

**2023  
ANNUAL REPORTS**



**for the  
TOWN OF BENNINGTON  
NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Drusilla J. Cox  
“Dru”  
1930 – 2023

Drusilla was born in Concord NH, November 19<sup>th</sup> and was raised in Contoocook. She moved to Bennington 46 years ago with her family and enjoyed the close-knit community of a small town.

Dru served as one of the Supervisor of the checklist for many years, before retiring in her late eighties. She was a patron of the library and was known as a voracious reader of many genres.

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**ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS**

**Term Expires**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

James W. Cleary, Chair ..... March 2024  
Thomas James..... March 2025  
Tony Parisi..... March 2026

**CEMETERY TRUSTEES**

Robert Christianson, Chair..... March 2024  
Karen Belcher ..... March 2025  
Kelly St. Pierre..... March 2026

**LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

Colleen Allen..... March 2024  
Jill Wilmoth, Chair ..... March 2025  
David McKenzie, Alternate ..... March 2025  
Molly Eppig ..... March 2026

**MODERATOR**

John J. Cronin, III ..... March 2024

**PLANNING BOARD**

Donald Trow..... March 2024  
Luke Hardwick..... March 2025  
Todd Wheeler, Vice Chair..... March 2025  
Cory Lawrence, Chair..... March 2026

**SCHOOL BOARD REPRESENTATIVE**

Michael Hoyt..... March 2025

**SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST**

Brenda Gibbons ..... March 2028  
Walter Turner, Chair..... March 2024  
Melissa Searles ..... March 2026

**TOWN CLERK**

Debra Belcher ..... March 2025

**TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS**

Michael Munhall ..... March 2024  
David Parker..... March 2025  
Bethany Craig ..... March 2026

**WATER & SEWER COMMISSIONERS**

Tyler Howe, Chair ..... March 2024  
Melissa M. Clark..... March 2025  
Dennis McKenney ..... March 2026

**ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT**

Robert Christian, Vice Chair..... 2024  
Melissa Clark, Chair ..... 2025  
Christopher Clough..... 2024  
David Hardwick..... 2024  
Chris Maple ..... 2024  
Jeffrey Rose..... 2025

**APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS**

**ADMINISTRATION**

Administrator ..... Debra Davidson  
Deputy Administrator ..... Catherine McGillicuddy

**BUILDING INSPECTOR/CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER** ..... John Kendall

**CHIEF OF POLICE** ..... Jason LePine

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

Director ..... Keith W. Nason  
Assistant Director ..... Jason Powers

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Fire Chief .....David Foster

**HEALTH OFFICER** ..... John Kendall

**HEALTH OFFICER, DEPUTY** .....Debra Davidson

**HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR** ..... Debra Belcher

**LIBRARY DIRECTOR**.....Leslie MacGregor

**RECREATION** .....Board of Selectmen

**ROAD AGENT** .....Matthew Blanchard

**TAX COLLECTOR** .....Catherine McGillicuddy

**TOWN TREASURER** ..... Rhonda Davie

**DEPUTY TOWN TREASURER** .....Joyce Miner

**APPOINTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**Term Expires**

**BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

John Baybutt .....	2024
Jon Charlonne .....	2024
Judith Heddy .....	2024
Tyler Howe.....	2024
Shelly Griswold.....	2027

**CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDING COMMITTEE**

James Cleary .....	2027
David Foster .....	2025
David Hardwick Sr. ....	2026

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Thomas James .....	2025
Michael Munhall, Chair .....	2025
Joseph MacGregor .....	2023
Jon Manley .....	2023
Stephen Willette.....	2023
Zack Allen.....	2024
Patricia Long .....	2024

**HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Jason LePine .....	2024
James Cleary .....	2024
Matthew Blanchard.....	2024

**NEWHALL PARK BOARD**

Brian Whitemore .....	2024
Gretchen Hutton .....	2024
David Parker.....	

**SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE**

Matthew Blanchard.....	
David Parker.....	
Jeffrey Rose .....	

**ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

**ENERGY COMMITTEE**

Molly Eppig, David McKenzie, Chair, Deb Davidson, James Cleary, Michael Munhall

**RHUBARB FESTIVAL COMMITTEE**

Jessie Crews, Haley Tramosch, Molly Eppig, Thomas James, Laurie MacKeigan,  
Linda Osienski

## SELECTMEN'S MESSAGE

The Selectmen would like to thank the Townspeople for their continued support and faith in our abilities to serve the Town of Bennington.

We started the year with the changing of a board member. Tony Parisi was elected and provides a fresh perspective on town issues. Tony brings a variety of talent to the Board and has been very enthusiastic and willing to learn the many facets of the position of Board of Selectman.

The Selectmen have made progress with the improvements at the Town Hall. Several years ago, David Glynn set up and left a Trust to the Town of Bennington, following the wishes of David Glynn Selectmen have overseen the installation of a Lift, allowing for handicapped accessibility and have also overseen the installation of a sprinkler system in the Town Hall. This now makes the building useable as the site for our voting, large gatherings, and will allow groups and organizations to use the second floor of the building.

We have continued to seek improvements at the VFW. With the help of the VFW Post 8268, the Board and the VFW Post are looking into going forward with installing an updated kitchen, improving bathrooms and expanding the VFW to make it a larger facility.

Selling two properties that were Town owned provided unanticipated revenue for the Town and also put two properties back on the tax rolls. Both these properties had not been on the tax rolls for many years.

As the year progressed we made some changes in staffing. We hired a full-time employee who is split between the Highway and the Transfer Station which has proven to be beneficial to the Town. The Transfer Station was struggling to keep part-time help, this additional employee has been a great addition to the facility. We did change the hours at the Transfer Station. After doing some research, it was discovered we were one of the only towns that were open both Saturday and Sunday. It was very hard to find people who would commit to working both weekend days, every week.

The Town does have many openings on committees and boards. The Town could really use some people willing to commit to the community. Planning Board, Zoning Board, Trustee of Trust Funds, Cemetery Trustee are all opportunities to learn about the Town and a great way to get involved. If any of these positions are something you are interested in, please contact the Town Office at 603-588-2189.

The Town started its cyclical re-evaluation in 2023. The State, Department of Revenue Administration mandates a reval every 5 years. The effort is to keep assessments as close to 100% true value and as accurately assessed as possible. This assures there is proper taxation and proper values allowing for fair market value of every home in town. We have been working with Commerford, Nieder and Perkins who have gone to properties and measured. Though your property values may increase, the tax rate is likely to decrease. Currently, the median ration of properties is at 65.21%. The Department of

Revenue Administration will be working with us and auditing the reval in 2024.

Selectmen look forward to a successful year in 2024. If you want to get involved in your town, stop in to a Selectmen's Meeting, or any meeting for that matter, join a Committee and/or volunteer on a Town Board. If you have any questions or concerns, stop in at the Selectmen's Office and become informed.

Respectfully Submitted,

James Cleary, Chairman  
Thomas James, Selectman  
Tony Parisi, Selectman



**TOWN OF BENNINGTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 8, 2023 TOWN MEETING  
DELIBERATIVE SESSION-SESSION 1  
AND  
MARCH 28, 2023 TOWN ELECTION RESULTS-SESSION 2**

Session 1 of the 2023 Bennington Town Meeting convened on February 8, 2023 at the Pierce School Multi-Purpose Room in Bennington New Hampshire. John J. Cronin III, the Town Moderator called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

The meeting was opened with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance and an introduction of Michael Beausoleil who will be stepping in as Moderator Pro Tem at the town election. The Moderator, as mandated under Senate Bill 2, which the Town of Bennington adopted on March 12, 1996, briefly explained the procedures and rules of conduct for the Deliberative Session. Each warrant article will be read and discussed and any amendments proposed from the floor must be submitted in writing to the Moderator.

**All voting on the Warrant Articles, Town and School District Officials, and the Conval School District Warrant Articles will be voted on at the polls on March 14, 2023 at Pierce School in Bennington, New Hampshire. The polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

To the inhabitants of the Town of Bennington in the County of Hillsborough in the State of New Hampshire qualified to vote in town affairs are hereby notified and warned that the two phases of the Annual Town Meeting will be held as follows:

First Session of Annual Meeting (Deliberative Session):

Date: February 8, 2023

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Pierce Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room

Details: 19 Main Street

Second Session of Annual Meeting (Official Ballot Voting)

Date: March 8, 2023, Postponed until March 28, 2023

Time: 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Location: Pierce Elementary School

Details: 19 Main Street

Note: The casting of absentee ballots will begin at 2:00 p.m. The polls will close at 7:00 p.m.

1. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.

Selectman (3 years)  
Library Trustee (3 years)  
Cemetery Trustee (3 years)  
Planning Board (3 years)  
Planning Board (3 years)  
Trustee of Trust Funds (3 years)  
Water and Sewer Commissioner (3 years)  
Zoning Board of Adjustment (3 years)  
Schoolboard Member (1 year)

Tony Parisi  
Mary D.F. Eppig  
Kelly L. St. Pierre  
Cory Lawrence  
David Hardwick  
Bethany Craig  
Dennis D. McKenney  
Christopher Clough  
Michael Hoyt

**When the polls opened at 8:00 a.m., the Voter Checklist contained 962 registered voters. During Election Day, 6 new voters were added to the checklist. When the polls closed at 7:00 p.m., the Voters Checklist contained 968 voters. A total of 247 voters cast their ballots in this election, which was a 26% voter turnout.**

The Deliberative Town Meeting, Session I was attended by 23 registered voters.

The Moderator initiated the following articles:

2. Shall the Town of Bennington raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling one million, eight hundred thirty-one thousand, eight hundred five dollars (\$1,831,805.00). Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be one million, seven hundred seventy-one thousand, eight hundred fifty-three dollars (\$1,771,853), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

NOTE: Selectman Cleary spoke to the article noting that there is an amendment being brought forward to correct an error in the default budget figure. Moderator Cronin noted that per RSA 40:13,b the article can not be amended by the voters, but shall be amended by the governing body. The correct default budget figure shall be \$1,839,457.

2023 RESULTS: YES- 179 NO- 58

THE ARTICLE PASSED

3. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to be added to the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund previously established?

NOTE: Selectman Foster spoke to the article noting that it is an annual appropriation in order to keep building the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES- 171 NO- 71

THE ARTICLE PASSED

4. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) to be added to the Rescue Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund previously established?

NOTE: Selectman Foster spoke to the article noting that it is an annual appropriation in order to keep building the Rescue Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES- 186 NO- 56

THE ARTICLE PASSED

5. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to be added to the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund previously established?

NOTE: Selectman Cleary asked Police Chief LePine to speak to the article. This article is an annual appropriation in order to keep building the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES- 152 NO- 89

THE ARTICLE PASSED

6. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) to be added to the Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established?

NOTE: Selectman Cleary spoke to the article noting that it is an annual appropriation in order to keep building the Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. The Town is in process of buying a new truck in the spring or summer of this year. There is currently \$256,000 in this reserve fund. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES- 178 NO- 63

THE ARTICLE PASSED

7. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) to be added to the Mower Capital Reserve Fund previously established?

NOTE: Selectman Cleary spoke to the article noting that it is an annual appropriation in order to keep building the Mower Capital Reserve Fund. Currently there is \$11,500 in this reserve fund. A possible purchase will be scheduled next year. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES- 161 NO- 77

THE ARTICLE PASSED

8. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the Town Buildings Expendable Trust Fund previously established?

NOTE: Selectman Cleary spoke to the article noting that this year the VFW was repainted. Work is in process at the Town Hall for the installation of the elevator and sprinkler system to be paid from money left to the Town by David Glynn; these upgrades will not use money from the Town Buildings Expendable Trust Fund. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES- 158 NO- 80

THE ARTICLE PASSED

9. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Dodge Memorial Library Capital Reserve Fund previously established?

NOTE: Selectman Cleary asked Librarian Leslie MacGregor to the speak to the article. This past year money was used to pay for equipment, installing a new toilet, oil tank, and windows. Next year, the Library is planning on painting trim and replacing chimney bricks. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES-171 NO- 73

THE ARTICLE PASSED

10. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to be added to the Road Rehabilitation Capital Reserve Fund previously established?  
NOTE: Selectman Cleary spoke to the article noting that there is currently \$107,000 in this reserve fund. The plan is to complete road rehabilitation from Curtis Homestead to Pine Meadows. Old Greenfield rd. is also in need. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES- 193 NO- 51

THE ARTICLE PASSED

11. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the Water Department Maintenance & Repairs Capital Reserve Fund previously established?

NOTE: Selectman Cleary asked Tyler Howe, water commissioner, to speak to the article. Currently there is \$114,000 in this reserve fund. There is a dire need for replacement and maintenance. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES- 171 NO- 68

THE ARTICLE PASSED

12. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) to be added to the Sidewalk Capital Reserve Fund previously established?

NOTE: Selectman Cleary spoke to the article noting that there is currently \$4,000 in this reserve fund. The sidewalks have been a great addition to downtown. One area in need of maintenance is at the corner by the GEP Dodge Library. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES- 156 NO- 87

THE ARTICLE PASSED

13. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be added to the Bridge Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund?

NOTE: Selectman Cleary spoke to the article noting that there is currently \$96,000 in this expendable trust fund. There is one red listed bridge in town by Albertos. Other bridges in town that will need maintenance in the future are on South Bennington Rd and on Route 202. The Town is waiting on communication from the State for when Antrim Rd bridge will be addressed. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES- 180 NO- 59

THE ARTICLE PASSED

14. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) to be added to the Fire Department Breathing Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund previously established?

NOTE: Selectman Foster spoke to the article noting that it is an annual appropriation to keep building the Fire Department Breathing Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund. There is currently \$9,000 in this reserve fund. This reserve fund is used to replace O2 bottles for the SCBAs. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES- 194 NO- 48

THE ARTICLE PASSED

15. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of six thousand dollars (\$6,000) to be added to the Fire Department Protective Gear Capital Reserve Fund previously established?

NOTE: Selectman Foster spoke to the article noting that it is an annual appropriation to keep building the Fire Department Protective Gear Capital Reserve Fund. There is currently \$28,000 in this reserve fund. The Department's current vests are nearing expiration. Money will be earmarked for body armor for active shooters. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES- 189 NO- 50

THE ARTICLE PASSED

16. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000) to be added to the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund previously established?

NOTE: Selectman Cleary spoke to the article noting that it is an annual appropriation to keep building the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund. There is currently \$38,138.45 in this reserve fund. Selectmen Cleary noted that the prices for revaluation are increasing. The next revaluation will be in 2024. If the Town does not have funds for revaluation, the state does it and it will cost the town more. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES- 132 NO- 103

THE ARTICLE PASSED

17. Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of forty five thousand dollars (\$45,000) to provide additional Highway Department funds to address deferred road maintenance?

NOTE: Selectman Cleary spoke to the article noting that this is an annual appropriation to keep building the Highway Department fund to address deferred road maintenance. This is money in addition to the Road Rehabilitation Capital Reserve Fund. There are 19 miles of road in Town. It is around \$100,000 per mile of road. Joseph MacGregor asked why there are two warrant articles for road rehabilitation and how the Town determines which fund to use to pay for work. It was explained that if the total amount was put into one warrant article, there could be a chance of it not passing due to the amount. When money from one fund is exhausted, the other fund is used to pay for expenses. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES- 168 NO- 71

THE ARTICLE PASSED

18. To see if the Town of Bennington, will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a 5-year annual lease agreement for Six Hundred Seventy-Nine Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty-Two Dollars (\$679,862) for the purpose of leasing a Fire Truck for the Fire Department, and to appropriate Four Hundred Twenty Thousand (\$420,000) for the first payment with said funds to come from the (Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund); the remaining payments will be paid annually of Sixty Thousand Nineteen (\$60,019). This lease agreement contains an escape clause.

NOTE: Selectman Foster spoke to the article noting that the truck needs to be replaced. Keith Nason stated that the cost has increased; the town has the options to extend the number of years before the truck is replaced or to do a short term lease. It was noted that there will be an escape clause for the municipal lease if money was not

appropriated so that the money invested would not be lost. The lease would be done in 2028 with a \$1 buy out. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES- 135      NO- 103

THE ARTICLE PASSED

19. Shall the Town of Bennington vote to re-adopt the provisions of RSA 72:28, II, in accordance with RSA 72:27-a, previously adopted [2016 Adopted RSA 72:28,II Optional Veteran Credit, for an Optional Veterans' Tax Credit per year. If re-adopted and approved, this article shall take effect for the 2023 property tax year; or take any other action relative thereto.

NOTE: Selectman Cleary asked Administrator Debra Davidson to speak to the article. Legislature has required all towns with veteran's tax exemption to include a warrant article on the ballot in order for veterans to not lose the credit. In Bennington, there is a \$500 credit that is applied to those who qualify. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES-180      NO- 58

THE ARTICLE PASSED

20. To see if the Town will vote to allow the operation of KENO within the Town of Bennington pursuant to the provisions of NH RSA 284:41 through 51. Shall we allow the operation of KENO games within the Town; or take any other action relative thereto.

NOTE: Selectman Cleary spoke to the article noting that in order for establishments to apply as a location for KENO, the town must first vote whether it is allowed in town or not. Currently, Harris' Route 202 mini mart is interested in applying. Mary D.F. Eppig asked how allowing establishments to have KENO would benefit the town. There is no direct benefit, however Harris' Route 202 mini mart is looking at expanding the store which would increase their taxes, there is also the possibility of more foot traffic in town. Jonathan Manley noted that his understanding was that at the law only allowed places that served liquor to be a location for KENO. There is a preliminary hearing on February 21, 2023 regarding KENO. Joseph MacGregor asked if it would be possible for someone from the State to present information about KENO. Harris' cannot apply as a location for KENO unless approved by the voters. If the warrant article passes, then they would need to approach the Planning Board. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.



2023 RESULTS: YES-105 NO- 134

THE ARTICLE DID NOT PASS

21. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) for the purpose of supporting the Contoocook Housing Trust.

NOTE: Selectman Cleary asked Jonathan Manley to speak to the article. There are two buildings in town for moderate to low income housing located at 9 and 19 Francetown Rd. This warrant article helps to support the Contoocook Housing Trust provide housing. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES-169 NO- 74

THE ARTICLE PASSED

22. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for the purpose of supporting the Community Volunteer Transportation Company - a nonprofit organization.

NOTE: Selectman Cleary asked Administrator Debra Davidson to speak to the article. This is a nonprofit organization that the Town has been providing support to for a number of years. The Community Volunteer Transportation Company provides rides to our community to help people needing transportation to doctor's appointments, grocery shopping, etc. Last year 18 people from Bennington used this service. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES- 167 NO- 76

THE ARTICLE PASSED

23. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00) in support of The Grapevine Family & Community Resource Center - a nonprofit organization. The appropriation will provide \$4,000 funding for the Grapevine Family & Resource Center and \$2,000 funding for The Teen Center's programs and services.

NOTE: Selectman Cleary spoke to the article noting that this is a nonprofit organization that the Town has been providing support to for a number of years. Moderator John Cronin III and Town Clerk Debra Belcher noted that this is a worthwhile organization that provides early child programs, kinship, home visits, tax preparation, wood bank, and the Teen Avenue A. The Grapevine was able to provide programs and services 148 times to Bennington residents last year.

2023 RESULTS: YES-177 NO- 67

THE ARTICLE PASSED

24. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Hundred Dollars (\$600.00) for the purpose of supporting the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) - a nonprofit organization.

NOTE: Selectman Cleary asked Moderator John Cronin III to speak to the article. This is a nonprofit organization that the Town has been providing supports to for a number of years. Cronin noted that these unsung heroes help support and advocate for our most vulnerable kids. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES-171 NO- 71

THE ARTICLE PASSED

25. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand One Hundred dollars (\$1,100.00) for the purpose of supporting the Child Advocacy Center (CAC) - a nonprofit organization.

NOTE: Selectman Cleary asked Michael Beausoleil to speak to the article. This is a nonprofit organization that the Town has been providing support to for a number of years. It was noted that it is an amazing organization that helps provide works with the police department and provides services in child abuse cases. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES-181 NO- 48

THE ARTICLE PASSED

26. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for the purpose of supporting the End 68 Hours of Hunger program - a non-profit program.

NOTE: Selectman Cleary spoke to the article noting that this nonprofit organization is 100% volunteer. This past year they helped provide meals for the weekends for 243 children in the Conval School District, 23 of which were Bennington residents. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES- 177 NO- 54

THE ARTICLE PASSED

27. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Hundred Dollars (\$700.00) for the purpose of supporting the American Red Cross - a nonprofit program.

NOTE: Selectman Cleary spoke to the article noting that this is a nonprofit organization that the Town has been providing support to for a number of years. This organization helps community members who have been displaced. This past year they helped a family in Town that had been displaced due to a fire. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES- 169 NO- 61

THE ARTICLE PASSED

28. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for the purpose of supporting the Hundred Nights Shelter-a nonprofit organization.

NOTE: Selectman Cleary spoke to the article noting that this nonprofit organization provides up to 100 nights of shelter. While there a case manager is assigned to help the individual find a job. Last year, Bennington had one resident spend 68 nights at the shelter and another resident was in and out 77 times. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES- 158 NO- 69

THE ARTICLE PASSED

29. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for the purpose of supporting the Cornucopia Project-a nonprofit organization.

NOTE: Selectman James spoke to the article noting that this is a new article this year. This nonprofit organization works with the schools and community to teach children about agriculture- how to grow and cook food. No amendments were introduced and the article was accepted as written.

2023 RESULTS: YES- 142 NO- 86

THE ARTICLE PASSED

As there was no other business at hand, Selectmen Cleary made a motion to adjourn the meeting and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Belcher", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Karen Belcher  
Bennington Deputy Town Clerk

**Financial Information**  
for the Year Ended December 31, 2023





**Article 01 To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year**

To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.

Yes  No

**Article 02 Operating Budget**

Shall the Town of Bennington raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling two million, nine thousand, eighty three (\$2,009,083). Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be one million, eight hundred eighty two thousand, five hundred eleven dollars (\$1,882,511), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. Recommended by Board of Selectmen. Majority Vote Required.

Yes  No

**Article 03 Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to be added to the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund previously established?  
Recommended by the Selectmen. Majority vote required.

Yes  No

**Article 04 Rescue Vehicle CRF**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) to be added to the Rescue Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund previously established?  
Recommended by the Selectmen. Majority vote required.

Yes  No

**Article 05 Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to be added to the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund previously established?  
Recommended by the Selectmen. Majority vote required.

Yes  No

**Article 06 Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) to be added to the Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established?  
Recommended by the Selectmen. Majority vote required.

Yes  No



**Article 07 Mower Capital Reserve Fund**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2500) to be added to the Mower Capital Reserve Fund previously established?  
Recommended by the Selectmen. Majority vote required.

Yes  No

**Article 08 Town Buildings Expendable Trust Fund**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the Town Buildings Expendable Trust Fund previously established?  
Recommended by the Selectmen. Majority vote required.

Yes  No

**Article 09 Dodge Memorial Library Capital Reserve Fund**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Dodge Memorial Library Capital Reserve Fund previously established?  
Recommended by the Selectmen. Majority vote required.

Yes  No

**Article 10 Road Rehabilitation Capital Reserve Fund**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to be added to the Road Rehabilitation Capital Reserve Fund previously established?  
Recommended by the Selectmen. Majority vote required.

Yes  No

**Article 11 Water Dept Maintenance/Repairs CRF**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the Water Department Maintenance & Repairs Capital Reserve Fund previously established?  
Recommended by the Selectmen. Majority vote required.

Yes  No

**Article 12 Sidewalk Capital Reserve Fund**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) to be added to the Sidewalk Capital Reserve Fund previously established?  
Recommended by Selectmen. Majority vote required.

Yes  No





**Article 13 Bridge Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be added to the Bridge Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund?  
Recommended by the Selectmen. Majority vote required.

Yes  No

**Article 14 Fire Department SCBA Capital Reserve Fund**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) to be added to the Fire Department Breathing Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund previously established?  
Recommended by the Selectmen. Majority vote required.

Yes  No

**Article 15 Fire Dept Protective Gear Capital Reserve Fund**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of six thousand dollars (\$6,000) to be added to the Fire Department Protective Gear Capital Reserve Fund previously established?  
Recommended by the Selectmen. Majority vote required.

Yes  No

**Article 16 Revaluation CRF**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000) to be added to the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund previously established?  
Recommended by the Selectmen. Majority vote required.

Yes  No

**Article 17 Deferred Road Maintenance**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of forty five thousand dollars (\$45,000) to provide additional Highway Department funds to address deferred road maintenance?  
Recommended by the Selectmen. (Majority vote required).

Yes  No

**Article 18 Establish Bennington Community Power Plan**

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the Bennington Community Power Plan, which authorizes the Selectboard to develop and implement Bennington Community Power as described therein (pursuant to RSA 53-E:7). The program would provide a new default electric supply and new renewable energy supply options for customers in Bennington. There is no cost to the Town budget, and no obligation to participate. Customers can opt out at any time and return to utility default service. Recommended by the Selectmen. Majority vote required.

Yes  No



**Article 19    Appropriate to CRF**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$67,500.00 to be added to the Fire Department Fire Truck CRF previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. These funds are from the proceeds from the sale of the Ford F550 Fire Truck. No amount to be raised from taxation. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Majority vote required.

Yes       No

**Article 20    To appropriate to Contoocook Housing Trust**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) for the purpose of supporting the Contoocook Housing Trust. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. (Majority vote required)

Yes       No

**Article 21    To support Community Volunteer Transportation**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for the purpose of supporting the Community Volunteer Transportation Company - a non profit organization. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. (Majority vote required)

Yes       No

**Article 22    Support for the Grapevine & Avenue A**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00) in support of The Grapevine Family & Community Resource Center - a nonprofit organization. The appropriation will provide \$4,000 funding for the Grapevine Family & Resource Center and \$2,000 funding for The Teen Center's programs and services. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. (Majority vote required)

Yes       No

**Article 23    To support the Court Appointed Special Advocate Pr**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Hundred Dollars (\$600.00) for the purpose of supporting the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) - a non profit organization. Recommended by the Selectmen. (Majority vote required)

Yes       No

**Article 24    To support Child Advocacy Center**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand One Hundred dollars (\$1,100.00) for the purpose of supporting the Child Advocacy Center (CAC) - a non profit organization. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. (Majority vote required)

Yes       No



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**Article 25 Support of End 68 Hours of Hunger**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for the purpose of supporting the End 68 Hours of Hunger program - a non-profit program. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. (Majority vote required)

Yes  No

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**Article 26 Support for American Red Cross**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Hundred Dollars (\$700.00) for the purpose of supporting the American Red Cross - a non profit. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. (Majority vote required)

Yes  No

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**Article 27 Support for Local Shelter**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for the purpose of supporting the Hundred Nights Shelter-a non profit organization. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. (Majority vote required)

Yes  No

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**Article 28 Support for Cornucopia Project**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) for the purpose of supporting the Cornucopia Project-a non profit organization. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. (Majority vote required)

Yes  No



Default Budget of the Municipality  
**Bennington**

For the period beginning January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2024

*RSA 40:13, IX (b) "Default budget" as used in this subdivision means the amount of the same appropriations as contained in the operating budget authorized for the previous year, reduced and increased, as the case may be, by debt service, contracts, and other obligations previously incurred or mandated by law, and reduced by one-time expenditures contained in the operating budget. For the purposes of this paragraph, one-time expenditures shall be appropriations not likely to recur in the succeeding budget, as determined by the governing body, unless the provisions of RSA 40:14-b are adopted, of the local political subdivision.*

This form was posted with the warrant on: January 26, 2024

**GOVERNING BODY OR BUDGET COMMITTEE CERTIFICATION**

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Name	Position	Signature
James Cleary	Chairman	
Thomas James	Selectman	
Tony Parisi	Selectman	

This form must be signed, scanned, and uploaded to the Municipal Tax Rate Setting Portal:  
<https://www.proptax.org/>

For assistance please contact:  
NH DRA Municipal and Property Division  
(603) 230-5090  
<http://www.revenue.nh.gov/mun-prop/>



**Default Budget of the Municipality**

Account	Purpose	Prior Year Adopted Budget	Reductions or Increases	One-Time Appropriations	Default Budget
<b>General Government</b>					
4130	Executive	\$179,905	\$6,401	\$0	\$186,306
4140	Election, Registration, and Vital Statistics	\$54,078	\$0	\$0	\$54,078
4150	Financial Administration	\$44,652	\$0	\$0	\$44,652
4152	Property Assessment	\$9,590	\$0	\$0	\$9,590
4153	Legal Expense	\$6,000	\$0	\$0	\$6,000
4155	Personnel Administration	\$20,127	\$0	\$0	\$20,127
4191	Planning and Zoning	\$5,939	\$0	\$0	\$5,939
4194	General Government Buildings	\$83,669	\$0	\$0	\$83,669
4195	Cemeteries	\$16,575	\$0	\$0	\$16,575
4196	Insurance Not Otherwise Allocated	\$35,694	\$5,176	\$0	\$40,870
4197	Advertising and Regional Associations	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4198	Contingency	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4199	Other General Government	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>General Government Subtotal</b>		<b>\$456,229</b>	<b>\$11,577</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$467,806</b>
<b>Public Safety</b>					
4210	Police	\$379,141	\$0	\$0	\$379,141
4215	Ambulances	\$25,000	\$5,000	\$0	\$30,000
4220	Fire	\$77,998	\$0	\$0	\$77,998
4240	Building Inspection	\$3,415	\$0	\$0	\$3,415
4290	Emergency Management	\$3,920	\$0	\$0	\$3,920
4299	Other Public Safety	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Public Safety Subtotal</b>		<b>\$489,474</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$494,474</b>
<b>Airport/Aviation Center</b>					
4301	Airport Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4302	Airport Operations	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4309	Other Airport	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Airport/Aviation Center Subtotal</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Highways and Streets</b>					
4311	Highway Administration	\$232,692	\$34,129	\$0	\$266,821
4312	Highways and Streets	\$157,500	\$0	\$0	\$157,500
4313	Bridges	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4316	Street Lighting	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$5,000
4319	Other Highway, Streets, and Bridges	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Highways and Streets Subtotal</b>		<b>\$395,192</b>	<b>\$34,129</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$429,321</b>
<b>Sanitation</b>					
4321	Sanitation Administration	\$33,353	\$0	\$0	\$33,353
4323	Solid Waste Collection	\$1,602	\$0	\$0	\$1,602
4324	Solid Waste Disposal	\$66,700	\$0	\$0	\$66,700
4325	Solid Waste Facilities Clean-Up	\$4,800	\$0	\$0	\$4,800
4326	Sewage Collection and Disposal	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4329	Other Sanitation	\$1,100	\$0	\$0	\$1,100



**Default Budget of the Municipality**

<b>Sanitation Subtotal</b>		<b>\$107,555</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$107,555</b>
<b>Water Distribution and Treatment</b>					
4331	Water Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4332	Water Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4335	Water Treatment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4338	Water Conservation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Water Distribution and Treatment Subtotal</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Electric</b>					
4351	Electric Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4352	Generation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4353	Purchase Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4354	Electric Equipment Maintenance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4359	Other Electric Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Electric Subtotal</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Health</b>					
4411	Health Administration	\$102	\$0	\$0	\$102
4414	Pest Control	\$200	\$0	\$0	\$200
4415	Health Agencies and Hospitals	\$5,845	\$0	\$0	\$5,845
4419	Other Health	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Health Subtotal</b>		<b>\$6,147</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$6,147</b>
<b>Welfare</b>					
4441	Welfare Administration	\$12,896	\$0	\$0	\$12,896
4442	Direct Assistance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Payments	\$935	\$0	\$0	\$935
4445	Vendor Payments	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4449	Other Welfare	\$3,300	\$0	\$0	\$3,300
<b>Welfare Subtotal</b>		<b>\$17,131</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$17,131</b>
<b>Culture and Recreation</b>					
4520	Parks and Recreation	\$34,460	\$0	\$0	\$34,460
4550	Library	\$165,458	\$0	\$0	\$165,458
4583	Patriotic Purposes	\$700	\$0	\$0	\$700
4589	Other Culture and Recreation	\$2,400	\$0	\$0	\$2,400
<b>Culture and Recreation Subtotal</b>		<b>\$203,018</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$203,018</b>
<b>Conservation and Development</b>					
4611	Conservation Administration	\$981	\$0	\$0	\$981
4612	Purchase of Natural Resources	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4619	Other Conservation	\$1,133	\$0	\$0	\$1,133
4631	Redevelopment and Housing Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4632	Other Redevelopment and Housing	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4651	Economic Development Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4652	Economic Development	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0



**Default Budget of the Municipality**

4659	Other Economic Development	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>Conservation and Development Subtotal</b>	<b>\$2,114</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,114</b>
<b>Debt Service</b>					
4711	Principal - Long Term Bonds, Notes, and Other Debt	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4721	Interest - Long Term Bonds, Notes, and Other Debt	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4723	Interest on Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes	\$3,000	\$0	\$0	\$3,000
4790	Other Debt Service Charges	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>Debt Service Subtotal</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>
<b>Capital Outlay</b>					
4901	Land	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4903	Buildings	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>Capital Outlay Subtotal</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Operating Transfers Out</b>					
4911	To Revolving Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4912	To Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4913	To Capital Projects Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914A	To Airport Proprietary Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914E	To Electric Proprietary Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914O	To Other Proprietary Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914S	To Sewer Proprietary Fund	\$71,250	\$0	\$0	\$71,250
4914W	To Water Proprietary Fund	\$80,695	\$0	\$0	\$80,695
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4916	To Expendable Trusts	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4917	To Health Maintenance Trust Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4918	To Non-Expendable Trust Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4919	To Fiduciary Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>Operating Transfers Out Subtotal</b>	<b>\$151,945</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$151,945</b>
	<b>Total Operating Budget Appropriations</b>	<b>\$1,831,805</b>	<b>\$50,706</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,882,511</b>





**Default Budget of the Municipality**

Account	Explanation
4215	contractual obligation
4130	14.6% insurance increase
4311	14.6% increase insurance, 3rd f/t employee split w/sanitation
4196	17.8% insurance increase





New Hampshire  
Department of  
Revenue Administration

2023  
MS-434

Revised Estimated Revenues

**Bennington**

(RSA 21-J:34)

For the period beginning January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2023

**PREPARER'S CERTIFICATION**

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Name	Position	Signature
Debra Davidson	Town Administrator	Debra Davidson

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Revised Estimated Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Estimated Revenue
<b>Taxes</b>			
3120	Land Use Change Tax - General Fund	02	\$5,161
3180	Resident Tax		\$0
3185	Yield Tax	02	\$3,500
3186	Payment in Lieu of Taxes	02	\$500
3187	Excavation Tax	02	\$1,019
3189	Other Taxes		\$0
3190	Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	02	\$14,061
9991	Inventory Penalties		\$0
<b>Taxes Subtotal</b>			<b>\$24,241</b>
<b>Licenses, Permits, and Fees</b>			
3210	Business Licenses and Permits	02	\$700
3220	Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	02	\$233,885
3230	Building Permits	02	\$1,400
3290	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	02	\$6,000
3311-3319	From Federal Government		\$161,879
<b>Licenses, Permits, and Fees Subtotal</b>			<b>\$403,864</b>
<b>State Sources</b>			
3351	Municipal Aid/Shared Revenues		\$0
3352	Meals and Rooms Tax Distribution	02	\$100,000
3353	Highway Block Grant	02	\$45,000
3354	Water Pollution Grant		\$0
3355	Housing and Community Development		\$0
3356	State and Federal Forest Land Reimbursement		\$0
3357	Flood Control Reimbursement		\$0
3359	Other (Including Railroad Tax)		\$5,940
3379	From Other Governments		\$0
<b>State Sources Subtotal</b>			<b>\$150,940</b>
<b>Charges for Services</b>			
3401-3406	Income from Departments	02	\$10,000
3409	Other Charges		\$0
<b>Charges for Services Subtotal</b>			<b>\$10,000</b>
<b>Miscellaneous Revenues</b>			
3501	Sale of Municipal Property	02	\$33,510
3502	Interest on Investments	02	\$2,500
3503-3509	Other	02	\$12,000
<b>Miscellaneous Revenues Subtotal</b>			<b>\$48,010</b>



Revised Estimated Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Estimated Revenue
<b>Interfund Operating Transfers In</b>			
3912	From Special Revenue Funds		\$0
3913	From Capital Projects Funds		\$0
3914A	From Enterprise Funds: Airport (Offset)		\$0
3914E	From Enterprise Funds: Electric (Offset)		\$0
3914O	From Enterprise Funds: Other (Offset)		\$0
3914S	From Enterprise Funds: Sewer (Offset)	02	\$71,250
3914W	From Enterprise Funds: Water (Offset)	02	\$80,695
3915	From Capital Reserve Funds	,18	\$420,000
3916	From Trust and Fiduciary Funds		\$0
3917	From Conservation Funds		\$0
<b>Interfund Operating Transfers In Subtotal</b>			<b>\$571,945</b>
<b>Other Financing Sources</b>			
3934	Proceeds from Long Term Bonds and Notes		\$0
<b>Other Financing Sources Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>
<b>Total Revised Estimated Revenues and Credits</b>			<b>\$1,209,000</b>



Revised Estimated Revenues Summary

<b>Subtotal of Revenues</b>		<b>\$1,209,000</b>
Unassigned Fund Balance (Unreserved)	\$0	
(Less) Emergency Appropriations (RSA 32:11)	\$0	
(Less) Voted from Fund Balance	\$0	
(Less) Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes	\$0	
Fund Balance Retained	\$0	
<b>Total Revenues and Credits</b>		<b>\$1,209,000</b>
<b>Requested Overlay</b>	<b>\$0</b>	



Report of Appropriations Actually Voted

Bennington

For the period beginning January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2023

Form Due Date: 20 Days after the Annual Meeting

GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that the information contained in this form, appropriations actually voted by the town/city meeting, was taken from official records and is complete to the best of our knowledge and belief. Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Name	Position	Signature
James w Cleary	Selectman	
Anthony Parisi	Selectman	
Thomas James	Selectman	

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<http://www.revenue.nh.gov/mun-prop/>



Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Appropriations As Voted
<b>General Government</b>			
4130-4139	Executive	02	\$179,905
4140-4149	Election, Registration, and Vital Statistics	02	\$54,078
4150-4151	Financial Administration	02	\$44,652
4152	Revaluation of Property	02	\$9,590
4153	Legal Expense	02	\$6,000
4155-4159	Personnel Administration	02	\$20,127
4191-4193	Planning and Zoning	02	\$5,939
4194	General Government Buildings	02	\$83,669
4195	Cemeteries	02	\$16,575
4196	Insurance	02	\$35,694
4197	Advertising and Regional Association		\$0
4199	Other General Government		\$0
<b>General Government Subtotal</b>			<b>\$456,229</b>
<b>Public Safety</b>			
4210-4214	Police	02	\$379,141
4215-4219	Ambulance	02	\$25,000
4220-4229	Fire	02	\$77,998
4240-4249	Building Inspection	02	\$3,415
4290-4298	Emergency Management	02	\$3,920
4299	Other (Including Communications)		\$0
<b>Public Safety Subtotal</b>			<b>\$489,474</b>
<b>Airport/Aviation Center</b>			
4301-4309	Airport Operations		\$0
<b>Airport/Aviation Center Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>
<b>Highways and Streets</b>			
4311	Administration	02	\$232,692
4312	Highways and Streets	02	\$157,500
4313	Bridges		\$0
4316	Street Lighting	02	\$5,000
4319	Other	17	\$45,000
<b>Highways and Streets Subtotal</b>			<b>\$440,192</b>
<b>Sanitation</b>			
4321	Administration	02	\$33,353
4323	Solid Waste Collection	02	\$1,602
4324	Solid Waste Disposal	02	\$66,700
4325	Solid Waste Cleanup	02	\$4,800
4326-4328	Sewage Collection and Disposal		\$0
4329	Other Sanitation	02	\$1,100
<b>Sanitation Subtotal</b>			<b>\$107,555</b>



Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Appropriations As Voted
<b>Water Distribution and Treatment</b>			
4331	Administration		\$0
4332	Water Services		\$0
4335	Water Treatment		\$0
4338-4339	Water Conservation and Other		\$0
<b>Water Distribution and Treatment Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>
<b>Electric</b>			
4351-4352	Administration and Generation		\$0
4353	Purchase Costs		\$0
4354	Electric Equipment Maintenance		\$0
4359	Other Electric Costs		\$0
<b>Electric Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>
<b>Health</b>			
4411	Administration	02	\$102
4414	Pest Control	02	\$200
4415-4419	Health Agencies, Hospitals, and Other	02	\$5,845
<b>Health Subtotal</b>			<b>\$6,147</b>
<b>Welfare</b>			
4441-4442	Administration and Direct Assistance	02	\$12,896
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Payments	02	\$935
4445-4449	Vendor Payments and Other	02,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29	\$14,500
<b>Welfare Subtotal</b>			<b>\$28,331</b>
<b>Culture and Recreation</b>			
4520-4529	Parks and Recreation	02	\$34,460
4550-4559	Library	02	\$165,458
4583	Patriotic Purposes	02	\$700
4589	Other Culture and Recreation	02	\$2,400
<b>Culture and Recreation Subtotal</b>			<b>\$203,018</b>
<b>Conservation and Development</b>			
4611-4612	Administration and Purchasing of Natural Resources	02	\$981
4619	Other Conservation	02	\$1,133
4631-4632	Redevelopment and Housing		\$0
4651-4659	Economic Development		\$0
<b>Conservation and Development Subtotal</b>			<b>\$2,114</b>







DRA Revised/Reviewed Appropriations

**Bennington**

For the period beginning January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2023

In accordance with RSA 21-J:35, the department is notifying you of the following changes in the appropriations used in computing the tax rate.

Account	Purpose	Article	Appropriations As Voted	Change Amount	DRA Revised Appropriations
<b>General Government</b>					
4130-4139	Executive	02	\$179,905	\$0	\$179,905
4140-4149	Election, Registration, and Vital Statistics	02	\$54,078	\$0	\$54,078
4150-4151	Financial Administration	02	\$44,652	\$0	\$44,652
4152	Revaluation of Property	02	\$9,590	\$0	\$9,590
4153	Legal Expense	02	\$6,000	\$0	\$6,000
4155-4159	Personnel Administration	02	\$20,127	\$0	\$20,127
4191-4193	Planning and Zoning	02	\$5,939	\$0	\$5,939
4194	General Government Buildings	02	\$83,669	\$0	\$83,669
4195	Cemeteries	02	\$16,575	\$0	\$16,575
4196	Insurance	02	\$35,694	\$0	\$35,694
4197	Advertising and Regional Association		\$0	\$0	\$0
4199	Other General Government		\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>General Government Subtotal</b>			<b>\$456,229</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$456,229</b>
<b>Public Safety</b>					
4210-4214	Police	02	\$379,141	\$0	\$379,141
4215-4219	Ambulance	02	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000
4220-4229	Fire	02	\$77,998	\$0	\$77,998
4240-4249	Building Inspection	02	\$3,415	\$0	\$3,415
4290-4298	Emergency Management	02	\$3,920	\$0	\$3,920
4299	Other (Including Communications)		\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Public Safety Subtotal</b>			<b>\$489,474</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$489,474</b>
<b>Airport/Aviation Center</b>					
4301-4309	Airport Operations		\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Airport/Aviation Center Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Highways and Streets</b>					
4311	Administration	02	\$232,692	\$0	\$232,692
4312	Highways and Streets	02	\$157,500	\$0	\$157,500
4313	Bridges		\$0	\$0	\$0
4316	Street Lighting	02	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
4319	Other	17	\$45,000	\$0	\$45,000
<b>Highways and Streets Subtotal</b>			<b>\$440,192</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$440,192</b>



DRA Revised/Reviewed Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Appropriations As Voted	Change Amount	DRA Revised Appropriations
<b>Sanitation</b>					
4321	Administration	02	\$33,353	\$0	\$33,353
4323	Solid Waste Collection	02	\$1,602	\$0	\$1,602
4324	Solid Waste Disposal	02	\$66,700	\$0	\$66,700
4325	Solid Waste Cleanup	02	\$4,800	\$0	\$4,800
4326-4328	Sewage Collection and Disposal		\$0	\$0	\$0
4329	Other Sanitation	02	\$1,100	\$0	\$1,100
<b>Sanitation Subtotal</b>			<b>\$107,555</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$107,555</b>
<b>Water Distribution and Treatment</b>					
4331	Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0
4332	Water Services		\$0	\$0	\$0
4335	Water Treatment		\$0	\$0	\$0
4338-4339	Water Conservation and Other		\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Water Distribution and Treatment Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Electric</b>					
4351-4352	Administration and Generation		\$0	\$0	\$0
4353	Purchase Costs		\$0	\$0	\$0
4354	Electric Equipment Maintenance		\$0	\$0	\$0
4359	Other Electric Costs		\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Electric Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Health</b>					
4411	Administration	02	\$102	\$0	\$102
4414	Pest Control	02	\$200	\$0	\$200
4415-4419	Health Agencies, Hospitals, and Other	02	\$5,845	\$0	\$5,845
<b>Health Subtotal</b>			<b>\$6,147</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$6,147</b>
<b>Welfare</b>					
4441-4442	Administration and Direct Assistance	02	\$12,896	\$0	\$12,896
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Payments	02	\$935	\$0	\$935
4445-4449	Vendor Payments and Other	02,21,22,23,24,2 5,26,27,28,29	\$14,500	\$0	\$14,500
<b>Welfare Subtotal</b>			<b>\$28,331</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$28,331</b>
<b>Culture and Recreation</b>					
4520-4529	Parks and Recreation	02	\$34,460	\$0	\$34,460
4550-4559	Library	02	\$165,458	\$0	\$165,458
4583	Patriotic Purposes	02	\$700	\$0	\$700
4589	Other Culture and Recreation	02	\$2,400	\$0	\$2,400
<b>Culture and Recreation Subtotal</b>			<b>\$203,018</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$203,018</b>



DRA Revised/Reviewed Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Appropriations As Voted	Change Amount	DRA Revised Appropriations
<b>Conservation and Development</b>					
4611-4612	Administration and Purchasing of Natural Resources	02	\$981	\$0	\$981
4619	Other Conservation	02	\$1,133	\$0	\$1,133
4631-4632	Redevelopment and Housing		\$0	\$0	\$0
4651-4659	Economic Development		\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Conservation and Development Subtotal</b>			<b>\$2,114</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,114</b>
<b>Debt Service</b>					
4711	Long Term Bonds and Notes - Principal		\$0	\$0	\$0
4721	Long Term Bonds and Notes - Interest		\$0	\$0	\$0
4723	Tax Anticipation Notes - Interest	02	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000
4790-4799	Other Debt Service		\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Debt Service Subtotal</b>			<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>
<b>Capital Outlay</b>					
4901	Land		\$0	\$0	\$0
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment	18	\$420,000	\$0	\$420,000
4903	Buildings		\$0	\$0	\$0
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings		\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Capital Outlay Subtotal</b>			<b>\$420,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$420,000</b>
<b>Operating Transfers Out</b>					
4912	To Special Revenue Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0
4913	To Capital Projects Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0
4914A	To Proprietary Fund - Airport		\$0	\$0	\$0
4914E	To Proprietary Fund - Electric		\$0	\$0	\$0
4914O	To Proprietary Fund - Other		\$0	\$0	\$0
4914S	To Proprietary Fund - Sewer	02	\$71,250	\$0	\$71,250
4914W	To Proprietary Fund - Water	02	\$80,695	\$0	\$80,695
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	03,04,05,06,07,0 9,10,11,12,14,15, 16	\$154,500	\$0	\$154,500
4916	To Expendable Trusts/Fiduciary Funds	08,13	\$35,000	\$0	\$35,000
4917	To Health Maintenance Trust Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
4918	To Non-Expendable Trust Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
4919	To Fiduciary Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Operating Transfers Out Subtotal</b>			<b>\$341,445</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$341,445</b>
<b>Total Voted Appropriations</b>			<b>\$2,497,505</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,497,505</b>

Explanation for Adjustments

Warrant Reason for Adjustment

No DRA adjustments made or no adjustment notes available.



### Bennington Summary Inventory of Valuation

Reports Required: RSA 21-J:34 as amended, provides for certification of valuations, appropriations, estimated revenues and such other information as the Department of Revenue Administration may require upon reports prescribed for that purpose.

Note: The values and figures provided represent the detailed values that are used in the city/towns tax assessments and sworn to uphold under Oath per RSA 75:7.

For assistance please contact:  
NH DRA Municipal and Property Division  
(603) 230-5090  
<http://www.revenue.nh.gov/mun-prop/>

Preparer  
John Hatfield (Commerford, Neider, Perki)

Municipal Officials		
Name	Position	Signature
James W. Cleary	Selectman	
Thomas James	Selectman	
Anthony Parisi		

Phone/Fax		
Name	Phone	Email
Debra Davidson	603-2189	ddavidson@townofbennington.com

Preparer's Signature



Land Value Only		Acres	Valuation	
1A	Current Use RSA 79-A	4,635.83	\$274,431	
1B	Conservation Restriction Assessment RSA 79-B	0.00	\$0	
1C	Discretionary Easements RSA 79-C	0.00	\$0	
1D	Discretionary Preservation Easements RSA 79-D	0.00	\$0	
1E	Taxation of Land Under Farm Structures RSA 79-F	0.00	\$0	
1F	Residential Land	1,777.56	\$27,921,800	
1G	Commercial/Industrial Land	244.37	\$2,896,000	
1H	<b>Total of Taxable Land</b>	<b>6,657.76</b>	<b>\$31,092,231</b>	
1I	Tax Exempt and Non-Taxable Land	284.49	\$1,836,300	
Buildings Value Only		Structures	Valuation	
2A	Residential	0	\$82,881,900	
2B	Manufactured Housing RSA 674:31	0	\$1,787,800	
2C	Commercial/Industrial	0	\$13,347,200	
2D	Discretionary Preservation Easements RSA 79-D	0	\$0	
2E	Taxation of Farm Structures RSA 79-F	0	\$0	
2F	<b>Total of Taxable Buildings</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$98,016,900</b>	
2G	Tax Exempt and Non-Taxable Buildings	0	\$7,322,600	
Utilities & Timber			Valuation	
3A	Utilities		\$3,658,900	
3B	Other Utilities		\$0	
4	Mature Wood and Timber RSA 79:5		\$0	
5	<b>Valuation before Exemption</b>		<b>\$132,768,031</b>	
Exemptions		Total Granted	Valuation	
6	Certain Disabled Veterans RSA 72:36-a	0	\$0	
7	Improvements to Assist the Deaf RSA 72:38-b V	0	\$0	
8	Improvements to Assist Persons with Disabilities RSA 72:37-a	0	\$0	
9	School Dining/Dormitory/Kitchen Exemption RSA 72:23-IV	0	\$0	
10A	Non-Utility Water & Air Pollution Control Exemption RSA 72:12	0	\$0	
10B	Utility Water & Air Pollution Control Exemption RSA 72:12-a	0	\$0	
11	<b>Modified Assessed Value of All Properties</b>		<b>\$132,768,031</b>	
Optional Exemptions		Amount Per	Total	Valuation
12	Blind Exemption RSA 72:37	\$15,000	0	\$0
13	Elderly Exemption RSA 72:39-a,b	\$0	13	\$649,900
14	Deaf Exemption RSA 72:38-b	\$0	0	\$0
15	Disabled Exemption RSA 72:37-b	\$0	0	\$0
16	Wood Heating Energy Systems Exemption RSA 72:70	\$0	0	\$0
17	Solar Energy Systems Exemption RSA 72:62	\$0	6	\$89,500
18	Wind Powered Energy Systems Exemption RSA 72:66	\$0	0	\$0
19	Additional School Dining/Dorm/Kitchen Exemptions RSA 72:23	\$0	0	\$0
19A	Electric Energy Storage Systems RSA 72:85	\$0	0	\$0
19B	Renewable Generation Facilities & Electric Energy Systems	\$0	0	\$0
20	<b>Total Dollar Amount of Exemptions</b>			<b>\$739,400</b>
21A	<b>Net Valuation</b>			<b>\$132,028,631</b>
21B	Less TIF Retained Value			\$0
21C	<b>Net Valuation Adjusted to Remove TIF Retained Value</b>			<b>\$132,028,631</b>
21D	Less Commercial/Industrial Construction Exemption			\$0
21E	<b>Net Valuation Adjusted to Remove TIF Retained Value and Comm/Ind Construction</b>			<b>\$132,028,631</b>
22	Less Utilities			\$3,658,900
23A	<b>Net Valuation without Utilities</b>			<b>\$128,369,731</b>
23B	<b>Net Valuation without Utilities, Adjusted to Remove TIF Retained Value</b>			<b>\$128,369,731</b>



Utility Value Appraisers

New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration

Brian D. Fogg

The municipality **DOES NOT** use DRA utility values. The municipality **IS NOT** equalized by the ratio.

Electric Company Name	Distr.	Distr. (Other)	Gen.	Trans.	Valuation
MONADNOCK PAPER MILLS INC	\$0	\$463,000	\$0	\$0	\$463,000
PSNH DBA EVERSOURCE ENERGY	\$3,195,900	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,195,900
	\$3,195,900	\$463,000	\$0	\$0	\$3,658,900



Veteran's Tax Credits	Limits	Number	Est. Tax Credits
Veterans' Tax Credit RSA 72:28	\$500	65	\$31,830
Surviving Spouse RSA 72:29-a	\$700	0	\$0
Tax Credit for Service-Connected Total Disability RSA 72:35	\$2,000	4	\$8,000
All Veterans Tax Credit RSA 72:28-b	\$0	0	\$0
Combat Service Tax Credit RSA 72:28-c	\$0	0	\$0
		69	\$39,830

**Deaf & Disabled Exemption Report**

Deaf Income Limits		Deaf Asset Limits	
Single	\$0	Single	\$0
Married	\$0	Married	\$0

Disabled Income Limits		Disabled Asset Limits	
Single	\$0	Single	\$0
Married	\$0	Married	\$0

**Elderly Exemption Report**

First-time Filers Granted Elderly Exemption for the Current Tax Year		Total Number of Individuals Granted Elderly Exemptions for the Current Tax Year and Total Number of Exemptions Granted				
Age	Number	Age	Number	Amount	Maximum	Total
65-74	0	65-74	4	\$25,000	\$100,000	\$75,000
75-79	0	75-79	4	\$50,000	\$200,000	\$199,900
80+	0	80+	5	\$75,000	\$375,000	\$375,000
			13		\$675,000	\$649,900

Income Limits		Asset Limits	
Single	\$27,500	Single	\$75,000
Married	\$39,500	Married	\$75,000

- Has the municipality adopted an exemption for Electric Energy Systems? (RSA 72:85)  
Granted/Adopted? No Properties:
- Has the municipality adopted an exemption for Renewable Gen. Facility & Electric Energy Storage? (RSA 72:87)  
Granted/Adopted? No Properties:
- Has the municipality adopted Community Tax Relief Incentive? (RSA 79-E)  
Granted/Adopted? No Structures:
- Has the municipality adopted Taxation of Certain Chartered Public School Facilities? (RSA 79-H)  
Granted/Adopted? No Properties:
- Has the municipality adopted Taxation of Qualifying Historic Buildings? (RSA 79-G)  
Granted/Adopted? No Properties:
- Has the municipality adopted the optional commercial and industrial construction exemption? (RSA 72:76-78 or RSA 72:80-83)  
Granted/Adopted? No Properties:  
Percent of assessed value attributable to new construction to be exempted:  
Total Exemption Granted:
- Has the municipality granted any credits under the low-income housing tax credit tax program? (RSA 75:1-a)  
Granted/Adopted? No Properties:  
Assessed value prior to effective date of RSA 75:1-a:  
Current Assessed Value:



Current Use RSA 79-A	Total Acres	Valuation
Farm Land	200.34	\$39,975
Forest Land	2,708.79	\$171,918
Forest Land with Documented Stewardship	1,346.95	\$56,867
Unproductive Land	169.48	\$2,574
Wet Land	210.27	\$3,097
	<b>4,635.83</b>	<b>\$274,431</b>

**Other Current Use Statistics**

Total Number of Acres Receiving 20% Rec. Adjustment	<b>Acres:</b>	1,967.87
Total Number of Acres Removed from Current Use During Current Tax Year	<b>Acres:</b>	8.69
Total Number of Owners in Current Use	<b>Owners:</b>	80
Total Number of Parcels in Current Use	<b>Parcels:</b>	146

**Land Use Change Tax**

Gross Monies Received for Calendar Year		\$3,500
Conservation Allocation	<b>Percentage: 75.00%</b>	<b>Dollar Amount:</b> \$0
Monies to Conservation Fund		\$2,625
Monies to General Fund		\$875

**Conservation Restriction Assessment Report RSA 79-B**

	Acres	Valuation
Farm Land	0.00	\$0
Forest Land	0.00	\$0
Forest Land with Documented Stewardship	0.00	\$0
Unproductive Land	0.00	\$0
Wet Land	0.00	\$0
	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Other Conservation Restriction Assessment Statistics**

Total Number of Acres Receiving 20% Rec. Adjustment	<b>Acres:</b>	0.00
Total Number of Acres Removed from Conservation Restriction During Current Tax Year	<b>Acres:</b>	0.00
Owners in Conservation Restriction	<b>Owners:</b>	0
Parcels in Conservation Restriction	<b>Parcels:</b>	0





Discretionary Easements RSA 79-C	Acres	Owners	Assessed Valuation
	0.00	0	\$0

Taxation of Farm Structures and Land Under Farm Structures RSA 79-F					
Number Granted	Structures	Acres	Land Valuation	Structure Valuation	
0	0	0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0

Discretionary Preservation Easements RSA 79-D					
Owners	Structures	Acres	Land Valuation	Structure Valuation	
0	0	0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0

Map	Lot	Block	%	Description
<i>This municipality has no Discretionary Preservation Easements.</i>				

Tax Increment Financing District	Date	Original	Unretained	Retained	Current
<i>This municipality has no TIF districts.</i>					

Revenues Received from Payments in Lieu of Tax	Revenue	Acres
State and Federal Forest Land, Recreational and/or land from MS-434, account 3356 and 3357	\$0.00	0.00
White Mountain National Forest only, account 3186	\$0.00	0.00

Payments in Lieu of Tax from Renewable Generation Facilities (RSA 72:74)	Amount
<i>This municipality has not adopted RSA 72:74 or has no applicable PILT sources.</i>	

Other Sources of Payments in Lieu of Taxes (MS-434 Account 3186)	Amount
Town of Antrim	\$500
	\$500

Notes



### Tax Collector's Report

For the period beginning  and ending

This form is due **March 1st (Calendar Year) or September 1st (Fiscal Year)**

#### Instructions

**Cover Page**

- Specify the period begin and period end dates above
- Select the entity name from the pull down menu (County will automatically populate)
- Enter the year of the report
- Enter the preparer's information

**For Assistance Please Contact:**

NH DRA Municipal and Property Division  
Phone: (603) 230-5090  
Fax: (603) 230-5947  
<http://www.revenue.nh.gov/mun-prop/>

#### ENTITY'S INFORMATION

Municipality:  County:  Report Year:

#### PREPARER'S INFORMATION

First Name	Last Name	
<input type="text" value="Catherine"/>	<input type="text" value="McGillicuddy"/>	
Street No.	Street Name	Phone Number
<input type="text" value="7"/>	<input type="text" value="School Street #101"/>	<input type="text" value="(603) 588-2189"/>
Email (optional)		
<input type="text" value="cmcgillicuddy@townofbennington.com"/>		



<b>Debits</b>						
Uncollected Taxes Beginning of Year	Account	Levy for Year of this Report	Prior Levies (Please Specify Years)			
			Year: 2022	Year: 2021	Year: 2020	
Property Taxes	3110		\$264,077.44			
Resident Taxes	3180					
Land Use Change Taxes	3120		\$3,500.00			
Yield Taxes	3185					
Excavation Tax	3187					
Other Taxes	3189		\$14,582.53			
Property Tax Credit Balance		(\$5,011.23)				
Other Tax or Charges Credit Balance						

Taxes Committed This Year	Account	Levy for Year of this Report	2022	Prior Levies	
Property Taxes	3110	\$4,202,534.00			
Resident Taxes	3180				
Land Use Change Taxes	3120	\$3,500.00			
Yield Taxes	3185	\$5,162.57	\$440.29		
Excavation Tax	3187	\$1,019.07			
Other Taxes	3189	\$128,170.76	\$101.00		

Overpayment Refunds	Account	Levy for Year of this Report	2022	2021	2020
Property Taxes	3110				
Resident Taxes	3180				
Land Use Change Taxes	3120				
Yield Taxes	3185				
Excavation Tax	3187				
Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	3190	\$3,153.62	\$9,762.74		
Interest and Penalties on Resident Taxes	3190				
<b>Total Debits</b>		<b>\$4,338,528.79</b>	<b>\$292,464.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>



<b>Credits</b>				
Remitted to Treasurer	Levy for Year of this Report	Prior Levies		
		2022	2021	2020
Property Taxes	\$3,951,633.94	\$170,970.02		
Resident Taxes				
Land Use Change Taxes	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00		
Yield Taxes	\$5,162.57	\$440.29		
Interest (Include Lien Conversion)	\$3,153.62	\$7,231.74		
Penalties		\$2,531.00		
Excavation Tax	\$1,019.07			
Other Taxes	\$113,120.29	\$12,044.36		
Conversion to Lien (Principal Only)		\$95,544.59		
Discounts Allowed				

Abatements Made	Levy for Year of this Report	Prior Levies		
		2022	2021	2020
Property Taxes	\$5,674.00			
Resident Taxes				
Land Use Change Taxes				
Yield Taxes				
Excavation Tax				
Other Taxes	\$471.54	\$101.00		
Current Levy Deeded	\$1,197.00			



*New Hampshire*  
 Department of  
 Revenue Administration

**MS-61**

Uncollected Taxes - End of Year # 1080	Levy for Year of this Report	Prior Levies		
		2022	2021	2020
Property Taxes	\$246,346.37			
Resident Taxes				
Land Use Change Taxes				
Yield Taxes				
Excavation Tax				
Other Taxes	\$14,578.93	\$101.00		
Property Tax Credit Balance	(\$7,328.54)			
Other Tax or Charges Credit Balance				
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>\$4,338,528.79</b>	<b>\$292,464.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

For DRA Use Only	
Total Uncollected Taxes (Account #1080 - All Years)	<b>\$253,697.76</b>
Total Unredeemed Liens (Account #1110 - All Years)	<b>\$69,735.19</b>



**Lien Summary**

Summary of Debits				
	Last Year's Levy	Prior Levies (Please Specify Years)		
		Year: 2022	Year: 2021	Year: 2020
Unredeemed Liens Balance - Beginning of Year			\$48,275.01	\$87,821.78
Liens Executed During Fiscal Year		\$101,155.96		
Interest & Costs Collected (After Lien Execution)		\$2,067.65	\$2,489.29	\$1,550.54
<b>Total Debits</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$103,223.61</b>	<b>\$50,764.30</b>	<b>\$89,372.32</b>

Summary of Credits				
	Last Year's Levy	Prior Levies		
		2022	2021	2020
Redemptions		\$53,433.42	\$29,872.34	\$55,062.34
Interest & Costs Collected (After Lien Execution) #3190		\$2,067.65	\$2,489.29	\$1,550.54
Abatements of Unredeemed Liens				
Liens Deeded to Municipality		\$2,603.77	\$2,491.86	\$24,053.83
Unredeemed Liens Balance - End of Year #1110		\$45,118.77	\$15,910.81	\$8,705.61
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$103,223.61</b>	<b>\$50,764.30</b>	<b>\$89,372.32</b>

For DRA Use Only	
Total Uncollected Taxes (Account #1080 - All Years)	<b>\$253,697.76</b>
Total Unredeemed Liens (Account #1110 - All Years)	<b>\$69,735.19</b>



**BENNINGTON (41)**

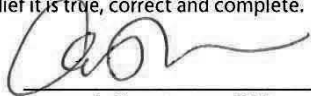
**1. CERTIFY THIS FORM**  
Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Preparer's First Name	Preparer's Last Name	Date
Catherine	McGillicuddy	Jan 17, 2024

**2. SAVE AND EMAIL THIS FORM**  
Please save and e-mail the completed PDF form to your Municipal Bureau Advisor.

**3. PRINT, SIGN, AND UPLOAD THIS FORM**  
This completed PDF form must be PRINTED, SIGNED, SCANNED, and UPLOADED onto the Municipal Tax Rate Setting Portal (MTRSP) at <http://proptax.org/nh/>. If you have any questions, please contact your Municipal Services Advisor.

**PREPARER'S CERTIFICATION**  
Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

 Tax Collector

Preparer's Signature and Title







**Proposed Budget**

Account	Purpose	Article	Expenditures for	Appropriations	Proposed Appropriations for period	
			period ending 12/31/2023	for period ending 12/31/2023	ending 12/31/2024	ending 12/31/2024
					(Recommended)	(Not Recommended)
<b>General Government</b>						
4130	Executive	02	\$167,627	\$179,905	\$196,366	\$0
4140	Election, Registration, and Vital Statistics	02	\$39,885	\$54,078	\$57,228	\$0
4150	Financial Administration	02	\$36,401	\$44,652	\$44,836	\$0
4152	Property Assessment	02	\$6,774	\$9,590	\$9,590	\$0
4153	Legal Expense	02	\$6,854	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$0
4155	Personnel Administration	02	\$18,550	\$20,127	\$22,458	\$0
4191	Planning and Zoning	02	\$3,121	\$5,939	\$4,627	\$0
4194	General Government Buildings	02	\$71,201	\$83,669	\$83,719	\$0
4195	Cemeteries	02	\$10,391	\$16,575	\$19,575	\$0
4196	Insurance Not Otherwise Allocated	02	\$35,694	\$35,694	\$41,870	\$0
4197	Advertising and Regional Associations		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4198	Contingency		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4199	Other General Government		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>General Government Subtotal</b>			<b>\$396,498</b>	<b>\$456,229</b>	<b>\$486,269</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Public Safety</b>						
4210	Police	02	\$375,427	\$379,141	\$407,291	\$0
4215	Ambulances	02	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$30,000	\$0
4220	Fire	02	\$96,431	\$85,607	\$91,527	\$0
4240	Building Inspection	02	\$3,505	\$3,415	\$3,415	\$0
4290	Emergency Management	02	\$7,282	\$7,610	\$4,670	\$0
4299	Other Public Safety		\$11,747	\$6,000	\$0	\$0
<b>Public Safety Subtotal</b>			<b>\$519,392</b>	<b>\$506,773</b>	<b>\$536,903</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Airport/Aviation Center</b>						
4301	Airport Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4302	Airport Operations		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4309	Other Airport		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Airport/Aviation Center Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Highways and Streets</b>						
4311	Highway Administration	02	\$246,181	\$232,692	\$294,543	\$0
4312	Highways and Streets	02	\$151,857	\$157,500	\$157,500	\$0
4313	Bridges		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4316	Street Lighting	02	\$5,314	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0
4319	Other Highway, Streets, and Bridges		\$45,000	\$45,000	\$0	\$0
<b>Highways and Streets Subtotal</b>			<b>\$448,352</b>	<b>\$440,192</b>	<b>\$457,043</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Sanitation</b>						
4321	Sanitation Administration	02	\$38,701	\$33,353	\$50,707	\$0
4323	Solid Waste Collection	02	\$1,908	\$1,602	\$1,650	\$0
4324	Solid Waste Disposal	02	\$70,451	\$66,700	\$69,700	\$0



**Proposed Budget**

4325	Solid Waste Facilities Clean-Up	02	\$6,305	\$4,800	\$5,500	\$0
4326	Sewage Collection and Disposal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4329	Other Sanitation	02	\$884	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$0
<b>Sanitation Subtotal</b>			<b>\$118,249</b>	<b>\$107,555</b>	<b>\$128,657</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Water Distribution and Treatment**

4331	Water Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4332	Water Services		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4335	Water Treatment		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4338	Water Conservation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4339	Other Water		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Water Distribution and Treatment Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Electric**

4351	Electric Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4352	Generation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4353	Purchase Costs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4354	Electric Equipment Maintenance		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4359	Other Electric Costs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Electric Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Health**

4411	Health Administration	02	\$102	\$102	\$102	\$0
4414	Pest Control	02	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$0
4415	Health Agencies and Hospitals	02	\$5,876	\$5,845	\$5,876	\$0
4419	Other Health		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Health Subtotal</b>			<b>\$6,178</b>	<b>\$6,147</b>	<b>\$6,178</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Welfare**

4441	Welfare Administration	02	\$1,535	\$12,896	\$4,896	\$0
4442	Direct Assistance	02	\$3,650	\$0	\$8,000	\$0
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Payments	02	\$900	\$935	\$935	\$0
4445	Vendor Payments		\$2,258	\$0	\$0	\$0
4449	Other Welfare	02	\$0	\$14,500	\$3,300	\$0
<b>Welfare Subtotal</b>			<b>\$8,343</b>	<b>\$28,331</b>	<b>\$17,131</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Culture and Recreation**

4520	Parks and Recreation	02	\$31,645	\$34,460	\$38,925	\$0
4550	Library	02	\$149,498	\$165,458	\$174,976	\$0
4583	Patriotic Purposes	02	\$1,526	\$700	\$700	\$0
4589	Other Culture and Recreation	02	\$2,000	\$2,400	\$2,000	\$0
<b>Culture and Recreation Subtotal</b>			<b>\$184,669</b>	<b>\$203,018</b>	<b>\$216,601</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Conservation and Development**

4611	Conservation Administration	02	\$861	\$981	\$823	\$0
4612	Purchase of Natural Resources		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0



**Proposed Budget**

4619	Other Conservation	02	\$2,046	\$1,133	\$1,633	\$0
4631	Redevelopment and Housing Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4632	Other Redevelopment and Housing		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4651	Economic Development Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4652	Economic Development		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4659	Other Economic Development		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>Conservation and Development Subtotal</b>		<b>\$2,907</b>	<b>\$2,114</b>	<b>\$2,456</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Debt Service</b>						
4711	Principal - Long Term Bonds, Notes, and Other Debt		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4721	Interest - Long Term Bonds, Notes, and Other Debt		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4723	Interest on Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes		\$0	\$3,000	\$0	\$0
4790	Other Debt Service Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>Debt Service Subtotal</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Capital Outlay</b>						
4901	Land		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment		\$0	\$420,000	\$0	\$0
4903	Buildings		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>Capital Outlay Subtotal</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$420,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Operating Transfers Out</b>						
4911	To Revolving Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4912	To Special Revenue Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4913	To Capital Projects Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914A	To Airport Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914E	To Electric Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914O	To Other Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914S	To Sewer Proprietary Fund	02	\$42,452	\$71,250	\$71,250	\$0
4914W	To Water Proprietary Fund	02	\$69,594	\$80,695	\$86,595	\$0
4918	To Non-Expendable Trust Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4919	To Fiduciary Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>Operating Transfers Out Subtotal</b>		<b>\$112,046</b>	<b>\$151,945</b>	<b>\$157,845</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Total Operating Budget Appropriations</b>					<b>\$2,009,083</b>	<b>\$0</b>



**Proposed Budget**

Account	Purpose	Article	Proposed Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2024	
			(Recommended)	(Not Recommended)
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	03 <i>Purpose: Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund</i>	\$30,000	\$0
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	04 <i>Purpose: Rescue Vehicle CRF</i>	\$2,500	\$0
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	05 <i>Purpose: Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund</i>	\$15,000	\$0
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	06 <i>Purpose: Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund</i>	\$40,000	\$0
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	07 <i>Purpose: Mower Capital Reserve Fund</i>	\$2,500	\$0
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	09 <i>Purpose: Dodge Memorial Library Capital Reserve Fund</i>	\$5,000	\$0
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	10 <i>Purpose: Road Rehabilitation Capital Reserve Fund</i>	\$15,000	\$0
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	11 <i>Purpose: Water Dept Maintenance/Repairs CRF</i>	\$25,000	\$0
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	12 <i>Purpose: Sidewalk Capital Reserve Fund</i>	\$1,000	\$0
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	14 <i>Purpose: Fire Department SCBA Capital Reserve Fund</i>	\$2,000	\$0
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	15 <i>Purpose: Fire Dept Protective Gear Capital Reserve Fund</i>	\$6,000	\$0
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	16 <i>Purpose: Revaluation CRF</i>	\$12,000	\$0
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	19 <i>Purpose: Appropriate to CRF</i>	\$67,500	\$0
4916	To Expendable Trusts	08 <i>Purpose: Town Buildings Expendable Trust Fund</i>	\$25,000	\$0
4916	To Expendable Trusts	13 <i>Purpose: Bridge Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund</i>	\$10,000	\$0
<b>Total Proposed Special Articles</b>			<b>\$258,500</b>	<b>\$0</b>



**Proposed Budget**

Account	Purpose	Article	Proposed Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2024	
			(Recommended)	(Not Recommended)
4449	Other Welfare	27 <i>Purpose: Support for Local Shelter</i>	\$500	\$0
4449	Other Welfare	26 <i>Purpose: Support for American Red Cross</i>	\$700	\$0
4449	Other Welfare	21 <i>Purpose: To support Community Volunteer Transportation</i>	\$500	\$0
4449	Other Welfare	24 <i>Purpose: To support Child Advocacy Center</i>	\$1,100	\$0
4449	Other Welfare	23 <i>Purpose: To support the Court Appointed Special Advocate Pr</i>	\$600	\$0
4449	Other Welfare	28 <i>Purpose: Support for Cornucopia Project</i>	\$250	\$0
4449	Other Welfare	22 <i>Purpose: Support for the Grapevine &amp; Avenue A</i>	\$8,000	\$0
4449	Other Welfare	20 <i>Purpose: To appropriate to Contoocook Housing Trust</i>	\$300	\$0
4449	Other Welfare	25 <i>Purpose: Support of End 68 Hours of Hunger</i>	\$1,000	\$0
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings	17 <i>Purpose: Deferred Road Maintenance</i>	\$45,000	\$0
<b>Total Proposed Individual Articles</b>			<b>\$55,950</b>	<b>\$0</b>



Proposed Budget

Account	Source	Article	Actual Revenues for period ending 12/31/2023	Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2023	Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2024
<b>Taxes</b>					
3120	Land Use Change Taxes for General Fund	02	\$0	\$5,161	\$2,000
3180	Resident Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
3185	Yield Taxes	02	\$0	\$3,500	\$2,500
3186	Payment in Lieu of Taxes	02	\$0	\$500	\$500
3187	Excavation Tax	02	\$0	\$1,019	\$600
3189	Other Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
3190	Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	02	\$0	\$14,061	\$22,000
<b>Taxes Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$24,241</b>	<b>\$27,600</b>
<b>Licenses, Permits, and Fees</b>					
3210	Business Licenses and Permits	02	\$0	\$700	\$700
3220	Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	02	\$0	\$233,885	\$330,000
3230	Building Permits	02	\$0	\$1,400	\$4,000
3290	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	02	\$0	\$6,000	\$6,000
<b>Licenses, Permits, and Fees Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$241,985</b>	<b>\$340,700</b>
<b>From Federal Government</b>					
3311	Housing and Urban Development		\$0	\$0	\$0
3312	Environmental Protection		\$0	\$0	\$0
3313	Federal Emergency		\$0	\$0	\$0
3314	Federal Drug Enforcement		\$0	\$0	\$0
3319	Other Federal Grants and Reimbursements		\$0	\$3,169	\$0
<b>From Federal Government Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$3,169</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>State Sources</b>					
3351	Shared Revenues - Block Grant		\$0	\$0	\$0
3352	Meals and Rooms Tax Distribution	02	\$0	\$142,145	\$100,000
3353	Highway Block Grant	02	\$0	\$44,775	\$45,000
3354	Water Pollution Grant		\$0	\$0	\$0
3355	Housing and Community Development		\$0	\$0	\$0
3356	State and Federal Forest Land Reimbursement		\$0	\$0	\$0
3357	Flood Control Reimbursement		\$0	\$0	\$0
3359	Railroad Tax Distribution		\$0	\$5,940	\$0
3360	Water Filtration Grants		\$0	\$0	\$0
3361	Landfill Closure Grants		\$0	\$0	\$0
3369	Other Intergovernmental Revenue from State of NH		\$0	\$0	\$0
3379	Intergovernmental Revenues - Other		\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>State Sources Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$192,860</b>	<b>\$145,000</b>
<b>Charges for Services</b>					
3401	Income from Departments	02	\$0	\$10,000	\$12,000
3402	Water Supply System Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0





**Proposed Budget**

3403	Sewer User Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
3404	Garbage-Refuse Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
3405	Electric User Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
3406	Airport Fees		\$0	\$0	\$0
3409	Other Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Charges for Services Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>\$12,000</b>
<b>Miscellaneous Revenues</b>					
3500	Special Assessments		\$0	\$0	\$0
3501	Sale of Municipal Property	02, 19	\$0	\$33,510	\$77,500
3502	Interest on Investments	02	\$0	\$2,500	\$2,500
3503	Other		\$0	\$0	\$0
3504	Fines and Forfeits		\$0	\$0	\$0
3506	Insurance Dividends and Reimbursements		\$0	\$0	\$0
3508	Contributions and Donations		\$0	\$0	\$0
3509	Revenue from Misc Sources Not Otherwise Classified	02	\$0	\$12,000	\$9,470
<b>Miscellaneous Revenues Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$48,010</b>	<b>\$89,470</b>
<b>Interfund Operating Transfers In</b>					
3911	From Revolving Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
3912	From Special Revenue Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
3913	From Capital Projects Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914A	From Airport Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914E	From Electric Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914O	From Other Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914S	From Sewer Proprietary Fund	02	\$0	\$71,250	\$71,250
3914W	From Water Proprietary Fund	02	\$0	\$80,695	\$80,695
3915	From Capital Reserve Funds		\$0	\$420,000	\$0
3916	From Trust and Fiduciary Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
3917	From Conservation Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Interfund Operating Transfers In Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$571,945</b>	<b>\$151,945</b>
<b>Other Financing Sources</b>					
3934	Proceeds from Long-Term Notes/Bonds/Other Sources		\$0	\$0	\$0
9998	Amount Voted from Fund Balance		\$0	\$0	\$0
9999	Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Other Financing Sources Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Total Estimated Revenues and Credits</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,092,210</b>	<b>\$766,715</b>



*new hampshire*  
Department of  
Revenue Administration

2024  
**MS-636**

**Proposed Budget**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Period ending 12/31/2024</b>
Operating Budget Appropriations	\$2,009,083
Special Warrant Articles	\$258,500
Individual Warrant Articles	\$55,950
Total Appropriations	\$2,323,533
Less Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits	\$766,715
<b>Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised</b>	<b>\$1,556,818</b>



**TOWN OF BENNINGTON  
WATER AND SEWER FINANCIAL REPORT  
JANUARY 1, 2023 - DECEMBER 31, 2023**

	<b>Unpaid Balance January 1, 2023</b>		\$14,582.53
	<b>Charges:</b>		
	Water Usage	\$82,996.74	
	Sewer Usage	\$45,174.02	
	<b>TOTAL CHARGES</b>		+ \$128,170.76
			\$142,753.29
	<b>Receipts to Treasurer</b>		
	Water	\$83,084.23	
	Sewer	\$45,615.55	
			- \$128,699.78
	<b>Abatements</b>		
	Water	\$197.26	
	Sewer	\$375.28	
			- \$572.54
	<b>Unpaid Water &amp; Sewer Charges December 31, 2023</b>		\$13,480.97

A list of unpaid accounts is available for public inspection,  
at Town Hall, during regular office hours.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Catherine McGillicuddy, Rent Collector

## STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES

For Year Ended December 31, 2023

### EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Selectmen Salaries	\$	4,500.00	
Health Insurance	\$	17,041.00	
Dental Insurance	\$	243.00	
Fica/Medicare	\$	9,947.00	
Retirement	\$	5,179.45	
Dues & Subscriptions	\$	1,335.00	
Copier Lease	\$	980.00	
Phone & Internet	\$	5,205.96	
Cellular Phone	\$	240.00	
Advertising	\$	687.34	
Office Supplies	\$	3,249.45	
Postage	\$	2,101.95	
General Supplies	\$	717.49	
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$	194.50	
Administrator Salary	\$	59,505.96	
Administrative Support	\$	52,416.00	
Administration Overtime	\$	149.21	
Town Report Printing	\$	1,526.56	
Bulk Mailing	\$	-	
Mileage/Expenses	\$	207.50	
General Contingency	\$	2,200.00	
		<hr/>	
Total Executive Office			\$ 167,627.37

### ELECTION AND REGISTRATION

Deputy Town Clerk Salary	\$	8,426.99	
Assistant Town Clerk Salary	\$	-	
Town Clerk Salary	\$	22,100.14	
Fica/Medicare	\$	2,353.74	
IT Support	\$	1,633.60	
Dues & Subscriptions	\$	-	
Motor Vehicle Registrations	\$	300.00	
Mileage/Expenses	\$	115.00	
Office Supplies	\$	1,685.50	
Postage	\$	785.56	
Books and Periodicals	\$	-	
Supervisors Clerical Wages	\$	45.00	
Supervisors of the Checklist	\$	450.00	
Supervisors of the Checklist Conval	\$	225.00	
Moderator's Stipend	\$	-	
Advertising	\$	205.00	
Supervisors Office Supplies	\$	153.96	
Election Ballot Clerks	\$	375.00	
Facility Rental	\$	180.00	
Election Printing	\$	398.98	
Election Meals	\$	451.12	
		<hr/>	
Total Election and Registration			\$ 39,884.59

### FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Financial Software	\$	2,296.25	
Bank Services/Fees	\$	1,314.13	
Selectmen's Postage	\$	-	
Auditing Services	\$	15,500.00	
Treasurer Salary	\$	3,120.00	
Deputy Treasurer	\$	1,000.00	
Fica/Medicare	\$	315.18	
Tax Collector Dues & Subscriptions	\$	20.00	

	Tax Software	\$	3,000.00	
	Tax Collector Fees	\$	1,405.67	
	Tax Collector Postage	\$	1,699.42	
	Abatement Interest	\$	-	
	IT Support	\$	810.00	
	Technology & Computers	\$	5,920.00	
	Total Financial Administration			\$ 36,400.65
TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS				
	Office Supplies		\$0.00	
	Mileage	\$	-	
	Total Trustees of Trust Funds			\$0.00
PROPERTY ASSESSMENT				
	Assessing Services	\$	4,712.70	
	Assessing Software	\$	2,035.00	
	Registry of Deeds Fees	\$	26.00	
	Total Property Assessment			\$ 6,773.70
LEGAL EXPENSES				
	General Legal Support	\$	5,620.00	
	ZBA Legal	\$	1,233.50	
	Total Legal Expense			\$ 6,853.50
PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION				
	Unemployment Compensation	\$	411.27	
	Workers Compensation	\$	18,138.76	
	Total Personnel Administration			\$ 18,550.03
PLANNING AND ZONING				
	PB Recording Secretary	\$	560.00	
	PB Fica/Medicare	\$	42.86	
	PB SWRPC Member Dues	\$	1,672.00	
	PB Miscellaneous	\$	351.40	
	ZBA Recording Secretary	\$	310.00	
	ZBA Fica/Medicare	\$	23.70	
	ZBA Miscellaneous	\$	161.50	
	Total Planning and Zoning			\$ 3,121.46
GENERAL GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS				
	TH Fica/Medicare	\$	186.33	
	TH Fire/Security Alarm	\$	250.00	
	TH Cleaning Service	\$	1,764.00	
	TH Building Repairs/Maintenance	\$	6,185.54	
	TH Janitorial Supplies	\$	322.87	
	TH Electric	\$	3,693.60	
	TH Heat	\$	6,972.24	
	TH Fica/Medicare	\$	4.47	
	VFW Cleaning Service	\$	414.00	
	VFW Building Repairs/Maintenance	\$	1,075.46	
	VFW Janitorial Supplies	\$	-	
	VFW Electric	\$	504.21	
	VFW Heat	\$	2,641.69	
	FD Fica/Medicare	\$	16.76	
	FD Fire Alarm	\$	332.50	
	FD Cleaning Service	\$	450.00	
	FD Building Repairs/Maintenance	\$	8,515.74	
	FD Electric	\$	5,119.82	
	FD Heat	\$	4,260.80	
	HW Building Repairs/Maintenance	\$	506.25	

HW Electric	\$	1,043.76	
HW Heat	\$	3,250.70	
SWD Building Repairs/Maintenance	\$	151.25	
SWD Electric	\$	1,299.61	
SWD Heat	\$	481.10	
WTR Security Alarm	\$	250.00	
WTR Bldg Repairs & Maintenance	\$	-	
WTR Electric	\$	12,026.65	
WTR Pumphouse Heat	\$	1,115.77	
SWR Bldg Repairs & Maintenance	\$	721.00	
SWR Electric	\$	2,673.53	
SWR Heat	\$	-	
REC Building Repairs/Maintenance	\$	1,574.99	
REC Electric	\$	1,078.45	
GEN Groundskeeping	\$	100.00	
GEN Repairs Maintenance	\$	1,793.03	
GEN Electric	\$	424.66	
Total General Government Buildings			\$ 71,200.78

CEMETERIES

Evergreen Cemetery Groundskeeping	\$	6,230.71	
Sunnyside Cemetery Groundskeeping	\$	3,342.71	
Recording Secretary	\$	430.00	
Labor	\$	105.00	
Fica/Medicare	\$	32.92	
Stone/Tree Maintenance	\$	250.00	
Maintenance Supplies	\$	-	
Total Cemeteries			\$ 10,391.34

PROPERTY/LIABILITY/BOND INSURANCE

Property/Liability Annual Premium	\$	34,694.00	
Insurance Deductible Coverage	\$	1,000.00	
Total Property/Liability/Bond Insurance			\$ 35,694.00

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Chief Salary	\$	73,199.00	
Police Sergeant Salary	\$	59,865.60	
Part-Time Officers Salary	\$	30,194.96	
Crossing Guard Salary	\$	3,730.00	
Administrative Assistant Salary	\$	-	
Overtime	\$	17,356.21	
On-Call Wages	\$	6,976.00	
Health Insurance	\$	51,328.46	
Dental Insurance	\$	1,640.21	
Fica/Medicare	\$	3,929.50	
Retirement	\$	43,704.60	
Regional Prosecutor	\$	28,210.00	
Dispatch Services	\$	19,016.70	
Dues & Subscriptions	\$	540.00	
Education/Safety	\$	764.20	
IMC Software	\$	2,865.13	
Administration Telephone	\$	602.76	
Cellular Telephone	\$	480.00	
Office Supplies	\$	850.79	
Miscellaneous	\$	3,632.37	
Training Supplies	\$	920.00	
Maintenance/Repair of Equipment	\$	285.61	
Equipment Supplies	\$	7,241.47	
Uniforms	\$	3,374.50	
Vehicle Maintenance	\$	1,083.25	

	Gasoline	\$	7,315.82	
	Special Detail Wages	\$	6,320.00	
	Total Police Department			\$ 375,427.14
AMBULANCE SERVICE				
	Antrim Ambulance	\$	25,000.00	
	Total Ambulance Service			\$ 25,000.00
FIRE DEPARTMENT				
	Administrative Wages	\$	3,316.56	
	Emergency Call Wages	\$	10,280.36	
	Non-Emergency Wages	\$	11,524.44	
	Fica/Medicare	\$	2,653.54	
	Dispatch Service	\$	21,150.00	
	Dues	\$	-	
	Telephone	\$	2,414.80	
	Cell Phone	\$	480.00	
	General Supplies	\$	2,454.61	
	Training Courses	\$	104.00	
	Service Contracts	\$	3,997.95	
	Radio Repairs	\$	1,321.86	
	Equipment Replacement	\$	8,864.52	
	Vehicle Maintenance	\$	6,022.92	
	Vehicle Fuel	\$	1,410.07	
	Forestry	\$	369.41	
	Fire Prevention Materials	\$	1,036.45	
	Total Fire Department			\$ 77,401.49
MEDICAL/RESCUE				
	Training	\$	9,320.00	
	Medical Supplies	\$	2,427.35	
	Equipment Replacement	\$	-	
	Total Medical/Rescue			\$ 11,747.35
CODE ENFORCEMENT				
	Building Inspector Salary	\$	2,763.50	
	Fica/Medicare	\$	171.36	
	Cell Phone	\$	240.00	
	Mileage	\$	330.00	
	Books & Education	\$	-	
	Total Building Inspection			\$ 3,504.86
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT				
	Emergency Wages	\$	1,125.00	
	Fica/Medicare	\$	86.07	
	Supplies	\$	6,070.98	
	Total Emergency Management			\$ 7,282.05
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION				
	Road Agent Salary	\$	56,785.60	
	Highway Truck Driver Salary	\$	53,188.77	
	PT As Needed Assistance	\$	-	
	FT As Needed Assistance	\$	3,854.92	
	Overtime	\$	11,773.89	
	Health Insurance	\$	40,135.07	
	Dental Insurance	\$	778.03	
	Fica/Medicare	\$	9,150.37	
	Retirement	\$	14,229.07	
	Drug/Alcohol Testing	\$	694.50	
	Telephone	\$	1,097.16	
	Cell Phone	\$	240.00	

Equipment Maintenance/Repairs	\$	20,428.36	
Vehicle Maintenance/Repairs	\$	12,873.96	
Gasoline/Oil	\$	14,637.03	
General Supplies	\$	2,245.04	
Street Signs	\$	733.10	
Miscellaneous	\$	<u>3,336.29</u>	
Total Highway Department Administration			\$ 246,181.16

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT - ROADS MAINTENANCE

Tar/Patch/Seal	\$	40,000.00	
Paving	\$	50,000.00	
Hired Plowing/Sanding	\$	18,685.39	
Snow/Ice Supplies	\$	17,363.43	
Gravel Preparation	\$	-	
Equipment Rental	\$	6,660.00	
Road Maintenance Supplies	\$	19,147.94	
Road Drainage Supplies	\$	<u>-</u>	
Total Highway Roads Maintenance			\$ 151,856.76

STREET LIGHTING

Eversource	\$	<u>5,313.73</u>	
Total Street Lighting			\$ 5,313.73

TRANSFER STATION

Attendants Salary	\$	24,079.56	
Highway Dept. Assistance	\$	-	
As-Needed Assistance	\$	11,480.26	
Fica/Medicare	\$	2,135.79	
NRRA Annual Dues	\$	125.00	
Certification	\$	375.00	
Equipment Maintenance	\$	505.85	
Household Hazardous Waste Disposal	\$	1,908.33	
Hauling and Disposal	\$	53,126.75	
Telephone	\$	1,097.14	
Recyclables Removal	\$	14,926.94	
Container Lease	\$	1,300.00	
Landfill Post-Closure Costs	\$	5,421.67	
General Supplies	\$	477.17	
Miscellaneous	\$	<u>406.50</u>	
Total Transfer Station			\$ 117,365.96

WATER DEPARTMENT

Recording Secretary	\$	1,500.00	
Commissioners Salary	\$	900.00	
Labor Wages	\$	1,200.00	
Fica/Medicare	\$	69.25	
Town of Antrim	\$	47,198.40	
NE Rural Water Association Dues	\$	325.00	
Training Courses	\$	-	
Postage	\$	243.48	
Miscellaneous	\$	240.99	
Line Repairs/Maintenance	\$	12,072.52	
Telephone	\$	-	
Water Samples	\$	1,689.25	
Horizontal Boring	\$	-	
Corrosion Control	\$	<u>4,155.00</u>	
Total Water Department			\$ 69,593.89

## SEWER DEPARTMENT

Town of Antrim	\$	32,906.08	
CMOM Funds	\$	9,545.85	
Generator Maintenance	\$	-	
Repair Maintenance	\$	-	
Total Sewer Department			\$ 42,451.93

## HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Miscellaneous	\$	45.00	
Total Health Department			\$ 45.00

## HEALTH AGENCIES

Home Health Care	\$	4,000.00	
Monadnock Family Services	\$	1,876.00	
Total Health Agencies			\$ 5,876.00

## WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Welfare Director Salary	\$	925.00	
Fica/Medicare	\$	70.73	
Dues & Subscriptions	\$	136.05	
Miscellaneous	\$	402.90	
Rental Assistance	\$	3,650.00	
Meals on Wheels	\$	900.00	
Food	\$	100.00	
Vendor Payments - Electric/Heat	\$	1,158.29	
Total Welfare Department			\$ 7,342.97

## PARKS AND RECREATION

Miscellaneous	\$	1,351.43	
Recreation Activities	\$	125.00	
Fishing Derby	\$	800.00	
Little League	\$	2,000.00	
Rhubarb Festival	\$	3,129.51	
Groundskeeping (Labor)	\$	4,940.80	
Fica/Medicare	\$	280.05	
Rec Groundskeeping	\$	12,601.14	
Ball Field Chemical Toilets	\$	1,630.00	
Beach Staff	\$	3,376.88	
Beach Water Sample/Analysis	\$	207.82	
Beach Groundskeeping	\$	-	
Beach Supplies	\$	96.57	
Beach Chem Toilets	\$	815.00	
Beach Telephone	\$	290.95	
Total Parks and Recreation			\$ 31,645.15

## LIBRARY

Librarian Salary	\$	52,507.56	
Librarian Assistants Salary	\$	32,642.00	
As-Needed Assistance	\$	1,278.75	
Health Insurance	\$	17,800.02	
Dental Insurance	\$	467.61	
Fica/Medicare	\$	6,859.12	
Retirement	\$	7,462.88	
Technology	\$	1,254.98	
Photo Copier	\$	2,543.54	
Telephone	\$	628.18	
Conference Fees	\$	625.00	
Office Supplies	\$	1,519.17	
Computer Replacement	\$	76.65	
Program Supplies	\$	1,127.56	
Book Collection	\$	10,903.06	
Media Collection	\$	5,603.09	
Grounds Maintenance	\$	-	
Building Maintenance	\$	1,421.29	

	Building Electricity	\$	1,608.50	
	Building Heating Oil	\$	<u>3,168.60</u>	
	Total Library			\$ 149,497.56
CULTURE AND RECREATION				
	Edward E. French Scholarships	\$	2,000.00	
	Total Education			\$ 2,000.00
PATRIOTIC PURPOSES				
	Memorial Day	\$	<u>1,525.66</u>	
	Total Patriotic Purposes			\$ 1,525.66
CONSERVATION COMMISSION				
	General/Miscellaneous	\$	1,781.04	
	Labor/Secretary	\$	-	
	Fica/Medicare	\$	-	
	Dues & Subscriptions	\$	740.00	
	Office Supplies	\$	120.86	
	Education	\$	<u>265.33</u>	
	Total Conservation Commission			\$ 2,907.23
DEBT				
	Tax Anticipation Note Interest	\$	<u>-</u>	
	Total Tax Anticipation Note Int.			\$ -
CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS				
	Highway Equipment CRF	\$	40,000.00	
	Road Rehab CRF	\$	16,000.00	
	Mower CRF	\$	1,000.00	
	Fire Truck CRF	\$	30,000.00	
	Rescue Vehicle CRF	\$	55,858.60	
	Breathing Apparatus CRF	\$	2,000.00	
	FD Protective Gear CRF	\$	27,165.46	
	Police Cruiser CRF	\$	15,000.00	
	Water CRF	\$	25,000.00	
	Property Reval CRF	\$	12,000.00	
	Library Building CRF	\$	5,000.00	
	Sidewalk Construction CRF	\$	1,000.00	
	Total Capital Reserve Funds			\$ 230,024.06
EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS				
	Bridge Maintenance ETF	\$	10,000.00	
	Town Buildings ETF	\$	<u>25,000.00</u>	
	Total Expendable Trust Funds			\$ 35,000.00
2023 WARRANT ARTICLES				
	Contoocook Housing Trust	\$	300.00	
	Contoocook Valley Transportation	\$	500.00	
	Grapevine Family Center	\$	6,000.00	
	American Red Cross	\$	700.00	
	Court Appointed Special Advocates	\$	600.00	
	Child Advocacy Center	\$	1,100.00	
	End 68 Hours of Hunger	\$	1,000.00	
	Hundred Nights Shelter	\$	500.00	
	To Address Deferred Road Maintenance	\$	45,000.00	
	Cornucopia Project	\$	250.00	
	Gravel Tax	\$	500.00	
	Timber Tax	\$	1,000.00	
	Total 2021 Warrant Articles			\$ <u>57,450.00</u>



<b>SUBTOTAL - 2023 EXPENDITURES &amp; WARRANT ARTICLES</b>		<b>\$ 2,052,937.37</b>
PAYMENTS TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS		
Hillsborough County	\$ 164,098.00	
Local School Contribution	\$ 2,417,016.00	
State School Contribution	\$ 253,502.00	
Total Payments to Other Governments		\$ 2,834,616.00
		<b><u>\$ 4,887,553.37</u></b>
<b>TOTAL 2023 EXPENDITURES</b>		



New Hampshire  
Department of  
Revenue  
Administration

**2023**  
**\$32.15**

## Tax Rate Breakdown Bennington

Municipal Tax Rate Calculation			
Jurisdiction	Tax Effort	Valuation	Tax Rate
Municipal	\$1,402,896	\$132,028,631	<b>\$10.63</b>
County	\$164,098	\$132,028,631	<b>\$1.24</b>
Local Education	\$2,417,016	\$132,028,631	<b>\$18.31</b>
State Education	\$253,502	\$128,369,731	<b>\$1.97</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,237,512</b>		<b>\$32.15</b>

Village Tax Rate Calculation			
Jurisdiction	Tax Effort	Valuation	Tax Rate
<b>Total</b>			

Tax Commitment Calculation	
Total Municipal Tax Effort	\$4,237,512
War Service Credits	(\$39,830)
Village District Tax Effort	\$0
<b>Total Property Tax Commitment</b>	<b>\$4,197,682</b>

<p>Sam Greene Director of Municipal and Property Division New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration</p>	<p>11/7/2023</p>
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## Appropriations and Revenues

### Municipal Accounting Overview

Description	Appropriation	Revenue
Total Appropriation	\$2,497,505	
Net Revenues (Not Including Fund Balance)		(\$1,092,210)
Fund Balance Voted Surplus		\$0
Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes		(\$45,000)
War Service Credits	\$39,830	
Special Adjustment	\$0	
Actual Overlay Used	\$2,771	
<b>Net Required Local Tax Effort</b>	<b>\$1,402,896</b>	

### County Apportionment

Description	Appropriation	Revenue
Net County Apportionment	\$164,098	
<b>Net Required County Tax Effort</b>	<b>\$164,098</b>	

### Education

Description	Appropriation	Revenue
Net Local School Appropriations	\$0	
Net Cooperative School Appropriations	\$3,998,640	
Net Education Grant		(\$1,328,122)
Locally Retained State Education Tax		(\$253,502)
<b>Net Required Local Education Tax Effort</b>	<b>\$2,417,016</b>	
State Education Tax	\$253,502	
State Education Tax Not Retained	\$0	
<b>Net Required State Education Tax Effort</b>	<b>\$253,502</b>	

## Valuation

### Municipal (MS-1)

Description	Current Year	Prior Year
Total Assessment Valuation with Utilities	\$132,028,631	\$131,660,297
Total Assessment Valuation without Utilities	\$128,369,731	\$127,414,497
Commercial/Industrial Construction Exemption	\$0	\$0
Total Assessment Valuation with Utilities, Less Commercial/Industrial Construction Exemption	\$132,028,631	\$131,660,297

### Village (MS-1V)

Description	Current Year
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## Bennington

### Tax Commitment Verification

#### 2023 Tax Commitment Verification - RSA 76:10 II

Description	Amount
Total Property Tax Commitment	\$4,197,682
1/2% Amount	\$20,988
Acceptable High	\$4,218,670
Acceptable Low	\$4,176,694

If the amount of your total warrant varies by more than 1/2%, the MS-1 form used to calculate the tax rate might not be correct. The tax rate will need to be recalculated. Contact your assessors immediately and call us at 603.230.5090 before you issue the bills. See RSA 76:10, II

<b>Commitment Amount</b>	
Less amount for any applicable Tax Increment Financing Districts (TIF)	
<b>Net amount after TIF adjustment</b>	

**Under penalties of perjury, I verify the amount above was the 2023 commitment amount on the property tax warrant.**

Tax Collector/Deputy Signature:	Date:
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### Requirements for Semi-Annual Billing

#### Pursuant to RSA 76:15-a

76:15-a Semi-Annual Collection of Taxes in Certain Towns and Cities - I. Taxes shall be collected in the following manner in towns and cities which adopt the provisions of this section in the manner set out in RSA 76:15-b. A partial payment of the taxes assessed on April 1 in any tax year shall be computed by taking the prior year's assessed valuation times 1/2 of the previous year's tax rate; provided, however, that whenever it shall appear to the selectmen or assessors that certain individual properties have physically changed in valuation, they may use the current year's appraisal times 1/2 the previous year's tax rate to compute the partial payment.

Bennington	Total Tax Rate	Semi-Annual Tax Rate
Total 2023 Tax Rate	\$32.15	\$16.08

Associated Villages

## Fund Balance Retention

<b>Enterprise Funds and Current Year Bonds</b>	<b>\$151,945</b>
<b>General Fund Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$5,180,176</b>
<b>Final Overlay</b>	<b>\$2,771</b>

DRA has provided a reference range of fund balance retention amounts below. Please utilize these ranges in the determination of the adequacy of your municipality's unrestricted fund balance, as currently defined in GASB Statement 54. Retention amounts, as part of the municipality's stabilization fund policy [1], should be assessed dependent upon your governments own long-term forecasts and special circumstances. Please note that current best practices published by GFOA recommend, at a minimum, that "...general purpose governments, regardless of size, maintain unrestricted fund balance in their general fund of no less than two months of regular general fund operating revenues or regular general fund operating expenditures." [2],[3]

[1] The National Advisory Council on State and Local Budgeting (NACSLB), (1998), *Framework for Improved State and Local Government Budgeting: Recommended Budget Practices (4.1)*, pg. 17.  
 [2] Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), (2015), *Best Practice: Fund Balance Guidelines for the General Fund..*  
 [3] Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), (2011), *Best Practice: Replenishing General Fund Balance.*

2023 Fund Balance Retention Guidelines: Bennington	
Description	Amount
<b>Current Amount Retained (11.53%)</b>	<b>\$597,317</b>
17% Retained <i>(Maximum Recommended)</i>	\$880,630
10% Retained	\$518,018
8% Retained	\$414,414
5% Retained <i>(Minimum Recommended)</i>	\$259,009

## 2023 PAYROLL

<b>Michael Andersen</b>			
Fire Department	\$1,192.31		\$ 1,192.31
<b>Zackary Andersen</b>			
Fire Department	\$ 2,853.60		\$ 2,853.60
<b>Debra Belcher</b>			
Town Clerk	\$ 21,520.72		
Cemetery Recording Secretary	\$30.00		
Planning Board Recording Secretary	\$ 635.00		
Welfare	\$ 925.00		
ZBA Recording Secretary	\$ 635.00		
			\$ 23,745.72
<b>Karen Belcher</b>			
Deputy Town Clerk	\$ 8,278.27		\$ 8,278.27
<b>Matthew Blanchard</b>			
Highway Road Agent	\$ 54,300.00		
Highway Department Overtime	\$ 7,137.00		
			\$ 61,437.00
<b>Vint Boggis</b>			
Part-Time Police Officer	\$ 558.96		\$ 558.96
<b>Auralee Burchett</b>			
Transfer Station Attendant	\$ 8,599.24		\$ 8,599.24
<b>Melissa Clark</b>			
Water/Sewer Commissioner	\$ 500.00		\$ 500.00
<b>James Cleary</b>			
Selectman	\$ 1,500.00		\$ 1,500.00
<b>Judith Cox</b>			
Transfer Station Attendant	\$ 688.50		\$ 688.50
<b>Jeffrey Danforth</b>			
Police Officer	\$ 61,836.55		
Over-time	\$ 10,017.09		
On Call	\$ 3,142.00		
Special Detail	\$ 5,340.00		
			\$ 80,335.64

## 2023 PAYROLL

<b>Debra Davidson</b>		
Town Administrator	\$ 61,167.83	
Over-time	<u>\$ 149.21</u>	
		\$ 61,317.04
<b>Rhonda Davie</b>		
Treasurer	<u>\$ 3,120.00</u>	
		\$ 3,120.00
<b>Curtis Dude</b>		
Fire Department	\$ 864.28	
Highway Laborer	\$ 4,756.50	
Highway Overtime	\$ 598.50	
Transfer Station Attendant	<u>\$ 5,724.30</u>	
		\$ 11,943.58
<b>David Foster</b>		
Fire Department	<u>\$ 4,409.18</u>	
		\$ 4,409.18
<b>Dannie Garrity</b>		
Transfer Station Attendant	<u>\$ 383.50</u>	
		\$ 383.50
<b>Brenda Gibbons</b>		
Supervisor of the Checklist Clerical	<u>\$ 247.50</u>	
		\$ 247.50
<b>Matthew Hall</b>		
Fire Department	<u>\$ 2,293.20</u>	
		\$ 2,293.20
<b>Tyler Howe</b>		
Water Commission	<u>\$ 2,862.01</u>	
		\$ 2,862.01
<b>Thomas James</b>		
Transfer Station Attendant	\$ 17,434.24	
Transfer Station Overtime	\$ 149.76	
Selectman Salary	<u>\$ 1,500.00</u>	
		\$ 19,084.00
<b>John Kendall</b>		
Code Enforcement Officer	<u>\$ 2,571.75</u>	
		\$ 2,571.75
<b>Robert Kinney, Jr.</b>		
Transfer Station	<u>\$ 442.00</u>	
		\$ 442.00

## 2023 PAYROLL

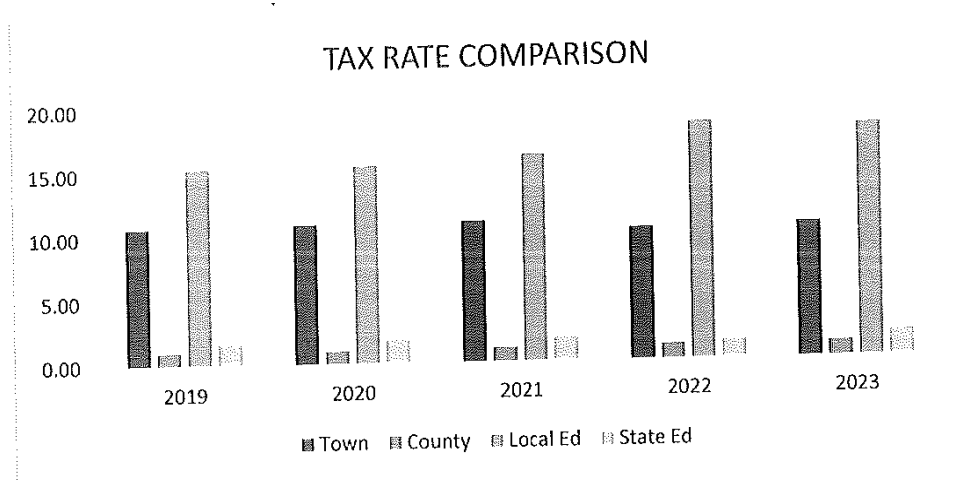
<b>Rebecca Lambert</b>		
Cleaning	\$ 189.00	\$ 189.00
<b>Gregory LeBlanc</b>		
Whittemore Lake Beach Staff	\$ 3,351.88	\$ 3,351.88
<b>Lisa Lemieux</b>		
Election	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00
<b>Jason Lepine</b>		
Police Chief	\$ 73,674.92	
Overtime	\$ 8,198.62	
On-Call	\$ 3,715.00	\$ 85,588.54
<b>Patricia Long</b>		
Cleaning	\$ 2,820.75	\$ 2,820.75
<b>Leslie MacGregor</b>		
Library Director	\$ 53,998.31	\$ 53,998.31
<b>Catherine McGillicuddy</b>		
Administrative Assistant	\$ 53,998.31	
Insurance Stipend	\$ 6,036.00	
Water Rent Collector Stipend	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 61,534.31
<b>Dennis McKenney</b>		
Water Commission	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
<b>Candi Micheals</b>		
Crossing Guard	\$ 1,230.00	\$ 1,230.00
<b>Haley Minahan</b>		
Police Officer - Part time	\$ 11,253.00	
Overtime	\$ 264.00	\$ 11,517.00
<b>Joyce Miner</b>		
Deputy Treasurer	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
<b>Sara Munson</b>		
Highway On-Call	\$ 450.00	\$ 450.00
<b>Keith Nason</b>		
Fire Department	\$ 601.48	
Emergency Management	\$ 1,125.00	
Non Emergency	\$ 2,047.27	
Emergency Calls	\$ 2,695.93	\$ 6,469.68
<b>Anthony Parisi</b>		
Selectman	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00



## 2023 PAYROLL

<b>David Parker</b>		
Recreation Groundskeeping	\$ 3,660.80	
Highway as needed	<u>\$ 100.92</u>	
		\$ 3,660.80
<b>Jason Powers</b>		
Fire Department	\$ 846.11	
Non Emergency	<u>\$ 526.91</u>	
		\$ 1,373.02
<b>Sarah Powers</b>		
Fire Department	<u>\$ 113.64</u>	
		\$ 113.64
<b>Greg Sandquist</b>		
Fire Department	<u>\$ 1,746.88</u>	
		\$ 1,746.88
<b>Dwayne Searles</b>		
Transfer Station Attendant	\$ 637.00	
Highway Labor	<u>\$ 91.00</u>	
		\$ 728.00
<b>Melissa Searles</b>		
Librarian Assistant Salary	\$ 32,797.35	
Website Support	\$ 750.00	
Supervisor of the Checklist	\$ 225.00	
Election	<u>\$ 22.50</u>	
		\$ 33,794.85
<b>Bret Sullivan</b>		
Part Time Officer	\$ 17,727.00	
Special Detail	\$ 270.00	
Overtime	<u>\$ 285.00</u>	
		\$ 18,282.00
<b>Christine Tarrio</b>		
Children's Librarian	<u>\$ 975.00</u>	
		\$ 975.00
<b>Walter Turner</b>		
Supervisor of the Checklist	<u>\$ 225.00</u>	
		\$ 225.00
<b>Allan Wilson</b>		
Fire Department	<u>\$ 439.37</u>	
		\$ 439.37
<b>Douglas Wing Jr.</b>		
Highway Laborer	\$ 49,945.77	
Highway Laborer Overtime	<u>\$ 3,888.63</u>	
		\$ 53,834.40
<b>Total Payroll</b>		<b>\$ 632,243.43</b>

Tax Rate					
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Town	10.78	10.99	11.11	10.40	10.63
County	1.04	1.02	1.12	1.20	1.24
Local Ed	15.41	15.52	16.27	18.62	18.31
State Ed	1.70	1.86	1.84	1.43	1.97
	<u>28.93</u>	<u>29.39</u>	<u>30.34</u>	<u>31.65</u>	<u>32.15</u>



# TREASURER'S REPORT

For the Year ended December 31, 2023

## GENERAL CASH ACCOUNT

Cash Balance	1/1/2023	\$2,007,286.06
Receipts		\$5,600,137.18
Disbursements		-\$5,680,517.30
Cash Balance	12/31/2023	\$1,926,905.94

## CONSERVATION FUND

Cash Balance	1/1/2023	\$81,622.61
Deposit		\$28,317.48
Withdrawal		-\$1,250.00
Withdrawal to CD		-\$77,250.00
Interest Earned		\$304.02
9 Month CD		\$77,250.00
Cash Balance	12/31/2023	\$108,994.11

**Town Clerk's Revenue Report**  
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2023

Motor Vehicle Registrations		\$ 326,110.18
Municipal Agent Fees		\$ 7,467.00
Motor Vehicle Titles		\$ 864.00
Motor Vehicle Mail Program		\$ 1,902.00
OHRV	Town	\$ 240.00
Fish and Game	Town	\$ 32.00
UCC Lien Filings		\$ 135.00
Marriage Licenses:	Town	\$ 77.00
Certified Copies:	Town	\$ 518.75
Dog Licenses:	Town	\$ 1,917.00
Dog Mail Program		\$ 391.00
Dog License Fines		\$ 952.00
Election Fees		\$ 0
Bad Check Fees		\$ 175.00
Parking Tickets		\$ 0
Checklist		\$ 500.00
Miscellaneous		\$ 0
Total Revenue Collected by the Town Clerk		\$341,280.93

I hereby certify that the above report is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

*Debra Belcher, Town Clerk*

**Town Of Bennington**  
**Report of the Trustees of Trust Funds**  
**For the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2023**

First Deposit	Name of Fund	Purpose of Fund	How Invested	PRINCIPAL			INCOME			TOTAL		
				Balance Beginning of Year	Additions-Withdraw Gain-Loss	Balance End of Year	Balance Beginning of Year	Net Income	Expended During Year	Balance End of Year	Principal & Income	Ending Market Value
<b>CEMETERY TRUSTS</b>												
1946-1960	Mount Calvary Cemetery	Perpetual Care	Common TF	845.10	-12.31	832.79	614.22	51.30	0.00	665.52	1,496.31	1,503.12
1905-1997	Sunnyside Cemetery	Perpetual Care	Common TF	12,823.96	-121.54	12,702.42	1,995.82	511.81	408.67	2,098.96	14,801.38	14,848.96
1913-2011	Evergreen Cemetery	Perpetual Care	Common TF	16,793.51	-196.32	16,595.19	8,390.20	848.11	1,687.91	7,550.40	24,145.59	24,223.23
1945	Lizzie Holt Evergreen Cemetery Special Projects	Special Projects	Common TF	33,826.52	-362.64	33,263.88	9,392.40	1,512.19	0.00	10,904.59	44,168.47	44,310.30
2018	David Glynn Estate Evergreen Cemetery Special Projects	Special Projects	Common TF	7,671.36	-73.52	7,597.84	1,050.79	306.60	0.00	1,357.39	8,955.23	8,983.99
Total Cemetery Trusts				71,760.45	-768.33	70,992.12	21,443.43	3,230.01	2,096.58	22,576.86	93,568.98	93,869.60
<b>EXPENDABLE TRUSTS</b>												
2013	Sunnyside Cemetery Expendable Trust	Enhance Sunnyside Cemetery	Common TF	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,388.29	5,959.33	573.61	25,774.01	25,774.01	25,856.77
Total Expendable Trusts				0.00	0.00	0.00	20,388.29	5,959.33	573.61	25,774.01	25,774.01	25,856.77
<b>SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS</b>												
1994	Edward French	Scholarship	Common TF	1,087.25	-9.42	1,077.83	30.98	39.32	0.00	70.30	1,148.13	1,151.82
2010	Bruce Eades	Scholarship	Common TF	36,225.37	-365.69	35,859.68	7,891.78	1,538.96	750.00	8,680.74	44,540.42	44,683.44
Total Scholarship Funds				37,312.62	-375.11	36,937.51	7,922.76	1,578.28	750.00	8,751.04	45,688.55	45,835.26
<b>GENERAL</b>												
2019	Historical Buildings Maintenance (Glynn Trust)-017	Maintenance & Improvement	Common TF	234,599.16	-81,257.90	153,341.26	23,160.74	7,606.19	0.00	30,766.93	184,108.19	184,699.22
2019	Town Square Fund (Glynn Trust)-019	Maintenance & Improvement	Common TF	75,588.01	24,409.07	99,997.08	6,988.89	3,066.04	0.00	10,024.93	110,022.01	110,375.30
Total General				310,187.17	-56,848.83	253,338.34	30,119.63	10,672.23	0.00	40,791.86	294,130.20	295,074.52
<b>LIBRARY</b>												
2013	Emma Gipson Trust-027	Library	Common TF	83,341.86	-716.92	82,624.94	710.25	2,950.05	3,015.32	644.98	83,269.92	83,537.31
2013	Bennington Women's Club-028	Library	Common TF	161.49	-1.39	160.10	1.38	5.70	5.83	1.25	161.35	161.87
2018	Dodge Library Books-David Glynn Estate	Purchase of Books	Common TF	51,054.61	-439.18	50,615.43	435.12	1,807.21	1,847.22	395.11	51,010.54	51,174.34
Total Library				134,557.96	-1,157.49	133,400.47	1,146.75	4,762.96	4,868.37	1,041.34	134,441.81	134,873.52

**Town Of Bennington  
Report of the Trustees of Trust Funds  
For the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2023**

First Deposit	Name of Fund	Purpose of Fund	How Invested	PRINCIPAL			INCOME			TOTAL		
				Balance Beginning of Year	Additions-Withdraw Gain-Loss	Balance End of Year	Balance Beginning of Year	Net Income	Expended During Year	Balance End of Year	Principal & Income	Ending Market Value
<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT</b>												
1990	Fire Truck-001	Capital Reserve	Common CRF	390,056.74	30,873.79	420,930.53	37,263.82	9,342.03	0.00	46,605.85	467,536.38	489,895.86
1991	Rescue Chassis-005	Capital Reserve	Common CRF	47,356.22	2,615.24	49,971.46	10,448.94	1,242.21	0.00	11,691.15	61,662.61	64,611.57
2001	Fire Department Radios-021	Capital Reserve	Common CRF	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2010	Fire Department SCBA-025	Capital Reserve	Common CRF	9,082.57	2,021.84	11,104.41	358.33	224.90	0.00	583.23	11,687.64	12,246.59
2013	Fire Department Protective Gear	Equipment	Common CRF	27,723.52	6,066.37	33,789.89	1,040.52	663.86	0.00	1,724.38	35,514.27	37,212.71
Total Fire Department				474,219.05	41,577.24	515,796.29	49,111.61	11,493.00	0.00	60,604.61	576,400.90	603,966.73
<b>EXPENDABLE TRUSTS</b>												
2014	Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust	Cemetery Maintenance	Common CRF	2,731.38	947.56	3,678.94	293.38	71.39	0.00	364.77	4,043.71	4,237.10
Total Expendable Trusts				2,731.38	947.56	3,678.94	293.38	71.39	0.00	364.77	4,043.71	4,237.10
<b>HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT</b>												
1991	Highway Heavy Equipment-008	Capital Reserve	Common CRF	250,236.45	-101,375.95	148,860.50	11,192.48	5,919.34	0.00	17,111.82	165,972.32	173,909.79
1997	Mower-010	Capital Reserve	Common CRF	9,080.43	1,024.33	10,104.76	2,655.62	259.02	0.00	2,914.64	13,019.40	13,642.04
2009	Road Rehabilitation-024	Capital Reserve	Common CRF	105,973.22	15,237.63	121,210.85	3,445.79	2,493.26	0.00	5,939.05	127,149.90	133,230.73
Total Highway Department				365,290.10	-85,113.99	280,176.11	17,293.89	8,671.62	0.00	25,965.51	306,141.62	320,762.56
<b>GENERAL</b>												
1993	Water Department Maintenance & Repairs CRF-002	Capital Reserve	Common CRF	104,845.08	25,269.55	130,114.63	11,605.51	2,777.42	1,395.00	12,987.93	143,102.56	149,946.31
1994	Dodge Memorial Library-003	Structure Repair & Library Equipment	Common CRF	27,862.90	5,066.16	32,929.06	1,971.16	691.74	989.34	1,673.56	34,602.62	36,257.46
1993	Police Cruiser-009	Capital Reserve	Common CRF	2,351.33	15,034.12	17,385.45	604.24	269.05	0.00	873.29	18,258.74	19,131.95
1997	Bridge Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund-011	Expendable Trust	Common CRF	88,272.76	10,206.45	98,479.21	9,798.11	2,187.06	0.00	11,985.17	110,464.38	115,747.24
2001	Town Buildings Expendable-012	Expendable Trust	Common CRF	150,594.75	-13,985.71	136,609.04	6,521.20	3,601.57	0.00	10,122.77	146,731.81	153,749.12
2000	Sidewalk Repair-014	Capital Reserve	Common CRF	4,024.44	1,009.75	5,034.19	84.46	99.66	0.00	184.12	5,218.31	5,467.87
2001	Revaluation-015	Capital Reserve	Common CRF	38,119.25	12,097.11	50,216.36	768.93	978.32	0.00	1,747.25	51,963.61	54,448.72
Total General				416,070.51	54,697.43	470,767.94	31,353.61	10,604.82	2,384.34	39,574.09	510,342.03	534,748.67
<b>GRAND TOTALS:</b>				1,812,129.24	-47,041.52	1,765,087.72	179,073.35	57,043.64	10,672.90	225,444.09	1,990,531.81	2,059,244.73

**Births, Deaths & Marriages**  
for the Year Ended December 31, 2023

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

RESIDENT BIRTH REPORT  
01/01/2023 - 12/31/2023

-- BENNINGTON --

Child's Name	Birth Date	Birth Place	Father's/Parent's Name	Mother's/Parent's Name
PITCHARD, SELENNE ROSE	03/23/2023	PETERBOROUGH, NH	PITCHARD, JAMES BRADLEY	PITCHARD, CORINNE LOUISE
AUCOIN, HUNTER JOSEPH	04/20/2023	PETERBOROUGH, NH	AUCOIN, CHADWICK JOSEPH	AUCOIN, ASHLEY BLANCHE
DURGIN, KEEVA CAROLYN	05/09/2023	PETERBOROUGH, NH	DURGIN, TRAVIS RYAN	DURGIN, JADE ASHTON
WOODARD, LEVI ELLIOTT	07/10/2023	PETERBOROUGH, NH	WOODARD, ELLIOTT JEFFERY	WOODARD, REBECCA GRACE
DAVIS-LANIEFSKY, ROBERT JAMES	07/13/2023	PETERBOROUGH, NH		DAVIS-LANIEFSKY, BELLE IRENE
RILEY, RONAN ADAM	08/19/2023	PETERBOROUGH, NH	RILEY, MATTHEW THOMAS	WOODBURY, JONARA REGINA
BARNHARD, ALEXANDER JAMES	09/04/2023	MANCHESTER, NH	BARNHARD, JARED ZIMMERMAN	BARNHARD, JESSICA LYNN
WESOLY, JAXON PHILIP	09/22/2023	PETERBOROUGH, NH	WESOLY, DEREK	WESOLY, KELLY NICOLE
CAHOON, DEXLIN HARRIS	10/07/2023	PETERBOROUGH, NH	CAHOON, DUNCAN HARRIS	PARKER, KAYLA MARIE
DURGIN, EMILY MAE	10/19/2023	CONCORD, NH	DURGIN JR, KEVIN ERNEST	JOHNSON, JESSIE KAYLEE
MESSINA, KENNETH PIVONKA	10/23/2023	PETERBOROUGH, NH	MESSINA, DANIEL RICHARD	COOK-PIVONKA, MORGAN K
SKROCKI, NOELYN VANDER	12/22/2023	KEENE, NH	SKROCKI, BENJAMIN ALEXANDER	SKROCKI, ROSEMARY LYNN

Total number of records 12



DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
 DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION  
 RESIDENT MARRIAGE REPORT

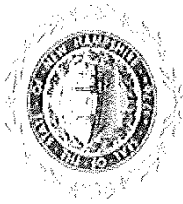
01/04/2024

Page 1 of 1

01/01/2023 - 12/31/2023  
 -- BENNINGTON --

Person A's Name and Residence	Person B's Name and Residence	Town of Issuance	Place of Marriage	Date of Marriage
DUDE, CURTIS MICHAEL BENNINGTON, NH	ANDERSON, BRENDA GAIL BENNINGTON, NH	BENNINGTON	BENNINGTON	04/22/2023
COTE JR, JEFFREY MICHAEL BENNINGTON, NH	DANIELS, TERESA LEIGH BENNINGTON, NH	BENNINGTON	BENNINGTON	06/10/2023
PIERCE, MITCHELL AARON BENNINGTON, NH	INGALLS, MADDISON LANE BENNINGTON, NH	BENNINGTON	BENNINGTON	07/15/2023
QUALE, CAMERON JAMES BENNINGTON, NH	TREPANIER, SABRINA JO BENNINGTON, NH	BENNINGTON	BENNINGTON	08/26/2023
BITAR, SHAWN JOSEPH BENNINGTON, NH	RICE, LAURA VIRGINIA BENNINGTON, NH	BENNINGTON	BENNINGTON	09/23/2023
HEATH, DONOVAN MAURICE BENNINGTON, NH	FOLEY, ERIN FRANCES BENNINGTON, NH	BENNINGTON	PORTSMOUTH	10/28/2023

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION



RESIDENT DEATH REPORT

01/01/2023 - 12/31/2023

--BENNINGTON, NH --

Decedent's Name	Death Date	Death Place	Father's/Parent's Name	Mother's/Parent's Name Prior to First Marriage/Civil Union	Military
ENNIS, JASON THOMAS	01/05/2023	BENNINGTON	ENNIS JR, THOMAS	GEBHARDT, PATRICIA	N
THEOS JR, JOHN L	01/09/2023	BENNINGTON	THEOS SR, JOHN	INGHAM, NANCY	N
GORDON, ELIZABETH KATHLEEN	02/13/2023	BENNINGTON	GORDON, MITCHELL	KIM, UNJO	N
THIBAUT, ROBERT CYRILLE	04/02/2023	BENNINGTON	THIBAUT, ROBERT	PELLETIER, ROSEANNA	N
WHITELEY, JERAMEY	04/09/2023	BENNINGTON	WHITELEY, GUY	HORNACEK, TERRIE	N
LUBY, ROGER KENT	04/16/2023	MANCHESTER	LUBY, GEORGE	CHADWICK, MINNIE	N
RICUPERO, KAREN L	05/10/2023	BENNINGTON	ENGLE, BERNARD	SEMPRINI, LIBRA	N
ALVES, JOE FRANK	05/29/2023	BENNINGTON	ALVES, JOE	DESALLE, ROSA	N
COX, DRUSILLA J	05/30/2023	HILLSBOROUGH	BEAN, JOHN	PRICHARD, DORIS	N
WEST, LINDA ANN	06/08/2023	BENNINGTON	SORDILLO, BENJAMIN	TRAINER, MARION	N
PAIGE, BRUCE ALAN	09/05/2023	LEBANON	PAIGE, EARL	LOWE, VERNA	N
PAGNOTTO, DAVID L	09/13/2023	BENNINGTON	PAGNOTTO, ALPHONSE	LANDRY, EVELYN	Y
COATE, DAVID ANTHONY	12/23/2023	BENNINGTON	COATE, MICHAEL	GAGNON, MARY	N

Total number of records 13

**Department Reports**  
for the Year Ended December 31, 2023



James A. Sojka, CPA\*

Sheryl A. Pratt, CPA\*\*

Michael J. Campo, CPA, MACC

September 26, 2023

To the Members of the Board of Selectmen  
Town of Bennington  
7 School Street  
Bennington, NH 03442

\* Also licensed in Maine  
\*\* Also licensed in Vermont

Dear Members of the Board:

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, major fund, and aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Bennington for the year ended December 31, 2022 and have issued our report thereon dated August 30, 2023. Professional standards require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

#### ***Our Responsibility in Relation to the Financial Statement Audit***

As communicated in our engagement letter dated June 20, 2022, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to form and express opinions about whether the financial statements that have been prepared by management with your oversight are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your respective responsibilities.

Our responsibility, as prescribed by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit of financial statements includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, as part of our audit, we considered the internal control of the Town of Bennington solely for the purpose of determining our audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control.

We are also responsible for communicating significant matters related to the audit that are, in our professional judgment, relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. However, we are not required to design procedures for the purpose of identifying other matters to communicate to you.

We have provided our findings regarding the significant control deficiency and material weakness over financial reporting, and other matters noted during our audit in a separate letter to you dated August 30, 2023.

#### ***Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit***

We conducted our audit consistent with the planned scope and timing we previously communicated to you in our engagement letter dated June 20, 2022.

#### ***Compliance With All Ethics Requirements Regarding Independence***

The engagement team, others in our Firm, as appropriate, and our Firm, have complied with all relevant ethical requirements regarding independence.

**PLODZIK & SANDERSON, P.A.**  
*Certified Public Accountants*

193 North Main Street, Concord, New Hampshire, 03301 • 603-225-6296  
www.plodzik.com

We follow the AICPA Ethics Standard Rule 201 and in conjunction with the Firm's Quality Control Document, we annually review with all engagement staff potential conflicts and obtain an independence certification. In addition, we inquire on each engagement about potential conflicts with staff. We have not identified any relationships or other matters that in the auditor's judgment may be reasonably thought to bear on independence.

#### *Significant Risks Identified*

We have identified the following significant risks through our risk assessment procedures. These risks are identified universally in New Hampshire governmental audits performed by our firm. As a result of these risks the engagement team developed and audit approach that specifically addresses these significant risks.

- Management override of controls;
- Improper revenue recognition; and
- Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### *Qualitative Aspects of the Entity's Significant Accounting Practices*

##### *Significant Accounting Policies*

Management has the responsibility to select and use appropriate accounting policies. A summary of the significant accounting policies adopted by the Town of Bennington is included in Note 1 to the financial statements. As described in Note 2-C to the financial statements, the Town of Bennington changed accounting principles to change the way the Town reports leases, by adopting Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 87, *Leases*, in the fiscal year 2022. The implementation of the accounting principle did not result in any prior period adjustment. No matters have come to our attention that would require us, under professional standards, to inform you about (1) the methods used to account for significant unusual transactions and (2) the effect of significant accounting policies in controversial or emerging areas for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

##### *Significant Accounting Estimates*

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's current judgments. Those judgments are normally based on knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ markedly from management's current judgments.

The most sensitive accounting estimates affecting the financial statements are:

Management's estimates of the capital asset useful lives are based on historical information and industry guidance. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the capital asset useful lives in determining that they are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Management's estimate of the allowance for uncollectible property taxes is based on historical data and information known concerning the assessment appeals. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the allowance for uncollectible property in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Management's estimates of the net pension liability, deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense are based on assumptions of future events, such as employment, mortality, and estimates of the value of reported amounts. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the net pension liability, deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense in determining that they are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Management's estimates of the other postemployment benefit (OPEB) liability, deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to OPEB, and OPEB expense are based on the assumption of future events, such as employment, mortality, and the healthcare cost trend, as well as estimates of the value of reported amounts. We evaluated key factors and assumptions used to develop the OPEB liability, deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to OPEB, and OPEB expense in determining that they are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.



***Financial Statement Disclosures***

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

***Significant Unusual Transactions***

There are no significant or unusual transactions identified during our audit.

***Significant Difficulties Encountered During the Audit***

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management relating to the performance of the audit.

***Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements***

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements.

Adjustments proposed and approved were primarily of a routine nature which management expects the independent auditors to record as part of their year-end procedures. A list of these adjustments for the general fund is attached to this letter.

***Disagreements With Management***

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

***Management Representations***

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated August 30, 2023.

***Management Consultations With Other Independent Accountants***

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the Town of Bennington's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

***Key Audit Matters***

We have determined that there are no key audit matters to communicate.

***Modification of the Auditor's Report***

We have made the following modification to our auditor's report. An adverse opinion will be issued on the governmental activities. The circumstance that led to this modification is as follows:

The Town has not recorded the long-term costs of retirement healthcare costs and obligations for other postemployment benefits for the Town's single employer plan in the governmental activities. Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that those costs be recorded, which would increase the liabilities, decrease the net position, and increase the expenses of the governmental activities. The amount by which this departure would affect the liabilities, net position, and expenses on the governmental activities is not readily determinable.



***Other Audit Matters, Findings, or Issues***

In the normal course of our professional association with the Town of Bennington, we generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, significant events or transactions that occurred during the year, operating and regulatory conditions affecting the Town, and operational plans and strategies that may affect the risks of material misstatement. None of the matters discussed resulted in a condition to our retention as the Town of Bennington's auditors.

**Financial, Personnel, and IT Policies (repeat comment)**

During review of the Town's policies, we noted the Town is missing a significant number of key accounting, personnel, and IT policies, including but not limited to: Financial Close and Reporting, Credit Card Use, Employee Reimbursement, Purchasing, Capital Assets, Conflict of Interest, Payroll, Staff and Board Ethics, Disaster Recovery Plan, Data Retention Plan, and Change in Management. A capital asset policy is required by governmental accounting standards. All other policies are considered best practice, which are essential to ensure the smooth and continued operations of the Town. We recommend the Town work to develop and adopt the noted policies, and any other policies that management deems appropriate. These policies should then be reviewed and amended on a regular basis, generally every three to five years.

**Annual Review of Trustees of Trust Funds Investment Policy (repeat comment)**

The Trustees of Trust Funds investment policy provided for the audit was last reviewed and reaffirmed in 2018. In accordance with RSA 35:9, *Investment*, this policy shall be reviewed at least annually. We recommend the Trustees of Trust Funds review their investment policy on an annual basis in accordance with State statute.

**Revenue Budget in General Ledger (repeat comment)**

We noted the Town's revenue budget was not recorded in the general ledger. In addition to reviewing budget to actual reports for expenditures, the Board of Selectmen should also be reviewing budget to actual reports for revenues in order to have a better understanding of the Town's overall financial position. In order to prepare these reports, it is necessary to have the Town's revenue budget recorded in the general ledger. In addition, the budget should be updated once the MS-434-R is approved by the State of New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration. We recommend the Town record its approved revenue budget in the general ledger.

**Incomplete Payroll Records (repeat comment)**

While performing a walkthrough for payroll, we identified one employee that did not have a Form I-9 in their payroll file. In addition, the employee had received raises for several years that had not been updated on the employee's personnel action form. All employees hired after November 6, 1986 are required to have a completed Form I-9 in their personnel file. In addition, each employee's file should include formal documentation of any changes in pay rate. We recommend the Town review its personnel files to ensure they are accurate and complete for all employees and obtain any missing information that is identified.

**Ambulance Services Agreement (repeat comment)**

It was noted that ambulance services for the Town of Bennington are provided by the Town of Antrim, however, there is currently no formal agreement in place for these services. As a best practice, we recommend that an ambulance service agreement be developed and signed by both of the towns involved. The agreement should outline relevant information, such as the nature of services provided, period of the agreement, and cost of related services.

**Reconciliation of Undeposited Funds (repeat comment)**

During our review of the Town's cash accounts, we noted the "Undeposited Funds" account had a balance of \$4,924 that was not being reconciled. This account should operate as an "in and out" account, ultimately netting to a balance of zero. We recommend the Town include the "Undeposited Funds" account in its monthly bank reconciliation process and work to resolve the remaining unexplained variance in the account.





**Bank Statement Cutoff Date (repeat comment)**

The Town's Conservation Commission account bank statement uses a mid-month cutoff date. Use of a mid-month cutoff date will either require accounts to be reconciled as of a date different from month-end or require additional time to reconcile the statement to month-end. In addition, most banks will typically allow a cutoff date to be selected for bank statements. We recommend the Town change the Conservation account statements to month-end cutoff dates.

**Sequential Numbering of Police Detail Billings (repeat comment)**

We noted that billings for police details are not sequentially numbered. Sequential numbering of billings is a control function that ensures all billings are accounted for and helps to reconcile receipts when bills are received. In addition, sequential numbering also helps to reduce the risk of fraud or misappropriation. We recommend the Town sequentially number all of its billings for police details.

**Maintenance of Capital Asset Listing (repeat comment)**

It was noted the Town does not maintain its own capital asset listing for financial reporting purposes, but rather the listing has historically been updated by the independent auditors. Maintenance of the capital asset listing is a non-audit service that has the potential to impair an auditor's independence. In addition, if the list is not being reviewed and updated by management, there is potential that capital asset additions or disposals may not be properly identified and recorded, which could lead to a misstatement of the financial statements. We recommend the Town maintain its own capital asset listing and update it annually as part of the financial close process for the annual audit.

**General Ledger Software Training (repeat comment)**

During the audit we noted that staff do not appear to be fully trained in the operation and maintenance of the general ledger software system. The trial balance provided for the audit was out of balance by \$1,334,728, which is a result of the prior accounting period not being properly closed in the software. In addition, the cash accounts appear to be the only balance sheet accounts that are being reconciled. We recommend the Town invest in additional software training for all individuals that utilize the general ledger.

**Other Matters**

**Implementation of New GASB Pronouncements**

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has issued several pronouncements that have effective dates that may impact future financial presentations. Management has not currently determined what, if any, impact implementation of the following statements may have on the financial statements.

**GASB Statement No. 91, *Conduit Debt Obligations***, issued in May 2019, will be effective for the Town with its fiscal year ending December 31, 2023. This Statement will provide a single method of reporting conduit debt obligations and eliminate differences in practice.

**GASB Statement No. 92, *Omnibus 2020***, issued in January 2020, will be effective for the Town with its fiscal year ended December 31, 2023. The objectives of this Statement are to enhance comparability in accounting and financial reporting and to improve the consistency of authoritative literature by addressing practice issues that have been identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements.

**GASB Statement No. 94, *Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements***, issued in March 2020, will be effective for the Town with its fiscal year ended December 31, 2023. The objectives of this Statement are to improve financial reporting by addressing issues related to public-private and public-public partnership arrangements (PPPs).

**GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements***, issued in May 2020, will be effective for the Town with its fiscal year ended December 31, 2023. The objectives of this Statement are to provide guidance on accounting and financial reporting for subscription-based information technology arrangements for government end users.





GASB Statement No. 99, *Omnibus 2021*, issued in April 2022, will be effective for the Town with its fiscal year ended December 31, 2023. The objectives of this Statement are to enhance comparability in accounting and financial reporting and to improve the consistency of authoritative literature by addressing (1) practice issues that have been identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements and (2) accounting and financial reporting for financial guarantees.

GASB Statement No. 100, *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections—an Amendment of GASB Statement No. 62*, issued in June 2022, will be effective for the Town with its fiscal year ended December 31, 2024. The primary objective of this Statement is to enhance accounting and financial reporting requirements for accounting changes and error corrections to provide more understandable, reliable, relevant, consistent, and comparable information for making decisions or assessing accountability.

GASB Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*, issued in June 2022, will be effective for the Town with its fiscal year ended December 31, 2024. The objective of this Statement is to better meet the information needs of financial statement users by updating the recognition and measurement guidance for compensated absences.

We applied certain limited procedures to the following, which are required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements:

- Schedule of the Town's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability,
- Schedule of Town Contributions – Pensions,
- Schedule of the Town's Proportionate Share of the Net Other Postemployment Benefits Liability,
- Schedule of Town Contributions – Other Postemployment Benefits, and
- Notes to the Required Supplementary Information

Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We were engaged to report on the combining and individual fund schedules which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. With respect to this supplementary information, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

Restriction on Use

This information is intended solely for the information and use of the members of the Board of Selectmen and management of the Town of Bennington and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Respectfully,



PLODZIK & SANDERSON  
Professional Association

Attachments:

*General Fund Journal Entries*



## **BUILDING INSPECTOR / CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

We had a total of 54 permits in 2023. Four of which were for new houses. Solar Permits are still very common, as are generators. Energy requirements have increased, along with other associated costs of construction. Regardless, the towns permits are maintaining similar to the previous year.

Please remember that I am here to help answer any questions on building and zoning. The best choice to reach me is a text message.

I look forward to continuing the various duties and responsibilities on behalf of the Town and am available to assist residents any time by calling 603-562-6363.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Kendall, Building Inspector  
Code Enforcement Officer

## BENNINGTON CEMETERY TRUSTEES

The Bennington Cemeteries are looking great. To spite the weather being as rainy as it has, we were able to fertilize and fill in some low spots in both Evergreen and Sunnyside.

George Chicoine has gone above and beyond this year to make the cemeteries look their best and we would like to thank him for his dedication and hard work, in addition to his donated time towards special projects within the cemeteries. Due to the weather this year, we had to postpone some projects to further maintain the cemeteries until next year, but we are excited to continue beautifying these spaces for the town. We look forward to taking care of the trees in this coming year.

Thank you,

Bennington Cemetery Trustees,

Rob Christian  
Karen Belcher  
Kelly St. Pierre

## COMMUNITY POWER COMMITTEE

Community Power is a program approved by the State Legislature that allows towns to buy power at rates that are lower than utilities' rates. In addition, residents and small businesses in town can select options that offer more renewable power than the State-mandated minimum that the utility uses. Community Power must be approved by a majority of voters on the Town Warrant in March. Once that occurs, residents and small businesses will have five options as follows.

Basic Rate: This rate is the lowest rate and, like the utilities' rate, offers the State-mandated minimum amount of renewable energy.

Bennington Default Rate: Customers will be automatically enrolled at this rate unless they choose one of the other options. This rate is guaranteed to be lower than the utilities' rate and includes 5-10% more renewable energy than the State-mandated minimum.

Bennington 50%: This rate is similar to the utilities rate, with 50% of the power coming from renewable sources.

Bennington 100%: the rate will be 15-20% higher than the utilities' rate, with 100% of the power coming from renewable sources.

Opt-out: Customers continue to receive power from the utility at the utility rate.

Customers will know the rates before they make their choice, and they will be able to switch options if they choose.

The Community Power Committee was commissioned by the Board of Selectmen on April 10, 2023. The Board of Selectmen signed a memorandum of understanding with the community power consulting team from Standard Power on June 26. On August 16, an on-line community survey was released on the Town's website and advertised on social media and posters. Paper copies were available at the Town Hall and the Library and were handed out at the Transfer Station. The Committee reviewed a template draft plan created by Standard Power and customized it to include local goals, community survey results, and all public input. Informational public hearings were held on October 18 and November 1. The Committee gave final approval of the plan on November 9 and submitted it to the Board of Selectmen for their approval, which was granted on November 13. The plan was submitted to the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission on December x and is available on the Town's website.

The Bennington Community Power Committee:

Jim Cleary  
Deb Davidson  
Molly Eppig  
David McKenzie  
Mike Munhall



Bennington Conservation Commission  
*Caring for the Land and Building Community since 1989*

## 2023 Annual Report

2023 was a productive year for your Conservation Commission in maintaining what we have and taking new initiatives to improve the town's resources and building community. We had two adjustments to the membership of the Commission: Christina Hahn Lightfoot stepped back to an alternate position and Jane Butler joined as a full voting member. Longtime commissioners, Jon Manley and Joe MacGregor were reappointed for new three year terms.

This annual report is a review of the Bennington Conservation Commission Goals for 2023 and how we fared in achieving them.

- Continuing work to get the Board of Selectmen to commit to getting the depot restored and functional.
  1. *The Commission petitioned the state to have the State Historical Marker for Factory Village which was originally located on Route 202 near Pierce Hill Road intersection, moved to the depot parking lot to more accurately reflect the location of Factory Village where most of the mills were and also to allow greater access to the marker for those interested in the brief history it contains.*
  2. *In an effort to make the Depot reflect its heritage as the local train station, reproductions of early photos of the depot and trains in Bennington were hung on the walls of the main room. Use of these photos was donated by Mr. Dale Russell of Greenfield, a local expert on train travel in the region.*
- Finish the website and launch it.
  1. *Only modest progress was made on the website.*
- Hold public educational events with speakers addressing environmental topics.
  1. *The Commission sponsored two well attended talks at the Depot. In June, along with the Dodge Library we sponsored, Susie Spikol of the Harris Center for Environmental Education in Hancock who gave a talk targeted to young people about "How to be an Animal Adventurer." In July, Dale Russell spoke about the history of railroads in the Contoocook Valley.*
  2. *For the fourth year, the Commission held an Earth Day sign competition for local students to promote good environmental stewardship. This year's theme: "A River Runs Through It" was best interpreted by Clara Regis of the Pierce School who created the winning design.*
  3. *The Commission once again participated in the Bennington Rhubarb Festival with a tent displaying maps and literature about the Commission's work and local natural resources.*
  4. *Commissioner Zach Allen, who heads our river water quality*

program, gave a talk to the Pierce School fourth grade about his work and demonstrated how he tests water. 5. The Commission continues to hold river paddles and forest walks to expose residents and others to the natural resources of the town. 6. The Commission also issued a brochure about the Commission and its work to better inform residents of what it does. The brochures are available at the Bruce Edes Forest kiosk.

- Continued stewardship of the town's resources in general and trails in particular. *An ongoing activity, the Commission sponsored the Annual Earth Day Breakfast and Roadside Cleanup in April and held three work days for the two major trails in town, the Bruce Edes Memorial Forest and the Bennington Trail. The work on the Bennington Trail will include evaluating a new parking area and trail restoration of the path to the top that is less hazardous and new signage.*
- Continue to provide leadership in making the town cleaner and more environmentally proactive.
  1. *The Commission also examined the "Rockwell property" on North Bennington Road for its value to the town and recommended that the town sell the property with the stipulation that the new owner would clear up the potential hazardous debris on the land.*
  2. *The Commission took the lead and financial support to clear up the overgrown mess in the triangle of town land at the intersection of Antrim Road, Bible Hill Road and Main Street. At this time the land has been mostly cleared and will be landscaped in the spring of 2024.*
  3. *When it became apparent that Lake Whittemore had a cyanobacteria bloom the Commission contacted the NH DES to get support in ascertaining the source of the problem and possible solutions.*
- Perambulate Greenfield town line and finish Deering town line. *These perambulations were postponed until 2024.*

To make better use of our Conservation Fund monies, the Commission moved 75% of its financial deposits from a savings account to CDs.

In an effort to build a more inclusive community, the Commission sponsored a hugely successful Community Supper in February: *The Sausage Fest.* In excess of 150 residents gathered at Pierce School for good food and music on a cold winter night. We have every intention of making this an annual event.

Your Conservation Commissioners look forward to another productive year in 2024 providing stewardship for Bennington's natural and historical resources. Residents who wish to be active in the Commission can speak with any member or attend our monthly meetings on the 3rd Thursday held at the Bennington Depot.

Mike Munhall	2025, chair	Tom James, ex officio			
Zach Allen	2024	Pat Long	2024	Jon Manley	2026
Jane Butler	2025	Joe MacGregor	2026	Steve Willette	2025

**CONTOOCCOOK & NORTH BRANCH RIVERS LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**CNBRLAC**  
Annual Report • 2023

The Contoocook & North Branch Rivers Local Advisory Committee, (CNBRLAC) completed a productive year in 2023 with a full slate of meetings and monitoring activities for the Contoocook and North Branch River communities. The Committee met in person monthly at the Monadnock Paper Mills in Bennington and shared our meetings via Zoom.

Established in 1988, the CNBRLAC represents the fourteen communities that the rivers run through; Antrim, Bennington, Boscawen, Concord, Deering, Greenfield, Hancock, Henniker, Hillsborough, Hopkinton, Jaffrey, Peterborough, Rindge, and Stoddard. The CNBRLAC performs statutory duties including permit review and management plan coordination. The CNBRLAC provides a voice for the Contoocook and North Branch River towns and cities through the river's designation in the New Hampshire Rivers Management and Protection Program. The CNBRLAC updates the Contoocook and North Branch Rivers Corridor Management Plan (CNBRCMP) <https://www4.des.state.nh.us/blogs/rivers/wp-content/uploads/ctc-plan.pdf> and coordinates the activities in it. Work on an updated plan continued in 2023. The CNBRLAC website is [www.cnbrlac.org](http://www.cnbrlac.org). (As always, special thanks to river lover Luciano Lipari of Antrim for his volunteer creation and maintenance of our website).

This past year the CNBRLAC reviewed and commented on eighteen (18) proposed projects for Wetlands, Shorelands and Alteration of Terrain permit applications within the Contoocook and North Branch River's watersheds. There were a few major projects reviewed including a wetlands permit for the bridge proposed by NHDOT for the Jaffrey roundabout at Routes 124 and 202, work force housing projects in both Hillsborough and Peterborough and a mixed-use commercial project on Route 9 in Antrim. Smaller projects typically included improvements to homes/camps along several of the impounded lakes/ponds along the river. In general, CNBRLAC comments to NHDES included reducing or limiting additional impervious areas (pavement), encouraging natural existing shoreline vegetation as much as possible, enhancing shoreland areas with additional trees/plantings and encouraging low impact development (LID) infiltration techniques.

Representatives from the committee are regularly promoting the protection of the river and interests that the river supports. Several members are either current or past legislators who work within those roles to help the river and others are members of town boards such as Conservation Commissions.

The Volunteer River Assessment Program (VRAP) Monitoring Program marked its twenty-fifth year in 2023. As stated by NHDES on their website the program is meant to "promote awareness and education of maintaining water quality in New Hampshire's rivers and streams. VRAP coordinates a regular volunteer-driven water quality sampling program to assist NHDES in evaluating river water quality throughout the state." The VRAP Monitoring Program depends on the high-quality work of many of CNBRLAC's members and non-members each year who monitor river and stream health on the Contoocook and North Branch Rivers, and their tributaries at over ten sites between Rindge and Concord. During the summer, volunteers collect river water samples and record the results of in-field testing. The resulting data are used to evaluate the condition of the water quality of the rivers. The information is shared with NHDES,



municipalities and their local officials, as well as to the State of New Hampshire and the US Congress. This data is available for viewing at [Publications | NH Department of Environmental Services \(acsitefactory.com\)](#).

CNBRLAC's elected officers which include Matt Lundsted, Chairman; John Haley, Treasurer and Marco Philippon, Secretary were re-elected for 2023. Regrettably long time member John Haley has given up his role as Treasurer for 2024 as well as membership and will be severely missed but will hopefully continue to send us wildlife pictures from his new home.

Among other "retirees" from the Committee over the year, founding member Rod Zwirner of Antrim "retired" after 35 years of service. We would like to thank him for all of his work over the years both as a member of the Antrim Conservation Commission and the LAC. If we had one, we would award him with the CNBRLAC Lifetime Achievement Award- the CNBRLACLAA!

Despite multiple retirements, the LAC also added four new members from four different member communities.

The CNBRLAC work would not be possible without the generosity of all fourteen of its municipal supporters. Their support assures that the program has the resources that it needs to continue. Special thanks goes to Monadnock Paper Mills (MPM) as they provide the committee with an in-person monthly meeting space which provides for a consistent venue with convenient accommodations.

The CNBRLAC meets monthly on every third Monday at 7:00 PM. If you are interested in attending or participating, please see our website [www.cnbrlac.org](http://www.cnbrlac.org) for more detailed in-person meeting and Zoom meeting information. All are welcome to attend the meetings. For further information, please contact Matt Lundsted, Chairman via telephone at 603.424.8444 ext. 305, email at [mlundsted@ceiengineers.com](mailto:mlundsted@ceiengineers.com) or through your local representatives listed below.

**Antrim**  
Jim Creighton  
Bill Newbold

**Greenfield**  
Karen Day

**Jaffrey**  
Joan Lathrop  
Gail Lang

**Bennington**  
Joe MacGregor  
Jon Manley

**Hancock**  
Marc Olshan

**Peterborough**  
Matt Lundsted  
Richard McNamara

**Boscawen**  
Vacant

**Henniker**  
Mark Mitch

**Rindge**  
Brian Maloy  
Al Lefebvre

**Concord**  
Marco Philippon  
Jack Shields

**Hillsborough**  
James McDonough  
Terry Yeaton

**Stoddard**  
Ruth Ward

**Deering**  
Vacant

**Hopkinton**  
Bonnie Christie



## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Bennington Emergency Management has had an extremely eventful year serving the community. Director Keith Nason, assisted by Deputy Director Jason Powers continued to support several weather and security related issues.

During 2023, the Emergency Management Team continued to work with and support the Police, Fire, and Highway Departments. As needed, meetings have continued with members of each agency and school faculty to provide the safest possible environment for the students and teachers at Pierce School.

Emergency Management continues to attend monthly conference calls which keep us up to date on all Homeland Security and Emergency Management happenings. Our team has worked diligently to keep up to date with the local, national, and international intelligence briefings and other relevant trainings to make sure that Bennington is properly prepared for potential weather and security happenings.

Keeping our residents and our employees safe has been our top priority. Emergency Management continues to evolve and is available should you have any questions or concerns.

Replacement body armor for active shooter situations which was ordered in late 2022 to replace our expiring equipment was received and our certified active shooter team members in conjunction with local law enforcement and surrounding fire & EMS agencies are working towards a large-scale refresher training with Pierce School in 2024 (the training will take place while school is out of session, so no children will be involved or present).

Visit <https://benningtonnhalerts.genasys.com/portal/en> to sign up for Bennington specific alerts, you can select which message types you wish to receive and how to receive them such as text, email and/or phone. For assistance, please reach out to the contacts below.

Follow Bennington Emergency Management on Facebook. Please remember if you “See Something, Say Something”.

As we continue to enhance our community involvement and education, we are encouraging anyone with comments, questions or ideas to contact us. Calls can be made to the Town Office during normal business hours or through Southwest Fire Mutual Aid or Hillsboro Police Dispatch after hours. We also welcome emails anytime which can be sent to Director Nason at [keith.nason@townofbennington.com](mailto:keith.nason@townofbennington.com) or Deputy Director Powers at [jason.powers@townofbennington.com](mailto:jason.powers@townofbennington.com).

Respectfully Submitted,  
Keith Nason, EMD  
Jason Powers, Deputy EMD

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

During 2023 all officers remained in place with no changes, and we are in the process of adding several new fire and EMS members. We are always looking for individuals who are interested in joining either the fire department or the rescue.

In 2023 Bennington Fire and Rescue responded to a total of 236 emergency calls – up from 224 in 2022, 209 in 2021 and 198 in 2020 with 153 of them being medical in nature (not including vehicle crashes). While there was a slight decrease in standard medical calls overall, we saw an increase of calls to the ski area and motor vehicle crashes.

Keep in mind that permits are required for all outside burning, including solo (smokeless fire pits of any size). Seasonal permits will be available in the spring once the snow cover has dissipated. If there is not adequate and complete snow coverage and you are planning to burn brush, please contact the Warden or one of the Deputy Wardens for a Burn Permit or you can obtain one online at: <https://nhdfweb.sovsportsnet.net>.

In November the Bennington Rescue was downsized from a full-size truck to a SUV to save the town money and maintenance costs. The SUV will primarily service medical calls and all rescue equipment will be placed on the larger truck. Bennington's new fire truck is expected to be completed and delivered by early fall this year and will house the rescue tools as well as some basic medical items so it can become the primary response vehicle to vehicle crash's saving the time and effort of trying to staff two vehicles.

Should you have a medical condition and may be at home alone, we ask that you have a key or door code available to expedite entry in the case of an emergency. There are low-cost lockbox solutions available, please reach out for more information.

Lastly, please take the time to make sure that you have large and reflective numbers on both sides of your mailbox and on your residence if your house can be seen from the road. If you live in an apartment, please also have your apartment identified as this will enable emergency services to locate your home quickly in the case of an emergency. If you need assistance, please contact either the Fire Department or the Town Office and somebody from the Fire Department will happily assist you with this important task.

The entire Fire Department membership would like to thank the residents of Bennington for their continued support of the Fire Department.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dave Foster, Fire Chief  
Matt Hall, Deputy Fire Chief  
Keith Nason, Assistant Fire Chief  
Jason Powers, Rescue Captain  
Zachary Andersen, Fire Captain

## TOWN OF BENNINGTON HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

This past year was a challenge. We did our best to get through each challenge in a positive way. As a community, a town, as well as a department, we worked towards getting each challenge that arose taken care of the best way possible.

The beginning of the year was recovering from losing parts of Gillis Hill from snowmelt mixed with heavy rains. Shortly after that, the existing culvert pipes were not able to keep up with the water. A big thank you goes out to Pine View Excavation and D.H. Hardwick for jumping in to help out the day after this happened. With perseverance the road was open quickly. For us and also a lot of other surrounding towns, mother nature did not stop testing everyone. Ice and snow, warm then cold brought us into March. An 18-20-inch snowfall prediction surprised us all when we actually got over 40 inches up on Onset Rd. Some winds before that storm, plus heavy wet snow, left lots of limbs/trees down everywhere but thankfully the weather took a break and cleanups followed.

Once that storm was behind us, we moved onto prep work for a big year for re-paving and re-surfacing. North Bennington Rd. from the Curtis Homestead down to Pine Meadows Circle was ground. breaking up what was there and making a new road base. A top coat of 2.5" went over it all for a dense pavement surface. Next, in a series of paving we used funds appropriated, as well as, deferred road maintenance to put a top coat of new pavement on some rough riding roads. These roads that got a new top coat were parts of Dodge Hill Rd., Larkin Rd. and Birches of Bennington. With the same funds available, we will be looking forward to doing more of this and extending some of the life remaining on the roads as they are planning to be rebuilt. With Advanced Paving in town already, we were able to get a discounted price per ton for everything we accomplished.

With the paving completed, we began getting ready to shoulder the roads. The weather tested us for a month or so. For us, the weather jeopardized some of the roads that we had just completed working on. The incredible amount of unpredictable rainfall caused drainage systems all over town to fail. We worked hard fixing everything, in the event this cycle continues in future years, we are hoping to avoid drainage problems.

We had many problems with equipment throughout the year. Because of the equipment breakdowns, there were quite a few areas that did not get finished as planned, or fast as they should have. We certainly did the best that we could with all the challenges we were faced with. We managed to shoulder all new pavement, repaired washouts along the way and we got everything buttoned up, including winter readiness.

With all with the good and the bad this year, we did make some great advancements and are moving forward.

The backhoe was unreliable for the better part of the summer. We reached a point where it was costing more than we could warrant keeping the equipment on the road. All the residents in town thankfully add to the equipment Capital Reserve Fund each year. This allowed us the ability to have funds to replace the old machine with a brand new one. Caterpillar had what we were looking for on their lot, with Municipal discounts and the trade in we were able to replace the backhoe.

As fall approached, we hired a new employee and created a full-time position that is now shared between Highway and the Transfer Station. Most people have probably met Curtis Dude by now, he is also a member of the Bennington Fire Department.

In 2023 the Town of Bennington purchased a 2023 International CV-515. The Highway Department has also applied for the Clean Fleets Grant. If approved, this grant will provide 80% of the cost of replacing the other truck. The goal is to replace the vehicle with a more energy efficient, cost effective vehicle.

The Bennington Highway crew appreciates your support and we look forward to a successful year in 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Blanchard

DJ Wing

Curtis Dude

## HUMAN SERVICES

2023 - \$7,342.97 was spent for direct assistance on behalf of qualified applicants. The majority was again for rental assistance and electric or fuel. Affordable housing in the Monadnock Region is very limited and families who want to live in the area are finding it more challenging. There are programs that can help with low income or affordable housing, there is a long waiting list for these services, but worth applying for.

Below is a list of programs that can be helpful, residents are encouraged to contact any of the numbers below directly during business hours. You can also contact the Town Welfare at 603-588-2189 and assistance is available to help if you qualify.

Contoocook Valley Transportation – 1-877-428-2882  
Grapevine – 603-588-2620  
Home Health Care Hospice & Community Services – 603-532-8353  
NH Community Resources – 2-1-1  
NH Department of Health and Human Services - 1-844-ASK-DHHS (275-3447)  
Salvation Army – 603-588-2189  
Southern NH Services - 603-924-2243  
The River Center – 603-924-6800  
Meals on Wheels –603-352-2253  
Peterborough Food Pantry – 603-924-3008 (M, W, F; 9-12)

We are very fortunate to have a variety of programs, individuals and groups that have helped out those in need of assistance. If you are interested in finding out more about how you can help, please contact the welfare office.

Another year of thanks to the residents who so humbly helped during the year with providing assistance to Bennington residents who were in need. I know they choose to remain anonymous, on behalf of those assisted, the Town of Bennington and the local welfare thank you and want you to know your assistance is very much appreciated.

Though local assistance is governed by NHRSA 165, if you are having a hard time financially, call the office if you need help with anything. If you don't qualify for local assistance, I may be able to guide you towards programs more specifically geared to what your need may be.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Debra Belcher  
Human Services Director



**GEP DODGE LIBRARY**  
2023 TOWN REPORT

2 Main Street ~ 7 School Street, Unit 204, Bennington, NH 03442 ~ 603-588-6585  
[dodgelibrary1@comcast.net](mailto:dodgelibrary1@comcast.net); [dodgelibrary2@comcast.net](mailto:dodgelibrary2@comcast.net)  
Website: [www.dodgelibrary.com](http://www.dodgelibrary.com) ~ Online catalog: [dodgelibrary.bibliionix.com](http://dodgelibrary.bibliionix.com)  
Facebook page: GEP Dodge Library, Bennington, NH ~ Instagram: [gepdodgelibrary](https://www.instagram.com/gepdodgelibrary)

Three years have passed since the COVID lockdown and we are still being influenced by those events. The greatest COVID influence has been in the traffic patterns at the library. More of our patrons are taking advantage of our remote access services. Through the library's online catalog, patrons can browse our collection, request library materials and then pick them up from the curbside bin 24/7. From our online library catalog, patrons can also request inter-library loan materials and download books, periodicals and audio books through NHDB (LIBBY) and Tumblebooks. These resources have provided our patrons with more options and greater flexibility.

The 2023 Summer Reading Program was entitled "ALL TOGETHER NOW", a theme of cooperation and community. The Summer Reading Program included five weeks of two weekly story times with guest readers, craft activities, games and prizes; two field trips; a Paint Night with middle school art teacher Victoria Burnham; a Nature Night with Harris Center representative and author Susie Spikol; and line dancing instruction at Newhall Field with Deb Page. Our annual summer reading Trivia Night this year was entitled *Around the World*, a theme of geography, cultures and languages. It was held in the town's new gazebo and it was emceed by the town's Moderator, John Cronin. The weather interfered with some of our planned activities. The annual Bike Rodeo at Newhall basketball court was canceled because of thunderstorms and a few of our story times had to be held indoors because of foul weather and mosquitoes. Once again, we were fortunate to benefit from the very popular Mason's *Bikes For Books* program. Masons Jon Manley and Arthur Dunham of the *Benevolent Lodge #7, Milford, NH* and *Pacific Lodge #45, Frankestown, NH*, treated our young patrons to their annual reading challenge. This is an opportunity for young readers to win a bike through reading and many of our young patrons took up the challenge and read like crazy! The 2023 winner of the Mason's bike and helmet, was Robbie Simmons.

Some of the library sponsored 2023 programs included the ongoing Bruce Edes' Forest Story Hikes, the Little Free Library, the Pierce School class visits, the Eager Readers Book Group, the Great Stone Face Book Group, Preschool Story times, holiday story times, programs and workshops, and two author visits-Maine mystery writer Paul Doiron and NYT bestselling novelist Jenna Blum, cosponsored with the Hancock Library.

Thank you to our *Friends of the Library Group*, chaired by Haley Tramosch and Laurie MacKeigan, whose fund-raising throughout the year has provided library patrons with passes to six terrific, family-friendly, NH museums. The Friends of the Library are always looking for volunteers to help them with their fund-raising activities to support and supplement the library.

This year, the library was able to get some much needed building and grounds work done. Volunteers, Joe MacGregor, Mike Munhall, Scott Liljeberg, Laurie Short, and Nadine and Lydia Vanderhoof all worked on controlling, replanting and restoring the library's greenery and lawn. Norm Mercier and his crew repainted all of the library's wood trim, and Ronnie McClure and company who repaired and replaced the library's rotting basement sills.

Throughout this past year, our 1,876 patrons have had uninterrupted access to our library's collection of 29,303 items, which include 3,648 DVDs, 703 sound recordings, 41 music CDs, 14 periodicals, 2 newspapers and 13 puzzles. Our library's collection also includes a subscription to the *Tumblebooks* database, an online collection of 1,449 titles that includes animated talking picture books, nonfiction

titles, 172 National Geographic videos, 123 language lessons, 129 playlists, and 294 games and puzzles. In addition to our in-house collections, our patrons had access to a rotating DVD collection of 50 and a STEAM collection that is shared among the *Nubanusit Library Cooperative* members. Through BIBLIONIX, our online catalog, and a library card, our patrons have access to the FREE **NH OVERDRIVE collection (LIBBY)**, managed by the NH State Library. **NH OVERDRIVE (LIBBY)** is a digital collection of 86,753 items: 42,419 e-books, 38,953 e-audios, 5,381 e-periodicals and access to the online databases of **Ancestry** and **Heritage Quest**.

Thank you to all of you who support the library through your generous donations of your time, talents, money, physical help, intelligence, moral support and kindness. We cannot survive without you. We are especially grateful to those of you who are always with us:

- Chris Maple for filling in and his continued support.
- Chris Tarrío, for her time, energy and library skills.
- Rhonda Davie, who keeps us balanced.
- Deb Belcher (and her team) for the most incredible, creative and always much anticipated, best in the Monadnock region, summer reading program lawn mascot and display.
- Generous and loyal, Deb & Rich Page, Dave & Catriona Beck, Betty Coffin-Brooks, Haley Tramposh , Molly & Peter Eppig.
- Joe MacGregor for help with so many things, including the building, the grounds, the Little Free Library and the Story Hike.
- Our summer reading program story time volunteers were Crystle Bullard, Meredith Lyons, Ella Sulzer, Claudia Sysyn, Lydia Vanderhoof, Barbara Wilcott and Jill Wilmoth.
- All the moms and dads who have stepped in at a second's notice.
- Our program helpers are Joe Hodgen, Karsyn Mooney, McKenzie Fraser, Lydia and Nadine Vanderhoof.
- The Wilcott family and Luna, who literally have our backs.
- Mike Munhall, Jon and Robyn Manley, Dwayne Searles and Robert Gross.
- Jason LePine, Jeff Danforth and the Bennington, PD.
- Dave Foster, Keith Nason and the Bennington Fire Department.
- Deb Davidson and Cathy McGillicuddy in the Bennington Town Office.
- All of our wonderful patrons who make us want to provide them with the best library service possible.

Respectfully submitted;  
Leslie MacGregor-Director, Melissa Searles-Assistant Director

Jill Wilmoth-Trustee Chair  
Molly Eppig- Trustee Treasurer  
Colleen Allen- Trustee Secretary  
David McKenzie- Trustee Alternate  
Rhonda Davie- Trustee Alternate/Bookkeeper

## **PLANNING BOARD**

In New Hampshire, the Planning Board has several functions, its adjudicative functions include regulation of land subdivisions, review of site plans, and regulation of excavations. The legislative functions include preparation and adoption of the Master Plan and the Capital Improvement Program and recommendation of changes to the Zoning Ordinance, which take the form of proposed warrant articles for voter approval.

2023 was a relatively quiet year noting chat sessions with residents who were planning projects, variance requests, and sub-divisions.

A continuing area of concern for the Planning Board has to do with committed people to serve on the Board. The responsibilities involved are many; depending on the number and type of cases which may come before the Board. There is always a need for alternates and that is a good way to learn the process. If you are interested in serving on the Board, contact the Town office at 588-2189.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bennington Planning Board



## BENNINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Officers of the Bennington Police Department would like to thank the citizens of Bennington for their continued support. As always, the Officers of the Bennington Police Department continued to work hard and I would like to thank each member of the Bennington Police Department for their dedication and continued professionalism to the Town of Bennington.

2023 was a difficult year for NH Policing, as many agencies became understaffed and towns were unable to fill those vacancies. This also had an effect on the NH Police Standards and Training Council as well, who had difficulty holding Part Time Academies due to a shortage of enrollment for new recruits. With the retirement of Cpl. Lester Milton in December of 2022 along with an injury sustained to Ofc. David Bell while on the job in Peterborough, NH, The Bennington Police Department became very short staffed. Despite these difficulties, the Bennington Police Department responded to approximately 2000 calls for service, which consists of crimes reported, arrests, motor vehicle stops, motor vehicle crashes, medical calls, assisting other agencies, death investigations, civil matters, and community caretaking. In 2023 the Bennington Police Department had 40 incidents reported, and made 19 arrests. These incidents and arrests were both Misdemeanor and Felony level. Traffic stops made in 2023 were at approx. 450.

In 2023, The Bennington Police Department focused heavily on recruiting to fill several vacant positions. After looking at several candidates, The Bennington Police Department hired Officer Hayley Minahan. Officer Minahan is about 2/3 of the way through her field training and will attend the Part Time Police Academy. Officer Minahan has military experience, is also EMT certified and is fluent in Sign Language. Lastly, The Bennington Police Department has also finished a comprehensive background investigation on Nicolas Cole. Nicolas Cole is scheduled to be sworn in on January 2<sup>nd</sup> as a Part Time Officer and has prior law enforcement experience. He will be scheduled to attend the Part Time Police Academy in January of 2024 and will move onto Field Training after his Academy graduation.

I would like to thank the Board of Selectmen for their continued support. We appreciate everything you do. As 2024 approaches, myself and the Officers of the Bennington Police Department look forward to serving the community with professionalism and compassion.

Chief Jason LePine

## TOWN OF BENNINGTON RECREATION

The Bennington Recreation Committee has gone through some growing pains in 2023. Bethany & Jim Craig resigned as of December 31, 2022, Jessie Crews stepped up and did a great job with the programs she worked on. After some time, Jessie stepped down and the Selectmen chose not to reappoint this position at this time.

The change showed to be positive and programs continued. As has been historically, the events hosted by the Recreation Committee are free to participants.

Ongoing programs, which were independent of the Town included 4-H, and Girls Scouts. These programs had to do a little juggling to meet in 2023, by year end the Town Hall gymnasium was again offered to both residents and non-residents. New members are welcome at any time throughout the year. The contact for 4-H is Bethany Craig, the contacts for Girl Scouts is Colleen Allen and/or Bethany Craig.

The annual Andy MacKenzie Fishing Derby was held at Cold Spring Pond on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. This event is hosted by the Bennington Sportsman Club and is open to Bennington residents ages 15 and under. Prizes were awarded to all fishermen.

2023 offered a lifeguard at Whittemore Lake. Gregory LeBlanc is a certified Lifeguard and was a great addition to the beach. He did a fantastic job and was very well received by all who visited the beach.

Whittemore Lake experienced one of the worst cases of cyanobacteria the State said they saw in 2023, the waterbody being closed down for months was a disappointment. The State tested weekly and never found the Lake to meet the goals of safe swimming, boating or general water enjoyment for people and/or pets. We are hopeful that with programs being implemented and help from the State of NH, this is under control and will not be an issue in the coming swimming season.

In spite of the changes within the Recreation Committee, Jessie Crews and the GEP Dodge Library did a fantastic job on the 2023 Rhubarb Festival. The weekend had heavy rain, the Rhubarb Festival was one of the most successful.

With the help of many residents, the children in Bennington fully enjoyed the Halloween Trunk or Treat event. The event was held at Newhall Field, several participants decorated their cars, handed out candy and the children were able to attend the event. There were games, face painting, popcorn and hot chocolate offered to all, free of charge. It is hopeful this event turns into an annual event, it was well attended and fun was had by all.

Christmas festivities included a Festival of Trees, a Town tree lighting event, Christmas Carols, and the Light Parade. In spite of the rain and very cold weather, the Fire Department & Selectmen supported the lights parade, which was a success. The

Bennington Highway Department, Fire Department, the Town of Greenfield Fire Department and local residents decorated vehicles and participated.

On December 16, 2023 the Bennington Historical Society sponsored a Christmas Caroling event at the Gazebo. They offered Christmas Carols and music by David & Tim Sysn. Hot Chocolate, Cider and cookies were offered to all who attended.

Friday Night Music was reintroduced, two events were held in the gymnasium. The events were well attended and the music was wonderful. Any funds raised were donated to the bands and snacks were donated by residents. The Music events are a great way to get together with your neighbors and enjoy the talent of local musicians.

Bennington has a lot of talent, we are hopeful if you have a talent you would like shared come forward and display your artwork at the gymnasium in the future. Our first artist, Jerome Varnum, currently has his artwork on display at the Town Hall. If you are an artist and would like to display your artwork, see a Selectman or call the office. If you would like to offer a class, that would be another option.

In addition to the programs and events listed, the Selectmen will continue to support programs as they become offered, if you have an idea for an event, let a Selectman know or call the office. Selectmen are supportive of new ideas for Town supported events.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Town Hall is becoming more available to all for use, examples of uses for the gymnasium have been baby showers, birthday parties and other fun family events.

Though we had some growing pains, the Board of Selectmen thank the volunteers who stepped up to make sure recreation activities in Bennington remained possible. We look forward to additional residents volunteering in the future. New ideas and programs are always welcome.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bennington Board of Selectmen

Chairman, James Cleary  
Selectman, Thomas James  
Selectman, Tony Parisi

## TOWN OF BENNINGTON TRANSFER STATION

This was a good year for the Transfer Station.

Processing at the facility did not change much in 2023. There were a few minor changes in pricing and materials which were acceptable to be processed. Transportation costs were up as well as hazardous materials to dispose of but these have been factored in to the upcoming budget. For Aluminum and the Slocomb black metal dumpster, return pricing was better this year than others.

There were some changes which were needed in an effort to accommodate the residents, as well as addressing staffing problems. A change in the hours during the year took place. The goal was to offer a better work schedule yet still offer weekend hours for residents. By removing Sunday and Monday, adding Friday hours and adding more hours Saturday, this allowed the same number of hours open to the public.

Curtis Dude was hired in October, the position is a shared position between Recycling and Highway. Curtis is certified and therefore able to run the Transfer Station if needed.

Moving forward there should not need to be any other adjustments to the hours. We are looking forward to all this new season will have to offer.

The open to the public hours for the Transfer Station are:

Wednesday 1:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Friday 1:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Saturday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm.

As always, we appreciate your support and efforts with recycling.

Sincerely,

Matt Blanchard, Thomas James, Curtis Dude

## WATER & SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Our system delivered nearly 21.6 million gallons of drinking water to the customer upon demand and meeting all state and federal requirement. Effluent in excess of 7.2 million gallons was pumped to the facility we share with the Town of Antrim, properly tested and treated to state and federal standards, and then discharged into the Contoocook River. Our joint contractual arrangement with the Antrim Water and Sewer Department for the the day-to-day operation of the Bennington water and sewer system continues to run smoothly and the efforts of Matt Miller and staff are appreciated.

Thanks to the ARPA funding from the federal government, the commissioners continued the customer water meter replacement project. Antrim has been very accommodating during this project. At the current time we pay to have a meter reader go to each home every quarter to read meters which takes an entire day and sometimes longer. Once the project is complete these meters will be similar to what Eversource uses. They will be read just by having Antrim water & sewer drive by and collect the data. This will assist in lowering our operations expenses. We have had concerns with residents setting appointments for the meter change.

Sewer and water rates will increase in 2024. Rate increases will be similar to the increase in 2020. (The increase planned for 2021 was postponed due to the uncertainty raised by the unknowns then associated with the COVID pandemic.) A rate study in 2019 determined that our charges were well below those of similar sized systems and the market prices for the delivery of water and sewer services. The Commissioners' goal is to have the revenue generated by our customers—those residents and taxpayers who receive the benefit of town water and sewer—cover the day-to-day operating expenses of the system. Capital improvements to the system, however, would be spread across the Town's entire tax base.

Respectfully submitted:

Tyler Howe

Dennis McKenney

Melissa M. Clark

## TOWN OF BENNINGTON ZBA

The ZBA held six meetings in 2023. Most of the meetings were for administrative purposes as we approved previous meeting minutes and took on the task of updating our Rules and Regulations. We made several updates and changes to these in order to coincide with how we govern our meetings and hearings.

We had two hearings for Variances this year. The first one was for the removal of an older trailer to be replaced by a newer log cabin dwelling. The footprint would vary to some degree so a variance was requested and eventually granted. The second hearing ended up not being needed after discussion among the board members and talks with the Building Inspector so the homeowners were able to make minor adjustments to their plans in order to complete without a variance.

Respectfully,

Melissa Clark, Chairperson



ConVal End 68 Hours of Hunger  
c/o SAU 1, 106 Hancock Rd.  
Peterborough, NH 03458  
(603) 588-2468  
[convalnh@end68hoursofhunger.org](mailto:convalnh@end68hoursofhunger.org)  
A 100% Volunteer Organization

## Overview of ConVal End 68 Hours of Hunger

### The Mission

The mission of End 68 Hours of Hunger is to provide nourishment for “food-insecure” children over the approximately 68 hours every weekend when they’re not eating at school.

End 68 Hours of Hunger is a national non-profit organization that has 46 local programs in 8 states. The ConVal program was established in the fall of 2016 as a cooperative venture between local volunteers and SAU 1. The organization has provided service for 6 school years.

### The Need

Information provided by the NH Department of Education’s Division of Program Support shows that as of October 31, 2022, 436 students in grades preK-12 in the Contoocook Valley School District (ConVal) were eligible to participate in the Free or Reduced Cost Lunch program. This federally funded program is critical to ensuring that all children have access to healthy meals during the school year—but it’s effective only during the 5 days a week when school is in session. Similarly, food pantries are often an option for families who are facing food insecurity, but some families are not able to access a food pantry.

Food insecurity impacts the student’s ability to learn. A study from the Tufts University Center on Hunger, Poverty and Nutrition Policy demonstrates that there is a link between nutrition and cognitive development.

The key findings from the study include:

- Lack of adequate nutrition can delay brain development and the child’s ability to learn.
- The longer food insecurity continues, the greater the chance of cognitive delays.
- Children who come to school hungry have lower scores on standardized tests.

When nutrition is improved, the effects of food insecurity can be treated.

ConVal End 68 Hours of Hunger is committed to ensuring that students in our community thrive by assisting with meeting their nutritional needs over the weekend during the school year.

### The Goals and Objectives of the ConVal End 68 Hours of Hunger Program

- To ensure that children in the ConVal School District have access to healthy food over the weekend.
- To distribute nutritious, kid-friendly, nonperishable foods to address food insecurity when children are not in school.
- To make the weekend bags of food available on a weekly basis while school is in session.
- To respond to requests for bags of food for summer weekends as identified by schools and social service agency personnel

### Enrollment

ConVal End 68 Hours of Hunger is open to any child in the ConVal School District. Families are not required to show financial need.

Weekend bags are available to students in each of the 11 schools in the district. Because we realized that HS students were reluctant to take a bag of food home for the weekend and yet the need for food still existed, in January 2018 a food pantry was established in the high school, offering an alternative to carrying the more conspicuous bag of food. Another pantry was established at Grapevine.

Tax ID: 45-0998251

No goods or services are ever exchanged for any donation!

During the summer a few drop-off sites were established to meet the need for distribution of bags. Grapevine is one of our primary summer drop off locations.

The key policies and procedures of our program remained the same this past school year.

- School personnel and social workers in participating schools and social-service agencies assess need weekly and submit a request for bags of food.
- Confidentiality is maintained. Only key school personnel responsible for the distribution of the bags know the names of the recipients. This information is not made public.
- A storeroom is maintained at the SAU 1 offices.
- Volunteers shop for food to supplement food drives and what we are able to purchase from the NH Food Bank, fill the bags needed each week and deliver the bags to schools for distribution.
- At the end of the week bags are distributed by the schools to students.

### **Procurement of Food**

Food is secured in several ways.

- Several churches and local small businesses hold on-going food drives to collect specific food items for distribution.
- A percentage of the food is purchased at a discount through the NH Food Bank and through bulk purchase through suppliers like Sysco. Volunteers seek best value and purchase additional food using donated funds.

### **Volunteer Support**

ConVal End 68 Hours of Hunger is managed by a 7-member team and staffed entirely by volunteers. About 50 volunteers are responsible for collecting food, shopping, Food Bank pick-ups, packing, stocking shelves, managing inventory, record keeping, transporting bags and corresponding with donors.

### **Budget and Sources of Funding to Date**

The parent organization maintains the financial accounting for all 46 affiliates. These records are audited on an annual basis. As a benefit to the affiliates, some costs such as insurance, financial audits and website hosting are covered by the national office.

Unless otherwise requested, all funds donated are used to purchase food. We do have a few exceptions where individuals or organizations have donated funds to help with some of our administrative costs such as postage, printing, and supplies.

Funding of the program comes from donations by individuals, organizations, faith communities, businesses, municipalities, and foundations. We do not receive any federal funding.





The Grapevine Family & Community Resource Center’s Mission is to promote family and community health and well-being through support, education and the sharing of resources. The Grapevine has served Hancock and surrounding towns for over 25 years. We strive to create a diverse and inclusive environment and programs that are welcoming to all. During the 22/23 program year, participation in our programs has rebounded to pre-pandemic numbers.

From July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023, The Grapevine served nearly 1,500 children, youth and adults at the center and in the community including **225 residents of Bennington** which represents an increase of 50 percent from 2022 (from 148 up to 225)! The Grapevine has stepped in to offer a number of financial resources to Bennington families including funds for groceries, gas, clothing, emergency utility bill payments, car and home repairs and more. **In the past year, the Grapevine has distributed \$7,781.31 in financial assistance to Bennington families covering many of these needs.** We also distributed direct supplies such as diapers and wipes, food bags and holiday assistance in the form of meals and gifts for children. Participation of Bennington residents includes our Parent-Child programs, Home Visiting, Kinship Supports, Intensive Case Management, Information and Referral, Tax Preparation and special workshops and trainings for parents and other providers.

**Grapevine Programs/Services Bennington Count for the 2023 fiscal year - All Grapevine programs and services are offered at no cost.**

Information & Referral	75 individuals
Community Service (helped and helpers)	10 individuals
Avenue A Teen + Community Center	30 individuals
Special programs	16 families
Parent/Child groups	6 families
Learning Vine preschool	3 families
Case /Intensive Supports	3 families
Tax Preparation & Financial Planning	10 adults
SAIL Senior Exercise	2 adults
Grandparent/Kinship Support	14 individuals
Holiday and Emergency Assistance	45 individuals
Community Wood Bank	4 families
<b>TOTAL # of Bennington residents served: 225</b>	

More information about this count: Total count is non duplicative, wherever possible. Special programs include Summer Adventures, Searching for Spring, SnowFamilies and other parenting workshops and family events such as our Black Fly Art Show.

*\*Grapevine Fiscal Year runs July 1 – June 30.*





