

**TOWN OF WAITSFIELD**  
**SELECTBOARD AGENDA FOR**  
**Monday, January 26th, 2026 | 6:30 PM**  
**Location: Waitsfield Town Office**  
**(Please see access details below)**

**Selectboard Members**

Brian Shupe, Chair  
Larissa Ursprung, V.C.  
David Babbott-Klein  
Chach Curtis  
Fred Messer

**Town Administrator**  
York Haverkamp

**Town Clerk**  
Jennifer R. Peterson

**Town Treasurer**  
Steve Lewis

**Planning & Zoning  
Administrator**  
J.B. Weir

**Road Foreman**  
Josh Rogers

**Fire Chief**  
Jared Young

**Waitsfield Town Office**  
4144 Main Street  
Waitsfield, VT 05673  
(802) 496-2218  
www.waitsfieldvt.gov

**I. Call to Order: 6:30 P.M.**

1. Additions, removals or modifications to the meeting agenda pursuant to 1 V.S.A. §312(d)(3)(A)

2. Public forum

**II. Regular Business.**

1. Contract for limited surveying services – Wu Ledges (Glenn Towne)

2. Final Review and Appropriations

a. Appropriations

b. Finalizing the Budget – Final Review

3. Review and Approval of 2026 Town Meeting Warning

4. Consent Agenda

a. Warrant

b. Minutes 1.19.2026

5. Town Administrator's Report

6. Selectboard Roundtable

7. Executive Session – Pending or Probable Litigation

Discussion and potential action to enter Executive Session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(E) to discuss pending or probable civil litigation or a prosecution to which the Town is or may be a party, as premature public knowledge would place the Town at a substantial disadvantage.

**IV. Adjourn**

**\*PLEASE NOTE: Public Access to this meeting will be hybrid, remote via Zoom or in person at**

**the Waitsfield Town Office. For remote access, please use the following link:**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82056117089>**

**Meeting ID: 820 5611 7089**

**By phone: 1 (929) 205-6099**

**Anyone wishing to speak can do so during the designated times, or as indicated by the chair.**

## Town Administrators Report

1.26.2026

As we wrap up a month full of meetings, collaboration, and sustained effort, I'm pleased to share this meeting packet. This budget season has required thoughtful work from many people, and together we've taken great care to craft a budget that responsibly supports the Town's needs - both for the coming year and for the years ahead. I am deeply grateful for the guidance, insight, and support so many have offered throughout this process.

Thank you and peace

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### **Contract for Limited Surveying Services – Wu Ledges (Glenn Towne)**

The Town has been working to clarify boundary information and property-related documentation for the Wu Ledges Town Forest. Accurate surveying and deed research are essential to resolving long-standing questions related to parcels adjacent to Town land, historic boundary descriptions, and any potential encroachments or inconsistencies.

To advance this work, staff have prepared a Contract for Limited Services with Glenn Towne, a professional land surveyor based in Waterbury. This contract covers Phase 1, which includes:

- Deed and land record research
- Review of historical documents and boundary descriptions
- Development of preliminary conclusions
- Creation of a preliminary sketch depicting findings

The agreed cost for Phase 1 is \$3,000, payable upon delivery of the Phase 1 materials. Work would take place between February and May 2026.

This initial phase does not include field surveying, monumentation, or the production of a stamped survey plat. Depending on the results, the Town may choose to engage in a Phase 2 field survey at a later date. The contract also clarifies that the surveyor is an independent contractor and outlines standard terms regarding compensation, termination, indemnification, and optional insurance.

Staff recommend that the Selectboard review and consider approval of this contract so that the Town may continue its efforts to bring clarity to the Wu Ledges boundary records and ensure accurate documentation moving forward.

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## **Final Review and Appropriations**

### **a. Appropriations**

Discussion of all requested appropriations, including statutory and petitioned requests, and confirmation of final amounts to be included in the FY2026 municipal budget and Town Meeting Warning. There are two new appropriation requests: Hannah's House with a request of \$4,000. And Our House of Central Vermont with a request for \$100.

### **b. Finalizing the Budget – Final Review**

Review and final approval of the complete FY2026/27 municipal budget, including operating expenses, revenues, and any final adjustments prior to its inclusion in the Town Meeting Warning.

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## **Executive Session – Potential Legal Challenges**

### **Recommended Motion:**

"I move that the Selectboard enter Executive Session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(E) to discuss potential legal challenges, as premature public knowledge would place the Town at a substantial disadvantage."

TOWN OF WAITSFIELD, VT

FY26 General Fund Budget -- Expenditure Detail

For Town Meeting 2025

	Item	FY24 Actual	FY25 actual	FY26 Budget	FY27 Proposed	Change (FY26 to FY27)	% Change
1	<b><u>EXPENDITURES</u></b>						
2	<b><u>Elections &amp; Town Meeting</u></b>						
3	Election Expense	\$ 268.54	\$ 59	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -	0%
4	Town Report	\$ 1,042.16	\$ 2,902	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,200	\$ (300)	-20%
5	Ballot Clerks	\$ 1,243.97	\$ 406	\$ 1,750	\$ 2,100	\$ 350	20%
6	<b><u>Section TOTAL</u></b>	<b>\$ 2,554.67</b>	<b>\$ 3,367</b>	<b>\$ 3,750</b>	<b>\$ 3,800</b>	<b>\$ 50</b>	<b>1%</b>
7	<b><u>Legal and Auditing</u></b>						
8	Legal	\$ 15,184.82	\$ 16,789	\$ 16,000	\$ 16,000	\$ -	0%
9	Auditing	\$ 19,000.00	\$ 19,500	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ -	0%
10	<b><u>Section TOTAL</u></b>	<b>\$ 34,184.82</b>	<b>\$ 36,289</b>	<b>\$ 36,000</b>	<b>\$ 36,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>0%</b>
11	<b><u>Town Office Operations</u></b>						
12	Insurance and Bonds	\$ 18,083.51	\$ 24,649	\$ 23,100	\$ 23,100	\$ -	0%
13	Office Utilities	\$ 1,085.60	\$ 3,640	\$ 5,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 1,000	20%
14	Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 1,074.58	\$ 7,586	\$ 9,000	\$ 14,000	\$ 5,000	56%
15	Postage	\$ 3,340.85	\$ 3,223	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,500	\$ (500)	-10%
16	Supplies	\$ 7,540.17	\$ 6,105	\$ 8,000	\$ 7,000	\$ (1,000)	-13%
17	Computer Services	\$ 4,580.02	\$ 6,601	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ -	0%
18	Training	\$ 677.95	\$ 60	\$ 750	\$ 750	\$ -	0%
19	Cleaning	\$ 9,270.00	\$ 11,250	\$ 10,000	\$ 11,400	\$ 1,400	14%
20	Equip. Maint. & Contracts	\$ 14,458.05	\$ 11,356	\$ 16,000	\$ 16,000	\$ -	0%
21	Telephone & Internet	\$ 5,965.00	\$ 5,431	\$ 6,000	\$ 5,600	\$ (400)	-7%
22	Office Equipment	\$ 74.99	\$ 838	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ -	0%
23	Public Notice Expense	\$ 8,577.12	\$ 5,543	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,500	\$ 500	10%
24	Special Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,500	\$ (2,500)	-50%
25	<b><u>Section TOTAL</u></b>	<b>\$ 74,727.84</b>	<b>\$ 86,282</b>	<b>\$ 104,350</b>	<b>\$ 107,850</b>	<b>\$ 3,500</b>	<b>3%</b>
26	<b><u>Town Clerk and Treasurer</u></b>						
27	Salaries	\$ 131,890.57	\$ 125,748	\$ 114,758	\$ 116,500	\$ 1,742	2%
28	Admin & Board Assistant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
29	Borrowing Interest	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ -	0%
30	<b><u>Section TOTAL</u></b>	<b>\$ 131,890.57</b>	<b>\$ 125,748</b>	<b>\$ 115,008</b>	<b>\$ 116,750</b>	<b>\$ 1,742</b>	<b>2%</b>
31	<b><u>Selectboard</u></b>						
32	Selectboard Reimbursement	\$ 3,250.00	\$ 3,250	\$ 5,250	\$ 5,250	\$ -	0%
33	Town Website	\$ 823.00	\$ 1,928	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,200	\$ 200	10%
34	Town Admin. Salary	\$ 60,528.00	\$ 49,528	\$ 90,000	\$ 93,621	\$ 3,621	4%
35	Training	\$ 30.00	\$ 88	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -	0%
36	Mileage Reimbursement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
37	SB Recording Secretary	\$ 1,550.00	\$ 1,250	\$ 2,250	\$ 2,250	\$ -	0%
38	Communications	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
39	Wastewater Project [NEW FY25]	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
40	<b><u>Section TOTAL</u></b>	<b>\$ 66,181.00</b>	<b>\$ 56,044</b>	<b>\$ 100,000</b>	<b>\$ 103,821</b>	<b>\$ 3,821</b>	<b>4%</b>
41	<b><u>Planning &amp; Zoning</u></b>						
42	PC/DRB Recording Secretary	\$ 1,305.00	\$ 1,288	\$ 1,750	\$ 1,750	\$ -	0%

	Item	FY24 Actual	FY25 actual	FY26 Budget	FY27 Proposed	Change (FY26 to FY27)	% Change
43	Special Planning Projects	\$ 5,037.06	\$ 852	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
44	Town Plan	\$ -	\$ 43,192	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
45	Salaries	\$ 68,946.15	\$ 65,943	\$ 72,536	\$ 75,076	\$ 2,540	4%
46	Training	\$ 150.43	\$ 181	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -	0%
47	Computer Equipment/Service	\$ 1,068.98	\$ 1,054	\$ 1,500	\$ 500	\$ (1,000)	-67%
48	Mileage Reimbursement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ -	0%
49	<b>Section TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 76,507.62</b>	<b>\$ 112,511</b>	<b>\$ 76,536</b>	<b>\$ 78,076</b>	<b>\$ 1,540</b>	<b>2%</b>
50	<i>Board of Listers</i>					\$ -	
51	Assessor Services	\$ 23,029.04	\$ 22,292	\$ 26,500	\$ 26,500	\$ -	0%
52	Computer Equipment/Service	\$ 3,169.21	\$ 2,133	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,000	\$ (1,000)	-25%
53	Property Map Maintenance	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 3,300	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ -	0%
54	Training and Meetings	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ -	0%
55	Professional Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -	0%
56	<b>Section TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 27,698.25</b>	<b>\$ 27,725</b>	<b>\$ 33,200</b>	<b>\$ 32,200</b>	<b>\$ (1,000)</b>	<b>-3%</b>
57	<i>Delinquent Tax Collector</i>					\$ -	
58	Collector Fees	\$ 9,837.61	\$ 16,211	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ -	0%
59	<b>Section TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 9,837.61</b>	<b>\$ 16,211</b>	<b>\$ 10,000</b>	<b>\$ 10,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>0%</b>
60	<i>Conservation Commission</i>					\$ -	
61	Conservation Special Projects	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,428	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	0%
62	<b>Section TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,428</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>		<b>0%</b>
63	<i>Road Department</i>						
64	<i>Labor</i>						
65	Salaries	\$ 209,573.92	\$ 234,425	\$ 283,046	\$ 293,176	\$ 10,130	4%
66	Overtime	\$ 26,200.05	\$ 35,739	\$ 35,381	\$ 36,796	\$ 1,415	4%
67	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$ 235,773.97</b>	<b>\$ 270,163</b>	<b>\$ 318,427</b>	<b>\$ 329,972</b>	<b>\$ 11,545</b>	<b>4%</b>
68	<i>Equipment Operations/Repairs</i>					\$ -	
69	Road Department Insurance	\$ 10,221.75	\$ 9,172	\$ 11,200	\$ 11,648	\$ 448	4%
70	Gas	\$ 4,236.26	\$ 3,992	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ -	0%
71	Oil, Grease, and Filters	\$ 6,065.01	\$ 3,122	\$ 6,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 2,000	33%
72	Diesel	\$ 31,811.74	\$ 29,940	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	\$ -	0%
73	2020 International Dump Truck	\$ 2,813.71	\$ 2,821	\$ 1,500	\$ 2,000	\$ 500	33%
74	2021 Tandem (Dump Truck)	\$ 1,283.30	\$ 2,695	\$ 1,500	\$ 2,000	\$ 500	33%
75	2021 GMC 3500	\$ 590.85	\$ 2,201	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ -	0%
76	2010 Low Pro Truck	\$ 420.00		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
77	2009 John Deere Loader	\$ 2,118.83	\$ 2,657	\$ 3,500	\$ -		
78	Ford Chloride Truck	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ -	0%
79	2021 John Deere Grader	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ -	0%
80	2021 Cat Backhoe	\$ 2,640.02	\$ -	\$ 4,500	\$ 1,500	\$ (3,000)	-67%
81	new 2025 taking over the HV (25' single axle)				\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	
82	2018 HV Truck (Low-Pro)	\$ 3,445.55	\$ 14,322	\$ 2,500	\$ -		0%
83	Ventrac	\$ 399.07	\$ 955	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -	0%
84	Roadside Mower	\$ 3,500.28	\$ 874	\$ 3,000	\$ 750	\$ (2,250)	-75%
85	Steel Pole Saw/Chainsaw	\$ 413.96	\$ 97	\$ 1,200	\$ 750	\$ (450)	-38%
86	Garage Repairs	\$ 2,335.63	\$ 2,122	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ -	0%
87	Garage Trash Removal	\$ 1,896.00	\$ 2,042	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,600	\$ (400)	-13%
88	Uniforms Services	\$ 8,980.81	\$ 6,499	\$ 3,500	\$ 4,000	\$ 500	14%

	Item	FY24 Actual	FY25 actual	FY26 Budget	FY27 Proposed	Change (FY26 to FY27)	% Change
89	Uniforms Materials	\$ -	\$ 522	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ -	0%
90	Heat	\$ 3,985.43	\$ 4,683	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,500	\$ 500	13%
91	Telephone	\$ 2,600.64	\$ 2,553	\$ 2,600	\$ 2,600	\$ -	0%
92	Electricity	\$ 229.44	\$ 2,485	\$ 1,900	\$ 2,500	\$ 600	32%
93	Garage Supplies/Hardware	\$ 4,970.22	\$ 5,514	\$ 4,500	\$ 5,000	\$ 500	11%
94	Chipper/Rake	\$ 798.86	\$ 476	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,750	\$ (750)	-30%
95	Alarm System	\$ 252.00	\$ 968	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -	0%
96	Water Service	\$ 590.00	\$ 590	\$ 630	\$ 630	\$ -	0%
97	Plow Blades and Shoes.	\$ 9,082.86	\$ 6,634	\$ 10,500	\$ 10,500	\$ -	0%
98	Tire Chains [NEW]	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,500	\$ 500	13%
99	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$ 105,682.22</b>	<b>\$ 107,939</b>	<b>\$ 122,530</b>	<b>\$ 119,228</b>	<b>\$ 2,698</b>	<b>2%</b>
100	<i>Hired Equipment and Labor</i>						
101	Ventrac storage - one time	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	
102	Grading	\$ 460.00	\$ -	\$ 300	\$ 500	\$ 200	67%
103	Contract Services	\$ 9,675.00	\$ 21,799	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	\$ -	0%
104	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$ 10,135.00</b>	<b>\$ 21,799</b>	<b>\$ 12,300</b>	<b>\$ 22,500</b>	<b>\$ 10,200</b>	<b>83%</b>
105	<i>Materials</i>						
106	Salt	\$ 31,356.35	\$ 50,996	\$ 50,000	\$ 40,000	\$ (10,000)	-20%
107	Sand	\$ 65,278.00	\$ 73,614	\$ 75,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 15,000	20%
108	Chloride	\$ -	\$ 10,784	\$ 16,000	\$ 16,000	\$ -	0%
109	Crushed Gravel	\$ 27,538.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
110	Stone	\$ 9,860.00	\$ 6,391	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ -	0%
111	Culverts	\$ 9,986.54	\$ 13,478	\$ 15,000	\$ 17,500	\$ 2,500	17%
112	Guardrails	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -	0%
113	Tools	\$ 5,521.45	\$ 1,691	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	0%
114	Signs	\$ 1,186.38	\$ 1,183	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ -	0%
115	Fabric	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -	0%
116	Cold Patch, Hay, and Seed	\$ 2,346.99	\$ 2,048	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ -	0%
117	Waste Blocks	\$ 990.00	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ -	0%
118	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$ 154,064.21</b>	<b>\$ 160,185</b>	<b>\$ 189,000</b>	<b>\$ 196,500</b>	<b>\$ 7,500</b>	<b>4%</b>
119	<i>Miscellaneous</i>						
120	Fayston Winter Agreement	\$ 12,595.65	\$ 24,345	\$ 12,500	\$ 13,261	\$ 761	6%
121	Sidewalk Maintenance/Repairs	\$ 61.82	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
122	Tree Cutting	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
123	Bridge Repairs	\$ 3,616.64	\$ 70,770	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -	0%
124	Gravel Pit Management	\$ -	\$ 160	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -	0%
125	Culvert and Road Inventory	\$ -	\$ -				
126	Line Painting	\$ -	\$ 1,200	\$ 4,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,000	25%
127	Street Lights	\$ 5,722.82	\$ 6,127	\$ 5,700	\$ 5,700	\$ -	0%
128	Bridge Lights	\$ 309.91	\$ 249	\$ 800	\$ 500	\$ (300)	-38%
129	Radios	\$ 335.58	\$ 578	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,500	\$ (500)	-25%
130	Training	\$ 40.00	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -	0%
131	MRGP/State Roads Permit	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 1,350	\$ 1,850	\$ 1,850	\$ -	0%
132	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$ 24,032.42</b>	<b>\$ 104,779</b>	<b>\$ 29,350</b>	<b>\$ 30,311</b>	<b>\$ 961</b>	<b>3%</b>
133	<b>Section TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 529,687.82</b>	<b>\$ 664,865</b>	<b>\$ 671,607</b>	<b>\$ 698,511</b>	<b>\$ 1,161</b>	<b>0%</b>
134	<i>Employee Benefits</i>						

	Item	FY24 Actual	FY25 actual	FY26 Budget	FY27 Proposed	Change (FY26 to FY27)	% Change
135	FICA/Medicare	\$ 39,562.28	\$ 39,543	\$ 44,893	\$ 48,279	\$ 3,386	8%
136	Medicare	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
137	Retirement (VMERS)	\$ 34,548.02	\$ 32,282	\$ 39,612	\$ 42,252	\$ 2,640	7%
138	Act 76 Childcare Tax	\$ -	\$ 2,399	\$ 2,426	\$ 2,610	\$ 184	8%
139	Unemployment	\$ 228.00	\$ 547	\$ 700	\$ 700	\$ -	0%
140	Worker's Compensation	\$ 20,654.25	\$ 21,943	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,220	\$ 220	1%
141	Health Insurance	\$ 99,136.38	\$ 102,954	\$ 192,010	\$ 159,911	\$ (32,099)	-17%
142	Life and Disability	\$ 2,670.33	\$ 2,170	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ -	0%
143	Vision	\$ 439.64	\$ 261	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ -	0%
144	Dental	\$ 2,589.92	\$ 2,892	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,200	\$ 200	7%
145	<b>Section TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 199,828.82</b>	<b>\$ 204,991</b>	<b>\$ 310,141</b>	<b>\$ 284,672</b>	<b>\$ (25,469)</b>	<b>-8%</b>
146	<u>Fire Department</u>						
147	Gas, Oil, and Grease	3,150.93	\$ 2,685	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,400	\$ 400	10%
148	Insurance	11,530.99	\$ 14,124	\$ 12,800	\$ 14,200	\$ 1,400	11%
149	Telephone and Dispatch	30,767.46	\$ 24,003	\$ 32,000	\$ 33,000	\$ 1,000	3%
150	Capital West Reserve Contribution	9,534.67	\$ 9,654	\$ 9,535	\$ 10,500	\$ 965	10%
151	Radio and Radio Repairs	4,804.96	\$ 1,409	\$ 8,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 4,000	50%
152	Electricity	34.68	\$ 2,549	\$ 2,600	\$ 3,000	\$ 400	15%
153	Heat	5,396.72	\$ 6,687	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,500	\$ 500	8%
154	Water Service	590.00	\$ 590	\$ 600	\$ 600	\$ -	0%
155	Building Repair and Supplies	12,423.08	\$ 10,836	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	\$ -	0%
156	Alarm	0.00	\$ -	\$ 400	\$ 500	\$ 100	25%
157	Truck Repairs	15,345.04	\$ 26,855	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ -	0%
158	Equipment Repairs	3,607.73	\$ 3,305	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,500	\$ 500	8%
159	Bottled Gas	0.00	\$ 16	\$ 400	\$ 400	\$ -	0%
160	Training	4,641.06	\$ 21,744	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ -	0%
161	Hose and Equipment	6,972.80	\$ 4,351	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ -	0%
162	Gear	13,858.40	\$ 9,451	\$ 12,000	\$ 11,000	\$ (1,000)	-8%
163	Fire Prevention	1,150.77	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,000	100%
164	Miscellaneous	598.09	\$ 426	\$ 750	\$ 500	\$ (250)	-33%
165	Dues	0.00	\$ 400	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -	0%
166	Physical Exams (repurpose for community c	0.00	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ -	\$ (1,500)	-100%
167	Labor	36,631.00	\$ 50,922	\$ 49,950	\$ 51,000	\$ 1,050	2%
168	FICA	2,958.34	\$ 5,202	\$ 3,825	\$ 5,200	\$ 1,375	36%
169	Ladder/Hose Testing	3,451.32	\$ 1,910	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ -	0%
170	Administrative Time	5,290.00	\$ 5,607	\$ 5,750	\$ 5,750	\$ -	0%
171	<b>Section TOTAL</b>	<b>172,738.04</b>	<b>\$ 202,726</b>	<b>\$ 216,110</b>	<b>\$ 226,050</b>	<b>\$ 9,940</b>	<b>5%</b>
172	<u>Public Safety</u>						
173	Sheriff's Department Billing	\$ 29,211.88	\$ 31,101	\$ 38,012	\$ 39,550	\$ 1,538	4%
174	Animal Control Officer formerly Dog Ward	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,500	\$ 500	50%
175	Dog Pound Fees	\$ -	\$ 25	\$ 150	\$ 150	\$ -	0%
176	Emergency Management	\$ 7,126.16	\$ 660	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,500	\$ 300	25%
177	Fire Warden	\$ 250.00	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ -	0%
178	Fire Hydrant Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
179	Fire Protection Contribution	\$ 25,960.00	\$ 25,960	\$ 25,080	\$ 25,080	\$ -	0%
180	Generator Expense	\$ 674.00	\$ 2,174	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,600	\$ 600	60%

	Item	FY24 Actual	FY25 actual	FY26 Budget	FY27 Proposed	Change (FY26 to FY27)	% Change
181	Insurance	\$ 556.75	\$ -	\$ 2,772	\$ 2,855	\$ 83	3%
182	Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ 477	\$ 250	\$ 450	\$ 200	80%
183	Training	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -	0%
184	Town Health Officer	\$ -	\$ 775	\$ 775	\$ 775	\$ -	0%
185	Constable	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,500	\$ 6,500	\$ (1,000)	-13%
186	<b>Section TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 63,778.79</b>	<b>\$ 61,422</b>	<b>\$ 78,489</b>	<b>\$ 80,710</b>	<b>\$ 2,221</b>	<b>3%</b>
187	<i>Dues and Assessments</i>						
188	Central VT Reg'l Planning	\$ 2,452.52	\$ 2,453	\$ 2,545	\$ 2,614	\$ 69	3%
189	Joslin Memorial Library	\$ 68,493.00	\$ 69,149	\$ 71,859	\$ 76,429	\$ 4,570	6%
190	MR Resource Mgt. Alliance	\$ 12,908.00	\$ 12,908	\$ 12,908	\$ 12,908	\$ -	0%
191	MRV Planning District	\$ 49,639.50	\$ 61,148	\$ 68,344	\$ 71,751	\$ 3,407	5%
192	MRV Recreation District	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ -	0%
193	VLCT	\$ 3,529.00	\$ 7,356	\$ 3,718	\$ 3,800	\$ 82	2%
194	Washington County Tax	\$ 32,651.00	\$ 33,456	\$ 34,500	\$ 37,979	\$ 3,479	10%
195	Green Mtn. Transit	\$ 2,131.00	\$ 2,131	\$ 2,131	\$ 2,131	\$ -	0%
196	MRVAS	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000	\$ -	0%
197	MRVAS Dispatch				\$ 24,125	\$ 24,125	
198	<b>Section TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 226,804.02</b>	<b>\$ 243,601</b>	<b>\$ 249,005</b>	<b>\$ 284,737</b>	<b>\$ 35,732</b>	<b>14%</b>
199	<i>Special Appropriations</i>					\$ -	
200	Capstone (formerly CVTCA)	\$ -	\$ 150	\$ 150	\$ 150	\$ -	0%
201	Center of Independent Living	\$ 620.00	\$ 620	\$ 620	\$ 620	\$ -	0%
202	The Children's Room	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -	0%
203	Circle	\$ 350.00	\$ 350	\$ 350	\$ 350	\$ -	0%
204	Community Harvest	\$ 300.00	\$ 400	\$ 400	\$ 400	\$ -	0%
205	CVT Adult Basic Education	\$ 600.00	\$ 600	\$ 600	\$ 600	\$ -	0%
206	CVT Council on Aging	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,050	\$ 1,050	\$ 1,050	\$ -	0%
207	CVT Economic Devel. Corp.	\$ 450.00	\$ 450	\$ 450	\$ 450	\$ -	0%
208	CVT Home Health and Hospice	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500	\$ -	0%
209	Downstreet (formerly CVCLT)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ 1,000	\$ (2,500)	-71%
210	Everybody Wins!	\$ 500.00	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -	0%
211	Family Center of Wash. Co.	\$ 500.00	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -	0%
212	Good Beginnings of CVT	\$ 300.00	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ -	0%
213	Good Samaritan	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -	0%
214	Green Up Vermont	\$ 100.00	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ -	0%
215	Mad River Valley Arts			1000	1000	\$ -	0%
216	Mad River Valley Seniors	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ -	0%
217	Mosaic (formerly SACT)	\$ 250.00	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ -	0%
218	Peoples Health and Wellness	\$ 500.00	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -	0%
219	Prevent Child Abuse VT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	
220	VT A Blind and Visually Impaired	\$ 250.00	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ -	0%
221	VT Association of Conservation Districts - Rural Fire Protection	\$ 100.00	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 200	\$ 100	100%
222	VT Family Network	\$ 250.00	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ -	0%
223	Waitsfield Historical Society			1000	3,500	\$ 2,500	250%
224	Washington Co. Mental Health	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600	\$ 1,600	\$ 1,600	\$ -	0%
225	Washington Co. Youth Service	\$ 750.00	\$ 750	\$ 750	\$ 750	\$ -8	0%



	Item	FY24 Actual	FY25 actual	FY26 Budget	FY27 Proposed	Change (FY26 to FY27)	% Change
226	WNRCD	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
227	Hannah's House				\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	
228	Our House of Central VT				\$ 100	\$ 100	
229	<b>Section TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 21,820.00</b>	<b>\$ 28,220</b>	<b>\$ 30,220</b>	<b>\$ 31,320</b>	\$ 1,100	4%
230	<u>Miscellaneous</u>					\$ -	
231	Town Pond Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ -	14%
232	Maintenance of Parks	\$ 8,375.00	\$ -	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ -	0%
233	Steward MRV	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ -	0%
234	Trail Maintenance	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ -	0%
235	Solar Array Maintenance	\$ 1,355.71	\$ 1,369	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ -	0%
236	Memberships and Dues	\$ 55.00	\$ 220	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ -	0%
237	MRVTV Meeting Coverage	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 3,400	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,500	\$ 500	13%
238	Other	\$ -	\$ 120	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
239	Cemetery Commission	\$ 17,000.00	\$ -	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,500	\$ 500	3%
240	<b>Section TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 40,185.71</b>	<b>\$ 15,109</b>	<b>\$ 39,600</b>	<b>\$ 40,600</b>	\$ 1,000	3%
241	<u>Capital Improvement Program</u>					\$ -	
242	Road Department FY Appropriations	\$ 87,500.00		\$ 8,000		\$ (8,000)	-100%
243	Road Department Reserve Transfers	\$ 340,000.00		\$ 340,000		\$ (340,000)	-100%
244	Fire Department FY Appropriations	\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	
245	Fire Department Reserve Transfers	\$ 97,500.00		\$ 115,460		\$ (115,460)	-100%
246	General - Transfers to reserves	\$ 18,000.00		\$ 12,500		\$ (12,500)	-100%
247	General - Project specific	\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	
248	<b>Section TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 543,000.00</b>		<b>\$ 475,960</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	\$ (475,960)	-100%
249	<u>Transfer to Non-Capital Reserves</u>					\$ -	
250	Restroom/Recreation/Conserve.	\$ 20,000.00		\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ -	0%
251	Long Range Planning Projects	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
252	Reappraisal Reserve	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ (10,000)	-100%
253	Street Trees	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	0%
254	Invasive Species Reserve	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 10,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 5,000	50%
255	<b>Section TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 45,000.00</b>		<b>\$ 45,000</b>	<b>\$ 40,000</b>		0%
256	<u>Debt Service</u>						
257	Town Office Solar Array	\$ 44,987.44		\$ 42,944	\$ 42,944	\$ -	0%
258	Town Office	\$ 16,812.29		\$ 16,250	\$ 16,250	\$ -	0%
259	Storm Damage	\$ 25,749.17		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
260	Wastewater - "Big Pipe"	\$ 36,484.22		\$ 36,484	\$ 36,484	\$ -	0%
261	Decentralized Wastewater	\$ 25,281.64		\$ 25,282	\$ 25,282	\$ -	0%
262	Water Main Break	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
263	Bridge Street Improvements	\$ 31,905.45		\$ 30,480	\$ 30,480	\$ -	0%
264	Grader	\$ 34,198.94		\$ 34,199	\$ 34,199	\$ -	0%
265	<b>Section TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 215,419.15</b>		<b>\$ 185,639</b>	<b>\$ 185,639</b>	\$ -	0%
266	<u>Wait House</u>						
267	Wait House Operations	\$ 4,000.00		\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ -	0%
268	Wait House Capital (transfer)	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ -	0%
269	<b>Section TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 9,000.00</b>		<b>\$ 11,500</b>	<b>\$ 11,500</b>	\$ -9	0%

	Item	FY24 Actual	FY25 actual	FY26 Budget	FY27 Proposed	Change (FY26 to FY27)	% Change
270							
271	<u><b>TOTAL</b></u>	\$ 2,495,844.73		\$ 2,797,115	\$ 2,377,236	\$ (408,879)	-15%
272							



**TOWN OF WAITSFIELD, VT**  
**ANNUAL SOCIAL SERVICES AND ORGANIZATION APPROPRIATION POLICY**

**I. Purpose**

The Town of Waitsfield provides financial support to various local, regional, statewide, and other agencies and organizations each fiscal year. This policy is adopted to ensure that support is provided in a manner that is consistent, transparent, and fair.

The goals of the policy include, but are not necessarily limited to:

- Equal access to the appropriation process;
- Clarification of, and consistency with, the application process;
- Ensuring that social service and organization funding levels reflect the greater community conversation about the annual municipal budget;
- Greater transparency in how funding decisions are made; and
- Assurance that local property tax dollars directly or indirectly serve the needs of the residents of Waitsfield and the Mad River Valley.

**II. Definitions**

- a. *Fiscal Year* – refers to the Town’s fiscal year, running from July 1 to June 30.
- b. *Funding* – refers to the annual (fiscal year) appropriations approved by voters.
- c. *General Fund* – refers to the fund used to account for all financial resources, except those accounted for in enterprise or other funds.
- d. *Organization* – refers to organizations, agencies, or other community groups seeking an annual appropriation from the Town.
- e. *Selectboard* – refers to the legislative body of the Town.
- f. *Town* – refers to the Town of Waitsfield.

**III. Funding Guidelines (Criteria and Priority)**

The criteria used to evaluate annual appropriation requests will include, but not necessarily be limited to:

1. Whether or not the organization provides service(s) to the residents of Waitsfield.
2. Whether or not the organization provides service(s) to residents that would otherwise be unavailable or limited.
3. Whether or not the organization provides service(s) that demonstrably enhances the quality of life in Waitsfield and the Mad River Valley.
4. Whether or not the organization has demonstrated a financial need for the appropriation sought, including identification of other sources of funding as applicable.

When funding is limited to levels less than the target established in Section V of this policy, the Selectboard will award funding using the following priority order:

1. Organizations located in and providing service to residents of Waitsfield.

2. Organizations located in and providing service to residents of the Mad River Valley.
3. Organizations located outside of Waitsfield or the Mad River Valley with a demonstrated provision of service to residents of both.
4. All other organizations.

**IV. Application for Funding**

All organizations shall complete and submit the funding application form appended to this policy on or before November 30th of each year. This allows funding requests to be included in and evaluated with the budget presented to the Selectboard for review. Voters will make the ultimate determination relative to funding level at Town Meeting in March.

The application form will be available to organizations seeking an appropriation on or before October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The form will be available on the Town's website ([www.waitsfieldvt.us](http://www.waitsfieldvt.us)), at the Town Offices, or emailed upon request. The Town is responsible only for making the form available – it is the duty of the organization to adhere to the Town's process and timeline. Failure to submit the requisite materials in a timely manner may result in lack of inclusion in the appropriation process.

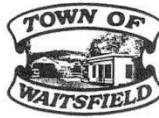
Due to the process established in State statute, organizations seeking an appropriation can petition to be on the Town Meeting warning and appeal directly to voters. The Town encourages all organizations to apply for funding through the process established in this policy. An organization choosing the statutorily-available path for funding shall meet with the Selectboard in January to discuss the request and the reason the process established in this policy and used by other organizations was not available or workable.

**V. Appropriation Target**

The Selectboard may appropriate an amount equivalent to 1.0% of total proposed general fund expenditures for organization requests in a given fiscal year. The target percentage may be adjusted by the Selectboard during any individual fiscal year at its sole discretion.

An increase in general fund expenditures approved by voters from the floor at Town Meeting will not automatically increase the funding available for organization appropriations. However, if action taken from the floor clearly indicates the intent is to increase the level of funding for an organization, the Selectboard may choose to increase funding for that organization.

**VI. Signatures**



**TOWN OF WAITSFIELD  
ANNUAL SOCIAL SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS  
APPLICATION FORM**

Organization:

Address:

Contact name:

Phone:

E-mail:

Website or social media page:

FY Funding Request:

Please describe how the organization serves Waitsfield and its residents. Include any data in this section or as a separate attachment:

Please describe how a municipal appropriation is important to the fiscal health and viability of the organization:

**\*Please see next page**

*Revised; 10/12/2022*

Please provide any additional information useful for evaluating the organization's appropriation request:

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Have you read and do you understand the Town of Waitsfield's annual social services appropriation policy?

Yes

No





# Hannah's House

2024 Impact Report

Mental health for  
children, teens,  
adults & families  
since 2010.







## Dear Friends,

Over the past four years, I have had the privilege to be on the board of director's with some very compassionate, dedicated and selfless people. From our founder, Cindy Carr, to our executive director, therapists, consultants, and fellow board members, I am constantly reminded of how much need there is for mental health services. The continued trauma, grief, stress and anxiety is found in every corner of our world, but with the work of Hannah's House, step by step we can start to heal and empower those who need it most with knowledge, skills and a belief in themselves.

As we enter the 15th year of Hannah's House, we are excited and optimistic. Cindy has been boots on the ground since the commencement and will still continue to be an important part of Hannah's House. I'm humbly stepping into those huge boots of board president with the missions of providing access to quality mental health to our communities and continuing to build awareness of Hannah's House.

Through the support of our generous donors, we were able to increase our therapeutic services in our Waitsfield and Waterbury offices. We continued to offer many community-based programs as well as maintaining connections with local elementary, middle and high schools. Our presence at two high profile benefit concerts also heightened awareness of Hannah's House.

As we wrap up 2024, we invite you to invest in your community and help our mental health resources continue to grow and thrive. Together, we will have a much healthier and stronger community.

On behalf of all of us at Hannah's House, we thank you for your generosity and continued support.

Gratefully,  
**Patti Kaufmann**  
*President, Board of Directors*





### Dear Friends,

We've experienced a few shifts in the 2023-2024 season here at Hannah's House although things have remained steady and strong. Our founder and longtime Board President Cindy Carr transitioned into an Emeritus role and handed the leadership reins to our new Board President, Patti Kaufmann. Patti is a perfect fit in her new role, stepping into all aspects with knowledge and grace while maintaining her connection with Cindy. We've gained an affiliation with a local therapist specializing in treating trauma utilizing the modality of EMDR (eye movement desensitization reprocessing). One of our dedicated therapists retired and three pre-licensed therapists came on board under the supervision of our Psychologist-Master, Heidi Robbins. The entire team at Hannah's House believes it is imperative to support these locally based, incoming clinicians as they navigate the often-challenging waters toward attaining their State of VT licensure.

Our educational offerings and in-school programing remain a crucial part of our goal to provide valuable tools and strategies to achieve and maintain emotional wellbeing throughout common challenges, i.e. anxiety, body image/diet culture, social media dangers. Financial assistance funding for individual therapy is currently 40% higher than this time last year, which tells its own story about the challenges our neighbors are facing with the increasing costs of health insurance premiums, property taxes, groceries, etc... As always, our primary focus remains on our mission of providing access to high quality mental health services in the Mad River Valley and Waterbury areas. Because of your support, our therapists provided over 3,400 individual therapy sessions in 2023 and over 3,500 sessions in 2024. It brings me great joy to report that we are able to meet the needs of the vast majority of requests for therapeutic services, regardless of the ability to pay.

With gratitude for our community,  
**Chrissy Rivers**  
*Executive Director*

# Your Donations at Work



In response to the growing need for mental health support and education in our community, we partner with trusted providers to offer programs and educational opportunities that serve those in need in the Mad River Valley and Waterbury areas. Our therapeutic, educational and outreach programs are available to the community at no cost because of the generosity of our donors. Together, we are ensuring that no one is without support in their time of need.



## Access to Therapy

- Provided over 3,500 individual therapeutic sessions
- Increased financial assistance by over 40% for our most vulnerable neighbors
- Contracted with a psychiatric nurse practitioner to better navigate the changing world of pharmacology pertaining to mental health
- Collaborated with an experienced local clinician to provide EMDR therapy (eye movement desensitization reprocessing) to help clients living with PTSD
- Provided Neuroptimal neuro-feedback sessions
- Operated a Verilux Light Therapy program for seasonal depression



## Retain and Attract New Therapists

- Expanded our available therapeutic space by over 100% at our Waterbury location
- Compensated therapists for approximately 100 hours of unpaid non-therapy session time
- Provided professional supervision and continuing education to pre-licensed clinicians
- Provided financial support for therapists' continuing education
- Solicited State Legislators for improved new therapist licensing requirements



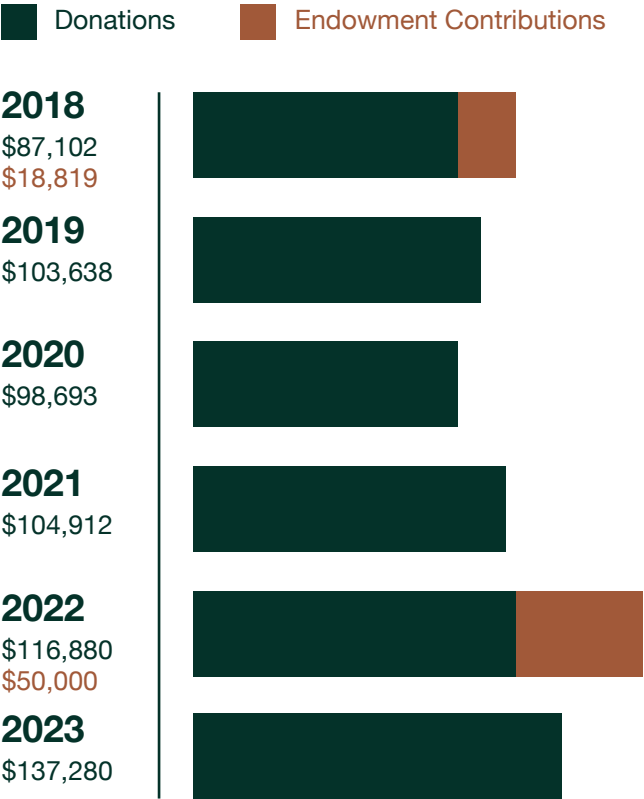
## Education, Awareness and Prevention

- Collaborated with The Kahm Center for Eating Disorders on diet culture and body image
- Organized the "Anxious Nation" documentary screening and therapist-led discussion
- Promoted the "Conscious Parenting" and "Silver Circles" support group series
- Participated in the action village at the DoGood Fest & Noah Kahan's VT concert
- Provided a year-round, weekly "Walk & Talk" group for community members
- Participated in the Harwood Wellness Fair and coordinated the local Mental Health First Aid Certification Class
- Distributed free Narcan Kits, Fentanyl Test Strips and Gun Locks to the community
- Hosted a Mental Health Awareness Walk & Open House

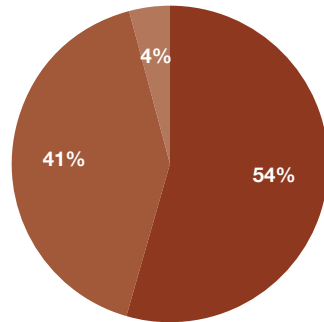


# On The Move

Hannahs House Budget Growth



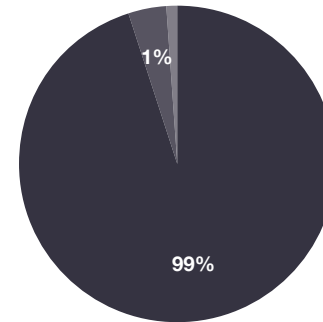
# Budgeted Finances 2024



## Assets

Endowment	\$112,152
Current Assets	\$85,122
Fixed Assets	\$9,223

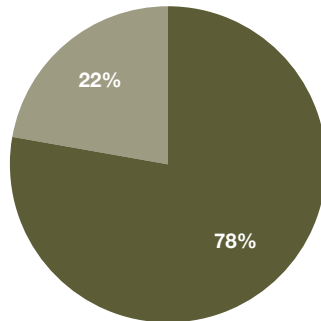
Total Assets \$206,497



## Liabilities & Equity

Equity	\$206,104
Current Liabilities	\$393
Equity	\$0

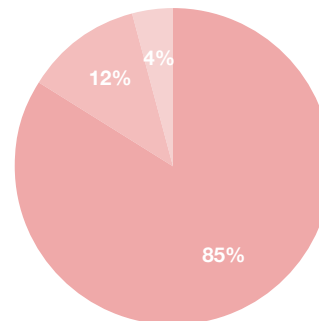
Liabilities + Equity \$206,497



## Revenue

Donations	\$110,000
Grants & Other	\$31,000

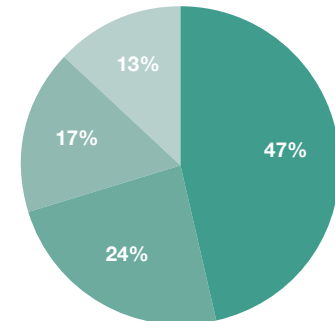
Total Revenue \$141,000



## Operating Expenses

Program Expenses	\$119,470
Administration	\$16,530
Fundraising	\$5,000

Total Expenses \$141,000



## Program Expenses

Facility Support	\$55,602
Therapy Financial Asst.	\$28,552
Therapist Development	\$20,287
Community Programs	\$15,028

Total Expenses \$119,470



# Community Outreach





# Our Therapists



**Gary D. Frankel,**  
LICSW

Gary joined Hannah's House in 2014 as an affiliate working with adolescents, young adults and families that are experiencing anxiety, depression, substance abuse and identity issues. Working for almost 30 years as a social worker and mental health counselor, Gary holds a Vermont State License for Clinical Social Work. Gary specializes in working with adolescents, young adults and families that are experiencing anxiety, depression, substance abuse, and identity issues. "Young adults, individuals and families face many complex challenges today and taking care of their mental health should be as much of a priority as their physical health. I believe that the therapeutic process should be client centered and based on unconditional acceptance and connection." Gary's therapeutic approach is based on a relationship building model steeped in motivational enhancement and cognitive behavioral therapies. His style can be described as engaging, creative and solutions focused.

Away from work, Gary enjoys being in nature, playing guitar in a local band, working on and driving his old VW, seeing live music, and spending time with his family and friends. Gary has worked as a social worker and mental health counselor for over 20 years in both private and public service settings. He is contracted by the local school district and spends time at both Harwood Union High School and Crossett Brook Middle School working with individual students and running groups. Gary has a Master's in Social Work Degree from the University of Vermont.



*"I thought I'd be broken forever but now I'm experiencing times of peace, clarity and calm. I have tools that work thanks to our work together."*

- Community member



**Heidi Robbins**  
MA, Licensed Psychologist

Heidi earned her Bachelors of Arts in Psychology at Saint Lawrence University and her Masters in Clinical Psychology at Saint Michael College. She joined Hannah's House in 2018 after gaining 5 years of valuable experience as an outpatient therapist at Washington County Mental Health. Since becoming licensed in 2016 she has been providing support to student-athletes as a sport psychology consultant. In her role at Hannah's House, Heidi began supervising pre-licensed clinicians in 2022 to increase access to mental health services for children and families of the Mad River Valley.

Heidi works with children, families, and adults using a variety of clinical approaches including Internal Family Systems and Play Therapy. Her trauma-informed practice rooted in attachment theory and developmental psychology. Heidi has experience working with issues including trauma, loss, grief, identity, anxiety, depression ADHD, LGBTQ+, and other emotional and behavioral challenges. Heidi uses a strengths based approach to help clients connect with their internal resources to build healthy relationships from the inside out.

Heidi is passionate about sport and exercise. She grew up ski racing in Vermont and attended Killington Mountain School. In spite of several knee surgeries Heidi's skiing career culminated in participating in NCAA skiing at both St. Lawrence University and St. Michael's College. She coaches ski racing at Cochran's on the weekends and provides mental health and sport psychology consulting services for student-athletes at Okemo Mountain School during the winter.



**Catherine Hirce**

Catherine earned a Bachelors of Arts in Psychology from Fairfield University. She went on to earn a Masters in Therapeutic Interventions and Certificate in School Psychology from Fordham University. Catherine worked as a school psychologist and counselor for children and adolescents for several years in NJ. Recently, she completed her Masters in Clinical Mental Health Counseling to be licensed in the state of Vermont. She is working under the supervision of Heidi Robbins, licensed psychologist, while she works toward her 3,000 supervision hours.

Catherine has experience working with children, adolescents, and adults who may be struggling with mental health issues. She sees clients in the Waterbury office location using various therapies including psychotherapy, cognitive behavioral, play therapy, internal family systems therapy, and acceptance and commitment therapy. She has worked with individuals who struggle with ADHD, anxiety, depression, PTSD, grief and loss, stress management, divorce and family adjustment issues, and postpartum anxiety and depression.

She uses a client-centered approach as she creates a supportive and nonjudgmental environment that allows the client to explore their emotions, identify behavior patterns, and evaluate whether their coping skills are currently serving them. Clients work with Catherine to resolve any trauma from their past and develop healthier lifestyles and relationships with others. She enjoys learning about her clients and bringing in elements that they respond to, including nature walks, mindfulness, breathwork, arts and crafts, and music.



*"The support Hannah's House provided last calendar year to a couple of our students was amazing. We have received feedback that they thrived in the settings."*

**- School Counselor at Waitsfield School**

Referring to our sponsoring a student to attend Sculpture School. January 2022.



**Katie Fennelly**

Katie officially joined Hannah's House in 2023 after graduating from Antioch University, where she earned a Master of Art degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and certificate training in trauma studies. She began working with us in 2022 as an intern.

With her compassionate presence Katie supports children, adolescents, and adults experiencing an array of challenges including anxiety, depression, trauma, grief and loss, emotional dysregulation, LGBTQIA+ experiences, and support for those affected by intimate partner violence or gender-based violence. Her trauma-informed practice is rooted in humanistic approaches that include polyvagal theory and internal family systems theory, cultivating individual empowerment within the context of the systems that surround us. As a creative individual herself, Katie often brings metaphor, art, and somatic practices into her sessions while centering the individual needs of those she works with. She is working under the supervision of Heidi Robbins, licensed psychologist, while she works towards her 3,000 supervision hours.

Katie came to the Mad River Valley from the coast of Maine in 2017 to spend more time in the mountains, as she finds this time in nature fills her cup. Whether that is on the trails, in the river, or in her garden you'll find her little dog Squash by her side.



**Louise Moon Rosales**  
DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, PMHNP-BC

Louise attended Fairfield University for her BS and MSN degrees, and the University of Vermont for her Post Master's Certificate and Doctorate of Nursing Practice. She has been a consultant to Hannah's House since 2023. In addition to her work with Hannah's House, Louise works in a private psychiatric practice, which is embedded in a patient centered medical home, and she is the Medical Director of a DBT based Intensive Outpatient Program. Louise loves to hike, and recently became an "end to ender" of the Long Trail.



*"The support that was offered to our family through the Hannah's House Foundation made a significant difference in helping us through a crisis. The expertise of the individuals that offered us guidance and support was extraordinary..."*

**- Mad River Valley Resident**



**Moose**

Moose is an important addition to the Hannah's House team as an emotional support animal. He has been training as an assistant therapist since he was 8 weeks old. Moose is a 5 year old Bernese Mountain Dog. His therapeutic skills include unconditional love, co-regulation, grounding, and attunement. Moose welcomes each client with a warm presence and a wagging tail. He will cuddle on the couch or snooze through the session depending on the client's desired level of engagement with this lovable large breed dog.

# Board of Directors

**Cynthia Carr**  
*Founder & Board  
Member Emeritus*

**Patti Kaufmann**  
*President*

**Robert Cummiskey**  
*Treasurer*

**Susan McKnight**  
*Secretary*

**Catherine Shapiro**  
*Staff Liaison*

**Deirdre Fennelly**

**Fran Plewak**

**Charlie Hosford**

**Lisa LeBlanc**

**Robin Jackson**

**Heather Morehouse**



# Our Donors

## Platinum

Stephen and Jane Fried  
Clay Kennedy  
Lawson's Finest  
Sally Olmsted / S & C Harvest  
Eleanor and Donald Smith  
Vermont Mutual Insurance Company  
Wagle-Chipalkatty Foundation

## Gold

James Bardninelli  
Edith (Bonnie) Barnes  
Alvan Carr  
Bill and Lisa Coyle  
Margaret Daniel  
The C E & F C A Foisy Foundation  
Kasara and Jeremiah Gage  
Phil and Linda Gellis  
Joe and Margaret Grant  
Jennifer Kempf  
Lisa LeBlanc and Jim Bellanca  
Susan Lucas  
Noel Mann  
Norma Marcellino  
RK Miles, Inc.  
Gail O'Keefe  
Nancy and Steven Post  
Jon and Pam Rickard  
Skip and Marilyn Rosskam  
Jim and Danielle Schley  
Jonathan and Catherine Shapiro  
Richard and Elizabeth Swartz  
Peter and Alice Tenbeau  
Waitsfield Champlain Valley Telecom  
Warren United Church

## Silver

American Online Giving  
Nate Bedford  
Scott Bennett  
Matt and Andrea Cox  
Kathy and Jared Cadwell  
Paul Gauthier

Charlie and Carol Hosford  
Anne Hyde  
Catherine Kalkstein  
Mad Valley Sports Inc  
Charles and Susan Marston  
William and Mary Moore  
Fran and Gary Plewak  
Joy Playter  
F. Kincaid Perot  
Steven Shea  
Brian Shea  
William and Dawn Sherriff  
Dennis and Michelle Teravainen

## Bronze

Mark and Kerri Bamford  
Karen Barron  
Frederick and Mary Bashara  
Chandra and Christopher Blencowe  
Jason Britton  
Susan (Wendy) Brauer  
Van Carr and Heidi Vietze  
Lexi and Will Carr  
Clearwater Sports  
Joan Crossen  
Susan Cummiskey  
Brooke Cunningham  
Sue Dillon  
John and Dana Donaldson  
William and Arlene Elliott  
David and Janet Ellison  
Michael and Barbara Feno  
Robert and Deborah First  
Brian Fleisher  
Wayne Foster  
Dorsey Gardner  
Gillespie Fuels  
Erit Gilman and Lawrence Laing  
Gary and Janine Guggemos  
Colleen and Randall Haak  
George Hall  
Paula Hannon  
Alexandra Harvey  
Eric Hines  
Nelson Holland

Susan Hoyt  
Dana Hudson  
Robin and Mac Jackson  
Catherine Jackson  
Steve and Linda Jones  
Patti Kaufmann  
Lois Kaufmann  
Don Kaufman  
Bonnie Knight  
LaRock Property Maintenance LLC  
David and Denise MacMartin  
Thomas MacLeay  
Freddie Mahlmann  
Dennis Marchitelli  
Megan Martell  
Susan McKnight  
Mountainside Ski Service, Inc.  
Henri Patty  
Sparky and Peggy Potter  
Joan Rae and Paul Sipple  
Ed Read  
Bill and Kristin Reedy  
Rivers Building & Consulting Inc.  
Chrissy and Jake Rivers  
Travis Rivers  
Pamela Roehm  
Joann and Mark Savino  
Helen Ann Scharges  
Brenda Shea  
Jeff and Beth Schoellkopf  
Sue and Doug Stoehr  
Jennifer Telek  
Richard and Nancy Thomson  
Vermont Community Foundation  
Mike and Sheila Ware  
Patricia Welsh  
David and Karen Whipple  
John Wilkinson  
Claudia Woods  
Yoga With K2, LLC

## Friends

Pat & Mark Austin  
Mark Baglini  
Kathleen Basile

Susan Bauchner  
Bette Ann and David Belgelfer  
John and Linda Burciaga  
Elizabeth Cadwell  
Laura Caffry  
Joan Carson  
Peter Colgan  
Judith A Corey  
Ivan Drechsler  
Daniel Eckstein  
Kimberly Fien  
Fayston Forager, LLC  
Todd Gerber  
Shelby Guggemos  
Elizabeth Hopper  
Jean Hubbell  
Elizabeth Jondro  
Sharon Kellermann  
Marion Klickstein  
Maura and Dickie Lane  
Ann Lynch  
Brenda Mack  
Patricia M Maza  
Stephen McGill  
Daniel Morse  
Moretown United Methodist Women  
Laure Murphy  
Cheryll Patty  
Liz Raddock  
Kelly Reilly  
Virginia Roth  
Shaw's Give Back Where It Counts  
Program  
Laurie Spaulding  
Mary Sullivan  
Jennifer Waber  
Susan Werntgen  
Richard Whipple  
Ronald K Wisdom  
Linda Wittman



# Thank You

**Dear Hannah's House Supporters,**

In 2010 Hannah's House was launched with a \$4,000 donation from a fundraiser and enthusiastic support from Hannah's family, friends, and the Mad River Valley Community. We are now beginning our 15 th year with a talented new President, Patti Kaufmann, an incredible executive director, Chrissy Rivers, an extremely dedicated staff and board, and the same mission we began with: provide local, quality mental health care to all regardless of one's ability to pay.

When my lovely daughter, Hannah, began exhibiting signs of mental distress in high school, I drove for hours trying to find her help. As her diagnosis and torment spiraled throughout college, I was consumed by my lack of knowledge and ability to assist her. Finally, during Hannah's last year I was able to connect with a wonderful therapist, who when Hannah died, saved my life.

The impact of connecting with a good therapist brought home the vital necessity of accessible, affordable mental health care. Hannah's House is still expanding to meet the needs of our community and serve those seeking therapy, but nothing makes me happier than realizing our local community members and students know they have a place to get help, with no shame and friends to support them. When both Harwood Hockey teams donned Hannah's House shirts for benefit games, I felt Hannah cheering them on. To see how Hannah's House has grown and been embraced by this community is amazing, and I am truly grateful.

Thank you,  
**Cindy Bedford Carr**  
*Founder*

# Our Locations



**869 Old County Road  
Waitsfield, VT**



**141 South Main Street  
Waterbury, VT**

## **Mailing Address**

Hannah's House, Inc  
PO Box 217  
Waitsfield, VT 05673

## **Email**

[chrissy@hannahshousevt.org](mailto:chrissy@hannahshousevt.org)

## **Website**

[www.hannahshousevt.org](http://www.hannahshousevt.org)

## **Phone**

802-496-9715

Hannah's House, Inc.

VT 501(c)(3) Non Profit Organization





**TOWN OF WAITSFIELD, VT**  
**ANNUAL SOCIAL SERVICES AND ORGANIZATION APPROPRIATION POLICY**

**I. Purpose**

The Town of Waitsfield provides financial support to various local, regional, statewide, and other agencies and organizations each fiscal year. This policy is adopted to ensure that support is provided in a manner that is consistent, transparent, and fair.

The goals of the policy include, but are not necessarily limited to:

- Equal access to the appropriation process;
- Clarification of, and consistency with, the application process;
- Ensuring that social service and organization funding levels reflect the greater community conversation about the annual municipal budget;
- Greater transparency in how funding decisions are made; and
- Assurance that local property tax dollars directly or indirectly serve the needs of the residents of Waitsfield and the Mad River Valley.

**II. Definitions**

- a. *Fiscal Year* – refers to the Town’s fiscal year, running from July 1 to June 30.
- b. *Funding* – refers to the annual (fiscal year) appropriations approved by voters.
- c. *General Fund* – refers to the fund used to account for all financial resources, except those accounted for in enterprise or other funds.
- d. *Organization* – refers to organizations, agencies, or other community groups seeking an annual appropriation from the Town.
- e. *Selectboard* – refers to the legislative body of the Town.
- f. *Town* – refers to the Town of Waitsfield.

**III. Funding Guidelines (Criteria and Priority)**

The criteria used to evaluate annual appropriation requests will include, but not necessarily be limited to:

1. Whether or not the organization provides service(s) to the residents of Waitsfield.
2. Whether or not the organization provides service(s) to residents that would otherwise be unavailable or limited.
3. Whether or not the organization provides service(s) that demonstrably enhances the quality of life in Waitsfield and the Mad River Valley.
4. Whether or not the organization has demonstrated a financial need for the appropriation sought, including identification of other sources of funding as applicable.

When funding is limited to levels less than the target established in Section V of this policy, the Selectboard will award funding using the following priority order:

1. Organizations located in and providing service to residents of Waitsfield.

2. Organizations located in and providing service to residents of the Mad River Valley.
3. Organizations located outside of Waitsfield or the Mad River Valley with a demonstrated provision of service to residents of both.
4. All other organizations.

**IV. Application for Funding**

All organizations shall complete and submit the funding application form appended to this policy on or before November 30th of each year. This allows funding requests to be included in and evaluated with the budget presented to the Selectboard for review. Voters will make the ultimate determination relative to funding level at Town Meeting in March.

The application form will be available to organizations seeking an appropriation on or before October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The form will be available on the Town's website ([www.waitsfieldvt.us](http://www.waitsfieldvt.us)), at the Town Offices, or emailed upon request. The Town is responsible only for making the form available – it is the duty of the organization to adhere to the Town's process and timeline. Failure to submit the requisite materials in a timely manner may result in lack of inclusion in the appropriation process.

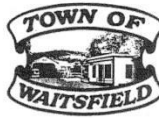
Due to the process established in State statute, organizations seeking an appropriation can petition to be on the Town Meeting warning and appeal directly to voters. The Town encourages all organizations to apply for funding through the process established in this policy. An organization choosing the statutorily-available path for funding shall meet with the Selectboard in January to discuss the request and the reason the process established in this policy and used by other organizations was not available or workable.

**V. Appropriation Target**

The Selectboard may appropriate an amount equivalent to 1.0% of total proposed general fund expenditures for organization requests in a given fiscal year. The target percentage may be adjusted by the Selectboard during any individual fiscal year at its sole discretion.

An increase in general fund expenditures approved by voters from the floor at Town Meeting will not automatically increase the funding available for organization appropriations. However, if action taken from the floor clearly indicates the intent is to increase the level of funding for an organization, the Selectboard may choose to increase funding for that organization.

**VI. Signatures**



**TOWN OF WAITSFIELD  
ANNUAL SOCIAL SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS  
APPLICATION FORM**

Organization:

Address:

Contact name:

Phone:

E-mail:

Website or social media page:

FY Funding Request:

Please describe how the organization serves Waitsfield and its residents. Include any data in this section or as a separate attachment:

OUR House of Central Vermont is a non-profit Children's Advocacy Center and Special Investigations Unit located in Barre that serves all of Washington County. OUR House's mission is to provide a safe and supportive setting for child victims of physical & sexual abuse, their non-offending family members, as well as adult survivors of sexual assault.

OUR House (which stands for One Unified Response) implements a multidisciplinary approach to the issue of physical and sexual abuse.

We track where a crime occurred, not where people lived. Therefore, there could be more residents who LIVE in Waitsfield who have experienced sexual violence, but the crime could have happened elsewhere. We also provide crisis call support and advocacy to anyone who calls, and do not ask where they are located. Due to our privacy of tracking, we ask for a very small amount, as we know we are serving all residents but we are not able to quantify the amount. This year however, we served 83 forensic interviews, case management to 116 families, and just under 500 therapy sessions

Please describe how a municipal appropriation is important to the fiscal health and viability of the organization:

This amount is a small cost that we use for comfort of families while they are here. As we are heavily grant

funded and Federal funds will not cover, snacks, water or coffee for families. We like to be able to offer

these small comforts when families are here with us and town funding like this, is what helps to make our waiting room a bit more comforting.

**\*Please see next page**

*Revised; 10/12/2022*

Please provide any additional information useful for evaluating the organization's appropriation request:

<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
-------------------

Have you read and do you understand the Town of Waitsfield's annual social services appropriation policy?

Yes / YES    No



## TOWN OF WAITSFIELD

### CONTRACT FOR LIMITED SERVICES

This Contract is entered into on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026 by and between the Town of Waitsfield (hereinafter 'Municipality') and Glen Towne, a professional land surveyor with a principal place of business in Waterbury, Vermont, with a mailing address of XXX (hereinafter 'Contractor') for services to Municipality. Municipality and Contractor are referred to collectively as 'parties.'

### ARTICLE 1: SERVICES PROVIDED

Contractor agrees to perform the following service:

Phase 1: Deed and record research, detailed conclusion, and preparation of a preliminary sketch.

- Estimated cost: \$3,000

- Timeline: To be completed between February 2026 and May 2026

Phase 2: Potential Field Survey (Not Included in This Contract)

This Contract authorizes Phase 1 only. Upon review of the Phase 1 findings, the Municipality may determine that additional field work, including on-site surveying, monumentation, or preparation of a formal survey plat, is necessary. Any Phase 2 services will require a separate scope of work, cost estimate, and written amendment or new contract approved by the Municipality prior to commencement.

### ARTICLE 2: COMPENSATION AND BILLING

Phase 1: \$3,000 payable upon completion and submission of deliverables.

Invoices shall be submitted upon completion. Payment will be made within 30 days of receipt of invoice.

### ARTICLE 3: TERM

This Contract shall be effective from January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026 to June 30, 2026, unless extended by mutual written agreement.

### ARTICLE 4: INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR

Contractor further acknowledges and agrees that it is an independent contractor and that nothing herein shall be construed to create the relationship of employer and employee between Municipality and Contractor. No employee-related withholdings or deductions shall be made from payments due Contractor. Contractor shall not be entitled to receive any benefits from Municipality and shall not be eligible for workers' compensation or unemployment benefits.





## TOWN OF WAITSFIELD

### ARTICLE 5: ASSIGNMENT AND SUBCONTRACTING

This Contract is binding upon and inures to the benefit of the heirs, successors, and assigns of the parties hereto. Neither party hereto may assign its rights or obligations under the Contract without the prior written consent of the other party. This Contract shall be governed by the laws of the State of Vermont.

Contractor shall not enter into any subcontract for performance of any services contemplated under this Contract nor assign any interest in the Contract without the prior written approval of Municipality and subject to such conditions and provisions as Municipality may deem necessary or desirable in its sole discretion. If Municipality permits the use of subcontractors, no subcontractor may perform any work under this Contract without first providing Municipality certificates of insurance showing all of the coverages required in Article 10 of this Contract. Contractor shall be responsible for the performance of all subcontractors

### ARTICLE 6: EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

Contractor shall be responsible for providing and maintaining any equipment necessary to perform the surveying and research services described in this Contract. All tools and materials used shall be appropriate for professional land surveying and of suitable quality.

The Municipality will not supply or reimburse for any equipment, materials, or incidental expenses related to the Contractor's work.

### ARTICLE 7: INDEMNIFICATION

Contractor shall indemnify and hold harmless Municipality, and Municipality's agents and employees, from and against all losses and all claims, demands, payments, suits, actions, recoveries, claims of outstanding indebtedness, attorneys' fees, liens, and judgments of every nature and description, brought or recovered against them by reasons of any act or omission of the said Contractor, its agents, employees, or sub-contractors, in the execution of the work or in guarding the same. The Contractor shall defend the Municipality and its officers and employees against all claims or suits arising in whole or in part from any act or omission of the Contractor or of any agent or subcontractor of the Contractor. The Municipality shall notify the Contractor in the event of any such claim or suit, and the Contractor shall immediately retain counsel and otherwise provide a complete defense against the entire claim or suit.

Contractor shall assume full responsibility for the protection of all buildings, structures, and utilities (both public and private). All damage, injury, or loss to any public or private property, by the Contractor, or any sub-contractor, shall be replaced or restored to at least the original condition to the satisfaction of the Municipality at the Contractor's expense.

Nothing in this Contract shall constitute a waiver by the Municipality of any statutory limits or immunities from liability.



## TOWN OF WAITSFIELD

### ARTICLE 8: INSURANCE (Optional but Recommended)

Before commencing work under this Contract, the Contractor **may** provide certificates of insurance to demonstrate that the following coverages are in effect. While the Municipality does not require the Contractor to carry insurance for this particular work, it is **strongly recommended** that the Contractor maintain the following coverages during the term of this Contract:

1. Professional Liability (Errors & Omissions) insurance with limits of at least \$1,000,000 per claim and \$1,000,000 aggregate;
2. Commercial General Liability insurance coverage with a policy limit of at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 aggregate;
3. Business Automobile Liability coverage with total liability limits of at least \$1,000,000; and
4. Statutory Workers' Compensation insurance.

If the Contractor elects to carry any of the above policies, those policies should name the Municipality as an additional insured.

### ARTICLE 9: NON-APPROPRIATION

If this Contract extends into more than one fiscal year of the Municipality and if appropriations are insufficient to support this Contract, the Municipality may cancel at the end of the fiscal year. In the case that this Contract is a Grant that is funded in whole or in part by federal or State funds, and in the event federal or State funds become unavailable or reduced, the Municipality may suspend or cancel this Grant immediately, and the Municipality shall have no obligation to pay Contractor from municipal revenues.

### ARTICLE 10: TERMINATION

Municipality may terminate this Contract, with or without cause, upon 30 days written notice.

### ARTICLE 11: DEFAULT

If the Contractor fails to perform the agreed services, violates any material term of this Contract, or becomes unable to fulfill the work (e.g., due to bankruptcy or misrepresentation), the Municipality may provide written notice of default. If the issue is not resolved within 10 days, the Municipality may terminate the Contract.

The Municipality may withhold payments until any damages caused by the default are determined. This withholding does not constitute a breach by the Municipality.

Neither party is responsible for delays caused by events beyond their control, such as natural disasters, public emergencies, or other unforeseeable circumstances. Both parties agree to notify each other promptly and work together to minimize the impact of such events.

In the event of a State or Federal Disaster Declaration, the Municipality may suspend parts of this Contract to comply with emergency regulations.



## TOWN OF WAITSFIELD

Upon completion or termination of the work, the Contractor shall leave the site clean and free of debris. If not, the Municipality may do so at the Contractor's expense.

### ARTICLE 12: REMEDIES

If the Contractor defaults, the Municipality may seek legal remedies, including recovering costs related to termination, such as administrative or legal fees.

If the Contractor fails to meet deadlines or deliver acceptable work, the Municipality may obtain services elsewhere and deduct any additional costs from payments due to the Contractor. The Municipality may also require the Contractor to redo unsatisfactory work at no additional cost.

All remedies available to the Municipality are cumulative and do not limit its right to pursue other legal or contractual remedies.

### ARTICLE 13: ARBITRATION

Should disputes arise between the Contractor and the Municipality about this Contract or any related matter, the parties agree to arbitrate any such controversy, pursuant to the Vermont Arbitration Act, 12 V.S.A. § 5651 et seq.

### ARTICLE 14: CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

This Contract shall constitute the entire agreement between the parties on the subject matters. All prior agreements, representations, statements, negotiations, and understandings shall have no effect. There shall be no modifications or amendments to this Contract or to the Addendum unless said changes, modifications, or amendments are in writing duly executed by the parties.

### ARTICLE 15: SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this Contract are severable and if a court of competent jurisdiction holds any portion of this Contract unconstitutional or invalid, the remainder of this Contract shall not be affected and shall remain in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties do hereby execute this Contract on the day and year first written above.

MUNICIPALITY: By the Town administrator:

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York Keith Haverkamp



## TOWN OF WAITSFIELD

CONTRACTOR: By Surveyor

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Glen Towne, duly authorized representative of Contractor

# TOWN OF WAITSFIELD, VERMONT

## Selectboard Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 21, 2026

**Draft**

**Members Present:** David Babbott-Klein, Chach Curtis, Fred Messer, Brian Shupe, Larissa Ursprung

**Staff Present:** York Haverkamp, Town Administrator; Steve Lewis, Town Treasurer

**Others Present:** Emily Beliveau, Doug Bergstein, Alison Duckworth, Eric Friedman (MRV Chamber), Misha Golfman (Mad River Path), Lisa Loomis (Valley Reporter), Robin Morris, MRVTV, Bobbi Rood, Mac Rood, George Schenk, Colleen Senterfitt, Jimmy Senterfitt, Josh Turka

**I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Brian Shupe. The meeting was held in person at the Waitsfield Town Office and remotely via Zoom.

### **1. Review agenda for addition, removal, or adjustment of any items per 1 VSA 312(d)(3)(A)**

No changes were made to the agenda.

### **2. Public Forum**

Nobody requested time to speak to the Board.

### **II. Public Hearing – Local Option Tax (LOT)**

Mr. Shupe provided a presentation covering the Town's infrastructure and capital projects needs, explaining: that a LOT could help alleviate related property tax increases; what a LOT is and some of the details involved; and why a LOT is being considered again at this time, including an outline of the differences between a Waitsfield LOT and the previous consideration of a Valley-wide LOT. He then summarized some of the uses made by other towns of LOT receipts, and indicated that the Board's intent is to use LOT funds received for infrastructure and capital improvement projects.

The potential revenue that Waitsfield would receive from a 1% LOT approved for all three allowable categories (sales, rooms and meals, and alcohol) is projected at \$600K, a significant portion of which would be paid by non-Waitsfield residents. The projected impact of the LOT on Waitsfield residents is approximately \$186 per household annually. The timeline for adoption and implementation was provided, including a vote at Town Meeting and initialization on July 1, 2026 if the vote is in favor of adopting a LOT.

Several questions from those in attendance were answered. Comments were also provided, with George Schenk speaking to the potential inequity of a sales tax and the additional premium already placed on food/beverage and alcohol sales. Generally, the comments were in favor of the Town adopting a LOT. It was explained by the Board that there are no other taxing options available for municipalities, as the State would need to pass legislation allowing for any other methods of raising local taxes.

Board members explained that they are working to find ways to fund the many infrastructure needs in Town, alongside the diminishing availability of State and Federal funds for much of this

work. Mr. Messer spoke of his opposition to the creation of additional tax burdens on Vermonters, noting that they increase the affordability problem being experienced in the state.

**MOTION:** *Mr. Babbott-Klein moved to have ballot language prepared for seeking approval via Australian Ballot for a 1% LOT tax to be placed on all three of the allowable categories, with final language to be approved at the January 26 Selectboard meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Curtis, and passed unanimously.*

Mr. Haverkamp will look into whether this should/must be presented as one article or a separate article for each of the three tax categories.

### **III. Regular Business**

#### **1. Budget update with Steve Lewis**

Mr. Lewis provided an overview of the status of the current fiscal year's General and Capital Fund budgets, noting that both revenues and expenditures are in line with what was anticipated. He outlined the Town's current CD investments, and indicated that the unassigned fund balance for the prior fiscal year is estimated to be \$600K. Mr. Lewis confirmed that the current year's general expenses are similar to those of the prior year for this point in the year, although the use of the previous \$300K of unassigned funds creates the appearance that spending has generally increased.

#### **2. Active Transportation Corridor**

Misha Golfman outlined the trail maintenance services provided by the Mad River Path for approximately five miles of trails in Waitsfield, for which the Town provides \$4500. He also noted educational programming, summer camps, equipment lending, and other services provided by the Path.

Mr. Golfman then spoke of the continuing work to implement the scoping study which was completed for the Active Transportation Corridor, and explained that a committee has been formed to complete some of the necessary steps. He explained that oversight of the project is necessary, and that he is proposing that a half-time Implementation Coordinator position be created, to be funded in equal parts by the Path, the Town of Warren, and Waitsfield. This person would be responsible for grant administration, coordination of volunteers and the many groups involved in the project, and other needed tasks. The amount being requested from each entity is \$15K.

Board members provided feedback on this proposal, and Mr. Golfman answered questions, including providing information related to future financial needs and the economic benefits that will be realized due to completion of the Corridor. Mr. Shupe indicated that this matter would be addressed by the Board during further Budget/Town Meeting planning, and that it was more likely that the matter would be presented to the voters as a separate Article rather than incorporated into the Budget.

#### **3. GWH Commission Budget**

It was noted that this budget does not have any items of concern to be discussed.

89 **4. Agricultural Tax Stabilization Agreement**

90 Mr. Shupe explained that he had discussed this matter with Mr. Haverkamp, and proposed that  
91 a one-year agreement be put in place, to provide time for the property owners to enroll in the  
92 Current Use Program, particularly as the Town's agreement was not in place for the current tax  
93 year due to staffing changes. Board members agreed that this program, initiated before the  
94 State's program was in place, should be discontinued.

95  
96 **MOTION:** *Mr. Messer moved to request that Mr. Haverkamp draft language for a one-year tax*  
97 *stabilization agreement to be entered into with the two property owners with whom the past*  
98 *agreement was entered into. The motion was seconded by Mr. Babbott-Klein, and passed*  
99 *unanimously.*

100  
101 **5. A&E proposals for Old Center Fayston and Center Fayston Road culverts**

102 Mr. Haverkamp presented the bid information received for these projects, noting that the bid  
103 from New England Consulting Engineers (NECE) was \$1000 higher than the lowest bid. He  
104 explained that the proposal provided by NECE fully covers anticipated permitting needs, and  
105 includes 30%, 60%, and 90% design phases, which would serve to minimize risk. Mr.  
106 Haverkamp noted that the bid amounts are all above the amount previously approved by FEMA  
107 for this work, but that FEMA had indicated that the amount would be reconsidered once bids  
108 were received.

109  
110 **MOTION:** *Mr. Babbott-Klein moved to accept the \$30K bid from New England Consulting*  
111 *Engineers for the culvert work outlined, and to authorize the Town Administrator to sign a*  
112 *contract for the work. The motion was seconded by Mr. Messer, and passed unanimously.*

113  
114 **6. Consideration of assistance in preparing Town Report**

115 Mr. Shupe recused himself from this agenda item.

116  
117 Mr. Haverkamp explained that Valerie Capels had offered to assist with compiling the Town  
118 Report, and outlined why her assistance would be valuable. Ms. Capels had provided a memo  
119 outlining her proposal.

120  
121 **MOTION:** *Mr. Babbott-Klein moved to approve contracting with Valerie Capels for Town Plan*  
122 *preparation work, for approximately 20 hours at \$75/hour, and to authorize the Town*  
123 *Administrator to sign the agreement. The motion was seconded by Mr. Curtis, and passed*  
124 *unanimously.*

125  
126 **7. Budget Discussion**

127 Mr. Haverkamp noted that Josh Rogers, Road Foreman, has agreed to have the Road Crew take  
128 on the mowing of the Library grounds.

129  
130 Miscellaneous and Public Safety Budget Sections

131 Mr. Haverkamp reviewed these with the Board. The following was agreed upon:

- 132     • Raising the Town Health Officer stipend to \$1000  
133     • Reducing the Constable line item to \$4000

- Requesting the Mark Giometti (MRVAS) meet with Mr. Haverkamp and any interested Board members to explain the options considered and the decision to contract with Capital West for future dispatching needs.

#### Revenues

Anticipated revenues were reviewed, including potential increases.

#### Capital Items

It was indicated that line striping on the East Warren Road would likely be covered by unassigned balance funds. It was agreed that the fire hydrant installation at the corner of Rolston and East Warren Roads should be budgeted for.

#### Cyber Security and IT Proposals

Mr. Haverkamp indicated that the information distributed to Board members was not included in the meeting packet due to the sensitive nature of some of the information included. He had compiled a comparison of the several proposals, and noted that he had met with all those who had submitted a plan for the Town's consideration. He highlighted that Rural Solutions had completed an audit of the Town's IT systems free of charge, and indicated that they are the firm likely to provide the best general IT services, although all the submitters would likely be appropriate vendors of cyber security solutions.

**MOTION:** *Mr. Babbott-Klein moved to authorize the Town Administrator to pursue entering into an agreement with Rural Solutions for IT and Cyber Security services. The motion was seconded by Mr. Messer, and passed unanimously.*

#### **8. Ballot Question – Term of Collector of Delinquent Taxes**

Mr. Babbott-Klein read the proposed question aloud, which seeks approval for establishing a 3-year term for the Delinquent Tax Collector. It was noted that the only term lengths allowed by statute are 1-year and 3-year.

**MOTION:** *Mr. Babbott-Klein moved to approve the inclusion of the question regarding a 3-year term for the Delinquent Tax Collector in the warning for Town Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Messer, and passed unanimously.*

#### **9. Consent Agenda**

**APPROVAL:** *A motion to approve the Consent Agenda passed unanimously.*

- Approve Bills Payable & Treasurer's Warrants
- Approve Minutes of 1.5.2026 and 1.12.2026

#### **10. Town Administrator's Report**

Mr. Haverkamp noted that several municipal positions (Fence Viewer, Weigher of Coals, Inspector of Lumber) have become optional rather than mandatory positions to be filled.

#### **11. Selectboard Roundtable**

Mr. Babbott-Klein reported that the new Planner hired by MRVPD will be starting in the position in February.



180

181 Mr. Shupe reported that work is continuing on determining the location of a water main leak.

182

183 **IV. Adjourn**

184 The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

185

186 Respectfully submitted,

187 Carol Chamberlin, Recording Secretary