64
Listers				
Lister	$17,536.96	225	$15,473.48	520
Lister	$17,536.96	225	$15,473.48	520
Lister	$17,536.96	225	$15,473.48	520
Highway				
Foreman	$90,919.45	2305	$93,635.91	2305
Crew	$72,485.35	2305	$74,671.03	2305
Crew	$63,830.00	2305	$65,744.90	2305
Crew	$60,766.16	2305	$62,584.09	2305
Road Commissioner	$0.00	Flat Rate	$9,360.00	156
Delinquent Tax Collector	$0.00	100	$0.00	0
Zoning Administrator	$8,857.68	300	$9,124.77	300
Assistant Zoning Administrator	$690.00	30	$400.00	16
Recreation Director	$4,724.10	250	$4,866.54	160
Animal Control Officer	$738.19	26	$760.28	26
Health Officer	$885.83	26	$912.39	26
TOTAL	**$492,943.32**	**14205**	**$574,506.96**	**17352**

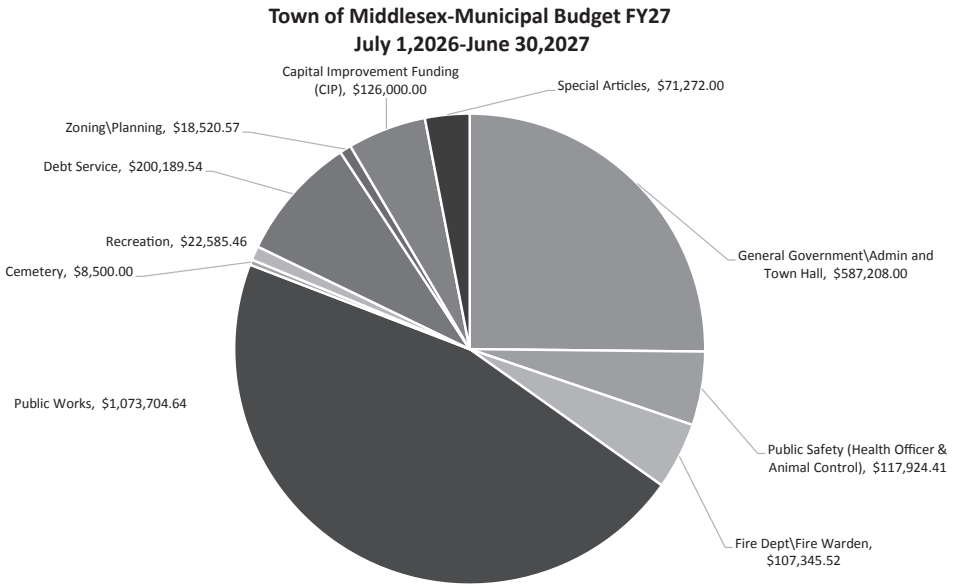
DEBT SERVICE/NOTES PAYABLE/ LINES OF CREDIT

Loan Name	Purpose of Note	Original Amount of Note Original Date of Note Loan ID# Interest Rate	Balance at 06/30/2025
Vermont Municipal Bond Bank 2015 Series 5 Bonds Series 2009-1 Payment due 11/1 and 5/1	Fire Station Construction Welch Park	$825,000.00 12/15/2015 Loan ID # 262 4.35% per annum	$ 200,000.00
Community Bank	Fire Department Freightliner	$102,154.00 9/29/2017 Loan ID # 1809244933 3.25% per annum	$ 14,479.90
Community Bank	Highway 2019- Lo Pro Truck	$149,860.00 08/23/20218 Loan ID # 1808244602 3.25 % per annum	$ 21,408.58
Community Bank 2022 A Series Highway Note	Highway 2023 Kenworth T880	$200,000.00 9/30/2022 Loan ID # 6180000177 2.79% per annum	$ 99,276.00
Community Bank 2021 A Series Highway Note	Highway 2021 772 G Motor Grader Plow & Packer	$285,000.00 7/8/2021 Loan ID # 6180000134 2.45% per annum	$ 224,400.00 $-
Community Bank 2024 A Series Highway Note	Highway Case CX145D Excavator	$182,000.00 7/11/2024 Loan ID # 6170001059 5.97% per annum	$ 179,700.00
Community Bank Current Expense Note	Highway Line of Credit-Flood	$2,143,313.59 2/19/2025 Loan ID # 6170001129 4.95% Per Annum	$ 2,143,313.59
Vermont Municipal Bond Bank Paid off Community Bank # 6180000214 Payment 9/1 & 3/1	Highway Flood	$938,000.00 3/28/2024 Loan ID # MCRF _006 1.30%	$ 888,000.00
Vermont Municipal Bond Bank Payments 6/1 & 12/1	Highway Flood	$1,000,000.00 12/9/2024 Loan ID # MCRF _002	$1,000,000.00
Vermont Municipal Bond Bank Paid off Community Bank # June 30,2026	Highway Flood	$1,536,000.00 5/9/2025 Loan ID #MCRF_041 3.50%	$1,536,000.00
Vermont Municipal Bond Bank Cover Flood Expenses Due March 1,2026	Highway Flood	$852,000.00 5/9/2025 Loan ID #MCRF_042 3.50%	$ 852,000.00

THE LAST FIVE YEARS

	Fiscal Year				
	2021/22	**2022/2023**	**2023/2024**	**2024/2025**	**2025/2026**
Grandlist	$2,385,888.00	$2,357,468.00	$2,370,781.00	$2,390,317.00	$2,400,130.00
Town Budget$	$1,382,738.00	$1,503,407.00	$1,657,285.00	$1,845,508.00	$2,026,927.95
Special Articles	$ 65,468.00	$ 67,439.00	$ 60,690.00	$ 130,672.00	$ 64,551.00
Town Tax Rate	$ 0.5269	$ 0.5945	$ 0.6239	$ 0.6998	$ 0.7972
School-Homestead Tax Rate	$ 1.7890	$ 1.7045	$ 1.8229	$ 2.0268	$ 1.968
School-Non -Residential Tax Rate	$ 1.6811	$ 1.6309	$ 1.7009	$ 1.9350	$ 1.886

WHERE THE $ GOES



Department	Budget Amount	Precent of Budget		
General Government\Admin and Town Hall	$587,208.00	25%	Municipal Budget	$2,261,978.14
Public Safety (Health Officer & Animal Control)	$117,924.41	5%	Special Articles	$71,272.00
Fire Dept\Fire Warden	$107,345.52	5%		$2,333,250.14
Public Works	$1,073,704.64	46%		
Cemetery	$8,500.00	0%		
Recreation	$22,585.46	1%		
Debt Service	$200,189.54	9%		
Zoning\Planning	$18,520.57	1%		
Capital Improvement Fundin (CIP)	$126,000.00	5%		
Special Articles	$71,272.00	3%		
	$2,333,250.14	100%		

WHAT EACH LINE ITEM MEANS FOR YOUR TAXES

Appraised Value of Property	$100,000	$200,000	$300,000	
Grand List (2025*)	$2,400,130	$2,400,130	$2,400,130	
Proposed Town Budget	$2,007,741	$2,007,741	$2,007,741	Including Special Articles net of anticipated receipts
Proposed Town Tax Rate	$0.837	$0.84	$0.84	
*Estimated municipal taxes	$837	$1,673	$2,510	

*NOTE: This is only an estimate based on the 2025 Grandlist and anticipated financial receipts
2026 Grand List (property values as of April 1, 2026)

	Total Proposed Tax Effort	Tax for Property Appraised at $100,000	Tax for Property Appraised at $200,000	Tax for Property Appraised at $300,000	Explanation
Town Government					
Article 6	$1,936,469.13	$806.82	$1,613.64	$2,420.46	General Government and Highway - net of anticipated receipts
Other Articles					
Article 9	$1,050.00	$0.44	$0.87	$1.31	Central VT Council on the Aging (By Petition)
Article 10	$4,500.00	$1.87	$3.75	$5.62	CV Home Health & Hospice (By Petition)
Article 11	$38,480.00	$16.03	$32.06	$48.10	Kellogg-Hubbard Library (By Petition)
Article 12	$6,000.00	$2.50	$5.00	$7.50	Montpelier Senior Activity Center (By Petition)
Article 13	$2,500.00	$1.04	$2.08	$3.12	North Branch Nature Center (By Petition)
Article 14	$7,500.00	$3.12	$6.25	$9.37	Waterbury Area Senior Ctr Meals on Wheels (By Petition)
Article 15	$1,500.00	$0.62	$1.25	$1.87	Youth First Mentoring (By Petition)
Article 16	$1,000.00	$0.42	$0.83	$1.25	The Children's Room (By Petition)
Article 17	$5,000.00	$2.08	$4.17	$6.25	Middlesex Conservation Fund
Article 18	$3,742.00	$1.56	$3.12	$4.68	Misc Organizations ($250 or less)
Estimated Municipal Tax**		$836.51	$1,673.03	$2,509.54	
2025 Residental School Rate /Tax**	$1.97	$1,967.90	$3,935.80	$5,903.70	
TOTAL ESTIMATED TAXES		**$2,804.41**	**$5,608.83**	**$8,413.24**	
each additional	$1,000	$41.66	$83.33	$124.99	

**NOTE: Estimated Municipal Tax is only an estimate based on the 2024 Grandlist and anticipated financial receipts
Estimated School Tax is based on the 2025 Residential Rate

ESTIMATED 2026 TOWN TAX EFFORT

2025-2026 General Government			
Expenses			
Budget (less Highway)	$1,034,901.19		
Special Articles	$71,272.00		
Total	$1,106,173.19		
Anticipated Receipts***			
Interest	$6,000.00		
Zoning	$5,000.00		
Licenses and Fees	$15,000.00		
RR Tax	$3,500.00		
Hold Harmless Payment	$87,626.00		
PILOT- State Owned Bldg & Land	$69,383.01		
Delinquent Tax Interest	$3,000.00		
Delinquent Tax Penalty	$6,000.00		
Fund Balance Reduction	**$-**		
Total	**$195,509.01**	**Total General Government**	**$910,664.18**
2024-2025 Highway			
Expenses			
Budget	$1,227,076.95		
Receipts			
State Aid to Highways	$130,000.00		
Other		**Total Highway**	**$1,097,076.95**
Total Municipal Tax Effort	**$130,000.00**		**$2,007,741.13**
2025 Grand List*	**$2,400,130.00**		
2025 Homestead Tax Rate*	$1.968	**(State of Vermont)**	
2025 Non-Residential Tax Rate*	$1.886	**(State of Vermont)**	
Estimated 2026 Municipal Tax Rate*	$0.837		
Estimated Local Agreement Rate*	$0.003		
Estimated 2026 Total Town Tax Rate*	$0.839		
Total Non- Residential Rate*	$2.73		
Total Residential Rate*	$2.81		

*NOTE: This is only an estimate based on the 2025 Grandlist and anticipated financial receipts
2026 Grand List (property values as of April 1, 2026) and 2025 State Education Rates and
2026 Municipal rate will be used in determining 2026 Total Residential & Non-Residential Rates

BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

FY2027 July 1,2026-June 30, 2027

The Select Board's proposed budget for FY 2027 is $2,261,978, an 11.6% increase ($235,050) over the FY 2026 budget of $2,026,928.

Major drivers of the $235,050 budget increase are:

- $159,381 increase in General Government and Administration (less Lister) expenses, largely driven by:
  - A new full-time Town Administrator position, at a net increase to the budget of approximately $51,000, due to the elimination and consolidation of prior part-time positions
  - Restoring the Town Clerk position to full-time (32 hrs./week) resulting in a $21,000 increase
  - A significant increase in legal fees ($22,500) to address Agency of Natural Resources violations from six (6) box culverts installed as part of the 2023/24 flood mitigation
  - An increase in Auditing fees of $15,000 to address upcoming audit for the FEMA reimbursements we have received from the 2023/24 floods
  - $53,272 increase in health care premiums, of which the major portion is these additions:
    - Coverage for the Town Administrator (2-person)
    - Upgraded coverage for the Town Clerk (from Single to 2-person)
- $77,351 increase in Highway/Public Works expenses, largely driven by:
  - A $35,000 increase in Winter Sand, due to the depletion of our town stockpile
  - A $40,000 increase in Trucking, due to the cost of trucking from Barre for sand

The proposed budget does not include Special Articles, which are subject to approval by voters on Town Meeting Day.

As part of the Capital Improvement Process (CIP), the Committee reviewed the Capital Asset Inventory, held a Capital Budget Review meeting in October, and submitted the FY 2027 CIP budget to the Select Board, which was $45,000 higher than the FY 2026 CIP budget.

The Budget Committee would like to thank Assistant Treasurer Dorinda Crowell, whose expertise and institutional knowledge was immensely helpful in reviewing and adjusting this budget.

We also greatly appreciate the effort and collaboration by the Select Board during what has been the most challenging budget review process in recent memory.

We recommend approval of this budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Budget Committee / Mark Harris (Chair), Samantha Beaudoin, Elias Gardner, Matt Rkiouak, and Zara Vincent

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

As of writing this report, I have decided not to run for Town Clerk on the March 2, 2026, ballot. This was a decision that I did not make lightly nor without much consideration. I have enjoyed my position completing the term for the former Town Clerk, Sarah Merriman, who retired March 4, 2025. Learning the duties of this position, while being the Treasurer and Delinquent Tax Collector has been challenging. I thought by eliminating the Select Board Assistant responsibilities, I would have time to be the Treasurer and Delinquent Tax Collector. That did not happen, but it did increase the workload of the Select Board who are volunteering a lot of their time and have had increased responsibilities with the daily challenges in Town Government. The demands of being a Treasurer have increased, even without the flood and FEMA work. I feel like I have not been able to give the 100% needed for both positions. It is not fair to me, nor to the property owners of Middlesex. I want to give 100% to the positions that I love, Treasurer and Delinquent Tax Collector. I have agreed with the Select Board Chair to continue my Town Clerk duties and not resign until after Town Meeting.

Serving as a town clerk in a small Vermont town is a role deeply rooted in tradition, responsibility, and community trust. While the town itself may be small in population, the scope and weight of the clerk's duties are substantial. In recent years, these responsibilities have grown increasingly complex as small towns across Vermont face significant economic, demographic, and administrative challenges. This report examines the role of the town clerk, the nature of the problems confronting Middlesex, and the ways in which those problems impact daily operations and long-term governance.

Like in Middlesex, the town clerk is often the central administrative figure in municipal government. In many Vermont towns, the clerk wears multiple hats, serving not only as record keeper but also as an election official, licensing authority, and point of contact between residents and town government. Responsibilities include maintaining vital records such as births, deaths, marriages, and property records; issuing licenses and permits; organizing and overseeing local elections; and ensuring compliance with state reporting requirements. In a small town, where staffing is limited, the clerk frequently performs these tasks with little assistance. However, I am lucky to have an Assistant Town Clerk that loves her job and goes the extra mile for both me and the people that live in this Town. Constantly walking through that door with a smile on her face to meet the days' challenges, Brenda Edelschick has taken this job on with the drive and professionalism it needs. She has been my saving grace on many days.

One of the most pressing problems facing small Vermont towns is financial strain. Declining grand lists, a limited commercial tax base, and rising costs for infrastructure maintenance place constant pressure on our municipal budget. As a result, town clerks must manage increasing workloads with stagnant or shrinking resources. Budget constraints may delay upgrades to record-keeping systems, limit staff hours, and complicate compliance with new state mandates. For the clerk, this often means balancing efficiency with accuracy while working under tight fiscal conditions in a building that needs lots of work to make it an accessible and safe (and warm) place to work. I have to thank the many volunteers that have put a

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

huge dent into problems that needed immediate attention. The addition of attic and window insulation means my toes are not freezing at my desk anymore. We can heat the top floor of the building, so we don't have shivering bodies during meetings!

Another significant challenge is population change. Many small Vermont towns experience aging populations and the outmigration of our younger residents. This shift affects everything from voter turnout to volunteer availability for boards and committees. The town clerk frequently becomes the institutional memory of the town. We are relied upon to guide new officials and residents through processes that were once widely understood. At the same time, clerks must adapt services for an older population while also accommodating newcomers.

Technology presents both an opportunity and a problem. State agencies increasingly require electronic reporting, online access to records, and digital election systems. While these changes can improve efficiency and transparency, small towns often lack the funding, broadband infrastructure, or technical support needed to implement them smoothly. The town clerk is often tasked with learning new systems independently, troubleshooting issues, and ensuring that records remain secure and accessible. Cybersecurity concerns and data integrity add further pressure to an already demanding role.

Elections administration has become particularly challenging in recent years. Increased scrutiny, new voting laws, and heightened public mistrust place clerks at the center of contentious political environments. In a small town, where the clerk knows most voters personally, maintaining neutrality and public confidence is essential but difficult. The clerk must enforce election laws fairly while navigating strong opinions within the community, often under intense time constraints and with limited staffing.

Despite these challenges, the role of town clerk remains vital to the health of local democracy. Clerks serve as a stabilizing presence, ensuring continuity as elected officials change and crises arise. During health emergencies such as floods, winter storms, or public health events, the clerk's office often becomes a hub for information and coordination. The ability to remain organized, calm, and responsive under pressure is critical.

In conclusion, being the Town Clerk for this small town is not without its challenges, requires resilience, adaptability, and a deep commitment to public service. While the challenges are significant—ranging from financial limitations and demographic shifts to technological demands and political tension—the importance of the role cannot be overstated. The town clerk stands at the intersection of tradition and change, preserving the town's records and values while helping guide it through an uncertain future.

I enjoy meeting our property owners, we have such an amazing little town…I would not want to live or work anywhere else.

Best,

Cheryl Grandfield,
Outgoing Town Clerk

TREASURER'S REPORT

I respectfully submit this Treasurer's Report for the Town of Middlesex, Vermont, summarizing the town's financial activity , account balances, and overall fiscal condition for the reporting period. This report is provided to ensure transparency and accountability in the management of town funds.

During the reporting period, the Town received revenues primarily from property tax collections (municipal and education portions), state payments and grants, local fees, permits and licenses, and interest earned on town accounts. All receipts were deposited in accordance with town policy and Vermont statute.

Funds were disbursed as authorized by town vote and the Selectboard to support general government operations; highway and infrastructure expenses, including flood-related costs; public safety and emergency services; education tax remittances to the State of Vermont; and contracted services and vendor payments. All payments were made by computer-generated checks or approved electronic transfers and supported by proper documentation, including approved invoices, accounts payable orders, payroll timesheets, payroll registers, and direct deposit reports. All payments are submitted to the Selectboard with appropriate warrant (payable or payroll). All warrants were signed by a quorum of the Selectboard.

As of the end of the reporting period, the balances of the Town's major accounts were as follows: General Fund: $ 3,647,041.41, Money Market: $ 367,929.16 and North Branch Cemetery Endowment Fund: $ 124,574.06 (Can only be used for North Branch expenditures). These balances reflect reconciled bank statements and represent the Town's available cash on hand. As the town had pending FEMA work, outstanding contract work in addition to normal operating expenses and pending Flood Loans, we could not spend the available funds in the General Fund, and the Money Market Funds have to be used for their specified use when they were created. (i.e., Bridge, Town Garage, Asset & Equipment, etc.)

Current-year property tax collections are proceeding as expected. Any unpaid taxes beyond the due date have been assessed interest and penalties in accordance with state law and town policy. Education tax payments to the State have been remitted on schedule.

All financial records are maintained in compliance with Vermont statutes and generally accepted accounting practices. The Town's accounts are subject to review by independent auditors, and all requested information has been provided. During the reporting period, the Town was required to undergo a more complex Single Audit due to receiving more than $750,000 in federal and state grant funding.

The Town of Middlesex remains in stable financial condition at the close of this reporting period. Additional financial details are included in the reports that follow in this Town Report. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at 802-223-5915 or treasurer@middlesexvermont.org.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Grandfield
Town Treasurer

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTORS REPORT

I respectfully submit this Delinquent Tax Collector's Report for the Town of Middlesex, Vermont. This report summarizes delinquent tax activity, collections, and enforcement actions during the reporting period, in accordance with Vermont statutes and town policy.

The delinquent accounts consisted of unpaid municipal and education taxes, along with applicable interest and penalties. Throughout the reporting period, collection efforts included written notices, telephone contact, and direct communication with property owners. These efforts resulted in the collection of outstanding taxes, interest, and costs, all of which were promptly remitted to the Town Treasurer, properly recorded and deposited.

As of June 30, 2025, the total amount of delinquent taxes was **$66,056.33**. Historically, delinquency levels are higher in June, as some taxpayers delay payment or overlook tax obligations. In accordance with town policy and state statute, a one-time penalty of **8%** was assessed on the principal balance, along with monthly interest at **0.5%**.

As of the date of this report, **January 11, 2026**, the remaining delinquent balance has been reduced to **$18,884.66.** These accounts will continue to accrue interest as allowed by law. Voluntary payment plans were successfully established for delinquent accounts, and formal enforcement actions were not required during this reporting period. While enforcement measures could have included the issuance of tax sale notices, no tax sale proceedings were initiated.

Delinquent tax collection often involves residents experiencing financial hardship. Every effort was made to handle each case professionally, respectfully, and fairly, while fulfilling the Town's responsibility to collect legally owed taxes necessary to fund municipal and education services.

The delinquent tax collection process remains an essential component of the Town of Middlesex's financial operations. Through diligent follow-up and strict adherence to statutory requirements, delinquent balances have been reduced and town revenues protected. Collection efforts will continue into the next reporting period as necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Grandfield
Delinquent Tax Collector

TOWN OF MIDDLESEX ANNUAL AUDIT

The Annual Town Audit is conducted each fiscal year by an independent auditing firm to review the Town's financial statements, internal controls, and compliance with applicable accounting standards. Typically, the audit is completed in advance of Town Report publication. For the current reporting cycle, the Town received over $750,000 in federal funds, which required a Single Audit. This audit was still in progress at the time the Town Report was finalized.

At the time of publication, audit fieldwork had not been fully completed, final audit adjustments and required reviews were pending, and the auditor's final opinion and financial statements had not yet been issued. As a result, audited financial statements were not available for inclusion in the Town Report. Contributing factors included scheduling constraints with the external auditing firm, extended review of financial records and audit inquiries, and the timing of receipt of year-end financial data.

The audit process is ongoing and is expected to be completed once all outstanding items are resolved. Upon completion, the finalized audit will be presented to the Selectboard and made available to the public through the Town's usual communication channels. The Town remains committed to transparency, fiscal accountability, and compliance with all applicable regulatory requirements.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Grandfield

Town Clerk\Treasurer

ROAD FOREMAN HIGHWAY REPORT

The 2025 season was a productive year for the Highway Department. We were fortunate enough to have an easy Mud Season compared to previous years and were also extremely fortunate to not have to deal with flooding.

The Road Crew was busy finishing up some flood repairs including ditching, culvert replacement and adding gravel on Macey Road in addition to ditching and adding gravel on Norton Road. The Road Crew also ditched and replaced a couple of culverts on Shady Rill Road and the same on Molly Supple Hill Road. Dolan Road was another place that received flood repair by ditching, gravel and a culvert replacement. The removal of asphalt and debris from under and around the guard rails on the lower portion of McCullough Hill Road including repavement was completed. A section of Shady Rill by the Woos Road bridge was also repaved to complete the repairs from the floods. Another accomplishment was we were able to finally get back on track to doing our roadside mowing.

The 2026 schedule looks to be another busy year. The Road Crew plans to ditch, replace culverts and add gravel to McCullough Hill; add gravel to South Bear Swamp; and perform some ditching and a culvert replacement on Upper Sunny Brook Road to round out the town's portion of flood repairs. Additional non-flood work will include culvert replacement on Three Mile Bridge Road and repairs on a section of Center Road. The town still has some bigger projects to finish up to complete flood repairs. Contractors will complete these projects which include culvert replacement and slope repair on Norton Road; two culvert replacements on Lower Sunny Brook Road; bridge replacement on Daniels Farm Road; slope repair on Old Brook Road; culvert replacement on Bolduc Road; and a culvert replacement on French Road.

In addition, we congratulate Road Crew member Ben Abare and his wife Sam on the new addition to their family, daughter Willow May Abare.

The Road Crew extends their gratitude to the Select Board and the Middlesex community for its ongoing support as we move forward through 2026.

Sincerely,

The Road Foreman/Road Commissioner - Eric Metivier

The Road Crew - Jay Files, Ben Abare & Richard Dudley

FIVE YEAR- ROAD CONSTRUCTION PLAN

Summer-2026
Ditch, culvert replacement and add gravel to McCullough Hill, add gravel to South Bear Swamp, and some ditching and a culvert replacement on Upper Sunny Brook Rd to round out the towns portion of flood repairs. There is a culvert that needs to be replaced on Three Mile Bridge Rd and a section of roadside needs fixing on Center rd. Roadside mowing will be done at the end of July to the first part of August.

Summer-2027
May-June: Service on West Hill Rd

July-August: Service on East Bear Swamp Rd, North Bear Swamp Rd, roadside mowing.

September- October: Service work on Davy Rd, Lower Barnett Hill.

Summer-2028
May-June: Service on Old Brook Rd, Upper Barnett Hill.

July-August: Service work on Three Mile Bridge Rd, Cross Rd, roadside mowing.

September-October: Service work on Molly Supple, French Rd.

Summer-2029
May-June: Service work on Center Road, and Leland Farm Road.
July-August: Service on East Hill Rd, roadside mowing.

September-October: Service work on Shady Rill Road, and McCullough Hill Road

Summer-2030
May-June: Service work on Portal Rd, and Bolduc Rd.

July-August: Service work on Culver Hill Road, Government Hill Road, roadside mowing.

September-October: Service work on South Bear Swamp, Wood Rd.

Service work: Shoulder cutting, ditching, and culvert replacement if needed
Full-service work: Resurfacing gravel, brush cutting, ditching, and culvert replacement if needed.
Mud season mitigation: excavation, drainage, fabric

FIVE YEAR- ROAD CONSTRUCTION PLAN

Capital Plan for Equipment Replacement

Equipment Name	Replacement Schedule	Replacement Year
1983 Tanker/Chloride Trk	As Needed	No Date
1989 Morbark Chipper	As Needed	No Date
2007 Caterpillar 420E Backhoe	21 years	2028/2029
2024 Case 145D Excavator	16 years	2039/2040
2018 International Dump Truck	7 years	2025/2026 (Due)
2019 Freightliner Dump Truck	8 years	2027/2028
2021 John Deer 772GP Grader	15 Years	2036/2037
2021 Ford F-250 Pick Up	8 Years	2029/2030
2023 Kenworth T880 Dump Truck	8 Years	2030/2031
2014 Komatsu WA270-7	12 Years	2025/2026 (Due)

TOWN ROADS SUBCOMMITTEE

The Middlesex Road Committee formed in April of 2024 in response to a major flood in 2023 and an exasperating warm winter of 2024 with muddy roads. Three months later, the floods hit us again. It has been my extreme pleasure to be a part of an incredible team of experts in their fields who have accomplished far more than I could have imagined when we all began this effort. Our team accomplishments include:

Targeting Mud season Mitigation sites – We have pinpointed the worst mud season areas in town. We did this with community help via a survey and results prepared by Hilton Dier III. Kudos to the community members who took the time to answer the survey. We had an incredible percentage of you tell us about your thoughts over the two surveys the road committee has asked for your help with. Your knowledge combined with the road health expertise of team members Eric Metivier, Paul Cerminara and Richard Cowles pinpointed many muddy areas around town. This list has been presented to CVRPC and our Hazard Mitigation team at the State. They continue to work with us on ideas for the best repairs, grant availability and state funding for the ongoing work to fix these areas which will be a ongoing project for years to come.

Communication and Information sharing- Our entire community has truly weathered some emotionally traumatic times. We strived to keep the community informed and involved in helping with the rebuilding. We let you know where and when repairs were happening while looking for more ways to facilitate messaging and keep the community informed. Graphic Designer Jessica Millard made our handouts for the Energy Fair look great and even donated her talents to create a logo for the town to use when we get our new website.

Asset Management – Dexter Lefavour led the charge by personally driving around town and listing culverts and doing an initial health checkup. This was an enormous help when Eric brought us forth to the 21st century by purchasing a software program that now lists all culverts with sizes, road signs and even vehicle repairs (oh my!)

Applying for and winning several grants – First we ascertained which grants were available to the town with efforts from Scott Gurley, Steve Dennis and Zach Smith building a list of opportunities and the time of year they become available. By applying for and winning several grants, the team has saved taxpayers from the costs of some repairs and to further study what is needed to ensure a healthy future of water management and resilient roadways. Recently, with Sandy Levine leading the charge and with support from the Planning Commission, we won a Municipal Planning Grant to develop a five-year plan for our roads and to complete a survey and inventory of culverts. The Central VT Planning Commission has looked at all our culverts to determine their health and to tell us what needs to be replaced and upsized. That information is now available to us and to you at the "What's next Middlesex" Road Committee page. The summer of 2026 will see several culverts replaced by our crew, along with the last of the repairs from the flooding of 2023 & 2024 and some new guardrails to complete our safety standards.

Road Health - The Road Committee voted to urge the Select Board to change the rule that homeowners have the responsibility of maintaining right of way driveway culverts. The Select Board agreed we can not gamble that a 15" culvert can handle

TOWN ROADS SUBCOMMITTEE

the water coming downhill from a 24" culvert. That is a major policy change for 2025, and we will continue to work to fund the mission of improving our culverts and roads. In addition, we were thrilled to be contacted by Mayla Landis-Marinello; a High School senior who wanted to put together a culvert monitoring system. This fantastic volunteer has gathered a 33-member team of "culvert crawlers" to monitor the culverts this spring to alert the Town to problematic areas.

Study of the Great Brook – To determine what can be done to manage Great Brook and the road that parallels it in future disasters. That area is the costliest for damage and we are dedicated to helping all our neighbors who live alongside rivers. Mike Kline has been a powerhouse of information, contacts and stamina in working with the state and UVM research and winning grants to continue to do so. Mike has been supported by team members Ken Davis, Sandy Levine and Eric Metivier in greeting state representatives to see our issues. From LiDAR information to finding grants for further research there has been so much accomplished that there is a separate drop down under the Road Committee tab of www.whatsnextmiddlesex.org

Future Planning & Ongoing work – We continue to target various road health related issues and work to improve them, John Rahill is gathering information for a Dirt Vs. Paved educational to come. We continue to stay informed and work to help support the Road Crew so they can continue to deliver excellent results for the town and have what they need to continue to do the excellent job that Foreman Eric Metivier, and Crew members Jay Files, Ben Abare and Rick Dudley do for all of us.

I want to say a special thank you to Marianne Mullen and Susan Warrren who both bring so much positivity and support to the group in every way, and to the entire Road Committee Team for making getting together once a month so much fun!

Our story this year is one of resilience, innovation, and community partnership. In the face of repeated adversity, the Road Committee has not only responded but continues to proactively plan for a safer, more sustainable future. By leveraging both local knowledge and technical expertise, we've turned challenges into opportunities—transforming muddy stretches into prioritized projects, keeping our neighbors informed every step of the way, and harnessing state-of-the-art tools to manage vital infrastructure.

The heart of our progress lies in collaboration, from volunteers monitoring culverts to town members voicing concerns and solutions. Every grant secured, every policy change implemented, and every mile of improved roadway reflects a shared commitment to Middlesex's well-being. As we look ahead, our focus remains on strengthening our roads, protecting our waterways, and empowering the community with information and engagement. Together, we're building not just better roads, but a stronger, more connected Middlesex.

Go TEAM!

Respectfully Submitted by:

Zara Vincent: Chair, Paul Cerminara: Vice-Chair & Team Members: Eric Metivier, Mike Kline, Sandy Levine, Dexter Lefavour, Susan Warren, Marianne Mullin, Jessica Millard, Hilton Dier III, Ken Davis, Scott Gurley, Steve Martin, John Rahill, Vic Dwyer, Richard Cowles

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER REPORT

Reporting Period: January 1 – December 31, 2025
2025 was an active year for Middlesex Animal Control, with ongoing issues involving wandering dogs, lost pets, and stray cats. The ACO focused on community safety, responsible pet ownership, and effective use of local resources.

Activity Summary: The ACO reunited 6 lost dogs with owners, though 2 were not found. There was a noticeable increase of 16 missing and 6 dogs found. Six traps were set for stray or unclaimed cats. There were 2 dog-on-dog attacks and 2 human bites reported. Calls involving loose or displaced livestock increased. More than 18 hours were dedicated to searching for missing dogs, setting cameras and cat traps, and coordinating resources across neighborhoods.

Dog Licensing: This year 136 **dogs were registered**, down from 152 in 2024. Many returned dogs or repeat offenders were unregistered, highlighting the need for compliance. Under **20 V.S.A. § 3581**, all dogs must be registered by **April 1, 2025**, or within 30 days of adoption.**Fees:** Before April 1: $11 spayed/neutered, $15 intact. After April 1: $13 spayed/neutered, $19 intact. Checks payable to **Town of Middlesex**, mailed to **5 Church Street, Middlesex, VT 05602**.

Community Resources: Residents are encouraged to use available low-cost services:

- **VTCAN** for spay/neuter and veterinary care (www.vt-can.org)
- **VSNIP** for state spay/neuter assistance (https://dcf.vermont.gov/vsnip)
- **Central Vermont Humane Society (CVHS)** for seasonal clinics and micro-chip appointments

Public Engagement: Increased use of **Front Porch Forum** greatly improved tracking of missing and found animals, with photo sharing helping reunite pets more quickly.

Partnerships: Town Health Officer **Robert Penney** provided essential support through timely reporting and community safety oversight.

Conclusion: The ACO's efforts in 2025 strengthened public safety, enhanced reunification of lost animals, and expanded support for pet owners. Continued cooperation—especially through timely pet registration and utilization of local programs—remains vital to improving animal control services in Middlesex.

Christina Steinbrecher ACO

THE VT SPAY NEUTER INCENTIVE PROGRAM aka "VSNIP

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

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

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

Feline & Friends Foundation 802-323-4793:
Schedule on FFFVT.org

Community Pet Clinic: Humane Society of Chittenden County 802-923-9028
Feline & Friends Foundation 802-323-4793
Schedule on FFFVT.org

Homeward Bound: Addison County Humane Society "Taxi Cat" 802-388-1100
Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society: in West Windsor: 802-484-5829
Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Shelter Orleans: 802-754-2228
Cats only

Riverside Rescue, Lunenburg: 802-524-9550
Rutland CTY Humane Society: 802-483-6700;
Spay the "Mom"for free, kittens adopted.

Second Chance Animal Center: Shaftsbury 802-375-2898
Second Chance Animal Rescue Inc: Littleton, NH 603-259-3244
Springfield Humane Society: Springfield 802-885-3997
Sullivan CTY Humane Society: Claremont, NH 603-542-3277
Upper Valley Humane Society: Enfield NH 603-448-6888
Windham CTY Humane Society: Brattleboro 802-254-2232
VT-CAN: Middlesex 802-223-0034
N.E. Kingdom Spay Neuter Program: Orleans Essex CTY 802-334-7393

** Community Animal Aid Wellness Clinic: (No surgeries) Exams, vaccinations, parasite treatment, minor illnesses, wounds & injuries. 1X monthly: E. Barre Fire Station 2nd Saturday of the month. 10 AM – Noon animalaidvt@gmail.com 802-734-025

THE VT SPAY NEUTER INCENTIVE PROGRAM aka "VSNIP

VVSA drafted modifications to help serve VSNIP applicants: adding rabbits, slightly increasing the co-payment and the dog registration fee to VSNIP running. We now know there was never an intention of passing this bill. One senator said, very frankly, "no one was going to support this bill, that they were telling us to your face they would, but would not".

Economic Services Commissioner: Miranda Gray, VT-CAN: Pamela Krauz, owner, and Dept of Agriculture spoke to the Committee objecting to these changes, supported by applicants and VSNIP veterinarians. Senators Alison Clarkson, Joe Major and Becca White knew the bill Clarkson "sponsored" was pre-determined to die. Politics at its worst. Hopefully VSNIP will survive. VVSA Humane Society, former administrator and originator, thanks to Lynn Murrell, DVM and the 80 initial participating offices that changed the euthanasia "solution" to the overpopulation in our state. You are the backbone of this program.

BANDSTAND COMMITTEE

This past summer, the Bandstand's 19th annual concert series at the Martha Pellerin/ Andy Shapiro Memorial Bandstand, aka The Middlesex Bandstand, again welcomed renowned touring artists and top-notch regional and Vermont artists.

To start the season Cheikh Ibra Fam got the crowd up and dancing with their high-energy Afropop/Nigerian street music! The Roger Street Friedman Band delivered upbeat folk/Americana. The Bandstand also welcomed Buffalo Rose back, a Bandstand favorite from Pittsburgh, with their modern take on folk and rock. Other highlights included regional artists the Neon Ramblers, with their fun bluegrass twist on 80s pop favorites, and Timbermash, a literal "mash up" of bbluegrass, Americana, and old-fashioned string music! The one rained-out concert forced us to cancel the Josh Panda Band, but they'll be back next summer with their gospel-inspired funk and pop!

To fund our stellar lineups, generous community support was provided by our audiences; numerous local businesses, banks, and institutions; and the Town of Middlesex. In-kind sponsors included Brian P. Graphic Arts and Story Road Nursery, Madtech Sound & Lovetown Recording, Minuteman Press, and The Roots Farm Market.

Stay tuned for news of the upcoming 2026 concert season through our website (middlesexbandstand.com) or find us on Facebook (search "Middlesex Bandstand"). Hope to see you at the Bandstand this summer for our 20th anniversary season!

Respectfully submitted,

The Middlesex Bandstand Committee (Linda Belt-Burnier, Emily Boedecker, Paul Boffa, Danielle Mishkit, Ron Sweet)

CEMETERY COMMISSION

The three town-owned cemeteries—Carr, North Branch, and Village—face a significant year of transition in 2026. While the grounds remain accessible, extensive maintenance is required to bring them back to standard. Specifically, significant brush and limb clearing is needed at both the Village and Carr Cemeteries, and tree removal at North Branch, to address overgrowth, maintain the boundaries, and protect the gravestones.

At the Village Cemetery, the parking area along the stone wall at the edge of Gallagher Road continues to be obstructed. Sticks & Stuff must clear up the excess lumber and building materials that have stacked up in this location to ensure the area is available for cemetery visitors.

Operational changes are also underway. The Commission is currently seeking to replace the groundskeeping contractor for summer mowing and maintenance, as well as the burial contractor responsible for interments at North Branch, the town's only active cemetery.

This year marks a complete turnover in the administration of the cemeteries. All three seats on the Cemetery Commission are becoming vacant. We acknowledge the departure of long-time Cemetery Commission Chair Gary Lamell, whose tenure and field expertise have been central to the commission's work. This change in stewardship and staffing will require focused effort from the Town to recruit new members and restore normal levels of service and support for these historic sites.

Respectfully submitted,
The Middlesex Cemetery Commission

CENTRAL VT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Regional Commissioner • Ron Krauth

Transportation Advisory Committee • Ron Krauth

The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) provides planning, development, and project implementation services to its 23 municipalities in Washington and western Orange Counties. Municipalities in the region are entitled to equal voting representation by a locally appointed member to the governing Board of Commissioners. CVRPC has no regulatory or taxing authority; each year, we request a per capita assessment from our members in support of local and regional planning activities and to help offset costs and provide local matching funds needed for state and federal funding. Your continued support for local and regional planning is valued! CVRPC is your resource – please contact us at 802-229-0389 or cvrpc@cvregion.com for assistance.

Middlesex Activities Through June 30, 2025 (Fiscal Year 2025)

- Drafted and submitted Local Hazard Mitigation Plan update.
- Updated Bridge and Culvert, and Road Erosion inventories.
- Prepared updated zoning district boundary dataset and map.
- Identified thirteen discretionary municipal water quality restoration projects from the Department of Environmental Conservation Watershed Projects Database supported by goals identified in the municipal plan.
- Drafted application for town Municipal Planning Grant for Road Resiliency study.
- Met with planning partners to discuss site feasibility for a Neighborhood Development Area alongside a scoping study review of the VPA Walkable Middlesex Study.
- Managed the implementation of the Natural Resources Conservation Service Emergency Watershed Protection Program to repair damage sustained during the July 2023 Flood.
- Provided technical assistance to review energy audits of municipal buildings (FY24 MERP), scope projects from recommendations, and apply for $500,000 MERP Implementation Phase funding. Provided support for mini-grant project identification and implementation including Energy Fair, Municipal Building Projects, and Window Dressers Community Build.
- Conducted outreach, provided resources and assistance on funding opportunities for municipal building projects, EV & EV-Charging programs, housing and housing-ready infrastructure, 248 permitting and solar project development, climate resilience planning, etc.

CENTRAL VT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (cont'd)

Overview of CVRPC Programs and Services

- *Technical assistance for municipal plan and bylaw updates, focusing on predictable and effective local permitting*
- *Brownfields environmental site assessments to facilitate redevelopment and economic growth*
- *Transportation planning, studies, data collection, traffic counts, and coordination of local involvement through the regional Transportation Advisory Committee*
- *Emergency planning for natural disasters and coordination with local volunteers and the State*
- *Climate and energy planning to support projects to reduce energy burdens and build resilience*
- *Natural resource planning to protect water resources, preserve forest blocks, enhance recreational opportunities and support agricultural and forest industries*
- *Regional Planning to coordinate infrastructure, community development, and growth*
- *Geographic Information System Services to support municipalities*
- *Clean Water Service Provider: Developing water quality projects to meet phosphorous reduction targets*
- *Special Projects such as recreation paths, farmland preservation, and affordable housing*
- *Grant support through project identification, scoping, and applications*

CENTRAL VT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

The Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District (CVSWMD) serves 19-member cities and towns and approximately 53,000 residents. CVSWMD's mission is to provide education, advocacy, and services for residents and businesses to reduce and manage their solid and hazardous waste to protect public health and the environment. CVSWMD is committed to providing quality programming, meeting state mandates, and providing information and resources to our member communities. The per capita assessment has been established at $1.29 for fiscal year 2027.**The Middlesex seat on CVSWMD's Board of Supervisors is currently vacant. Contact your Selectboard to become a Board member and represent your town.**

CVSWMD continues to provide valuable programs and services to its residents, including:

Additional Recyclables Collection Center (ARCC): CVSWMD recycles TVs and computers, paint, batteries, and mercury bulbs and thermostats free of charge through State programs. We also accept dozens of hard-to-recycle items that cannot be placed in Regular Recycling. In FY25, 149,839 lbs. of materials were collected and diverted from the landfill. The ARCC permanently closed in May of 2025. Staff worked to ship out as much accumulated material as possible and relocate ARCC operations to Berlin under a new name: the Eco Depot.

Eco Depot: Located in Berlin's Industrial Park, the CVSWMD Eco Depot opened November 24, 2025. Please note that the facility is open by appointment only to ensure safety and short wait times. This specialized facility is open year-round and accepts Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) from Vermont residents, and Hazardous Waste (HW) from Very Small Quantity Generator (VSQG) businesses. In FY25, CVSWMD held four one-day haz-waste collections throughout the district and helped 400 in-district residents dispose of 39,418 lbs. of household hazardous waste. We accepted 690 lbs. of hazardous waste from businesses. In addition to hazardous waste, the Eco Depot accepts the same special recycling items we used to take at the ARCC (electronics, paint, batteries, mercury devices, bulbs). Please see our website cvswmd.org or call for a full list and to make an appointment.

Grants: CVSWMD continues to offer several grant programs: the Organizational Waste Reduction and Reuse Program (OWRRP); the Municipal Services Program (MSP); the Emergency Municipal Solid Waste Response Program (EMSWRP); and the School Grant (SG) program. In FY25, CVSWMD awarded $5,641 in grant funding to towns, businesses, organizations and schools in our District. Green-Up Day grants totaling $6,227 were distributed to member Towns. The Kellog Hubbard Library received $1,080 from the OWRRP and three schools received $4,441 collectively in grants.

CENTRAL VT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Compost and Waste Reduction: CVSWMD sells Green Cone food digesters and Soil Saver composting bins to District residents at discounted rates and provides them with free kitchen compost buckets and recycling bins.

School Program: In FY25 the CVSWMD School Program reached 2,018 K-12 students through 107 visits. Presentations and initiatives included information on living more sustainably, engaging in the "Rs" (recycling, repurposing, reusing), using food scraps as a natural resource, and special recycling. We also conducted 10 Food Waste and Single-use Item Reduction Reviews with school food service staff, and 12 Solid Waste Management System Reviews with custodial staff. We discussed Blue Bin and Special Recycling, food scrap diversion, and safe management of hazardous waste.

Outreach and Education: CVSWMD emails a bi-monthly newsletter, is active on social media, and attends local events to answer questions and address waste management concerns. We conduct outreach to businesses, schools, and organizations. We are rebooting our Repair Fairs and Composting workshops next year. We also plan to re-open our Low Waste Event Kit and Bin Loan programs to help reduce and manage waste at events.

CVSWMD maintains its website with information about waste disposal, recycling, and composting as well as how to safely store and dispose of hazardous and landfill-banned waste materials. The website has resources for businesses, waste haulers, schools, and Towns. Check out our A-Z Guide for disposal options for over 190 different items!

For questions about waste or to find out more about our facility, programming, and collections, please call us at (802) 229-9383 or visit us at cvswmd.org.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Middlesex Conservation Commission (MCC) mission is to conserve the Town's natural and cultural resources. The MCC works with the Town's other governmental entities, the public, and other conservation groups to identify and assess natural resources, to offer the town and landowners guidance on planning for the conservation of these resources and to educate the residents of Middlesex about the importance of conserving these resources. The Town has a modest conservation fund to help conserve the Town's natural, scenic, recreational and historic and cultural resources.

Summary of 2025 Activities:

Middlesex Town Forest (MTF) - The MCC continues to do trail maintenance on the popular Chases Mountain Trail and continues to work with the Trails Committee on a new short loop trail that begins at the base of the Chases Mountain trail. The MCC has begun discussion about the future of the cabin in the Town Forest.

Middlesex Trails Committee (MTC) - The MCC works closely with the Middlesex Trails Group (a sub-committee of the MCC). The Trails Committee worked with volunteers to upgrade trails at Wrightsville Beach this year. They continued work on the new Loop Trail in the Town Forest.

Green Up Day - MCC members were joined by 57 town participants for a very successful town clean up despite very wet weather for much of the day. Bolduc Metal Recycling supplied a dumpster for metal again this year which was filled with 27 pieces of metal. They also provided a dumpster for the trash again this year, which makes it much easier for people to dispose of the trash collected. People collected 165 tires, 45 tires with rims and 137 bags of trash. The trash was collected from roadsides. In addition, volunteers climbed down steep gullies, into streams and riverbanks to pick up all kinds of junk that people thoughtlessly threw out. The most unique collection method was one neighbor who went out onto Wrightsville in his canoe and filled it with tires and trash he found along the shore and floating. Then he loaded the canoe onto his trailer and drove it to the collection site. A big thank you goes out to Bolduc for their generous donations, to the Road Crew who play an essential role in facilitating a successful Green Up Day, Finally, thanks to the Conservation Commission members who staff the collection site and help to make Green Up Day a success.

Hunger Mountain Trail Steward - The MCC has adopted the White Rocks Trail (Bob Kemp Trail). This year work was done to clean water bars on the trail, clear branches and brush and we also made notes of ladders that were in disrepair. In addition, new blazes were painted on trees to mark the trail.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Knotweed - The MCC is exploring ways to combat knotweed in Middlesex. It is a huge undertaking and will take strong leadership and commitment by lots of volunteers to make a dent in the knotweed. The MCC is looking for someone interested in leading this initiative.

Mad River Path - The town of Middlesex was asked to join the Mad River Valley in supporting an effort to create a path that joins existing trails from Warren to Middlesex. The Conservation Commission will help support this project in Middlesex.

The MCC is pleased to welcome two new members to our group this year - Sage Romey and Katy Farber. The MCC meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00.

Respectfully Submitted,

Adrienne Magida - chair, Larry Becker, Katy Farber, Kimberly Hagen Ross Lieblappen, Sage Romey, Lee Rosberg, Dave Shepard, Jon Udis

MIDDLESEX TRAILS COMMITTEE

The Middlesex Trails Committee (MTC) is a volunteer committee dedicated to increasing access to and use of trails throughout the Town of Middlesex. MTC is a subcommittee of the Middlesex Conservation Commission (MCC) and is supported by the Middlesex Select Board.

Middlesex is home to more than 12 miles of Class 4 roads and legal trails, with individual trail segments ranging from approximately 0.15 to 1.5 miles in length. To improve public awareness and access, MTC has created trail maps and installed trailhead signage at several locations throughout town. Over the past year, new trailhead signs have been installed on five Class 4 roads and trails:

- Bushey Road to Center Road
- Dolan Road to Bolduc Road
- North Bear Swamp Road to East Bear Swamp Road
- Davy Road to Lower Sunnybrook Road
- Upper Barnett Road to Lower Barnett Road

Trail maps and additional information are available online at:

https://www.whatsnextmiddlesex.org/trails.html
Trails located behind the Red Hen provide access to scenic waterfall views along the Winooski River. These trails are not regularly maintained. Users should be prepared for wet, icy, or rocky conditions and occasionally downed trees. Trail users are reminded to remain on public routes, respect adjoining landowners, and follow good trail etiquette.

In coordination with the MCC, MTC serves as steward of the White Rocks Trail from its junction with the Hunger Mountain Trail to the summit of White Rocks, as well as the connector trail between White Rocks and Hunger Mountain. During the past year, volunteers cleared downed trees, removed obstacles, and repainted trail blazes along much of the route. MTC also collaborated with Jane Dudley at Wrightsville Beach to clear overgrown trails. With the help of volunteers and trail stewards, trails are now cleared from the beach to the boat launch area and from the boat launch near the dam.

Work is ongoing on a new loop trail beginning at the Chases Mountain Trail in the Middlesex Town Forest. This trail will offer a shorter, easier alternative for users who do not wish to hike to the summit. Approximately half of the trail has been cleared, with additional work planned after spring snowmelt.

MTC continues to serve as a resource for landowners interested in trail access or inclusion on town trail maps. The committee meets via Zoom on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.For more information, contact: **conservation.commission@middlesexvermont.org**

CVFIBER

NEKCV

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

This year, we have been implementing our mission to ensure that unserved and underserved community members in the 72 towns that make up our communications union district have access to reliable, fast, and affordable fiber internet.

We did this through numerous efforts, including focusing on our internal processes, upgrading our financial and build software, and expanding our locally-sourced workforce. We also continued to fully integrate NEK Broadband and CVFiber into a single merged entity.

CONSTRUCTION AND SERVICE

Projected Growth by Year

2025		**2026** projected	
Towns served	40	Towns served	55
Miles built	510	Miles built	555
Addresses passed	10,026	Addresses passed	15,000

10,026 SERVICE AVAILABLE

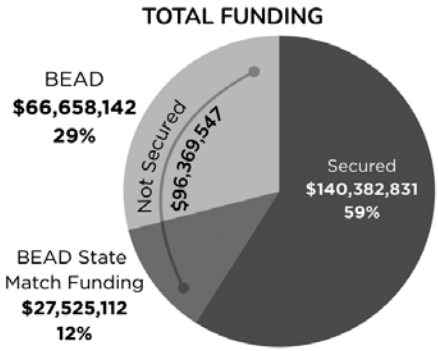
1,055 MILES OF NETWORK

1,902 CUSTOMERS SERVED

NEKCV NEK BROADBAND | CVFIBER

BUILDING CAPACITY

In 2025, we doubled the number of our staff for the 4th year in a row, and now we have 26 staff members. There were also 3 broadband training classes, and out of the 28 graduates, NEKCV employs eight class graduates.



BUDGET SUMMARY

	2025 Budget	2025 Forecast	2026 Budget
INCOME			
Operations Revenue	$2,047,769	$1,890,583	$3,524,616
RDOF Revenue	$1,247,036	$1,830,733	$477,590
Ops & Admin Grant Revenue	$3,856,318	$8,708,463	$8,000,707
Capital Investment Grant Revenue	$36,529,448	$17,208,689	$34,997,009
Other Revenue	$220,254	$366,379	$346,722
TOTAL REVENUE	$43,900,825	$30,004,848	$47,346,644
EXPENSES			
Operational Costs excludes depreciation/amortization	$1,247,036	$1,057,340	$1,671,193
Administrative Costs	$3,856,318	$3,634,149	$5,089,496
TOTAL EXPENSES & COSTS	$5,103,354	$4,691,489	$6,760,689
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATIONS	$38,797,471	$25,313,359	$40,585,955
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	$36,529,448	$18,802,570	$33,269,506
ANNUAL NET CASHFLOW	$2,268,023	$6,510,789	$7,316,448
PRIOR YEAR SURPLUS			$6,510, 789
TOTAL SURPLUS			$13,827,238
NON-CASH COSTS depreciation/amortization		$2,800,000	$4,430,648

SIGN UP FOR UPDATES

To order our service, get updates, or sign up for our newsletter, visit get.nekbroadband.org. or cvfiber.net

NEKCV is a communications union district (CUD) that aims to provide high-speed internet access to 72 towns across the Northeast Kingdom and Central Vermont.

MIDDLESEX EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Middlesex's Emergency Management Committee completed its annual Local Emergency Management Plan with assistance from the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission.

In January 2025, the committee developed a protocol allowing the Rumney School to be made available during emergencies, specifically to provide a warming location, access to charging electronic devices, and water filling. This protocol applies only when school is not in session and children are not present in the building.

The Emergency Management Committee is currently seeking an Emergency Management Coordinator, as well as additional volunteers to join the committee. Community members interested in supporting local emergency preparedness are encouraged to get involved.

For more information or to express interest, please contact:
Liz Scharf, Emergency Management Director
liz.scharf@middlesexvermont.org

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

Emergency Contacts

- **Emergency (Police, Fire, Medical): 911**

Non-Emergency Assistance & Community Resources:

Vermont 2-1-1 (Dial 211)

Information on shelters, food, fuel assistance, and recovery resources

Emergency Shelter & Warming Access- Availability depends on the nature of the emergency and safety conditions.

Rumney School (Emergency Access Location)

During declared emergencies, and only when school is not in session, the Rumney School may be made available for warming and shelter, charging electronic devices and filling water containers.

Preparedness Resources

Emergency Alerts – VT-ALERT

VT-ALERT is Vermont's emergency notification system. Sign up to receive free alerts about severe weather, road closures, power outages and public safety emergencies





SCAN HERE

A FEW Online Resources https://vem.vermont.gov/sites/demhs/files/documents/Workbook_English.pdf

https://vem.vermont.gov/sites/demhs/files/emergency-preparedness-assistance.pdf
https://www.ready.gov/

MIDDLESEX ENERGY COMMITTEE

The Middlesex Energy Committee is a volunteer group that meets monthly to plan events and to disseminate educational resources to promote energy efficiency and a lower carbon footprint.

In May, we held a community energy fair featuring over 20 exhibitors at Camp Meade. In June, we organized the fire station with the help of 15 volunteers from the community, an effort that reduced the building's air leakage by 90% (air leakage being the primary path of heat loss for any building). We coordinated weatherization of the town hall attic in October, again with over a dozen volunteers, beefing up the roof structure, reducing the building's air leakage by 36%, and improving the attic insulation from R-19 to R-100. We assisted the select board with research and venting Vendors for a new heating system. The same for a radon mitigation system to improve the town hall's energy efficiency and its air quality for those working in it. We participated in Window Dressers with neighboring towns, building 250 window inserts for 43 homes in Central Vermont.

We maintain a website (featuring other town committees) - WhatsNextMiddlesex.org - with tips and resources.

All are welcome to join the committee; this is an unofficial group with no elections or nominations.

Lauri Scharf, Greg and Barb Whitchurch ,Enrique Bueno, Mitch Oscieski, John Rahill ,Whitney Matchnik, Marge Dethloff

MIDDLESEX FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT TEAM REPORT

In the Fall of 2025, the Middlesex Select Board established the Facilities Improvement Team (FIT). The purpose of this committee is to review the way in which buildings owned by the Town of Middlesex are used, the condition of these buildings and how well these buildings serve their intended use. FIT is to evaluate the improvements and changes necessary to allow Town employees and visitors to work in safe, efficient, well laid out and inviting conditions. Of great importance FIT is to evaluate each building to determine how the buildings fare in the following areas:

- Adherence to health and safety codes and standards
- Condition of building structural systems
- Providing access for all using ADA as guidance
- Energy efficiency
- Operates reliable, properly sized, commercial grade HVAC systems
- Flexibility of spaces
- Addresses deferred maintenance items with a long-term goal of focusing on planned maintenance to minimize future deferral of maintenance

In the few months that FIT has been operating it has focused on the Town Hall and the Town Garage with evaluations of the buildings and various options for addressing needs. The Committee meets on the first Wednesday of each month from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm in the Town Hall. All are invited to attend any meeting and anyone wishing to join the FIT will certainly be welcome.

Sincerely – The FIT Team:
Dave Magida; Chair, Zara Vincent: Vice Chair & Team Members: Dorinda Crowell, Sara Merriman, Sandra Levine, Susan Clark, John Lund, Ken Davis, John Rahill, Dexter Lefavour, Larry Ronney, Eric Metivier, Jay Files, Ben Abare, Kevin Thompson, Zara Vincen*t*

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & FAST SQUAD REPORT

The Middlesex Volunteer Fire Department (MVFD) experienced a more typical year in 2025. As for writing this report, the Department responded to 75 calls for service. We provided mutual aid to neighboring towns on eight occasions and requested mutual aid twice. Our average member response remained steady at approximately five members per call, demonstrating the continued dedication of our membership.

In 2025, a new member who resides in Middlesex joined the Department. We believe this increase in membership is due in part to the improved equipment being acquired by the Department. During the year, MVFD received a donated shipping container from Bolduc Metal Recycling. This container will be converted into a training prop that simulates the interior of a house, enhancing our hands-on training capabilities. In addition, four members successfully completed "*Vermont State Firefighter I Training*".

The Department would not be able to respond to these calls without the commitment and hard work of its members. That said, we are always looking to grow our membership. As the saying goes, *many hands make light work*. We are not only seeking firefighters and EMTs; there are many non-emergency roles where help is needed. We encourage anyone interested to ask themselves, "What is keeping me from joining the Department?"

The Department holds training on the first Tuesday of each month, a business meeting on the third Tuesday, and a work night on the fourth Tuesday. All events begin at 7:00 PM. Community members are welcome to visit Station 1, located at 55 Welch Park Drive, to learn how they can get involved.

The First Aid Stabilization Team (FAST Squad) was called out 171 times in 2025, which is three fewer calls than in 2024. The FAST Squad has continued to grow and currently consists of three Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) and five Vermont Emergency First Responders (VEFRs). Montpelier Ambulance Service is contracted by the Town of Middlesex to provide ambulance services. FAST Squad members provide first responses to medical and trauma emergencies and assist Montpelier Ambulance Service with patient care on scene.

This is my final report as President. I have chosen not to seek reelection as President or Assistant Chief. I have served with the Department for 21 years, most of that time in leadership roles, and feel that now is the right time to step aside. I believe the Department is in a very strong position, and I will continue to serve as a member.

Eric Metivier, Chief

Jeff Koonz, President

LOCAL HEALTH OFFICE ANNUAL REPORT

Well, it's been a quiet year in Middlesex, our little town on the Winooski River. From a public health perspective, there is little to report.

There was a minor dog bite with appropriate management, and inquiries regarding regulation of burials on private land and lead levels in a domestic water supply.

I have been made aware by some in our town, and by others beyond our borders, that there is growing concern regarding the quality of health-related information issued by the federal government. Traditionally, the CDC, FDA, ACIP and other HHS departments have been notable for a collaborative, transparent, and evidence-based process that has been trusted by physicians and other medical professionals and helped protect Americans from preventable diseases. As this process has been progressively compromised, several states, professional societies, and ad hoc groups have risen to fill this informational void. While this may create some confusion, it is necessary and reassuring that such responses have appeared so promptly.

As of the date of this report, some prominent examples are:

Vermont Department of Health: There have been and continue to be recommendations for immunizations and other public health guidance founded in the best available science.

Vaccine Integrity Project (VIP): Established by the University of Minnesota's Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (CIDRAP) in April 2025. Its goal is to safeguard the development and use of vaccines in the United States so that immunization policies and programs remain grounded in the best available science, free from external influence, and focused on optimizing protection of individuals, families, and communities against vaccine-preventable diseases.

Northeast Collaborative on Immunizations: an alliance of 8 Northeast states to coordinate on vaccine policy and public health matters.

Governors Public Health Alliance formed by 15 governors for mutual support and information sharing.

These groups coordinate responses to health threats, share data and best practices, and work on common challenges like disease surveillance and vaccine policy, aiming to strengthen preparedness and improve communication across state lines.

Rob Penney MD
Middlesex Town Health Officer

VERMONT HEALTH OFFICE ANNUAL REPORT

Twelve Local Health Offices around the state are your community connection with the Vermont Department of Health. The Barre Local Health Office provides essential services and resources to towns in Washington and northern Orange Counties. Some highlights of our work in 2025 are below. For more information, visit HealthVermont.gov/local/barre

If you need help accessing or understanding this information, contact AHS.VDHBarre@vermont.gov.

Improving Family and Child Health

- Our **Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)** program supports pregnant people, infants, and children under 5 with nutritious food and nutrition education.
- In 2025, our WIC program served more than 1,000 participants from Washington and Northern Orange counties through tele-WIC and in-person visits.
- Our staff distributed $3,600 in Farm to Family coupons, helping WIC families buy fresh produce directly from Vermont farmers.
- Our office supports participants in feeling confident and comfortable with breastfeeding. In the past year, about 82% of WIC infants in our region were breastfed.

Chronic Disease Prevention and Wellness

- Barre Local Health awarded two Worksite Wellness grants to Turning Point of Central Vermont and Capstone Community Action of Barre. These grants included wellness support and resources to strengthen employee wellness programs.
- We shared information on healthy aging and local resources through community presentations at Quarry Hill in Barre and the Brown Public Library in Northfield.
- We worked with Come Alive Outside and VDH to support the Barre Passport program, which encourages physical activity and wellness for families.
- We partnered with the Central Vermont Council on Aging to create the televised Tasty Bites recipe videos. These videos featured healthy, low-cost meals for older adults.

Helping Central Vermont Communities THRIVE

- We provide essential support for **THRIVE**. THRIVE brings together, connects, and strengthens the work of more than a dozen regional service organizations and healthcare providers to address challenges like housing, cost of living, healthcare access, mental health, and substance use.
- In 2025, THRIVE advised CVMC's Community Health Needs Assessment and Implementation Plan, using data from over 1,000 community survey responses.
- THRIVE received the Public Health Champion award from the Vermont Public Health Association for response to public health and social crises, including the COVID-19 pandemic, flooding, and food insecurity.

VERMONT HEALTH OFFICE ANNUAL REPORT

- Working with state, municipal, and local partners, THRIVE completed a comprehensive Emergency and Crisis Response Plan to help keep Central Vermont communities safe and healthy during future emergencies.

Learn more about THRIVE at: https://www.uvmhealth.org/locations/central-vermont-medical-center/community-impact/thrive

Protecting Against Infectious Diseases

Vaccines are one of the best ways to protect yourself and others from serious diseases. We work with community partners to remove barriers so anyone who wants a vaccine can get one.

- We created the Central Vermont Vaccine Access Coalition, which brings together regional vaccine providers and helps coordinate resources during respiratory virus season.
- Barre's immunization team gave vaccines to 141 children and adults across central Vermont. They provided vaccines at monthly clinics, local dairy farms, homeless shelters, and community Pride festivals.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Middlesex Historical Society was incorporated in November 1993, to help townspeople understand and preserve the history of the people who have lived and worked in Middlesex, and the buildings, roads, cemeteries, institutions and culture of this community. Our current membership stands at over 200. Members meet three times per year, generally in January, May, and September to share photographs, memorabilia and stories. We welcome donations of old photos and documents; they are stored safely and are available to anyone who wishes to study them.

The third edition of our history book, *Middlesex in the Making; History and Memories of a Small Vermont Town* is available at the town clerk's office and directly from the authors. Co-authored by MHS founders Patty Wiley and Sarah Seidman and designed by former resident Kate Alberghini, the book includes over 200 photographs as well as over 70 interviews with the town's oldest residents. It traces the history of the town from its earliest Abenaki roots to the changes of the 1950s and 60s.

Society members and the Old Meeting House Arts Ministry in East Montpelier cooperated to create and display an exhibit of 17 watercolors by Eugene Chase (1948-2025), a self-trained artist whose imaginative scenes of Middlesex delighted viewers. Almost 50 people attended the opening and shared stories of Eugene, his father Albert, brother Elroy and mother Nellie, whose name graces the road in Bear Swamp where the family lived for many decades.

In May the group gratefully accepted a wealth of Chapin memorabilia from sisters Laurie Spaulding and Linda Hendrickson. Their mother was Irma Foster Farnham, and their grandmother was Gladys Chapin. Many members of the Chapin family were important historical figures in the early history of the town. The sisters are the great granddaughters of Joseph Abbott Chapin, a witty and thoughtful writer who made many contributions to Middlesex's written history. Joseph was called "the milking stool philosopher" and items donated included his handwritten notebooks as well as published articles and photographs. The group spent some time passing around pictures and listening to snippets of Joseph's writings.

Plans for 2026 include creating a Middlesex Historical Society website and completing a short play about our town's elders, inspired by the play *Worcester Voices* created in 2023 by Worcester Stalwart J. David Book. Members are exploring a stronger partnership with the Worcester Historical Society.

We are proud of our accomplishments, and our collection of valuable documents, artifacts and memorabilia continues to grow. These items document our community's history and belong to all of us; they deserve and will reward public

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

viewing but right now, we have no public space to display our town's history.

Our Society needs new members to implement our goals for 2026 and beyond. Please get in touch if you'd like to learn more about our Town, which was chartered in 1763 and settled by Thomas and Sally Mead in 1783.

Membership is open to anyone interested in Middlesex history and costs one dollar ($1) per person per year, $15 for businesses. Our goal is to help citizens increase their sense of pride in our town's traditions and their sense of responsibility in planning for the future. We do all our fundraising through book sales and dues at Town Meeting. We hope to greet our neighbors in person this spring.

Patty Wiley, President/Treasurer
Sarah Seidman, V.P./Secretary
Richard DeCosta, Director

LISTERS REPORT

There are 938 taxable properties in our town. The town-wide assessment total is $254,593.100. This is up from $253,705.000 in the previous year.

Towns are required by statute to maintain a Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) that does not exceed 115% and does not go below 85%. Our town's CLA was calculated by the State to be 65.33%. This is less than the previous year and means that property is generally listed for less than its fair market value.

Historically, education tax rates were adjusted by a municipality's CLA from the Equalization Study. Going forward, the new adjustment factor applied to education tax rates will be the CLA divided by a single "statewide adjustment" (SA). The SA is the average level of appraisal for all Vermont properties. The SA is 72.36%. Our CLA divided by the SA is 90.28%, which is the adjustment applied to our property tax bills.

The coefficient of dispersion (COD) is a measure of how fairly distributed the property tax is within your municipality. It reflects the average deviation of sales ratios (assessed value ÷ sale price) from the median. A high COD means many taxpayers in your municipality are paying more than their fair share, and many are paying less than their fair share. A COD over 20% necessitates a reappraisal (32 V.S.A. § 4041a). The COD was adjusted to 22.31%. The prior year was 17.34%. A townwide reappraisal is underway.

The number of properties enrolled in the Current Use is 100, this is unchanged from last year. The value of Current Use exemptions totals $14,222,200.

There are 10 Veteran Property Exemptions, this is unchanged from last year. The exemption for each property is $40,000 for a total of $400,000.

Five grievance hearings were held in June, resulting in no changes.

Twenty-Five residential valid sales were recorded, compared with Twenty-Six valid sales in the previous year.

Property inspections were completed by the Listers, you may see them around town this spring with the "Middlesex Listers" signs on their vehicles.

Shelly Desjardin/Samantha Beaudoin/Sean McVeigh, Middlesex Listers

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

Zoning – Some minor zoning changes were completed in 2025 to make the Industrial area west of the Village (towards Waterbury) part of the "Mixed Use" zoning district to allow limited accessory retail and restaurants in this area.

Road Signs by Rumney – We worked with the Road Foreman to improve signage near Rumney School to better mark the "School Zone." We continue to explore opportunities with neighbors to create a walking path on private lands.

Village Area – We completed a survey of Village residents to gauge interest in a possible municipal or community water system and continue to work with (and nudge) VTrans to implement temporary (and maybe in the future permanent) improvements to Route 2 to bolster business development, slow traffic and make the area safer for pedestrians.

Roads – We worked with the Town's Road Committee to obtain and implement a grant for a culvert inventory and development of a five-year road plan.

Grants – We applied for and obtained a grant for work in 2026 to begin some Town Plan updates, improve flood and erosion resilience, and update zoning.

Information – More information on our work and projects can be found on the Planning Commission page of the What's Next Middlesex website.

Respectfully,

Middlesex Planning Commission

Sandy Levine, Chair; Paula Otenti, Vice Chair; Mitch Osiecki, Secretary; David Magida; Tom Jackman.

MIDDLESEX RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Notable highlights from 2025:

- Middlesex hosted its fourth annual soccer jamboree with Grade1/2 teams from Middlesex, Worcester, Berlin, East Montpelier and Calais. Once again, we were blessed with a beautiful fall day. We had another great turnout and got lots of feedback from players and fans thanking us for putting on the event. Many thanks to the coaches and other volunteers who made the day a success.

Plans for 2026:

- Refurbishing the town basketball and tennis courts remains a high priority. We hope to move forward with this project during the summer months, including adding markings for pickleball to the tennis courts.
- In partnership with the Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District and Mad River Trout Unlimited, we have received a grant from the Patrick Leahy Lake Champlain Basin Program that will allow us to do the necessary engineering studies and cost estimates to plan for an eventual river access at the Walter Kelley Park off Route 2.

  We will be announcing details of the project in the spring and expect there will be plenty of opportunities for residents to get involved in various stages of the project.

  We expect a follow up project in 2027 will involve the actual construction of the river access and any related infrastructure.

Respectfully submitted,
Mitch Osiecki, *Recreation Director*

TOWN MEETING SOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

The Middlesex Town Meeting Solutions Committee (TMSC) is a volunteer network working since 2001 to improve participation in town meeting and civic affairs in general. We support Middlesex's local leaders on communication and public engagement, and we welcome your participation!

Town Meeting and Elections:
In preparing for March 2025 Town Meeting Day, the TMSC worked to ensure that all voters were informed and welcomed. Efforts included organizing free Town Meeting childcare (thank you, Rumney Community Connections); and coordinating free Town Meeting dinner (thanks to Sabrina Bador for making the meal, Red Hen for the bread, Persons Brothers Farm for meat for the spaghetti sauce, and neighbors for great desserts). The committee offered Town Meeting Day transportation; recruited energetic 5th-6th grade microphone runners; coordinated our annual "Welcome New Voter" letter; organized a Candidates Profile page at www.whatsnextmiddlesex.org ; and more. Many thanks to the Middlesex Community Fund for supporting town meeting with childcare and dinner!

The TMSC publicized the ORCA livestream where residents could observe Town Meeting online. (Note that between 2008-2020, the TMSC pioneered remote town meeting participation for those who could not attend in person. We plan to bring this practice back once the state has issued new guidance.)

Many thanks to all who helped make Middlesex's 2025 town meeting lively and well attended (an informal headcount showed well over 200 attendees), addressing serious issues while keeping the discussion civil and constructive.

Communication and Engagement:
The TMSC organized the first-ever "Mysteries of Middlesex Happy Hour" in January. Dozens of residents and town leaders grabbed their beverage of choice and joined this lively online event designed to invite Middlesex folks' participation and understanding of our town's committees, including volunteer opportunities.

Thanks to everyone using Front Porch Forum (FPF), the free online bulletin board and calendar. With 80 new Middlesex members (as of 1/26, we have 1,792 members), this year our town created 3,100+ posts. Middlesex's FPF launched in 2010 with a TMSC-coordinated grant, and since then Middlesex has posted 42,864 messages, from meetings and yard sales to stray pets and hummingbirds' return. Remember: FPF is a great place to air ideas but isn't designed for controversial debate—that is better accomplished at facilitated meetings. Find more at *www.FrontPorchForum.com* .

Thank You to Honi Bean Barrett, Joanne Breidenstein, Mark Bushnell, Kimberly Hagen, Kimberly Jessup, Chris and Nancy Reilly, Lauri Scharf, Bennett Shapiro, Dave Shepard, Barb and Greg Whitchurch, the Selectboard, Town Clerk, and many other supporters. **Got an idea for strengthening democracy and community?** Please contact Susan Clark at (802) 223-5824, *sclarkmountains@gmail.com.*

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH RECREATION DISTRICT

The Wrightsville Beach Recreation District (WBRD) hit its 40-year milestone this year! Formed in 1985, it is made up of the four member "District" towns of East Montpelier, Middlesex, Montpelier and Worcester. The five-member Board with representatives from each town (Montpelier has two) provides oversight of the district. Administrative and bookkeeping assistance is contracted through the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission, and a Beach Manager is responsible for operations, summer staffing, and more. Funding for the beach and park comes largely from user fees (season passes, boat and shelter rentals, entry fees), supplemented by annual contributions from member towns, Washington Electric Coop, and contracts with the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. In addition, Wrightsville Beach is supported by donations, and terrific volunteers who maintain trails and gardens, help with trucking, construction and road work, plus labor to clear trails and grounds. One sign of success is that we see second and third generations of beach goers returning annually to share the joy of the sandy beach and access to the reservoir for swimming, fishing, picnicking, boating, birdwatching, parties, disc golf and more. Wrightsville Beach is a treasured and important community recreation resource for everyone, that is enhanced by involvement and amazing support from many people.

What's new and exciting at Wrightsville Beach:

Most of you may know, Wrightsville Beach experienced closure and an unprecedented amount of damage, park-wide, during three floods in an eighteen-month period in 2023 and 2024. It was a relief in 2025, despite the concerning drought, to enjoy a relatively uneventful season and some stabilization of our revenue. We also focused on significant flood recovery efforts. The goal for those efforts is to maintain access to the beach as a vital recreational resource and regional attraction, and to minimize material losses and periods of closure after future rain events. To that end, we are in the process of replacing damaged structures with flood resilient buildings and procuring trailers that allow us to pull to safety much of the park equipment when rising water is imminent. A sturdy new, flood-resilient picnic shelter will be completed to increase available gathering spaces, in addition to ongoing refreshment of disc golf course elements, signage, roadways, and trails. The bathrooms will also see some improvement. Much progress was made in the fall of 2025 after the park closed, and the work will continue. Changes will be evident to 2026 park goers! Funding for this significant reparation of the park came from FEMA, plus a generous grant from the Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative (VOREC) Grant Program, in addition to some insurance monies from the floods. This infusion of funding for recovery and improvement of facilities goes a long way to ensure the viability of the park for years to come. Bear in mind that although things may look flashy, the park will continue

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH RECREATION DISTRICT

to be managed with limited annual operating budget, ever standing effort to keep fees down for users, and ongoing need for donations and volunteers.

Appreciations: In early 2025, long term Beach Manager Collin O'Neil stepped down from his role, after twenty-three years of steadfast management, visioning and advocacy that certainly shaped the park facility we have today. For many years Collin's was the face of the park, and we offer him a huge salute and appreciation for all of his work! A new manager was hired to fill his shoes and oversee park operations for 2025. During the transition, she received much support and involvement from the five Wrightsville Board members who volunteer to represent the member towns. A huge thank you goes to them for committing extra time and digging in this year. And of course, YOUR support as community members, expressed through volunteer work, and in other ways, has been a huge help. Thank you.

We sincerely look forward to seeing you all at the Beach in 2026!

The following five volunteer Board Members represent you and donate their time to help Wrightsville operate:

Carl Witke, *Worcester (Chair);*

Maggie Ferron, *East Montpelier;*

Aric Brown, *Middlesex*

Jon Copans & Dan Currier *(Treasurer) Montpelier.*

Jane Dudley, *Beach Director*

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

There were 35 permit applications submitted in 2025 (as compared to 48 in 2024) of which 9 were referred to the Development Review Board (DRB) for review and approval. 2025 saw 7 new dwelling units permitted compared to 19 in 2024.

Zoning Applications Approved in 2025

1	Subdivision (by DRB), 2 new lots created.
1	Boundary Line Adjustment
6	Single Family Dwellings
1	Accessory Dwelling Units
19	Residential Alterations including additions, garages, decks etc.
2	Commercial Projects
2	Day Care Facilities

Permit applications, zoning applications zoning maps and other helpful information can be found on the Town web site at middlesexvermont.org. Zoning inquiries can be sent via email to kevin.thompson@middlesexvermont.org.

Respectfully Submitted

Kevin Thompson, *Zoning Administrator*

Special Articles Over $250.00

ARTICLE 9: CENTRAL VT COUNCIL ON AGING

Central Vermont Council on Aging (CVCOA) is the designated agency serving older Vermonter's age 60 and over as well as their families and caregivers throughout the 54 towns of Central Vermont. CVCOA is a nonprofit organization that assists older adults to remain independent for as long as possible. All services are made available to our clients at no charge, without regard to health, income, or other resources.

The funding provided by the Town of Middlesex, along with the 53 other towns in our service area, is essential to CVCOA and directly supports older adults and family caregivers in leading self-determined, healthy, and dignified lives in their homes and communities. We accomplish this by connecting older adults to a wide array of benefit programs, resources, services, and healthy aging opportunities needed to thrive. We have included more information about CVCOA's programs and services following this letter.

This year's request includes an increase. We have analyzed all town funding received and clients served by town. We are making the effort to increase amounts so that each town is contributing around $22 per client served. This request for $1,050 would bring Warren's appropriation from $17.74 per client served to $21.87 per client served. I am happy to provide more information or speak more with the committee about this increased request. Thank you very much for your consideration and record of support.

All of us at CVCOA extend our gratitude to the residents of Middlesex for their ongoing commitment to the health, independence, and dignity of older adults in the community. Thank you for your contribution to making the Central Vermont communities what they are today.

Contact:
Leanne Hoppe
Director , Philanthropy and Communications
Central Vermont Council on Aging
59 N Main Street, Suite 200
Barre, VT 05641-4121
802-476-2662, lhoppe@cvcoa.org

Funding request: $1,050.00

ARTICLE 10: CENTRAL VT HOME HEALTH & HOSPICE

CVHHH provides medically necessary home health and hospice care (skilled nursing, rehab therapies, social work, licensed nursing assistant care, and end-of-life care) and supportive services (maternal child and family health care, consultative palliative care, and personal care) to Central Vermonters of all ages and at all stages of life. CVHHH serves 23 communities in Central Vermont, and care is delivered to patients wherever they call home regardless of their ability to pay or their insurance status. In 2025, CVHHH cared for 48 Middlesex residents. CVHHH supports older Vermonters in regaining their health and wellness after a hospital stay or a medical event and offers patients tools and education to maintain their independence and stay safely at home. Our work meets a significant need among Central Vermonters to access targeted healthcare and interventions in a lower-cost setting.

CVHHH reported annual operating revenue of $12,013,985 for the year ending December 31, 2024 (current audited financial statements). The value of the care provided by CVHHH's clinicians exceeds what we are reimbursed by our primary payors (Medicare and Medicaid, private insurance providers, and patient self-pay), creating an annual operational loss. Town funds from Middlesex, and the other 22 towns we serve, are critical to helping us cover this gap. We are here for our community, and we strive to do the right thing for our patients and all the communities in our service area.

CVHHH Services to the Residents of Middlesex, Vermont

Data is annualized for calendar year 2025 based on actual service data - January 1, 2025, through September 1, 2025.

Program	# of Visits
Home Health Care	**797**
Hospice Care	**384**
Long Term Care	**N/A**
Family Child Health	**18**
Palliative Care Consultative Service	**N/A**
TOTAL VISITS/CONTACTS	**1,199**
TOTAL PATIENTS	**48**
TOTAL ADMISSIONS	**56**

Contact:
Sandy Rousse, President & CEO,
Emily McKenna, Chief Advancement Officer
600 Granger Road, Barre
802-223-1878 or emckenna@cvhhh.org

Funding request: $ 4,500.00

ARTICLE 11: KELLOGG-HUBBARD LIBRARY

We are delighted to serve more than 660 patrons from Middlesex as we work to empower community members to become lifelong learners by providing easy access to materials, online resources, programs and a welcoming place. At the Kellogg-Hubbard Library, you can borrow from our physical collection of over 60,000 books, DVDs, audiobooks, magazines, newspapers, and more, our digital collection (available 24/7 online), including over 100,000 downloadable titles, and from libraries statewide. We deliver library materials to homebound patrons and to outreach sites in our member towns. For many, the library is a warm (or cool) space, a public bathroom, and a place to feel welcome.

This year, we have leaned into our goal of serving as a community hub. In FY '25 we offered 407 programs for children and teens and 83 programs for adults. 12,854 of our community members attended those programs, up 33% from last year. We are thrilled about our partnership with Elevate Youth Services to host the Basement Teen Center after school daily. This summer, we hosted a story time program at Camp Meade, and we also stock and curate a Little Free Library there. In partnership with Vermont Humanities, we are planning a program with Tina Cane, former RI poet laureate, at U-32 that will benefit Middlesex students.

We recently completed $2.5 million in building improvements, including elevating all our mechanical equipment above the flood elevation, creating two new six-person meeting rooms to meet community needs, and adding air conditioning and fresh air exchange to the building. This was all completed without the use of municipal funds.

The library's $1.2 million budget (FY '26) is funded annually through tax support from the municipalities we serve (55%), income from our endowment and reserves (24%), and private contributions and fundraisers (19%). We have increased private fundraising by nearly 35% in three years and benefitted from strong endowment returns to help limit pressure on municipal appropriations.

Our Middlesex board representative is Sarah Seidman and our Executive Director is Dan Groberg. Thank you for your continued support!

Contact:
Dan Groberg, Executive Director
Kellogg-Hubbard Library
135 Main Street
Montpelier, VT 05602
802-223-3338

Funding request: $ 38,480.00

ARTICLE 12: MONTPELIER SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER

The Montpelier Senior Activity Center provides programming for people aged 50+ and promotes lifelong learning, healthy aging, socialization, meals, and more. Our organization's mission is to enhance the quality of life for older adults in the greater Montpelier area through opportunities that develop physical, mental, cultural, social, and economic well-being in a welcoming, flexible environment.

MSAC offers around 45 classes in art, humanities, healthy living, and movement; 18 free drop-in groups like Ping Pong, ukelele, and tabletop games; and a Tuesday Community meal weekly. Technology assistance, tax preparation, foot care clinics, and more are offered as well to all our participants. We provide members with updates through our monthly newsletter, and other communications channels. MSAC partners with local community organizations to support the needs of older adults and ensure they thrive while aging in place.

The Montpelier Senior Activity Center (MSAC) respectfully requests funding of $6,000 for our annual appropriation request to your voters for Fiscal Year 2027. We thank you for considering this request. Budget information for the City of Montpelier can be found on our website: www.montpelier-vt.org. We thank the town of Middlesex for their support of our senior programming in Central Vermont!

To learn more about the Montpelier Senior Activity Center, visit our office at 58 Barre Street, go to our website at www.montpelier-vt.org/msac, call us at 802-223-2518, or email us at msac@montpelier-vt.org.

Contact:
Montpelier Senior Activity Center
58 Barre Street
Montpelier, VT 05602
802-223-2518
Email: msac@montpelier-vt.org/msac

Funding request: $ 6,000.00

ARTICLE 13: NORTH BRANCH NATURE CENTER

North Branch Nature Center's mission is Connecting People with the Natural World. For almost 30 years, NBNC has offered place-based nature education and community science programs for people of all ages, as well as free year-round access to our 28-acre preserve Montpelier, less than two miles from the Middlesex town line.

Annually, we serve more than 18,000 people who attend our programs and visit our property (activities include walking, running, picnicking, snowshoeing, skiing, biking, and swimming). Each year we serve a minimum of 250 Middlesex residents through programs including summer camps, after-school programs, Forest Preschool, and our wide array of festivals, classes, lectures, community science opportunities, and outings for youth and adults. We also have several dedicated volunteers from Middlesex who help with everything from managing invasive species, to cataloging our natural history library, to serving on our board of directors, to contributing to community science projects like our annual early spring amphibian conservation program.

NBNC is committed to making our programs open and accessible to all by keeping prices low and offering scholarships. Our buildings are fully accessible, and in 2023 we built an accessible trail and made accessibility improvements to our existing trails.

NBNC's 2026 annual budget is $1,874,376. The Middlesex appropriation will support scholarships, trail and property maintenance, and our core programs. For more information, please visit NorthBranchNatureCenter.org. Thank you for your support!

Contact:
Emily Seiffert, Deputy Director
EmilyS@NorthBranchNatureCenter.org
802.229.6206
NBNC
713 Elm Street
Montpelier, VT 05602

Funding Request: $2,500

ARTICLE 14: WATERBURY SENIOR CENTER

The Waterbury Area Senior Citizens Association (WASCA) once again needs your financial support to carry out the vital work it does to enrich the lives of seniors in Middlesex. This letter serves as our formal request for funding of $7,500. Thank you for your consideration.

Purpose/Description of our organization:
The Waterbury Area Senior Citizens Association (WASCA) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to the planning, development, and coordination of comprehensive serves for older residents in the towns of Waterbury, Middlesex, Duxbury, Bolton and Moretown, Vermont. These include nutritional programs, social and educational events, and health-promoting activities.

Annual Budget: $231,745
Federal and State Funding cover less than 40% of our overall operating expenses, making the financial support of the towns we serve so critical.

Middlesex Residents Served:
Over the last three years, an average of 1,471 meals-on-wheels were delivered annually to 14 homebound Middlesex residents.

How this funding will be spent:

- Through our partnership with Meals-on-Wheels we help seniors live independently by preparing and delivering freshly made home-cooked meals, along with a friendly "hello" and informal wellness check. Our volunteer drivers delivered over 16,000 meals in our most recent fiscal year.
- For seniors who can get out and about, our dining room and community gathering space in downtown Waterbury welcomes them Monday through Friday for a hot meal, good company and engaging activities. We also offered health clinics, educational activities and opportunities to socialize.

Contact Information:
Waterbury Area Senior Citizens Association
15 Stowe Street, Waterbury, VT 05676
(802) 244-1234
Barbara Barra, Board Chair
barbara@wasca.org

Funding request: $7,500

ARTICLE 15: YOUTH FIRST MENTORING

Youth First Mentoring supports quality mentoring relationships to ensure youth have access to nurturing mentors who help them develop into confident, responsible, and positive members of our community. YFM has provided this service since 1998 to help ensure that youth in our central Vermont community can reach their potential and to give adults opportunities to volunteer in meaningful ways.

YFM promotes healthy decision making, emotional support, and academic encouragement in the youth we serve. Through our 1:1 community-based model, youth receive vital social connections with caring, supportive adults who help them navigate adolescence. Our program also provides enrichment experiences through group activities and financial support of after-school/summer activities designed to help young people discover their interests and passions.

Currently, over twenty percent of our participants are from Middlesex (six mentees/ mentors). Our mentor pairs take walks or go on hikes, do farm chores, ride bikes, or cook together. Whether sticking to familiar, comforting activities or having new adventures, the bond between our mentor pairs is powerful. Families express how helpful it is for their children to have new opportunities and extra support from mentors, so it is integral for our youth's mental health and sense of connection.

We respectfully request $1,500. YFM's annual budget is $85,000. The contribution from the town of Middlesex will support general operating expenses.

We are so grateful for the town's support of youth mentoring! If you'd like to nominate youth for mentoring or become a mentor yourself, please contact us to learn more!

Contact:
Sally Stroiney Russell
73 Main St, #29 Montpelier, VT 05602
director@youthfirstmentoring.org
802-552-0249

Funding request: $1,500

ARTICLE 16: THE CHILDREN'S ROOM

The Children's Room appreciates annual support from the Town of Middlesex, and requests your increased support in FY 2027, at $1000.

We are a 41-year-old, volunteer-run nonprofit that serves families and caregivers with young children (birth - 6 yrs). Our drop-in center is a hub of parenting/caregiving resources, programming, playgroups and educational opportunities.

Our annual budget is $35,000. We receive no federal or state funding, instead relying on local resources and volunteers. The funds raised allow us to offer free programs to all. During the last full school year (2024/25), The Children's Room hosted over 500 families in our programs, consisting of roughly 5,448 child and adult visits, including 355 visits coming from Middlesex, an increase from previous years and a continued trend this fall. We offer:

- Drop-in play 5 days a week
- Weekly Nature Explorations
- Weekly Music & Movement class
- Weekly Friday Playgroup
- Parent and Caregiver workshops
- Special weekend events: Big Toy Night, Dabble Days, Barn Dance, Halloween party, Soccer for Little Feet, Dads Club
- Monthly playground, sledding and open gym meet ups

We will use this appropriation for programming materials, food and play space supplies. This includes art supplies, hands-on activity materials, free snacks and extra diapers for families when they visit The Children's Room. With increased participants and increased costs, our need for support has grown, and we hope that the town of Middlesex can increase its support.

Contact::
Heather LaRocca
47 Stowe Street, Waterbury, VT 05676
802-345-7837
childrensroom@huusd.org

Funding request $ 1,000.00

Special Articles Under

$ 250.00

AMERICAN RED CROSS NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND

Each year, the Red Cross responds to more than 60,000 disasters across the country, from home fires to storms and floods. We provide shelter, food, emotional support, and recovery assistance to those affected. In Northern New England, more than 1,800 trained volunteers work tirelessly to support local families, teach lifesaving skills, and maintain a safe and adequate blood supply for hospitals.

In our most recent fiscal year, we responded to 525 disasters, mostly home fires, helping nearly 2,200 people. We trained over 41,000 people in first aid, CPR, and water safety, collected more than 137,000 blood products for hospitals, and installed over 2,800 free smoke alarms to keep residents safe.

Your partnership is vital. This year, we respectfully ask you to consider a contribution of $250. With your support, we can continue to prepare residents for life's emergencies and ensure that help is available at no cost to those impacted.

Contact:
American Red Cross of Northern New England
32 North Prospect Street
Burlington, Vermont 056401
800-464-6692

Funding Request: $ 250.00

CENTRAL VT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

At CVEDC, our work continues with a clear focus: supporting Central Vermont's businesses, workforce, and communities. We remain committed to advancing regional priorities and connecting local projects with the resources they need to succeed.

Much of this past year was dedicated to assisting regional business owners and municipalities in their continued recovery from the devastating flooding in 2023 and 2024. CVEDC continues to help businesses secure recovery grants and lending, develop strategies for flood mitigation, and create financial forecasts to ensure long-term stability. As part of our regular book of services, we provide guidance on strategic pivots, as well as growth and succession planning.

Our mission is to provide this support at no cost to business owners and municipalities while promoting economic growth and the retention and creation of good, wage-paying jobs in Central Vermont.

CVEDC maintained a strong presence in Middlesex, working with several local businesses on relocation and future expansion planning. We connected them with grant opportunities and technical assistance to help position their projects for success. Middlesex is included in the Regional Project Priority solicitation, which provides an opportunity to showcase key local projects to state and federal funders.

Additionally, CVEDC continued to administer an internship program funded by the Vermont Department of Labor. This program provided participating employers with grants covering half of their interns' wages, along with ongoing support to ensure successful outcomes for both interns and businesses.

CVEDC remains focused on supporting projects, partnerships, and initiatives that strengthen Central Vermont's economic vitality. We value our shared commitment to strengthening Central Vermont's economy and ensuring a vibrant future for our region.

Contact:
Ed Larson, Interim Director
CVEDC
PO Box 1439
Montpelier, VT 05601
(802) 223-4654
Email: Info@centralvermont.org
Website: www.centralvermont.org

Funding Request: $250

CIRCLE

Circle is requesting $199 from the Town of Middlesex for FY27 to support our work with victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Enclosed with this request are our statistics from Fiscal Year 2025.

This past year reminded us every day why our work matters. Survivors across Washington County reached out to our hotline, met with advocates, participated in support groups, and took courageous steps toward safety and independence. At Circle, we ensure that anyone facing domestic or sexual violence has a place where they are seen, heard, and believed.

In FY25 (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025), our staff and volunteer advocates responded to 4,636 hotline calls. Shelter services were provided to eight women and eight children, totaling 1,696 bed nights. Our prevention programs in schools reached 19 students, and our community presentations and workshops reached 823 individuals across nine events in Washington County. Advocates supported 33 plaintiffs during Final Relief from Abuse Hearings and assisted 68 individuals in filing for temporary orders. Our Court Hour Program provided one-on-one support to 35 people preparing for their final hearings. We assisted 92 individuals with other civil legal matters, 34 of whom received support through our legal clinic referral program and supported 92 individuals whose partners faced criminal charges. Circle also held 98 support group sessions, attended by 34 unduplicated women. In total, 2,941 people, including 433 unduplicated individuals, received direct services from Circle, provided by trained staff and volunteers.

Our work relies heavily on volunteers, including Board Members, Hotline Advocates, and Shelter Support, who contributed 7,964 hours this past year.

Your support helps Circle continue to provide stability, healing, and hope to survivors in our community.

Circle's confidential, 24 hour, toll free hotline 877-543-9498

Contact:
Circle
P.O. Box 652
Barre, VT 05641

Funding request: $ 199.00

COMMUNITY HARVEST OF CENTRAL VERMONT (CHCV)

Community Harvest of Central Vermont (CHCV) brings community together through gleaning to recover surplus food grown on area farms, which is then delivered to sites that serve those with limited access to healthy, fresh local food. In the process, the community has the opportunity to gain greater awareness and appreciation of the local food system, healthy eating, and waste reduction.

CHCV partners with 100 area farms and food producers to help reduce surplus food from going to waste. Hundreds of community volunteers help glean farmers' unused produce, and we donate it to 30 area programs serving people with limited access to nutritious, fresh local food. In 2025 we helped serve more than 12,500 individuals in Washington County, of which we estimate 200 were Middlesex residents. In addition to recovering food, CHCV connects and helps community members engage with local farms by bringing people to the fields to work together and see how local food is grown.

Over the past 12 years, CHCV has recovered and donated more than 2.6 million servings of nutritious food, helping to increase food security for thousands of Central Vermonters. CHCV is the only local program helping farms donate their surplus food to community members in need.

Our FY26 budget is $236,008. Funds from the Town of Middlesex will be used to support harvesting, processing, and delivery of gleaned produce.

Community Harvest of Central Vermont
146 Lord Road
Berlin, VT 05602
802-229-4281
CommunityHarvestVT@gmail.com
www.CommunityHarvestVT.org

Funding request: $ 250.00

CENTRAL VT ADULT EDUCATION

Central Vermont Adult Education (CVAE), a community-based nonprofit organization has served the adult education and literacy needs of Middlesex residents for sixty years.

CVAE serves as Washington, Orange and Lamoille Counties' resource for free, individualized academic tutoring for adults (ages 16 - 90+) in:

- Basic skills programs: reading, writing, math, computer and financial literacy
- English Language Learning and preparation for U.S. citizenship
- High school diploma and GED credential programs
- Academic skill readiness for work, career training and/or college

Children of parents with low literacy skills have a 72% chance of being at the lowest reading levels themselves, and 70% of adult welfare recipients have low literacy levels.

By helping to end the cycle of poverty, your support changes the lives of Middlesex residents for generations to come.

Last year, 1 residents of Middlesex enrolled in CVAE's free programs, and 3 residents volunteered with us Teachers instruct students one-to-one and/or in small groups.

CVAE's total program budget for Fiscal Year 2026 is $1,711,635. One hundred percent (100%) of support from Middlesex will be used for direct student services (instruction and educational materials). It currently costs CVAE $3,805 per student to provide a full year of instruction.

For more information regarding CVAE's adult education and literacy instruction or volunteer opportunities, contact:

Barre Learning Center
46 Washington Street- Suite 100
Barre, Vermont 05641
(802) 476-4588

Montpelier Learning Center
100 State Street- Suite 3
Montpelier, Vermont 05602
(802) 223-3403

www.cvabe.org / info@cvabe.org

ELEVATE YOUTH SERVICES

Elevate Youth Services (EYS) exists to "promote safety, competence, and confidence as youth create their path through adolescence and into adulthood." We advance this mission through a comprehensive continuum of support, including youth and family counseling; emergency shelter for runaway and homeless youth; transitional living assistance; services for pregnant and parenting teens; adolescent substance use prevention and treatment; residential treatment for DCF-involved youth; teen center programming; supports for youth in foster care; and a 24-hour on-call response. Last year, two Middlesex residents accessed one or more of these essential services.

EYS has proudly supported youth and families in Middlesex for 50 years. This year's request, approximately $125 per resident served, represents only a small portion of the true cost of care. Services accessed by Middlesex residents typically involve multiple counseling sessions with licensed clinicians and, when necessary, emergency shelter that provides 24-hour supervision, meals, and transportation. For perspective, one night of emergency shelter costs roughly $50, and round-trip transportation for appointments within Middlesex averages $16 per trip.

With an annual operating budget of $2,765,933, EYS leverages state, federal, and community support to ensure that no young person goes without critical services. The $250 requested will directly offset the cost of care provided to Middlesex youth. We are deeply grateful for your continued partnership in supporting the well-being of local young people.

Elevate Youth Services, Inc.
652 Granger Road, Suite 2
Barre, VT 05641
802-229-9151
info@elevateyouthvt.org
www.elevateyouthvt.org

Funding request: $250

FAMILY CENTER OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

During our last fiscal year, July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025, we were pleased to serve 48 individuals in the Middlesex community through our child development and family support programs. In Middlesex, we assisted 3 individuals in finding childcare through our referral services and helped 12 families pay for childcare. Two children and two adults participated in weekly playgroups, 14 children received Early Intervention support for children from birth to age three, and one family benefited from Welcome Baby support. Seven individuals participated in community events, two attended parent support groups, one individual received Parents as Teachers Home Visiting support, and four used CIS childcare support.

Across Central Vermont, The Family Center served more than 3,580 individuals. Twenty-two children enrolled in our 5 STARS Early Childhood Education program, and 340 children received Early Intervention support. Forty-seven families participated in Family Support Home Visiting, while 20 families benefited from Parents as Teachers Home Visiting. We provided specialized childcare support to 200 individuals, helped 75 families find childcare, and assisted 584 families with childcare payments. Seventy-one parents received general service referrals, 28 parents and 31 children participated in parent education sessions, 299 parents and 335 children engaged in weekly playgroups, 206 parents and 214 children joined community events, and 72 parents and 27 children participated in parent support groups. Families received 21,772 diapers for 817 children, food pantry support for 210 parents and 245 children, 663 parents and 939 children received food deliveries through our gleaning program, and 1,512 ready-made meals were distributed. Two hundred seventeen parents and 340 children received financial support during hardship, and 87 families received case management for housing services.

Your support is vital. It allows us to continue serving families in Middlesex and Central Vermont and demonstrates to government agencies and foundations that our work has strong community backing. We look forward to continuing our programs in your town in the coming year.

Contact:
Family Center of Washington County
383 Sherwood Drive
Montpelier, VT 05602
802-262-3292

Funding Request: $250

GREEN MOUNTAIN TRANSIT AGENCY (GMTA)

This letter is to respectfully request **$249 in municipal funding** for Fiscal Year 2027 to support public transit services in Central Vermont. This request is level-funded from previous years and will help meet local match requirements for state and federal transit support. In State fiscal year 2025, Middlesex residents booked 107 rides to access medical and social services under our non-emergency medical transportation/older and disabled programs. This is in addition to an unknown number of riders from your town who utilized GMT's fixed route service, including the Waterbury Commuter, which passes through parts of Middlesex on Route 2.

We would also like to share with you that, **effective July 1, 2026,** public transit services in Washington County will transition from **Green Mountain Transit (GMT)** to **Tri-Valley Transit (TVT)**. This change is a positive one for our region. TVT brings decades of experience providing high-quality rural transportation across Addison, Orange, and North Windsor counties.

Riders should only notice improvements in service, along with new logos on our vehicles in the months ahead. The current Berlin-based GMT team will continue to operate locally and is looking forward to being part of the TVT family in serving our Washington County neighbors.

As TVT becomes Middlesex's official public transit provider in SFY27, we greatly appreciate your continued financial partnership to ensure reliable, accessible transportation for your residents. As does GMT, TVT relies upon contributions from communities to assist in meeting local match obligations to draw down state and federal funding. Our Washington County team is looking forward to serving you under our new organizational structure and is very grateful to have your continued financial support to assist in serving Middlesex.

Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions. Thank you for your ongoing support!

Contact:
Monica White, Director of Central Vermont Services
Green Mountain Transit
6088 VT Route 12
Berlin, Vt 05602
802-338-7065-cell

Funding Request: $ 249.00

GREEN UP VERMONT

Green Up Day was a resounding success because your community joined the statewide clean-up effort. As you can see by the stats graphic the entire State got a wonderful spring cleaning with nearly all our city and town roads covered. Businesses are more successful with clean streetscapes, our real estate more valued, and our healthy way of life cherished. As one of Vermont's favorite traditions, it is imperative for today and for future generations to keep building pride, awareness, and stewardship for a clean Vermont, and keep residents civically engaged.

Green Up initiatives are year-round and further our environmental impact with waste reduction programs, additional clean-up efforts, and educational initiatives. We've been able to rally thousands of volunteers for special projects and flood clean-up across the State.

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

We are requesting level funding for 2026

Thank you for supporting this crucial program that takes care of where we all get to live, work and play. Be an Environmental Hero – Donate on Line 23 of the Vermont State Income Tax Form or at www.greenupvermont.org.

2026 Green Up Day is May 2nd.

Green Up Vermont is a 501c3 nonprofit.

Contact:
Green Up Vermont
Kate Alberghini, Executive Director
P.O. Box 1191
Montpelier, VT 05601-1191
802-522-7245
www.greenupvermont.org

Funding request: $ 100.00

MONTPELIER VETERANS' COUNCIL

Each Memorial Day, for over 35 years, the Montpelier Vermont Veterans Council has placed over 2500 American flags and markers on Veterans graves in over 26 local cemeteries including 2 in Middlesex, Green Mount in Montpelier, 2 in East Montpelier, Kinney in Plainfield, Berlin Corner Cemetery and others.

The cost for these flags and markers has always been covered by personal donations and funds given by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 792, the American Legion Post 3 in Montpelier and the City of Montpelier, East Montpelier, Middlesex and Worcester.

Because of rising costs, we ask for assistance with this annual memorial honoring our families and friends who served our country. Unpaid volunteers place these flags and markers and consider them their privilege. We are asking for your support today in the amount of $250.00. Will you please support our effort with this donation?

Contact:
Carole Baker, Secretary/Treasurer
Montpelier Veterans Council
21 Main Street
Montpelier, VT 05602
802-229-9073

Funding request: $ 250.00

MOSAIC VERMONT

Each Memorial Day, for over 35 years, the Montpelier Vermont Veterans Council has placed over 2500 American flags and markers on Veterans graves in over 26 local cemeteries including 2 in Middlesex, Green Mount in Montpelier, 2 in East Montpelier, Kinney in Plainfield, Berlin Corner Cemetery and others.

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Contact:
Carole Baker, Secretary/Treasurer
Montpelier Veterans Council
21 Main Street
Montpelier, VT 05602
802-229-9073

Funding request: $ 250.00

OUR HOUSE OF CENTRAL VERMONT

OUR House of Central Vermont, a non-profit Children's Advocacy Center and Special Investigations Unit in Barre, serves all of Washington County and those who experience sexually violent crimes here. Our mission is to make sure that individuals of any age who have faced sexual abuse or other violent crimes are welcomed into a secure and comforting space. Our team of trauma-informed professionals ensures a supportive and child-friendly environment where those impacted can openly address their experiences. We offer free access to timely investigations and ongoing advocacy services to assist individuals affected by violence and abuse.

We use a multidisciplinary approach, collaborating closely with the Department for Children and Families, Law Enforcement, the State's Attorney's Office, CVMC, MOSAIC, and other local organizations to conduct child-friendly investigations led by trauma-trained staff. Additionally, we offer on-site therapy, case management, crisis calls, advocacy, and training for children, adult victims, and caregivers.

In 2024-2025, OUR House provided services to every town in Washington County, including 83 forensic interviews, case management to 116 families, and just under 500 therapy sessions. This year, we had an increase in young child victims, with most of them being under the age of 6.

National data shows that each case handled by a CAC/SIU saves local police departments and towns about $1,000 per case at a minimum. By supporting OUR House, towns save on direct costs and staff training.

OUR House does not track the location of residency when someone receives our services, as crimes are tracked based on where the crime itself occurs, and not on where a victim and their family live. All services are provided at zero cost to families and caregivers for as long as they wish to remain in contact with us.

Thank you for your commitment to our mission and community

Contact:
Rebecca Duranleau, Executive Director
OUR House of Central Vermont, Inc>
38 Summer Street
Barre, VT 05641
802-622-0821

Funding request: $ 250.00

VT ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

For many years, the town of Middlesex has supported our mission to help Vermonters with visual impairments to be more independent, cultivate adaptive skills, and improve their quality of life. With your help, the Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (VABVI) has completed another successful year. Thank you for your ongoing support!

An estimated 14,000 Vermonters are currently blind or visually impaired. As the "Baby Boomer" generation ages, this number is expected to increase to at least 25,000 by 2030. We anticipate that the increase in demand for our services will continue well into the future. Our neighbors, family and friends are among those who may be coping with vision loss.

It costs VABVI approximately $1,000 to provide one year of service to each adult client. In Fiscal Year 2025, the agency provided services to a total of 1,061 Vermont residents. While we did not serve any Middlesex residents this Fiscal Year, we have in the past and certainly will in the future. Please consider contributing to our agency and investing in the well-being of the community.

We hope that Middlesex will consider supporting VABVI again this year with an allocation of $249 to help fund our services in your township.

Contact:
Damaris Jacques, Development Associate
60 Kimball Avenue
South Burlington, VT
802-863-1358 ext. 219
djacques@vabvi.org

Funding request: $ 249.00

VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (VCIL)

For over 46 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'25 (10/2024-9/2025) 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 126 individuals to help increase their independent living skills and our VCIL's Home Access Program (HAP) assisted 229 households with information on technical assistance and/or alternative funding for modifications; 96 of these received financial assistance to make their bathrooms and/or entrances accessible. Our Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF) provided 71 individuals with information on assistive technology; 30 of these individuals received funding to obtain adaptive equipment. 530 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 15 people and provided 11 peers with adaptive telecommunications enabling low-income Deaf, Deaf-blind, Hard of Hearing and individuals with disabilities to communicate by telephone. A one-year grant through the Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living (DAIL) enabled us to establish the Assistive Technology/Home Modifications (AT/HM) Fund for items to increase peer's independence (AT) and remove peers from our HAP waiting list for modifications (HM).

During our FY'25, 4 residents of Middlesex received services from the following programs, Assistive Technology Fund, Peer Advocacy Counseling Program and Information Referral and Assistance (I,R&A).

Contact:
Vermont Center for Independent Living
11 East State Street,
Montpelier, VT 05602
800-639-1522

Funding request: $ 195.00

VERMONT FAMILY NETWORK

The mission of the Vermont Family Network is to empower and support all Vermont families of children with special needs. Formed in 2008 when two organizations, the Vermont Parent Information Center (VPIC) and Parent to Parent (P2P) merged, Vermont Family Network (VFN) has collectively served the families of Vermont for more than 30 years and created a virtual "one stop shop" for families of children with disabilities and special health needs, including mental health, and the providers who serve them.

VFN is writing to you today to ask for your support in continuing to serve families in Middlesex and throughout the state, with an appropriation of $250. Traditionally primarily funded through state and federal grants, VFN finds that waning funds threaten to slow our work and minimize the number of families we can support. We are reaching out to communities like Middlesex where we have served families navigating the complexities of raising children with disabilities and/or special health needs, including mental health, to seek your help. Your appropriation will help ensure the work we are able to do all around the state continues to happen with the same excellence and care that it has had for the past 30 years.

We are proud to serve over 1400 families yearly with expert information, referral and assistance services provided by family support consultants located in Williston, Newport and Rutland, an annual conference and much more through our Family Support Program. VFN's administrative costs are very low at 10%, enabling VFN to allocate most of the funds it receives directly to the families in Vermont we serve.

Vermont Family Network is also home to Puppets in Education, an educational puppetry team who teach children and parents all around the state about important topics like bullying prevention, child abuse prevention and disability awareness through engaging performances that emphasize compassion, respect, effective leadership and communication. Each year over 8,000 children and professionals' benefit from one of these educational programs.

Thank you so much for your consideration. The funding received will go a long way to ensuring our ability to continue to provide the much-needed services to families across the state

Contact:
Michelle Kessler, Director of Operations
Vermont Family Network
600 Blair Park Road, Suite 240
Williston, Vermont 05495
Michelle.Kessler@vtfn.org
Cell 802-363-7522 if you have any questions.

Funding request: $ 250.00

WASHINGTON COUNTY DIVERSION PROGRAM, INC.

The Washington County Diversion Program (WCDP) is a local non-profit organization that provides a range of restorative justice programs for the communities within Washington County. WCDP addresses unlawful behavior, supports victims of crime and promotes a healthy community. We follow a balanced and restorative justice model that strives to put right the wrongs that have been done and address the needs of all stakeholders, including the victim, the community and those who violated the law, holding the latter accountable in a manner that promotes responsible behavior.

WCDP runs six separate programs: Court Diversion (adult and youth), the Youth Substance Awareness Safety Program, the Balanced and Restorative Justice Program, the Tamarack Program, Pretrial Monitoring and the Driving with License Suspended Program. During Fiscal Year 2025, WCDP's with 561 participants across those programs.

Due to a heavy caseload, the financial and volunteer support of our local communities is critical to our success. Thank you for providing the support for the work that you have done in the past, and for taking the time to consider this request.

We would welcome any Middlesex residents who'd like to volunteer with us! Please contact us if you are interested in volunteering on our Community Restorative Panel.

Contact:
Meg Rizzo, Executive Director
322 North Main Street, Suite 5
Barre VT 05641
Meg@wcdp-vt.org
802-479-1900 x3

Funding request: $ 250.00

2025 BIRTHS

Name	Name
Tilley Bolduc	Isabelle MacBeath
Bennett Brown	Harper Mehl
Enora Bruchez	Juniper Pratt
Mabel Charland	Niko Sharpe
Sylvan Craven	Wilhelmina Tormey
Ezra & Oren Gonzalez-Cohen	Wendell Vandette

2025 DEATHS

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Age
Baker	Carol	Lee	80 Years
Baker	Christopher	Allen	59 Years
Carlson	Cindy	S.	67 Years
Fitzgerald	Paul	L.	67 Years
French	Carl	Rand	76 Years
Goslant	Elizabeth	A.	91 Years
Hickory	Erwin	Frank	77 Years
Kemp	Iona	Christine	61 Years
LeClair	Brenda	Lee	61 Years
Peatman	Phillip	Alan	77 Years
Ruth	Christine	P.	90 Years
Walther	Lynne	L.	83 Years
Whitehead Jr.	Robert	Henry	76 Years

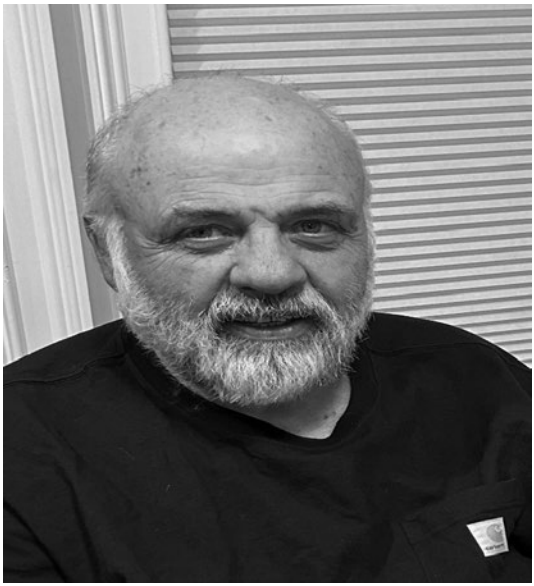
2025 MARRIAGES

Names	Date
Alexander Craven and Maija Lawrence	January 22, 2025
Dustin Cressman and Natasha Stevens	January 24, 2025
Andrew Bonanno and Heather Thayer	July 19, 2025
Kenneth Carby and Laurena Wise	July 27, 2025
Carl French and Lisa Deschamps	August 8, 2025
Phillip Comen and Susan Evans	August 23, 2025
Travis Nutting and Jennifer Tuttle	August 25, 2025
Richard Colburn III and Ashley Hanson	November 01,2025
David Sinclair and Isabel Caldwell	November 11,2025

"It is not the qualified voters, but the qualified Voters who chose to Vote, that constitute Political Power" Quote by Abraham Lincoln

DEDICATION

The 2025 Town Report is dedicated to two longtime Middlesex residents who retired from public service this year: Victor Dwyer and Janet McKinstry. Their decades of commitment, integrity, and care have helped shape Middlesex into the community it is today.



Victor Dwyer

Vic Dwyer was raised in Middlebury and has lived in Middlesex since the early 1970s. On a crisp fall day, you might find him sliding logs through the wood chopper from hardwoods harvested from his land. That same Self-reliant hands-on spirit characterized his many years of public service. Beginning in 1974 and retiring in 2025, Vic served the Town of Middlesex in numerous volunteer roles, including Lister, Select Board member (over multiple terms), Justice of the Peace, and Road Commissioner. Known for his strong convictions and thoughtful independence, Vic brought his self-reliant spirit and professional expertise in road management in his volunteer capacity. He was never afraid to question assumptions or offer a different perspective, always with the goal of doing what's best for the town and making it an affordable place to live. We are grateful for the many hours he volunteered in service making Middlesex a better place for all. Thank you, Vic!

DEDICATION



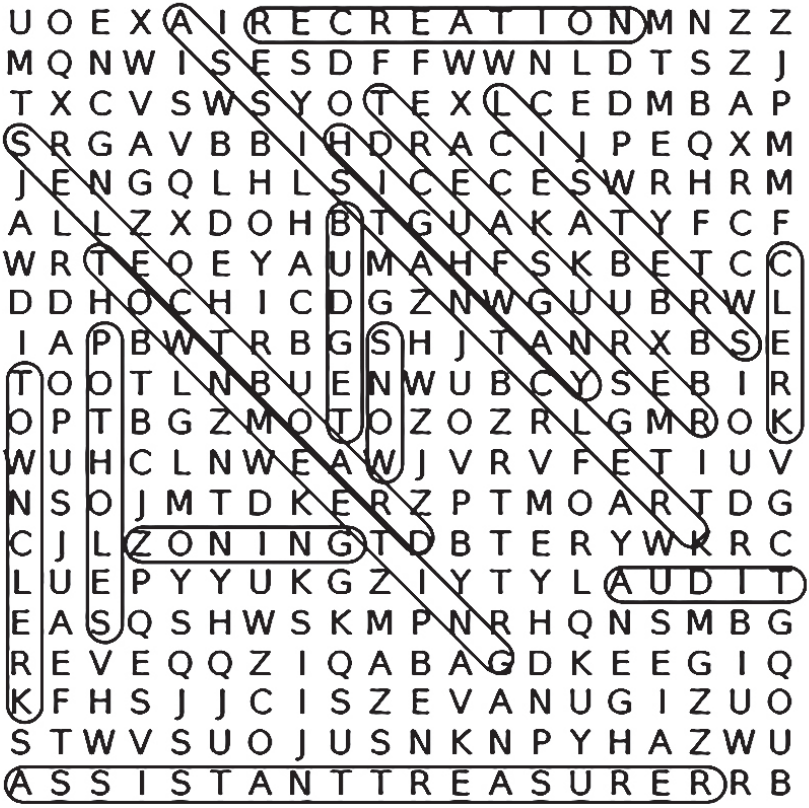
Janet McKinstry

Janet and her husband Lyle of 60 years (congratulations!) moved to Middlesex in 1968. A lifelong Vermonter, Janet worked at National Life, Rumney School, and as a homemaker while giving many years of dedicated service to the Town since 1996 in the roles of Lister, Assistant Town Clerk, and longtime member of the Cemetery Commission. In her role on the cemetery commission, she left a legacy with her efforts to map the Town cemeteries and publish books with mapping details. Known for her professionalism and exacting standards, she brought organization and reliability to her work, and was a steady, capable support to the Town Clerk. In the words of former Clerk June Lakin, as reported in the 2006 town report, Janet helped run the office like an "efficient machine". Janet's commitment to the Town and her strong sensibility were constant. As her daughter-in-law Julie can attest, family is everything to Janet and brings her happiness, as beautifully captured in this photo of her with her great granddaughter. We are grateful for the many ways her service benefited the Town, and we wish her well in her retirement from town service. Thank you, Janet!

In Memory of Mary Just Skinner 07/01/1946- 01/09/2026



Town Meeting Word Search



AssistantTreasurer	Assistant Clerk	Town Meeting
Recreation	SelectBoard	Treasurer
Potholes	Highway	TownClerk
Budget	Zoning	Audit
Listers	Snow	Clerk

TOWN OF MIDDLESEX
5 Church Street
Middlesex, VT 05602