

Town of  
**ORFORD**  
New Hampshire



*Annual Report*

For the Year Ending December 31, 2023

*Blue Birds*  
*Cover Photo by Bill McKee*

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# ORFORD TOWN OFFICIALS

## Elected by nonpartisan ballot on Town Meeting Day

### MODERATOR

Harry Pease	353-9080	2022 to 2024	2-year term
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### SELECTBOARD

P Chase Kling	353-4214	2022 to 2025	3-year term
Kevin Follensbee	252-5723	2022 to 2024	2-year term
John Adams	353-9201	2021 to 2024	3-year term

### TREASURER

Nancy Murphy	353-9029	2022 to 2025	3-year term
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### SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

Paula Graves	353-4897	2022 to 2028	6-year term
Jane Hebb	353-4496	2020 to 2026	6-year term
Sarah Putnam	353-9636	2018 to 2024	6-year term

### TAX COLLECTOR

Deborah Hadlock	353-4404	2023 to 2026	3-year term
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### TOWN CLERK

Deborah Hadlock	353-4404	2023 to 2026	3-year term
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### PLANNING BOARD

Open Position	###-####	2024 to 2027	3-year term
Open Position	###-####	2024 to 2027	3-year term
Open Position	###-####	2024 to 2026	2-year term
Open Position	###-####	2024 to 2026	2-year term
Open Position	###-####	2024 to 2025	1-year term
Open Position	###-####	2024 to 2025	1-year term

### ORFORD FREE LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Susan Kling	353-9166	2023 to 2026	3-year term
Stacey King	353-9055	2022 to 2025	3-year term
Carol Boynton	353-4874	2021 to 2024	3-year term

### TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS

Chris Crowley	353-9821	2023 to 2026	3-year term
Seth Carter	353-9222	2022 to 2025	3-year term
Vicki Schwaegler	353-9725	2021 to 2024	3-year term

### CEMETERY COMMISSION

David Smith.	353-4585	2023 to 2026	3-year term
Linda Pease	353-9080	2022 to 2025	3-year term
Brenda Smith	353-8114	2021 to 2024	3-year term

**Nominated and Elected from the floor on Town Meeting Day**

**OVERSEERS OF PUBLIC WELFARE**

Selectboard	353-4889	2023 to 2024	1-year term
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**FENCE VIEWERS**

P. Chase Kling	353-4214	2023 to 2024	1-year term
Open Position		2023 to 2024	1-year term

**SEXTON**

Cemetery Commission		2023 to 2024	1-year term
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**ORFORD SOCIAL LIBRARY**

Gail Keefer	353-4424	2022 to 2025	3-year term
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**BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Lawrence Duffy		2023 to 2024	1-year term
Robert Palifka	353-9367	2023 to 2024	1-year term
William Paxton	353-4389	2023 to 2024	1-year term
Vanessa DeSimone		2023 to 2024	1-year term

**PARKS & PLAYGROUNDS**

J.J. Hebb	603-726-6096	2023 to 2026	3-year term
Robb Day	603-353-4140	2023 to 2026	3-year term

**Appointed by the Selectboard**

**AUDITOR**

Roberts & Greene		2023 to 2024	1-year term
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**FIRE CHIEF**

Kevin Follensbee	252-5723	2023 to 2024	1-year term
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**POLICE CHIEF**

Jason Bachus	353-4252	2023 to 2024	1-year term
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**ROAD AGENT**

Selectboard	353-4489	2023 to 2024	1-year term
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**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR**

Kevin Follensbee                      252-5723                      2023 to 2024                      1-year term

**HEALTH OFFICER**

Open Position  
(John Adams Acting Health Officer)    353-9201                      2023 to 2024                      1-year term

**NILES FUND COMMITTEE**

David Coker                      353-4104                      2023 to 2024                      1-year term  
Jennifer Tilden                      353-4625                      2023 to 2024                      1-year term  
Melinda Ricker                      353-9099                      2023 to 2024                      1-year term  
Ann Green                      353-4150                      2023 to 2024                      1-year term  
Ruth Hook                      353-4855                      2023 to 2024                      1-year term

**TREE WARDEN**

Bill Wilson                      353-9414                      2023 to 2024                      1-year term

**ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT FOR FLOOD PLAINS**

Paul Messer, Sr.                      353-4883                      2023 to 2026                      3-year Term  
Peter Dooley                      353-4887                      2023 to 2026                      3-year Term  
Shawn Washburn                      353-4207                      2023 to 2026                      3-year Term

**INSPECTORS OF ELECTION**

Susan Kling                      353-4214                      2022 to 2024                      2-year term  
Linda Pease                      353-9080                      2022 to 2024                      2-year term  
Susan Hinchliffe                      353-9511                      2022 to 2024                      2-year term  
Eva Daniels                      353-4220                      2023 to 2024                      2-year term

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Bob Hedges                      353-4701                      2023 to 2026                      3-year term  
Ted Cooley                      353-2139                      2022 to 2025                      3-year term  
*Open Position*                      ###-####                      2022 to 2025                      3-year term  
Harrison Pease                      353-9080                      2021 to 2024                      3-year term  
*Open Position*                      ###-####                      2021 to 2024                      3-year term  
Alternates:  
Fran Plaisted                                           2021 to 2024                      3-year term  
Emily Bryant                                           2021 to 2024                      3-year term  
John Miller                      353-4877                      2022 to 2026                      3-year term

**ROAD COMMITTEE**

Charles Smith, Jr.                                           2023-2024                      1-year term  
Michael Wright                                           2023-2024                      1-year term  
Hebert Austic                                           2023-2024                      1-year term

**MINUTES FROM THE  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
MARCH 14, 2023**

The Polls were opened at 4:00 PM. The voting began for the Town Offices. Ballots will be accepted until at least 9:00 PM. 123 registered voters were at the meeting.

The Annual Town Meeting for the Town of Orford was called to order at 7:00 PM by Moderator Harrison Pease.

Terry Harwood gave the Pledge of Allegiance. He thanked all the Veterans for their service.

Harry ask for a moment of silence to pay tribute to long time moderator Peter Thomson, who passed away earlier this winter.

Harry asked everyone to turn to page 13 in the town report and he went over the Town Meeting Procedures.

A total of 149 Ballots were cast.

**ARTICLE 1**

To vote by non-partisan ballot for the following Town Officers. The polls will be open from four o'clock in the afternoon and will close no earlier than nine o'clock in the evening for you to cast your ballot for the following officers:

Selectboard Member	3-Year Term
Tax Collector	3-Year Term
Town Clerk	3-Year Term
Planning Board	3-Year Term
Planning Board	3-Year Term
Planning Board	1-Year Term
Free Library Trustee	3-Year Term
Trustee of the Trust Funds	3-Year Term
Cemetery Commissioner	3-Year Term

**ARTICLE 2 – Operating Budget**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one million three hundred forty-seven thousand four hundred ninety-five dollars (\$1,347,495) for general municipal operations. (Majority vote required). The Selectboard recommend this article.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

Executive	\$ 95,750
Election & Registration	38,404
Financial Administration	72,713
Revaluation of Property	15,900
Legal Expenses	12,500
Engineering Expenses	5,000
Planning Board	14,050
General Government Buildings	13,450

Cemeteries	30,775
Insurance	37,385
Regional Association	1,900
Contingency Fund	5,000
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	
Police	\$ 172,646
Emergency Services	88,087
Fire Department	81,249
Emergency Management	500
<b>HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES</b>	
Highways	\$ 518,771
Street Lighting	9,200
<b>SANITATION</b>	
Solid Waste Disposal	\$ 16,334
<b>HEALTH - Animal Control</b>	\$ 500
<b>WELFARE - Direct Assistance</b>	\$ 5,000
<b>CULTURE AND RECREATION</b>	
Parks and Playgrounds	\$ 50,063
Libraries	56,538
Patriotic Purposes	1,700
<b>CONSERVATION COMMISSION</b>	\$ 4,080

**A motion was made by Sylvia Paxton and seconded by Bob Palifka. The article was passed by voice vote.**

### **ARTICLE 3**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of four hundred twenty-six thousand three hundred twenty-two dollars (\$426,322) for payments into the following Capital Reserve Funds. (Majority vote required). The Selectboard recommend this article.

Road Improvements CRF (1989) (previously referred to as Bridges and Roads CRF)	135,960
Heavy Equipment Maintenance (2003)	7,883
Fire Trucks CRF (1989)	56,056
Fire Dept. Equipment CRF (2015)	32,348
Fire Dept. Major Maintenance (2017)	3,850
Grader CRF (1983)	7,391
Highway Dept. Trucks CRF (1997)	81,799
Loader/Backhoe CRF (1983)	23,716
Police Cruiser CRF (1985)	10,000
Town Building CRF (2019)	19,839
Cemetery Mower/Bldg. CRF (2015)	1,480
Tree Care & Replacement ETF (1991)	10,000
Town Properties	29,000
Revaluation	7,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>426,322</b>

**A motion was made by Nancy Murphy and seconded by Bob Palifka. The article was passed by voice vote.**



**ARTICLE 4**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate sixteen thousand eight hundred two dollars (\$16,802) for the following appropriation requests:

Visiting Nurse Alliance \$7,000, Tri-County CAP \$2,474, Grafton County Senior Citizen’s \$2,500, West Central Behavioral Health \$1,800, Public Health Council of the Upper Valley \$928, Rivendell Recreation \$750, CASA \$500, WISE \$500, Ammonoosuc Community Health Services \$350

**A motion was made by Paul Goundrey and seconded by Sylvia Paxton. The article was passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 5**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate thirteen thousand, one hundred eighty-one dollars (\$13,181) to be added to the Town of Orford Road Improvement Capital Reserve Fund, with said funds to come from the unassigned fund balance. This represents funds received from FEMA in 2022.

**A motion was made by Nancy Murphy and seconded by Roger Hadlock. The article was passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 6**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate one hundred twenty-eight thousand, twenty dollars (\$128,020) to be added to the Town of Orford Road Improvement Capital Reserve Fund, with said funds to come from the unassigned fund balance. This represents funds received the NH Highway Block Grant in 2022 for additional road projects in the amount of \$54,379, and a special one-time bridge funds received from the State of NH in 2022 for the maintenance, construction and reconstruction of municipally owned bridges in the amount of \$73,641.

**A motion was made by Kevin Follensbee and seconded by Nancy Murphy. The article was passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 7**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate forty-five thousand dollars (\$45,000) to cover the additional charges for the 6-Wheel truck and 10-Wheel truck, and to authorize the withdrawal of forty-five thousand dollars (\$45,000) from the Highway Department Trucks Capital Reserve Fund. This will be a 3-year non-lapsing article per RSA 32:7 VI.

**After a brief discussion. A motion was made by Paul Goundrey and seconded by Ted Cooley. The article was passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 8**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate one hundred forty-five thousand dollars (\$145,000) to purchase a one and one-half ton F-550 or equivalent dump truck equipped with hydraulic hoist side dump body, 9’ snow plow with wing, including the standard 3-year, 32,000 mile warranty, to be paid as follows: To authorize the withdrawal of up to one hundred forty-five thousand dollars (\$145,000) from the Highway Department Trucks Capital Reserve Fund and authorize the Selectmen to dispose of the current 2019 F-550 dump truck by either trade-in or outright sale with the

proceeds distributed as follows: Trade-in proceeds are to be used to offset the purchase price reducing the amount of money withdrawn from the Highway Department Trucks Capital Reserve Fund, while outright sale proceeds are to be added to the Highway Department Trucks Capital Reserve Fund at a future annual meeting. This will be a 5-year non-lapsing article per RSA 32:7 VI.

**After a brief discussion. A motion was made by Nick Kellogg and seconded by Chuck Otto. The article was passed by voice vote.**

#### **ARTICLE 9**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) to reconstruct, reclaim and pave the Archertown Road hill, and reconstruct and reclaim Archertown Road flat from the hill to Newcomb Bridge, to be paid as follows: To authorize the withdrawal of one hundred fifty thousand (\$150,000) from the Road Improvement Capital Reserve Fund, one hundred fifty thousand (\$150,000) from the Unassigned Fund Balance, and one hundred thousand to be raised by taxes. This will be a 3-year non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI.

**A motion was made by Bob Palifka and seconded by Nancy Murphy. The article was passed by voice vote.**

#### **ARTICLE 10**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate sixteen thousand dollars (\$16,000) to purchase and make operational at the Town garage a 20KW stand-by generator, with cold weather kit and battery with 200-amp transfer switch at the Highway garage, capable of supplying power for all functions in the building, with the exception of welding. To include: generator, generator enclosure, concrete pad, lumber, posts, transfer switch, automatic overload cut off device, electrical and gas hook-ups, testing, 500-gallon propane tank, first propane fill and first year generator maintenance contract.

**A motion was made by Nancy Murphy and seconded by Paul Perry. The article was passed by voice vote.**

#### **ARTICLE 11**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) to purchase a leaf blower and a segmented grader cutting edge for use by the Highway department.

**A motion was made by Kevin Follensbee and seconded by Bob Palifka. The article was passed by voice vote.**

#### **ARTICLE 12**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to upgrade the streetlights in the Town of Orford to LED lighting. This will be a 3-year non-lapsing article per RSA 32:7 VI

**After a brief discussion. A motion was made by Scott Gagnon and seconded by Paul Perry. The article was passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 13**

To see if the Town will vote to readopt the all veterans' tax credit pursuant to RSA 72:28-b for an annual tax credit on residential property which shall be equal to the amount of the standard or optional veterans' tax credit adopted by the Town under RSA 72:28

**A motion was made by Jim Carter and seconded by Bob Palifka. The article was passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 14**

To see if the Town will vote to readopt the optional veterans' tax credit pursuant to RSA 72:28, II for an annual tax credit on residential property in the amount of \$500.

**A motion was made by Terry Harwood and seconded by Roger Hadlock. The article was passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 15**

To see if the Town will vote to modify the Purchasing Policy (action taken under Article 11 of the 2012 Annual Town Meeting), item 2-Definitions, sections g, h, i, m, n, o as follows:

- g) Major purchase (requiring a sealed bid): any single purchase or expected annual purchase of a single item, or combination of like items, equal to or greater to be changed from \$10,000 to \$25,000
- h) Non-major purchase (requiring 3 estimates be requested): any single purchase or expected annual purchase of a single item, or combination of like items to be changed from between \$1,000 and less than \$10,000 to between \$2,500 and less than \$25,000.
- i) Minor purchase (purchase with no prior authorization): any single purchase or expected annual purchase of a single item, or combination of like items to be changed from less than \$1,000 to less than \$2,500.
- m) Minor surplus disposal of Town items: An item under \$1,000 to be changed to \$2,500 of used value.
- n) Non-major surplus disposal of Town items (requiring 3 estimates be requested): An item in used value to be changed from between \$1,000 and \$10,000 to between \$2,500 and \$25,000.
- o) Major surplus disposal of Town items (requiring a sealed bid): An item of used value to be changed from greater than \$10,000 to greater than \$25,000.

**After a brief discussion. A motion was made by Chuck Otto and seconded by Terry Harwood. The article was passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 16**

To see if the Town will vote to change the title of the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve, originally established in 1985 to Police Vehicle Capital Reserve, and under the provisions of RSA 35:1, amend the purpose to read "For the purpose of purchasing a motor vehicle make and model certified for police usage and upfitted with new-condition equipment for law enforcement activities as a police pursuit vehicle".

**A motion was made by Terry Harwood and seconded by Nancy Murphy. The article was passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 17**

To see if the Town will vote to change the title of Police Department Major Equipment & Database Update Expense Capital Reserve Fund, originally established in 2020, to Police Vehicle PPV & Computer Equipment Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund, and under the provisions of RSA 35:1, amend the purpose to read “For the purpose of repairing, or purchasing replacements, for police pursuit vehicle equipment originally installed on the police department vehicle at purchase, plus any computer equipment installed in the vehicle”. Further, to name the Selectboard as agents to expend from said fund

**A motion was made by Chuck Otto and seconded by Sylvia Paxton. The article was passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 18 – PETITION ARTICLE**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,500 to help defray the costs of providing music events at the Orford Community Bandstand

**A motion was made by Sylvia Paxton and seconded by Betty Messer. The article was passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 19 – PETITION ARTICLE**

To see if the Town will vote to instruct the Selectboard to consider the feasibility of the town purchasing the Orford Congregational Church building located on Main Street, at an amount to be mutually determined by both parties.

**Eva Daniels and Paula Graves said the church congregation is small and aging, and the cost of maintaining the church is very high. The church is used for the senior center, Orford cares free weekly produce distribution, as well as private weddings and memorial service.**

**A motion was made by Terry Harwood and seconded by Kevin Follensbee. The article was passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 20**

To hear the reports of Agents, Auditors and Committees heretofore chosen and to pass any vote relating thereto.

**None**

**ARTICLE 21**

To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

Given under our hand and seal at Orford the 8th day of February in the year two thousand twenty-three.

**John Adams wanted to thank all the people who volunteer for the town.**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:23PM

Respectfully submitted  
Deborah Hadlock

Results of the March 14, 2023 Election:

Selectboard 3 year term:

Jennifer Carter 134

Town Clerk 3 year term:

Deborah Hadlock 148

Tax Collector 3 year term:

Deborah Hadlock 148

Planning Board 3 year term:

Faith Knapp 121

Planning Board 3 year term:

Write ins under 3 votes

Planning Board 1 year term:

Kenny King 137

Trustees of Trust Funds 3 year term:

Christopher Crowley 135

Free Library Trustee 3 year term:

Susan Kling 142

Cemetery Commission 3 year term:

David Smith 136

## SELECTBOARD REPORT 2023

There are a couple of increases in this year's budget and warrant article that need some discussion. First Article #3 which request money to be placed into capital reserve accounts has an increase because of unexpected expenses draining one fund. The Capital reserve fund "1997 Highway Department trucks". In March of 2022 there was an authorized purchase of a department truck based on an F-550 cab and chassis. The anticipated deliver was in 2025, 2 years lead time was quoted. Money was to be put into the capital reserve fund in both 2024 and 2025 to pay for it. Instead, the truck is now being delivered in 2024 so it must be paid for in 2024 not 2025. To make that payment more money must be allocated to the capital reserve fund this year so it can be taken out of that fund as allowed by the 2023 warrant article. A result of this "move up" will be that a lesser amount of money will be needed in 2025. Please support Article #3 so that this truck can be paid for as scheduled.

The second unusual increase is in the operating budget where a new expense category is now created: Legal Expense, 01-4153.10-325 "Right to Know Requests". Our town is now experiencing the large increase in Right to Know requests that other towns have been experiencing. These requests that everyone has a right to issue, require the town to respond in a fixed number of days at hardly any cost to the requester. We are only allowed to charge for the paper used in copies or for the electronic device (thumb drive) that is used. No research time or legal fees can be passed on to the requester. One request this year that involved a history of e-mails required the town to pay our IT source to do a controlled search and then paid our Town Council to review and redact restricted information from those e-mails. That one request cost the Town \$6,000. Since the e-mails were delivered electronically, not on a thumb drive, there was no cost to the requester. These requests are also an administrative burden for the Town Office. Even though the response need not be immediate, it still takes time to locate the requested information. If the current number of Right to Know requests continues, it is extremely likely that the current administrative staff will not be able to keep up and the town will need to add more people to handle the requests. If you are considering a Right to Know request, please think about how it is worded so the time period covered is appropriately short, and the subject matter is narrow.

We thank all those who volunteer their time for boards, committees, and commissions. Or who "just stop by" to help out. Their many hours are usually not known but are necessary for the town to function. However, we do need volunteers. Volunteers are needed for many positions in town. These positions, have openings because of retirements. Training and mentoring will be provided. One of those open positions is a Health Officer. This position is eligible for state training and procedural support. Please consider volunteering for this. Please see the listings elsewhere in this Town Report for other openings and how you can help our Town to be a great place to live.

We thank you for your continued support  
Selectboard: John Adams, P Chase Kling, Kevin Follensbee

## **Moderator's 2024 Orford Town Meeting Procedures** **Harrison Pease, Moderator, Town of Orford**

### Speaking

- Please wait to be recognized by the Moderator before speaking.
- Speakers must be registered voters in the Town of Orford.
- Please go to the microphone to speak so that everyone can hear you.
- Please state your name the first time you speak.
- Please limit comments to no more than 5 minutes.
- Please add to previous comments; do not just repeat what has already been said.
- The Moderator will recognize those who have not spoken on an article before recognizing anyone who has already spoken.
- It's okay to disagree, but please be respectful of other people and their opinions.

### Motions

- All motions must be moved and seconded before discussion begins.
- One motion or amendment at a time please to avoid confusion.
- A "Motion to Reconsider" any previous vote on an article can occur at any time after the first vote was taken.
- A "Motion to Restrict Reconsideration" of any previous vote on an article can be made at any time after the first vote was taken (RSA 40:10).
- A "Motion to Call the Question" cuts off debate, however, voters who are already standing at the microphone will be allowed to speak before a vote is taken on the motion. The Moderator shall have the right to refuse to recognize the motion, if in his opinion, the voters have not had an adequate opportunity to discuss the issue.
- If you believe the Moderator has erred in terms of procedure, you may request a "Point of Order" and the voters will decide. A majority vote is required to overrule the Moderator (RSA 40:4). You do not have to be recognized by the Moderator to raise a point of order.

### Voting

- To vote, you must be a registered voter in the Town of Orford, not just a resident.
- Any article may be voted by paper ballot if 5 registered voters make a request in writing to the Moderator prior to the vote (RSA 40:4-a).
- When any vote, other than by ballot, declared by the Moderator is questioned by 7 or more of the voters present, orally or in writing, the vote shall be retaken by paper ballot immediately and before any other business is begun (RSA 40:4-b).
- Without objection, these procedures are for the 2024 Orford Town Meeting. These procedures may be altered by the voters at the meeting by majority vote (RSA 40:4).

**TOWN OF ORFORD  
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**PROPOSED  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT  
2024**

TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE TOWN OF ORFORD, County of Grafton, in said state, qualified to vote on Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Rivendell Academy Gymnasium in said Orford on Tuesday the 12th of March next at seven o'clock in the evening to act on the following subjects:

**ARTICLE 1**

To vote by non-partisan ballot for the following Town Officers. The polls will be open from four o'clock in the afternoon and will close no earlier than nine o'clock in the evening for you to cast your ballot for the following officers:

Moderator	2-Year Term		Planning Board	3-Year Term
Selectboard Member	3-Year Term		Planning Board	3-Year Term
Selectboard Member	2-Year Term		Planning Board	2-Year Term
Free Library Trustee	3-Year Term		Planning Board	2-Year Term
Trustee of the Trust Funds	3-Year Term		Planning Board	1-Year Term
Cemetery Commissioner	3-Year Term		Planning Board	1-Year Term
Supervisor of the Check List	6-Year Term			

**ARTICLE 2 – Operating Budget**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one million four hundred twenty-four thousand five hundred seventy-two dollars (\$1,424,572) for general municipal operations. (Majority vote required). The Selectboard recommend this article.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

Executive	\$ 100,339
Election & Registration	46,429
Financial Administration	86,721
Revaluation of Property	16,395
Legal Expenses	30,500
Engineering Expenses	8,000
Planning Board	17,250
General Government Buildings	12,950
Cemeteries	37,170
Insurance	41,227
Regional Association	1,995
Contingency Fund	5,000

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

Police	\$ 186,712
Emergency Services	95,298
Fire Department	87,349
Emergency Management	500



**HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES**

Highways \$ 514,841  
Street Lighting 6,000

**SANITATION**

Solid Waste Disposal \$ 10,209

**HEALTH - Animal Control** \$ 500

**WELFARE - Direct Assistance** \$ 5,000

**CULTURE AND RECREATION**

Parks and Playgrounds \$ 50,685

Libraries 57,872

Patriotic Purposes 1,700

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION** \$ 3,930

**ARTICLE 3**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of four hundred ninety thousand two hundred twenty-three dollars (\$490,223) for payments into the following Capital Reserve Funds. (Majority vote required). The Selectboard recommend this article.

Road Improvement CRF (1994)	142,758
Fire Trucks CRF (1983)	58,859
Fire Dept. Equipment CRF (2015)	34,574
Fire Truck Major Maintenance CRF (2017)	4,043
Heavy Equipment Maintenance ETF (2003)	8,277
Highway Department Trucks CRF (1997)	130,000
Grader CRF (1983)	7,839
Loader CRF (1983)	25,021
Police Vehicle CRF (2023)	10,500
Town Buildings CRF (2019)	20,831
Town Property ETF (2000)	29,000
Cemetery Mower/Building CRF (2015)	1,521
Tree Care & Replacement ETF (1991)	10,000
Revaluation CRF (2021)	7,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>490,223</b>

**ARTICLE 4**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate seventeen thousand three hundred eleven dollars (\$17,311) for the following appropriation requests:

- Visiting Nurse Alliance \$7,000
- Grafton County Senior Citizen's \$3,000
- Tri-County CAP \$2,474
- West Central Behavioral Health \$1,800
- Public Health Council of the Upper Valley \$937
- Rivendell Recreation - \$750
- CASA \$500
- WISE \$500
- Ammonoosuc Community Health Services \$350

(Majority vote required). The Selectboard recommend this article.

**ARTICLE 5**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate seventy thousand, nine hundred forty-one dollars (\$70,941) to be added to the Town of Orford Road Improvement Capital Reserve Fund, with said funds to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance. This represents funds received in 2023 from the Special NH Highway Block Grant of \$18,044 for additional road projects, the NH Municipal Bridge fund for the maintenance, construction and reconstruction of municipally owned bridges of \$20,328, and FEMA reimbursement funds of \$32,569 (Majority vote required). The Selectboard recommend this article.

**ARTICLE 6**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) for the Archertown Road Flat-Phase II project (from the end of Phase I at the top of the hill, to Newcomb Bridge), which includes ledge removal, culvert replacements, ditching, grading, cost of gravel and base coat paving, plus top coat paving of the Archertown Road for both Phase I and II areas. The cost to be paid as follows: Three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) from taxes, and one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) from the Road Improvement Capital Reserve Fund. This will be a 3-year non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI. (Majority vote required). The Selectboard recommend this article.

**ARTICLE 7**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) to remove the culvert at Mousley Brook and construct a bridge over the same area as a FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plan. The cost will be shared between FEMA and the Town (75/25) to be paid as follows: Three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) from FEMA funds, and one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) from the Road Improvement Capital Reserve Fund. This will be a 3-year non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI. (Majority vote required). The Selectboard recommend this article.

**ARTICLE 8**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for design, permitting and to replace the dual culverts on Indian Pond Road (just north of the beach access road) with 3-4' culverts. This will be a 3-year non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI. (Majority vote required). The majority of the Selectboard recommend this article.

**ARTICLE 9**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to purchase 3 hand-held radio systems, one for each member of the Highway Department. This will be a 3-year non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI. (Majority vote required). The Selectboard recommend this article.

**ARTICLE 10**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to extend the Quinttown Road apron an additional 240 feet beyond the current apron, for paving and shouldering. (Majority vote required). The Selectboard recommend this article.

**ARTICLE 11**

To see if the town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to continue exploration for uses of the Main Street Congregational Church. (Majority vote required) The Selectboard recommend this article.

**ARTICLE 12**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.) to cover costs for surveys, inspections and other expenses related to uses of the Congregational Church. (Majority vote required) The Selectboard recommend this article.

**ARTICLE 13**

To see if the Town to vote to modify the provisions of RSA 72:39-a for elderly exemption from property tax in the Town of Orford, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$15,000; for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, \$20,000; for a person 80 years of age or older \$25,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 3 consecutive years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person’s spouse, they must have been married to each other for at least 5 consecutive years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$40,000 or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$50,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$40,000 excluding the value of the person’s residence. (Majority vote required) The Selectboard recommend this article.

**ARTICLE 14 – Petitioned article**

To see if the Town will vote for bylaws of the road committee to read:

The road committee will: (work with the “road agent”) to:

1. Recommend annual road maintenance priorities and budget
2. Recommend emergency road infrastructure repair
3. Recommend annual road and culvert repair priorities and budget
4. Develop and maintain long range road infrastructure capital repair plan and running estimate for same
5. Provide subject matter expertise on municipal road maintenance, repair and construction, including contract / proposal review and estimates.
6. Provide subject matter recommendation on building layout, building construction or building retrofit.

The means of communication will be in writing from the road committee via email or handed document with date of acceptance of delivery. If the \*”Road Agent” does not accept recommendation/s, then the “Road Agent” will put in writing the reason not accepting the road committee recommendation/s

Note: This written notification will be provided to the chair of the road committee within 14 days. (Majority Vote required) The Selectboard do not recommend this article.

**ARTICLE 15 – Petitioned article**

To see if the Town will vote to require the Orford Board of Selectmen to add “Public Comment” to the agenda of all posted Board of Selectmen public meetings. (Majority Vote required) The majority of the Selectboard recommend this article.

**ARTICLE 16**

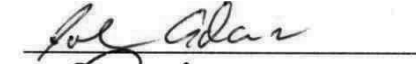
To hear the reports of Agents, Auditors and Committees heretofore chosen and to pass any vote relating thereto.

**ARTICLE 17**

To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

Given under our hand and seal at Orford the 7th day of February in the year two thousand and twenty-four.

John Adams

Handwritten signature of John Adams in cursive script, written above a horizontal line.

Kevin Follensbee

Handwritten signature of Kevin Follensbee in cursive script, written above a horizontal line.

P. Chase Kling

Handwritten signature of P. Chase Kling in cursive script, written above a horizontal line.

## **BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT FOR ORFORD 2024 TOWN MEETING**

During this budgeting season the Budget Advisory Committee met fewer times than in recent years due to information not being available for the Selectmen to share with us. We met 7 times, 4 of which were joint meetings with the Selectmen or the public Budget Hearing 1/30/2024. Although costs for some Warrant articles were late, the operating budget had been well prepared by the Administrative Assistant, Esther, which helped streamline the review process. We now mostly agree that the proposed \$1,424,572 operating budget is reasonable.

Despite the operating budget being reasonable, the overall budget for 2024 is very large. The Highway Department budget, \$1,264,736 with Warrant Articles, is \$284,016 more (29%) than the previous year's budget, \$980,720 with Warrant Articles. Items that affect 2024 taxes are the Operating Budget, Capital Reserve additions, and separate Warrant Articles to raise and appropriate money. Other than Capital Reserve, Separate Warrant Articles to raise money by taxes amount to \$457,311. Of this money, \$425,000 (93%) is for work on roads, culverts, and a road apron.

Archertown Road Phase 1 is complete, and Phase 2 is estimated to cost \$400,000, the same as the Phase 1 estimate. This adds another layer of asphalt to the hill, provides ditching, some culverts, gravel road base, and paving from the hill to near the Newcomb Hollow bridge.

Salary increases for 2024 are established at 3.2% annually; 2023 increases were 8.7%. During review of the 3.2% wage increase some of the wages listed in the Selectboard's worksheet appeared larger than 3.2%. This appearance arises because our fiscal and calendar years align, and Town Meeting usually happens 10-12 weeks into the year for which the increases are supposed to start. The State of New Hampshire allows the wages established for the prior year to be in effect until after the Town Meeting, when increased wages are established. For some employees, however, the wage increases take effect in the month employees are hired. A review of the Administrative Assistant's spreadsheet calculations for 2024 wage increases was carried out, revealing the 2024 increases to be 3.2%.

Two dump trucks are still on order, a 6-wheel Western Star and a 1.5-ton Ford 550. Both chassis are now at a vendor for their dump bodies, plows, etc. The Western Star is Replacement scheduled and due in early 2024, the 1.5-ton Ford 550 is scheduled for replacement in 2025 but the vendor now says delivery will be in the June-July 2024 timeframe. This wreaks havoc with financing, as once the 6-wheel Western Star is paid for there would not be enough funds in the Trucks Capital Reserve to pay the balance due on the 1.5-ton Ford 550. Hence in Article 3, Highway Dept. Trucks \$130,000 is requested to go into the Reserve instead of last year's \$81,799, which should still leave more than \$20,000 in the Highway Dept. Trucks capital reserve at the end of 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Budget Advisory Committee  
Larry Duffy, Bill Paxton, Vanessa DeSimone, Bob Palifka-Chair

**2024 BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF ORFORD**  
**Appropriations & Estimates of Revenue for the Ensuing Year**  
**January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023**

PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3.V)			Appropriations 2023	Actual Expenditures 2023	Recommended Appropriations 2024
		Warrant Article			
<u>Acct. #</u>	<u>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</u>	<u>#</u>			
4130-4139	Executive	2	\$ 95,750	\$ 94,933	\$100,339
4140-4149	Election, Registration				
	Vital Statistics	2	\$ 38,404	\$ 37,743	\$ 46,429
4150-4151	Financial Administration	2	\$ 72,713	\$ 79,797	\$ 86,721
4152	Revaluation of Property	2	\$ 15,900	\$ 15,758	\$ 16,395
4153	Legal Expense	2	\$ 12,500	\$ 38,788	\$ 30,500
4153	Engineering Expenses	2	\$ 5,000	\$ 0	\$ 8,000
4191-4193	Planning Board	2	\$ 14,050	\$ 11,761	\$ 17,250
4194	General Government Buildings	2	\$ 13,450	\$ 10,511	\$ 12,950
4195	Cemeteries	2	\$ 30,775	\$ 26,482	\$ 37,170
4196	Insurance	2	\$ 37,385	\$ 39,268	\$ 41,227
4197	Advertising & Regional Associations	2	\$ 1,900	\$ 1,900	\$ 1,995
4199	Contingency Fund	2	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
	<u>PUBLIC SAFETY</u>				
4210-4214	Police	2	\$172,646	\$172,370	\$186,712
4215-4219	Emergency Services	2	\$ 88,087	\$ 88,852	\$ 95,298
4220-4229	Fire	2	\$ 81,249	\$ 93,617	\$ 87,349
4290-4298	Emergency Management	2	\$ 500	\$ 0	\$ 500
	<u>HIGHWAY AND STREETS</u>				
4312	Highways & Streets	2	\$518,771	\$493,162	\$514,841
4316	Street Lighting	2	\$ 9,200	\$ 9,770	\$ 6,000
	<u>SANITATION</u>				
4324	Solid Waste Disposal	2	\$ 9,884	\$ 10,089	\$ 10,209
	Land Fill Closure		\$ 6,450	\$ 6,450	\$ 0
	<u>HEALTH</u>				
4414	Pest Control	2	\$ 500	\$ 0	\$ 500
	<u>WELFARE</u>				
4441-4442	Direct Assistance	2	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,562	\$ 5,000
	<u>CULTURE AND RECREATION</u>				
4520-4529	Parks & Recreation	2	\$ 50,063	\$ 42,471	\$ 50,685
4550-4559	Library	2	\$ 56,538	\$ 56,538	\$ 57,872
4583	Patriotic Purposes	2	\$ 1,700	\$ 1,341	\$ 1,700
	<u>CONSERVATION</u>				
4619	Other Conservation	2	\$ 4,080	\$ 3,149	\$ 3,930
<b><u>SUBTOTAL 1</u></b>			<b>\$1,347,495</b>	<b>\$1,345,312</b>	<b>\$1,424,572</b>

**2024 BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF ORFORD – 2**

PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3,V)		Appropriations 2023	Actual Expenditures 2023	Appropriations 2024
	Warrant #			
<b><u>SPECIAL WARRANT ARTICLES</u></b>				
Bridges Replace/Repair	03	\$135,960	\$135,960	\$142,758
Fire Truck	03	56,056	56,056	58,859
Fire Equipment	03	32,348	32,348	34,574
Grader	03	7,391	7,391	7,839
Highway Trucks	03	81,799	81,799	130,000
Heavy Equipment Maintenance	03	7,883	7,883	8,277
Loader/backhoe	03	23,716	23,716	25,021
Police Cruiser	03	10,000	10,000	10,500
Town Buildings	03	19,839	19,839	20,831
Cemetery Mower/Building	03	1,480	1,480	1,521
FD Major Repair/Maintenance	03	3,850	3,850	4,043
Tree Care Replacement	03	10,000	10,000	10,000
Revaluation	03	7,000	7,000	7,000
Town Properties	03	29,000	29,000	29,000
		<u>\$426,322</u>	<u>\$426,322</u>	<u>\$ 490,223</u>
Transfer to Capital Reserve Accounts	05	141,201	141,201	70,941
Highway Trucks		190,000	307,494	0
Police Vehicle			58,081	
Archertown Road	06	400,000	400,000	400,000
Mousley Brook Bridge (FEMA)	07			400,000
Indian Pond Culverts	08			100,000
<b><u>SUBTOTAL 2 RECOMMENDED</u></b>		<b>\$1,157,523</b>	<b>\$1,333,098</b>	<b>\$ 1,461,164</b>

\*Special warrant articles are defined in RSA 32:3, VI, as appropriations 1) in petitioned warrant articles; 2) appropriations raised by bonds or notes; 3) appropriation to a separate fund created pursuant to law, such as capital reserve funds or trust funds; 4) an appropriation designated on the warrant as a special article or as a non-lapsing or nontransferable article.

PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3,V)		Appropriations 2023	Actual Expenditures 2023	Appropriations 2024
<b><u>INDIVIDUAL WARRANT ARTICLES**</u></b>				
<u>Acct. #</u>				
4915	Charitable Appropriations	04	16,802	16,802
4902	Highway Equipment	09	36,000	33,299
4902	Street Light LED Project		15,000	13,048
4902	Church Survey & Inspections	12		10,000
4904	Quinttown Road Apron Ext.	10		25,000
<b><u>SUBTOTAL 3 RECOMMENDED</u></b>			<b>\$ 67,802</b>	<b>\$ 63,149</b>
				<b>\$ 57,311</b>

\*\*"Individual" warrant articles are not necessarily the same as "special warrant articles." Individual warrant articles might be negotiated cost items for labor agreements or items of a one-time nature you wish to address individually.

**BY PETITION**

4520	Music Events	15	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 0
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**2024 BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF ORFORD -- 3**

<u>SOURCE OF REVENUE</u>		Revenue Used To Set Tax Rate 2023	Actual Income 2023	Estimated Revenue 2024
<u>Acct. #</u>	<u>TAXES</u>			
3120	Land Use Change Taxes	\$ 2,500	10,945	\$ 5,000
3185	Timber Taxes	27,650	27,650	25,000
3186	Payment in Lieu of Taxes	4,101	4,101	4,000
3189	Other Taxes	0	0	0
3190	Interest & Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	7,500	12,480	10,000
	Inventory Penalties	150	176	200
3187	Excavation Tax (2 cents per cu. Yd.)	0	0	0
	<u>LICENSES, PERMITS AND FEES</u>			
3220	Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	\$335,000	352,864	\$335,000
3290	Other Licenses, Permits & Fees	1,600	1,354	1,400
3311-3319	<u>FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT</u>	\$ 0	32,569	\$300,000
	<u>FROM STATE</u>			
3351	Special NH Block Grant	0	18,044	0
3352	Meals & Rooms Tax Distribution	117,187	117,187	63,000
3353	Highway Block Grant	64,309	64,300	64,500
3359	Other (State Reimbursements)	5,364	5,364	0
3359	Other (State Highway Grants)	0	0	5,000
3359	Federal Grants	1,695	1,695	0
3369	State Bridge Fund	0	20,328	0
3379	Grafton County ARPA Funds	0	40,000	0
3379	From Other Governments	29,000	29,000	29,000
	<u>CHARGES FOR SERVICES</u>			
3401-3406	Income from Departments	\$ 9,893	16,362	\$ 6,000
3409	Other Charges	0	0	0
	<u>MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES</u>			
3501	Sale of Municipal Property	\$ 0	0	\$ 0
3502	Interest on Investments	678	808	1,000
3503-3508	Other (Insurance Refunds)	937	937	0
	<u>INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFERS IN</u>			
3915	From Capital Reserve Funds (special warrant articles)	\$ 340,000	512,725	\$ 200,000
	<u>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</u>			
	Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes	0	0	0
<b><u>TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE &amp; CREDITS</u></b>		<b>\$ 947,564</b>	<b>\$1,268,889</b>	<b>\$1,049,100</b>

**BUDGET SUMMARY**

	2023	2024
SUBTOTAL 1 Appropriations Recommended	\$1,347,495	\$1,424,572
SUBTOTAL 2 Special Warrant Articles Recommended	1,157,523	1,461,164
SUBTOTAL 3 "Individual" Warrant Articles Recommended	67,802	57,311
SUBTOTAL – By Petition	1,500	0
TOTAL Appropriations Recommended	\$2,574,320	\$2,943,047
Less: Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits	947,564	1,049,100
Less: Voted from Fund Balance	291,201	70,941
Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised	<b>\$1,335,555</b>	<b>\$1,823,006</b>



**SUMMARY OF REVISED ESTIMATED REVENUES  
For the Town of ORFORD – 2023 (MS-434)**

RSA 21-J:34

Account #	SOURCE OF REVENUE	Warr. Art. #	For Use by Municipality
	<u>TAXES</u>		
3120	Land Use Change Tax		2,500
3185	Timber Tax		27,650
3186	Payment in Lieu of Taxes		4,101
3187	Excavation Tax		0
3189	Other Taxes		0
3190	Interest & Penalties on Delinquent Taxes		7,650
	<u>LICENSES, PERMITS AND FEES</u>		
3220	Motor Vehicle Permit Fees		\$335,000
3290	Other Licenses, Permits and Fees		1,600
3311-3319	FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (3 HWY Safety Grants Dept. of Interior)		0
	<u>FROM STATE</u>		
3351	Shared Revenues		\$ 0
3352	Meals and Rooms Tax Distribution		117,187
3353	Highway Block Grant		64,309
3359	Other (including Railroad Tax)		7,059
3379	FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS (Rivendell Com. Field)		29,000
	<u>CHARGES FOR SERVICES</u>		
3401-3406	Income from Departments		\$ 9,893
3409	Miscellaneous Charges & Fees		\$
	<u>MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES</u>		
3501	Sale of Municipal Property		\$ 0
3502	Interest on Investments		678
3503	Other (insurance refunds)		\$ 937
	<u>INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFERS IN</u>		
3915	From Capital Reserve Funds		\$340,000
<b>SUBTOTAL OF REVENUES</b>			<b>\$ 947,564</b>
	<u>For Municipal Use</u>		
	Unassigned Fund Balance	992,222	
	Less: Voted from Fund Balance	291,201	
	Less: Voted to Reduce Taxes	0	
	Fund Balance Retained	701,021	
<b>TOTAL REVENUES AND CREDITS</b>			<b><u>\$ 1,238,765</u></b>
<b>REQUESTED OVERLAY (RSA 76:6)</b>			<b>\$ 6,102</b>

**STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS ACTUALLY VOTED**  
**Voted by the Town of Orford on March 14, 2023 (MS-232)**

This is to certify that the information contained in this form, appropriations actually voted by the town meeting, was taken from official records and is complete to the best of our knowledge and belief. RSA 21-J:34.

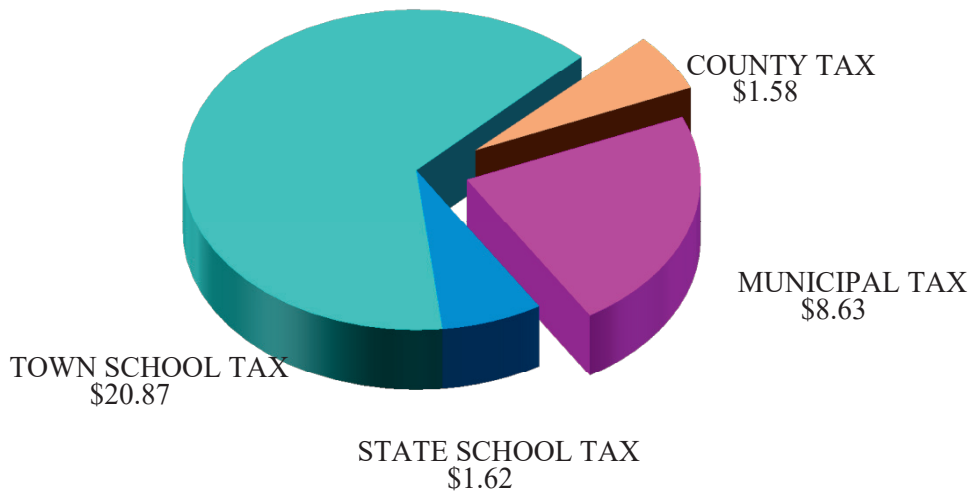
Town of Orford Selectboard

<u>PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS</u>		<u>Warr.</u> <u>Art. #</u>	<u>Appropriations</u> <u>as Voted</u>
<u>Account #</u>	<u>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</u>		
4130-4139	Executive	2	\$ 95,750
4140-4149	Election, Registration & Vital Statistics	2	38,404
4150-4151	Financial Administration	2	72,713
4152	Revaluation of Property	2	15,900
4153	Legal Expense	2	12,500
4153	Engineering Expense	2	5,000
4191-4193	Planning and Zoning	2	14,050
4194	General Government Buildings	2	13,450
4195	Cemeteries	2	30,775
4196	Insurance	2	37,385
4197	Advertising and Regional Associations	2	1,900
4199	Other General Government/Contingency	2	5,000
	<u>PUBLIC SAFETY</u>		
4210-4214	Police	2	172,646
4215-4219	Emergency Services	2	88,087
4220-4229	Fire	2	81,249
4290-4298	Emergency Management	2	500
	<u>HIGHWAYS AND STREETS</u>		
4312	Highways and Streets	2	518,771
4316	Street Lighting	2	9,200
	<u>SANITATION</u>		
4324	Solid Waste Disposal	2	16,334
4325	Solid Waste Clean-up	2	0
	<u>HEALTH</u>		
4414	Pest Control	2	500
	<u>WELFARE</u>		
4441-4442	Administration and Direct Assistance	2	5,000
	<u>CULTURE AND RECREATION</u>		
4520-4529	Parks and Recreation	2	50,063
4550-4559	Library	2	56,538
4583	Patriotic Purposes	2	1,700
	<u>CONSERVATION</u>		
4619	Other Conservation	2	<u>4,080</u>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>			<b>\$1,347,495</b>

**STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS ACTUALLY VOTED - 2**  
**Voted by the Town of Orford on March 14, 2023**

PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS	Warr. Art. #	Appropriations as Voted
4589 Concert Event Funding	18	1,500
4415 Charitable Appropriations	04	<u>16,802</u>
		<b>\$ 18,302</b>
4902 Highway Truck CRF	7,8	190,000
4902 Highway Dept Generator	10	16,000
4902 Highway Equipment	11	20,000
4909 Archertown Road Phase I	09	400,000
4909 Streetlight Upgrade to LED	12	<u>15,000</u>
		<b>\$641,000</b>
<u>TRANSFERS TO CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS (CRF)</u>		
4915 To Capital Outlay Fund	03	426,322
4915 FEMA Funds rec'd, transferred to CRF	05	13,181
4915 Add'l Block Grant and Bridge Aid to CRF	06	<u>128,020</u>
<b>Appropriation Sub Total</b>		<b>\$ 567,523</b>
<b>TOTAL VOTED APPROPRIATIONS</b>		<b><u>\$2,574,320</u></b>

**2023**  
**TAX FOR EACH OF THE MAJOR CATAGORIES FOR**  
**EACH \$1,000 OF PROPERTY VALUATION \$32.70/\$1,000**



NOTE: THE STATE SCHOOL TAX IS GOES DIRECTLY TO THE SCHOOL, AND WHEN COMBINED WITH THE TOWN SCHOOL TAX COMPRISES 68.78% OF THE TAX BILL, WHILE THE MUNICIPAL PORTION IS 26.39%

**2023 TAX RATE CALCULATION**

**TOWN/CITY: ORFORD**

Gross Appropriations	2,561,139
Add: FEMA CRF Pmt.	13,181
<b>Total Appropriations</b>	<b>2,574,320</b>
Less: Revenues	(977,412)
Less: Fund Balance Voted Surplus	(291,201)
Less: Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes	0
<b>Taxes to be Raised</b>	<b>1,335,555</b>
Add: Overlay	6,102
War Service Credits	42,700

Net Town Appropriation	1,384,357
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**TOWN RATE 8.63**

Approved Town/City Tax Effort	1,384,357
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**SCHOOL PORTION**

Net Local School Budget	4,046,823
Regional School Apportionment	0
Less: Adequate Education Grant	(443,392)

**LOCAL SCHOOL RATE 20.87**

State Education Taxes	(255,693)
Approved School(s) Tax Effort	3,347,738

**STATE EDUCATION TAXES**

**STATE SCHOOL RATE 1.62**

State Education Tax	157,789,604	255,693
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**COUNTY PORTION**

**COUNTY RATE 1.58**

Due to County	253,091
Less: Shared Revenues	0

Approved County Tax Effort	253,091
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**TOTAL RATE 32.70**

Total Property Taxes Assessed	5,240,879
Less: War Service Credits	(42,700)
Add: Village District Commitment(s)	0
<b>Total Property Tax Commitment</b>	<b>5,198,179</b>

**PROOF OF RATE**

Net Assessed Valuation	Tax Rate	Assessment	
For State Education Tax (no utilities)	157,789,604	1.62	255,693
For all Other Taxes	160,400,904	31.08	4,985,186
	32.70	5,240,879	

**SUMMARY OF DISBURSEMENTS**  
**January 2023 to December 2023**

Account Number	Account Name	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	Variance Under (over)	2024 Budget
<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>					
<u>Executive</u>					
01-4130.10-130	EX Salaries - Selectmen	4,500.00	4,500.00	0.00	4,500.00
01-4130.10-220	EX Social Security	93.00	93.00	0.00	186.00
01-4130.10-225	EX Medicare	22.00	21.75	0.25	44.00
01-4130.10-341	EX Telephone	1,100.00	966.46	133.54	1,100.00
01-4130.10-350	EX Copier maintenance/Lease	800.00	866.87	(66.87)	800.00
01-4130.10-390	EX Recording Fees	200.00	38.88	161.12	200.00
01-4130.10-550	EX Printing	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00
01-4130.10-560	EX Dues & Subscriptions	2,000.00	1,704.54	295.46	2,000.00
01-4130.10-570	EX Advertising	1,500.00	1,639.60	(139.60)	1,500.00
01-4130.10-620	EX Office Supplies	1,800.00	1,920.45	(120.45)	1,800.00
01-4130.10-625	EX Postage	1,800.00	2,241.91	(441.91)	2,200.00
01-4130.10-690	EX Selectmen's Expenses	<u>100.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>
	<b>Total Executive</b>	<b>14,015.00</b>	<b>13,993.46</b>	<b>21.54</b>	<b>14,430.00</b>
<u>Town Administration</u>					
01-4130.20-110	TA-Salaries F/T	57,000.00	57,052.72	(52.72)	59,350.00
01-4130.20-120	TA-Salaries P/T	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00
01-4130.20-210	TA Health	8,985.00	8,984.60	.40	10,386.00
01-4130.20-215	TA HRA/FSA Insurance	500.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
01-4130.20-217	TA Dental	476.00	475.80	.20	498.00
01-4130.20-219	TA Life	126.00	126.00	0.00	126.00
01-4130.20-225	TA Medicare	827.00	810.31	16.69	860.00
01-4130.20-220	TA Social Security	3,535.00	3,464.82	70.18	3,679.00
01-4130.20-300	TA NH Retirement	7,860.00	7,867.45	(7.45)	8,030.00
01-4130.20-690	TA Mileage/Expenses	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
01-4130.20-850	TA Training & Seminars	<u>100.00</u>	<u>37.10</u>	<u>62.90</u>	<u>100.00</u>
	<b>Total Town Administration</b>	<b>79,609.00</b>	<b>78,818.80</b>	<b>790.20</b>	<b>83,629.00</b>
<u>Town Meeting</u>					
01-4130.30-550	MTG Town Report Printing	1,751.00	1,776.00	(25.00)	1,780.00
01-4130.30-625	MTG Postage	<u>375.00</u>	<u>344.74</u>	<u>30.26</u>	<u>500.00</u>
	<b>Total Town Meeting</b>	<b>2,126.00</b>	<b>2,120.74</b>	<b>5.26</b>	<b>2,280.00</b>
<b>TOTAL EXECUTIVE</b>		<b>95,750.00</b>	<b>94,933.00</b>	<b>817.00</b>	<b>100,339.00</b>
<u>Town Clerk</u>					
01-4140.10-120	TC Wages - Deputy Town Clerk	2,500.00	1,955.80	544.20	2,500.00
01-4140.10-130	TC Wages-Town Clerk	24,500.00	24,482.06	17.94	28,000.00
01-4140.10-225	TC Medicare	392.00	383.32	8.68	443.00
01-4140.10-220	TC Social Security	1,674.00	1,639.09	34.91	1,891.00
01-4140.10-341	TC Telephone	500.00	527.16	(27.16)	500.00
01-4140.10-560	TC Dues & Subscriptions	50.00	115.00	(65.00)	100.00
01-4140.10-615	TC Vital Statistics	600.00	448.00	152.00	600.00
01-4140.10-613	TC Dog Licenses	750.00	500.22	249.78	750.00
01-4140.10-620	TC Office Supplies	600.00	528.09	71.91	650.00
01-4140.10-625	TC Postage	1,000.00	1,207.35	(207.35)	1,500.00
01-4140.10-740	TC Equipment	1,000.00	900.21	99.79	0.00
01-4140.10-850	TC Training/Seminars/Mileage	1,400.00	1,597.29	(197.29)	1,400.00
01-4140.10-855	TC BMSI - Software & Training	<u>2,330.00</u>	<u>2,476.45</u>	<u>(146.45)</u>	<u>2,450.00</u>
	<b>Total Town Clerk</b>	<b>37,296.00</b>	<b>36,760.04</b>	<b>535.96</b>	<b>40,784.00</b>

**SUMMARY OF DISBURSEMENTS**  
**January 2023 to December 2023**

Account Number	Account Name	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	Variance Under (over)	2024 Budget
<b><u>Voter Registration</u></b>					
01-4140.20-130	EL Wages - Election Officials	750.00	594.01	155.99	4,500.00
01-4140.20-220	EL Social Security	47.00	36.83	10.17	279.00
01-4140.20-225	EL Medicare	11.00	8.60	2.40	66.00
01-4140.20-570	EL Advertising	50.00	88.20	(38.20)	150.00
01-4140.20-620	EL Printing & Supplies	50.00	23.44	26.56	100.00
01-4140.20-690	EL Meals	100.00	200.00	(100.00)	400.00
01-4140.20-850	EL Training/Mileage	<u>100.00</u>	<u>31.44</u>	<u>68.56</u>	<u>150.00</u>
	<b>Total Voter Registration</b>	<b>1,108.00</b>	<b>982.52</b>	<b>125.48</b>	<b>5,645.00</b>
<b>TOTAL ELECTION &amp; REGISTRATION</b>		<b>38,404.00</b>	<b>37,742.56</b>	<b>661.44</b>	<b>46,429.00</b>
<b><u>Tax Collection</u></b>					
01-4150.40-190	TX Tax Collector's Fees	33,500.00	43,426.25	(9,926.25)	45,000.00
01-4150.40-195	TX Deputy Tax Collector	500.00	484.65	15.35	500.00
01-4150.40-220	TX Social Security	31.00	30.05	.95	31.00
01-4150.40-225	TX Medicare	7.00	7.01	(0.01)	7.00
01-4150.40-390	TX Mortgage Research/Tax Liens	200.00	79.42	120.58	200.00
01-4150.40-560	TX Dues	40.00	20.00	20.00	40.00
01-4150.40-625	TX Postage	1,800.00	933.94	866.06	1,800.00
01-4150.40-620	TX Office Supplies	600.00	217.85	382.15	600.00
01-4150.40-630	TX Avitar Software	2,532.00	2,329.00	203.00	2,400.00
01-4150.40-850	TX Training and Seminars	<u>800.00</u>	<u>684.19</u>	<u>115.81</u>	<u>800.00</u>
	<b>Total Tax Collector</b>	<b>40,010.00</b>	<b>48,212.36</b>	<b>(8,202.36)</b>	<b>51,378.00</b>
<b><u>Treasury</u></b>					
01-4150.50-130	T Salary - Treasurer/Deputy	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
01-4150.50-225	T Medicare	29.00	29.00	0.00	29.00
01-4150.50-220	T Social Security	124.00	124.00	0.00	124.00
01-4150.50-340	T Bank Fees	240.00	230.75	9.25	240.00
01-4150.50-620	T Office Supplies	200.00	0.00	200.00	200.00
01-4150.50-630	T Training and Seminars	<u>200.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>200.00</u>	<u>200.00</u>
	<b>Total Treasury</b>	<b>2,793.00</b>	<b>2,383.75</b>	<b>409.25</b>	<b>2,793.00</b>
<b><u>Information Technology</u></b>					
01-4150.60-330	IT Support (E)	5,760.00	5,760.00	0.00	6,000.00
01-4150.60-335	IT Equip. & Maintenance	1,800.00	3,019.03	(1,219.03)	5,000.00
01-4150.60-340	IT Licenses & Fees	10,800.00	8,902.19	1,897.81	10,000.00
01-4150.60-341	IT - Topsham (internet)	<u>1,050.00</u>	<u>1,019.88</u>	<u>30.12</u>	<u>1,050.00</u>
	<b>Total Information Technology</b>	<b>19,410.00</b>	<b>18,701.10</b>	<b>708.90</b>	<b>22,050.00</b>
<b><u>Auditor</u></b>					
01-4150.70-135	AUD Annual Audit	<u>10,500.00</u>	<u>10,500.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>10,500.00</u>
	<b>Total Audit</b>	<b>10,500.00</b>	<b>10,500.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>10,500.00</b>
<b>TOTAL FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION</b>		<b>72,713.00</b>	<b>79,797.21</b>	<b>(7,084.21)</b>	<b>86,721.00</b>
<b><u>Revaluation of Property</u></b>					
01-4152.10-390	AS Assessing/Pick-ups	8,000.00	7,529.55	470.45	8,256.00
01-4152.10-391	AS Statistical Update	7,400.00	7,728.00	(328.00)	7,639.00
01-4152.20-110	TM Wages - Tax Maps	500.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
<b>TOTAL REVALUATION OF PROPERTY</b>		<b>15,900.00</b>	<b>15,757.55</b>	<b>142.45</b>	<b>16,395.00</b>

**SUMMARY OF DISBURSEMENTS**  
**January 2023 to December 2023**

Account Number	Account Name	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	Variance Under (over)	2024 Budget
<b><u>Legal Expense</u></b>					
01-4153.10-320	LE Town Attorney	12,000.00	28,770.83	(16,770.83)	20,000.00
01-4153.10-325	LE Right to Know Requests	0.00	10,017.32	(10,017.32)	10,000.00
01-4153.10-690	LE Other Expenses - Floodplain	500.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
<b>TOTAL LEGAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>12,500.00</b>	<b>38,788.15</b>	<b>(26,288.15)</b>	<b>30,500.00</b>
<b><u>Engineering Services</u></b>					
01-4153.20-320	Engineering Services	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	8,000.00
<b>TOTAL ENGINEERING SERVICES</b>		<b>5,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>	<b>8,000.00</b>
<b><u>Planning Board</u></b>					
01-4191.10-390	PB Recording Fees	100.00	383.92	(283.92)	100.00
01-4191.10-391	PB-Planning Assistant	10,000.00	10,073.72	(73.72)	11,500.00
01-4191.10-400	PB Secretarial	1,000.00	870.00	130.00	1,000.00
01-4191.10-550	PB Legal/Professional Fees	2,500.00	0.00	2,500.00	4,000.00
01-4191.10-560	PB Dues & Subscriptions	100.00	36.00	64.00	100.00
01-4191.10-570	PB Advertising	250.00	201.60	48.40	250.00
01-4191.10-620	PB Office Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
01-4191.10-625	PB Postage	100.00	195.78	(95.78)	100.00
<b>TOTAL PLANNING BOARD</b>		<b>14,050.00</b>	<b>11,761.02</b>	<b>2,288.98</b>	<b>17,250.00</b>
<b><u>Government Building</u></b>					
01-4194.10-360	GB Custodial Services	500.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
01-4194.10-365	GB Sidewalk Shoveling Services	1,500.00	1,350.00	150.00	1,500.00
01-4194.10-410	GB Electricity	2,500.00	1,703.40	796.60	2,000.00
01-4194.10-411	GB Propane	4,500.00	4,084.42	415.58	4,500.00
01-4194.10-430	GB Maintenance. Contracts	2,500.00	1,567.20	932.80	2,500.00
01-4194.10-610	GB Supplies	250.00	249.48	0.52	250.00
01-4194.10-620	GB Shredding	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
01-4194.10-710	GB Improvement - Grounds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01-4194.10-720	GB Maintenance & Repairs	1,200.00	1,191.19	8.81	1,200.00
01-4194.10-750	GB Furniture/Equipment	500.00	364.98	135.02	0.00
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING</b>		<b>13,450.00</b>	<b>10,510.67</b>	<b>2,939.33</b>	<b>12,950.00</b>
<b><u>Cemeteries</u></b>					
01-4195.10-110	CE Wages	25,800.00	22,272.22	3,527.78	26,650.00
01-4195.10-120	CE Wages - Temp Help	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
01-4195.10-220	CE Social Security	1,600.00	1,380.99	219.01	1,962.00
01-4195.10-225	CE Medicare	375.00	322.86	52.14	458.00
01-4195.10-300	CE Mapping	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00
01-4195.10-430	CE Equip/Building Maintenance	400.00	746.74	(346.74)	500.00
01-4195.10-490	CE Office/Shop Supplies	300.00	297.46	2.54	300.00
01-4195.10-635	CE Gasoline	800.00	468.90	331.10	800.00
01-4195.10-630	CE Mileage	1,500.00	992.59	507.41	1,200.00
<b>TOTAL CEMETERIES</b>		<b>30,775.00</b>	<b>26,481.76</b>	<b>4,293.24</b>	<b>37,170.00</b>
<b><u>Insurance</u></b>					
01-4196.10-520	IN Property & Liability	21,460.00	21,460.00	0.00	23,391.00
01-4196.10-521	IN Worker's Comp Ins	15,925.00	15,925.00	0.00	17,836.00
01-4196.10-525	IN Insurance Deductible	0.00	1,882.99	(1,882.99)	0.00
<b>TOTAL INSURANCE</b>		<b>37,385.00</b>	<b>39,267.99</b>	<b>(1,882.99)</b>	<b>41,227.00</b>
<b><u>Advertising &amp; Regional Association</u></b>					

**SUMMARY OF DISBURSEMENTS**  
**January 2023 to December 2023**

Account Number	Account Name	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	Variance Under (over)	2024 Budget
01-4197.10-560	UVLSRPC Dues	1,900.00	1,900.03	(.03)	1,995.00
	<b>TOTAL REGIONAL ASSOCIATION</b>	<b>1,900.00</b>	<b>1,900.03</b>	<b>(.03)</b>	<b>1,995.00</b>

**Contingency Fund**

01-4199.10-000	CF Contingency Fund	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
	<b>TOTAL GENERAL OPERATIONS BUDGET</b>	<b>342,827.00</b>	<b>361,939.94</b>	<b>(19,112.94)</b>	<b>403,976.00</b>

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

**Police Department**

01-4210.10-110	PD Salaries - F/T	83,616.00	83,615.56	.44	87,290.00
01-4210.10-113	PD Salaries P/T	5,750.00	3,405.00	2,345.00	5,750.00
01-4210.10-120	PD Special Details	2,000.00	3,370.00	(1,370.00)	2,500.00
01-4210.10-130	PD NH Grant paid Salary	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
01-4210.10-210	PD Health Insurance	24,259.00	24,258.47	.53	28,045.00
01-4210.10-215	PD HRA/FSA Insurance	1,500.00	1,215.32	284.68	1,500.00
01-4210.10-217	PD Dental	1,596.00	1,595.64	.36	1,671.00
01-4210.10-219	PD Life	51.00	50.40	.60	51.00
01-4210.10-225	PD Medicare	1,239.00	1,252.47	(13.47)	1,330.00
01-4210.10-220	PD Social Security	109.00	316.82	(207.82)	265.00
01-4210.10-230	PD NH Retirement	27,225.00	27,221.52	3.48	27,310.00
01-4210.10-341	PD Telephone & Communication	1,800.00	2,032.11	(232.11)	1,950.00
01-4210.10-430	PD Vehicle Maintenance & Repairs	1,500.00	1,085.28	414.72	2,000.00
01-4210.10-560	PD Professional Dues	390.00	360.00	30.00	390.00
01-4210.10-620	PD Office Supplies & Equip.	500.00	543.67	(43.67)	500.00
01-4210.10-635	PD Gasoline	4,000.00	3,897.75	102.25	4,000.00
01-4210.10-690	PD Prosecution	7,361.00	7,361.00	0.00	7,410.00
01-4210.10-840	PD Uniforms & Equipment	1,500.00	1,148.37	351.63	1,500.00
01-4210.10-845	PD Computer software/IMC	7,050.00	6,627.06	422.94	7,050.00
01-4210.10-850	PD Training & Education	1,000.00	797.21	202.79	1,000.00
01-4210.10-870	PD Legal Expenses/Transcription	200.00	521.75	(321.75)	200.00
01-4210.10-900	PD Federal Grant Paid Expenses	0.00	1,695.00	(1,695.00)	0.00
	<b>Total Police Department</b>	<b>172,646.00</b>	<b>172,370.40</b>	<b>275.60</b>	<b>186,712.00</b>

**Ambulance**

01-4215.10-351	ES Ambulance Services	63,087.00	63,087.00	0.00	66,798.00
01-4215.10-352	ES Dispatch	25,000.00	25,765.03	(765.03)	28,500.00
	<b>Total Emergency Services</b>	<b>88,087.00</b>	<b>88,852.03</b>	<b>(765.03)</b>	<b>95,298.00</b>

**Fire Department**

01-4220.10-120	FD Wages - P/T	23,000.00	27,812.00	(4,812.00)	23,000.00
01-4220.10-130	FD Wages - Fire Wardens	400.00	400.00	0.00	400.00
01-4220.10-220	FD Social Security	1,636.00	2,323.26	(687.26)	1,636.00
01-4220.10-225	FD Medicare	383.00	543.34	(160.34)	383.00
01-4220.10-390	FD Dispatch	450.00	417.00	33.00	450.00
01-4220.10-395	FD Emergency Medical Supplies	1,200.00	699.27	500.73	1,200.00
01-4220.10-430	FD Equipment Maintenance	3,500.00	1,939.74	1,560.26	3,500.00
01-4220.10-435	FD Hose & Ladder Testing	3,700.00	3,991.75	(291.75)	4,000.00
01-4220.10-440	FD Rent	9,600.00	9,600.00	0.00	10,800.00
01-4220.10-442	FD Utilities	7,500.00	7,344.10	155.90	8,500.00
01-4220.10-530	FD Supplemental Insurance	6,230.00	6,230.00	0.00	6,230.00
01-4220.10-560	FD Dues & Subscriptions	100.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
01-4220.10-620	FD - Office Supplies	100.00	40.95	59.05	100.00



**SUMMARY OF DISBURSEMENTS**  
**January 2023 to December 2023**

Account Number	Account Name	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	Variance Under (over)	2024 Budget
01-4220.10-625	FD Postage	100.00	68.00	32.00	100.00
01-4220.10-635	FD Vehicle Fuel	1,200.00	1,921.46	(721.46)	1,800.00
01-4220.10-630	FD Vehicle Maintenance	8,000.00	10,425.31	(2,425.31)	10,000.00
01-4220.10-740	FD Equipment	8,000.00	5,032.66	2,967.34	8,000.00
01-4220.10-830	FD Forest Fire	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
01-4220.10-841	FD Computer Software	1,650.00	1,650.00	0.00	1,650.00
01-4220.10-845	FD – Uniforms	500.00	430.33	69.67	500.00
01-4220.10-850	FD Training/Mileage	<u>3,000.00</u>	<u>12,647.48</u>	<u>(9,647.48)</u>	<u>4,000.00</u>
	<b>Total Fire Department</b>	<b>81,249.00</b>	<b>93,616.65</b>	<b>(12,367.65)</b>	<b>87,349.00</b>
<b><u>Emergency Management</u></b>	<b>Total Emergency Management</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>500.00</b>
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY</b>		<b>342,482.00</b>	<b>354,839.08</b>	<b>(12,357.08)</b>	<b>369,859.00</b>

**HIGHWAY AND STREETS**

**Road Maintenance**

01-4312.20-110	HW Salaries - F/T	177,254.00	160,591.78	16,662.22	194,500.00
01-4312.20-120	HW Salaries P/T	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	1,000.00
01-4312.20-130	HW Project Manager	0.00	34,273.60	(34,273.60)	0.00
01-4312.20-210	HW Health Insurance	60,197.00	46,233.47	13,963.53	51,930.00
01-4312.20-215	HW HRA/FSA Insurance	3,500.00	2,247.50	1,252.50	2,500.00
01-4312.20-217	HW Dental	2,744.00	1,976.60	767.40	2,414.00
01-4312.20-219	HW Life	153.00	126.00	27.00	153.00
01-4312.20-225	HW Medicare	2,643.00	2,249.49	393.51	2,825.00
01-4312.20-220	HW Social Security	11,300.00	9,618.19	1,681.81	12,059.00
01-4312.20-230	HW NH Retirement	24,480.00	22,075.42	2,404.58	26,260.00
01-4312.20-341	HW Telephone	1,500.00	1,451.52	48.48	1,500.00
01-4312.20-410	HW Electricity	1,700.00	1,427.62	272.38	1,700.00
01-4312.20-430	HW Drug & Alcohol Testing	400.00	239.00	161.00	400.00
01-4312.20-440	HW Equipment Rental	6,000.00	1,028.26	4,971.74	6,000.00
01-4312.20-445	HW Contracted Services	15,000.00	24,170.50	(9,170.50)	15,000.00
01-4312.20-446	HW Roadside Mowing	6,000.00	7,034.33	(1,034.33)	7,000.00
01-4312.20-560	HW Dues & Subscriptions	100.00	1,058.00	(958.00)	550.00
01-4312.20-609	HW Shop Supplies	2,500.00	2,781.03	(281.03)	2,500.00
01-4312.20-610	HW Office Supplies	500.00	658.01	(158.01)	750.00
01-4312.20-611	HW Safety Supplies	2,000.00	693.08	1,306.92	2,000.00
01-4312.20-612	HW Personal Protection	2,000.00	1,558.52	441.48	2,000.00
01-4312.20-635	HW Gasoline	500.00	2,170.43	(1,670.43)	2,000.00
01-4312.20-630	HW Vehicle Maintenance & Repairs	40,000.00	46,934.99	(6,934.99)	35,000.00
01-4312.20-637	HW Propane	6,000.00	2,579.64	3,420.36	5,000.00
01-4312.20-636	HW Diesel	30,000.00	22,450.57	7,549.43	25,000.00
01-4312.20-640	HW Building Maintenance	7,500.00	3,344.30	4,155.70	5,000.00
01-4312.20-730	HW Road Improvement Projects	500.00	509.95	(9.95)	500.00
01-4312.20-732	HW Road Treatment	6,000.00	0.00	6,000.00	5,000.00
01-4312.20-740	HW Equip Repair/Replacement	7,500.00	4,439.19	3,060.81	7,500.00
01-4312.20-840	HW Uniforms	3,000.00	5,761.63	(2,761.63)	3,000.00
01-4312.20-861	HW Culverts	10,000.00	9,325.03	674.97	10,000.00
01-4312.20-862	HW Gravel	60,000.00	58,626.83	1,373.17	60,000.00
01-4312.20-863	HW Asphalt Patch	4,000.00	1,843.70	2,156.30	4,000.00
01-4312.20-864	HW Road Salt	15,000.00	9,807.10	5,192.90	15,000.00
01-4312.20-865	HW Road Signs	2,000.00	3,691.62	(1,691.62)	3,000.00
01-4312.20-866	HW Training/Travel	1,500.00	184.70	1,315.30	1,500.00
01-4312.20-890	HW Roadside Refuse Disposal	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
01-4312.20-891	HW Vandalism	<u>200.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>200.00</u>	<u>200.00</u>
	<b>Total Road Maintenance</b>	<b>518,771.00</b>	<b>493,161.60</b>	<b>25,609.40</b>	<b>514,841.00</b>

**SUMMARY OF DISBURSEMENTS**  
**January 2023 to December 2023**

Account Number	Account Name	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	Variance Under (over)	2024 Budget
01-4316.10-410	SL Street Lighting	9,200.00	9,769.92	(569.92)	6,000.00
	<b>Total Street Lighting</b>	<b>9,200.00</b>	<b>9,769.92</b>	<b>(569.92)</b>	<b>6,000.00</b>
<b>TOTAL HIGHWAY &amp; STREETS</b>		<b>527,971.00</b>	<b>502,931.52</b>	<b>25,039.48</b>	<b>520,841.00</b>

**SANITATION**

**Solid Waste Disposal**

01-4324.10-390	WD Disposal-Floyd's Rubbish	8,584.00	8,583.54	.46	8,584.00
01-4324.10-395	WD Dues - Northeast Resource	100.00	125.00	(25.00)	125.00
01-4324.40-395	ED Household Hazardous Waste	1,200.00	1,380.41	(180.41)	1,500.00
	<b>Total Solid Waste Disposal</b>	<b>9,884.00</b>	<b>10,088.95</b>	<b>(204.95)</b>	<b>10,209.00</b>

**Land Closure**

01-4324.50-100	WD Landfill Closure	6,450.00	6,450.00	0.00	0.00
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<b>TOTAL SANITATION</b>		<b>16,334.00</b>	<b>16,538.95</b>	<b>(204.95)</b>	<b>10,209.00</b>
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**HEALTH**

**Animal Control**

01-4414.10-390	AC Veterinary/Boarding	500.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
	<b>Total Animal Control</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>500.00</b>

<b>TOTAL HEALTH</b>		<b>500.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>500.00</b>
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**WELFARE**

**Direct Assistance**

01-4442.10-410	DIR ASST Electricity	500.00	853.50	(353.50)	500.00
01-4442.10-411	DIR ASST Heat	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
01-4442.10-440	DIR ASST Rent	3,000.00	4,708.00	(1,708.00)	3,000.00
01-4442.10-690	DIR ASST Food/Misc.	500.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
	<b>Total Direct Assistance</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>	<b>5,561.50</b>	<b>(561.50)</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>

<b>TOTAL WELFARE</b>		<b>5,000.00</b>	<b>5,561.50</b>	<b>(561.50)</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>
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**CULTURE & RECREATION**

**Parks & Recreation**

01-4520.10-120	P&P Wages - Beach Monitor	3,000.00	510.00	2,490.00	3,000.00
01-4520.10-130	P&P Wages - Swim Instructor	2,000.00	1,588.11	411.89	2,000.00
01-4520.10-131	P&P Swim Aides	2,500.00	2,287.14	212.86	2,500.00
01-4520.10-133	P&P Swim Program - Misc.	300.00	0.00	300.00	300.00
01-4520.10-220	P&P Social Security	465.00	271.89	193.11	465.00
01-4520.10-225	P&P Medicare	109.00	63.60	45.40	109.00
01-4520.10-360	P&P Mowing	19,709.00	19,708.99	0.01	20,159.00
01-4520.10-361	P&P Community Field Mowing	14,080.00	14,080.01	(0.01)	14,502.00
01-4520.10-410	P&P Electricity	700.00	670.22	29.78	700.00
01-4520.10-691	P&P Portable Toilets	3,000.00	2,130.00	870.00	3,000.00
01-4520.10-695	P&P Improvements	2,000.00	177.17	1,822.83	2,000.00
01-4520.10-800	P&P Herbicide Application	1,000.00	485.00	515.00	750.00
01-420.10-821	P&P Rivendell Trails	450.00	0.00	450.00	450.00
01-4520.10-900	P&P Orford Garden Club	750.00	498.55	251.45	750.00
	<b>Total Parks &amp; Recreation</b>	<b>50,063.00</b>	<b>42,470.68</b>	<b>7,592.32</b>	<b>50,685.00</b>

**SUMMARY OF DISBURSEMENTS**  
**January 2023 to December 2023**

Account Number	Account Name	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	Variance Under (over)	2024 Budget
<b><u>Library</u></b>					
01-4550.10-110	LIB Wages	14,010.00	14,010.00	0.000	14,630.00
01-4550.10-220	LIB Social Security	869.00	868.66	.34	907.00
01-4550.10-225	LIB Medicare	203.00	203.12	(.12)	212.00
01-4550.20-490	LIB Free Library-Appropriations	13,187.00	13,187.00	0.00	13,187.00
01-4550.30-490	LIB Social Lib-Appropriations	<u>28,269.00</u>	<u>28,269.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>28,936.00</u>
	<b>Total Library</b>	<b>56,538.00</b>	<b>56,537.78</b>	<b>.22</b>	<b>57,872.00</b>

**Patriotic Purposes**

01-4583.10-610	PP Patriotic Purposes-Misc.	250.00	0.00	250.00	250.00
01-4583.10-611	PP Parades	650.00	650.00	0.00	650.00
01-4583.10-612	PP parade Sheriff's Detail	600.00	490.00	110.00	600.00
01-4583.10-613	PP Veterans' Day Celebration	<u>200.00</u>	<u>200.95</u>	<u>(0.95)</u>	<u>200.00</u>
	<b>Total Patriotic Purposes</b>	<b>1,700.00</b>	<b>1,340.95</b>	<b>359.05</b>	<b>1,700.00</b>

<b>TOTAL CULTURE &amp; RECREATION</b>	<b>108,301.00</b>	<b>100,349.41</b>	<b>7,951.59</b>	<b>110,257.00</b>
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**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**Conservation Commission**

01-4619.10-000	CONS E-Coli Testing	2,670.00	2,388.98	281.02	2,520.00
01-4619.10-360	CONS Mowing	500.00	440.00	60.00	500.00
01-4619.10-550	CONS Legal/Professional Fees	300.00	0.00	300.00	300.00
01-4619.10-560	CONS Dues & Subscriptions	250.00	250.00	0.00	250.00
01-4619.10-570	CONS Advertising	260.00	70.00	190.00	260.00
01-4619.10-690	CONS Mileage Reimbursement	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00

<b>TOTAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION</b>	<b>4,080.00</b>	<b>3,148.98</b>	<b>931.02</b>	<b>3,930.00</b>
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<b>TOTAL OF TOWN DEPTS &amp; OTHER APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>1,004,668.00</b>	<b>983,369.44</b>	<b>21,298.56</b>	<b>1,020,596.00</b>
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<b>TOTAL BUDGET GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>1,347,495.00</b>	<b>1,345,309.38</b>	<b>2,185.62</b>	<b>1,424,572.00</b>
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**SPECIAL WARRANT ARTICLES**

01-4915.10-930	Transfers to Capital Reserve Funds	426,322.00	426,322.00	0.00	490,223.00
01-4902.10-600	Highway Truck	145,000.00	307,494.00	(117,494.00)	0.00
01-4902.10-600	Additional Funds for Highway Trucks	45,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01-4904.10-700	Mousley Brook Bridge-FEMA Project	0.00	0.00	0.00	400,000.00
01-4904.10-701	Paving Project – Archertown Road Project	400,000.00	400,000.00	0.00	400,000.00
01-4904.10-701	Paving Project – Quinttown Road Apron Ext.	0.00	0.00	0.00	25,000.00
01-4904.10-701	Indian Pond Culverts	0.00	0.00	0.00	100,000.00
01-4909.10-741	Police Cruiser	0.00	58,081.25	(58,081.25)	0.00
01-4909.10-737	CO FEMA Funds Rec'd-paid to CRF	13,181.00	13,181.00	0.00	32,569.00
01-4909.10-740	CO NH Unanticipated Funds	128,020.00	128,020.00	0.00	38,372.00

<b>TOTAL SPECIAL WARRANT ARTICLES</b>	<b>1,157,523</b>	<b>1,333,098.25</b>	<b>(175,575.25)</b>	<b>1,486,164.00</b>
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**SUMMARY OF DISBURSEMENTS**  
**January 2023 to December 2023**

Account Number	Account Name	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	Variance Under (over)	2024 Budget
<b>INDIVIDUAL WARRANT ARTICLES</b>					
01-4909.10-700	Charitable Appropriations	16,802.00	16,802.00	0.00	17,311.00
01-4902.10-746	Highway Generator	16,000.00	13,299.44	2,700.56	0.00
01-4902.10-746	Highway Equipment	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
01-4909.10-732	Streetlight Upgrade	15,000.00	13,047.85	1,952.15	0.00
01-902.10-732	Church Survey & Inspection	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,000.00
<b>TOTAL INDIVIDUAL WARRANT ARTICLES</b>		<b>67,802.00</b>	<b>63,149.29</b>	<b>4,652.71</b>	<b>32,311.00</b>
01-4520.10-910	Musical Events at the Bandstand-by Petition	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATED FUNDS</b>		<b>2,574,320.00</b>	<b>2,743,056.92</b>	<b>(168,736.92)</b>	<b>2,943,047.00</b>

**TOWN CLERK'S ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE REPORT  
JANUARY 1, 2023 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2023**

Auto Registration Fee	\$358,514.08
Dog License & Penalties	881.00
Boat Registrations	1,196.12
Vital Records	276.40
Misc.	33.50
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$360,901.10</b>

Town Clerk Office Hours: Tuesday 1:00 to 6:00PM, Wednesday 10:00AM to 1:00PM,  
Thursday 8:00 to 11:00AM

**DOG LICENSE FEES**

Male or Female	\$9.00
Altered Animals	6.50
Senior Citizens (over 65 years old, 1 <sup>st</sup> dog)	2.00

**Group Licenses**

The minimum number of dogs required to qualify for a group license is five (5) dogs, with a standard fee of \$20.00

Proof of rabies vaccination and altering are required.  
All dogs should be licensed by May 1, 2024

If your dog is not licensed with the Town of Orford by May 31, 2024, you will be in violation of RSA 466:1. A civil forfeiture will be issued which carries a \$25.00 fine plus late fees.

**Rabies Clinic**

The Orford/Fairlee Rabies Clinic is scheduled for Wednesday, March 27, 2024 between 5:30PM – 6:30 PM at the Fairlee Fire Station. This has been arranged with the Oxbow Veterinary Clinic of Bradford, VT. Attendance at this program is not only convenient, but also offers the rabies shots at a reduced rate of \$10.00

If anyone sees an animal they suspect of being rabid, please contact dispatch or the NH Fish and Game Department.

Respectfully Submitted, Deborah M Hadlock, Town Clerk

# Treasurer's Report for the Year 2023

## General Fund

Cash on Hand January 1, 2022

Woodsville Guaranty Bank:	\$ 1,454,693.44
Mascoma Savings Bank:	\$ 874,532.84

### Receipts:

Tax Collector: Debbie Hadlock	5,281,581.42
Town Clerk: Debbie Hadlock	354,148.08

Interest:

Woodsville Guarantee Bank	163.58
Mascoma Bank	644.79

Other Sources:

State of New Hampshire	314,838.73
Rivendell license fee for use of town fields	29,000.00
Transfers from Trustee of Trust Funds	706,684.75
Miscellaneous	21,302.28

<b>Total Receipts:</b>	<b>6,708,363.63</b>
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### Disbursements:

Rivendell Interstate School District	2,793,791.00
Grafton County Tax	253,091.00
Transfers to Trustees of Trust Funds	567,523.00
Transfers to Conservation	14,267.47
Misc. Town Expenses	2,437,237.03

<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>6,065,909.50</b>
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<b>Net Income/Loss:</b>	<b>642,454.13</b>
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Cash on Hand December 31, 2023

Woodsville Guarantee Bank:	\$ 311,109.89
Mascoma Bank:	\$ 2,660,570.52

### 2023 Funds Encumbered/Liabilities

Balance of Rivendell Assessment for school year ending June 2024	\$ 2,403,431
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## Restricted Funds

### Conservation Commission Fund

Balance December 31, 2022:	\$185,078.97
Additions: FY23 LUC	\$ 10,945.00
: FY22 LUC	\$ 3,322.47
Interest	\$ 72.93
Due to General Fund	(\$ 43,805.98)*
 Balance December 31, 2023	 \$155,613.39

\*Correction for bank errors

### Special Projects

Balance December 31, 2022:	\$ 27.00
Balance December 31, 2023:	\$ 27.00

### Firefighter's Memorial Fund

Balance December 31, 2021:	\$2,021.19
Donations	\$ 300.00
Balance December 31, 2022:	\$2,321.19

Respectfully Submitted,  
Nancy L Murphy, Treasurer

## Tax Collector's Report Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2023

Committed to Collector	
Property Taxes, 1 <sup>st</sup> Issue	2,256,146.00
Property Taxes, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Issue	2,949,497.00
Yield Taxes	27,650.38
Land Use Change Tax	25,750.00

Total 5,259,043.38

Remitted to Treasurer	
Property Taxes, 1 <sup>st</sup> Issue	2,211,402.45
Property Taxes, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Issue	2,717,937.76
Past Property Taxes	441,210.56
Yield Taxes	27,696.82
Land Use Change Tax	21,890.00
Credit	6,958.09

Total 5,427,095.68

Uncollected Taxes 414,875.39

Respectfully Submitted,  
Deborah Hadlock, Tax Collector

**TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS  
2023 Annual Report**

Trust and Trustee Changes. The following changes occurred during 2023:

- The Town of Orford approved a Change of Purpose for the Police Vehicle and the Police Vehicle Equipment CRFs (Orford Warrant Articles 16 & 17). The changes clarified the purposes of these CRFs and renamed them. The funds carried over.
- 3 new Cemetery Trusts were created under the Common Cemetery Trust, for a total of 458 Trusts.

Chris Crowley was reelected as a Trustee. Terry Harwood was reappointed as an Alternate Trustee. The TTF currently has one vacancy for an Alternate Trustee.

Town of Orford CRFs and ETFs. Of note for this year:

- All Appropriations voted in 2023 Warrant Articles 3, 5 and 6 were received.
- Major expenditures included Road Improvements, purchase of a 10-wheel truck, purchased parts for other Highway Department trucks on order, and a new police vehicle. Other expenditures were typical for annual operations.

The SWEEP/Checking Account that holds nearly all (98%) of the Funds for these trusts earned about \$38,000 in interest during the year. These earnings were substantially greater than the prior year due to higher CD interest rates (2%). Earnings on 3 CDs for 3 CRFs were larger than the prior year.

Town of Orford Donor Trusts. Of note this year:

- Additions to the Common Cemetery Trust included \$850 via the purchases of plots.
- Expenditures included \$13,900 for tree work at Cemeteries, a \$500 Scholarship award (Menta Sawyer Trust), and a \$581 study on relocating the Town Offices (Niles Fund).

Interest earned on CDs for the Cemetery, the Orford Schools Fund for Excellence and the Sawyer Scholarship was improved over last year. Savings Account interest earnings remained small (0.05%).

Some Dividend Income was received in Cash for the Cemetery Trust and the Niles Fund and added to their holdings in the common Savings Account. Some Dividend Income was reinvested in shares for the Cemetery Trust, the Mann Scholarship, and the Town Hall Heritage Center Trust. Capital Gains were reinvested in the Common Cemetery Trust, Mann Scholarship and Niles Fund. Dividend Income was about 50% greater than last year, and Capital Gains Income was about 30% smaller. Market Values of the Mutual Funds grew substantially, about 20% to 30% for the year.

Orford Village District (OVD) CRF<sup>1</sup>. An Appropriation of \$1,000 voted in 2023 OVD Warrant Article 3 was received, but there were no expenditures. Interest earnings from the Savings Account for this CRF were small due to a low interest rate (0.05%).

Reporting. Trustees submitted the required 2022 reports (MS-9 & -10) to the NH Department of Justice (DOJ) via the NHTTF on-line Portal. The MS-9 complies with the revised format announced by the DOJ Charitable Trusts Unit (CTU) in August 2022. The MS-10 format remained the same, but breakdowns for additional Donor Trusts were added at CTU request. The Trustee section of the Orford website has copies available.

Elected Trustees: Seth Carter, Christopher Crowley, Victoria Schwaegler  
Alternate Trustees: Bartlett Harwood

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<sup>1</sup> Note: The Funds for this CRF are held in an Account separate from all Town of Orford Trust Funds.

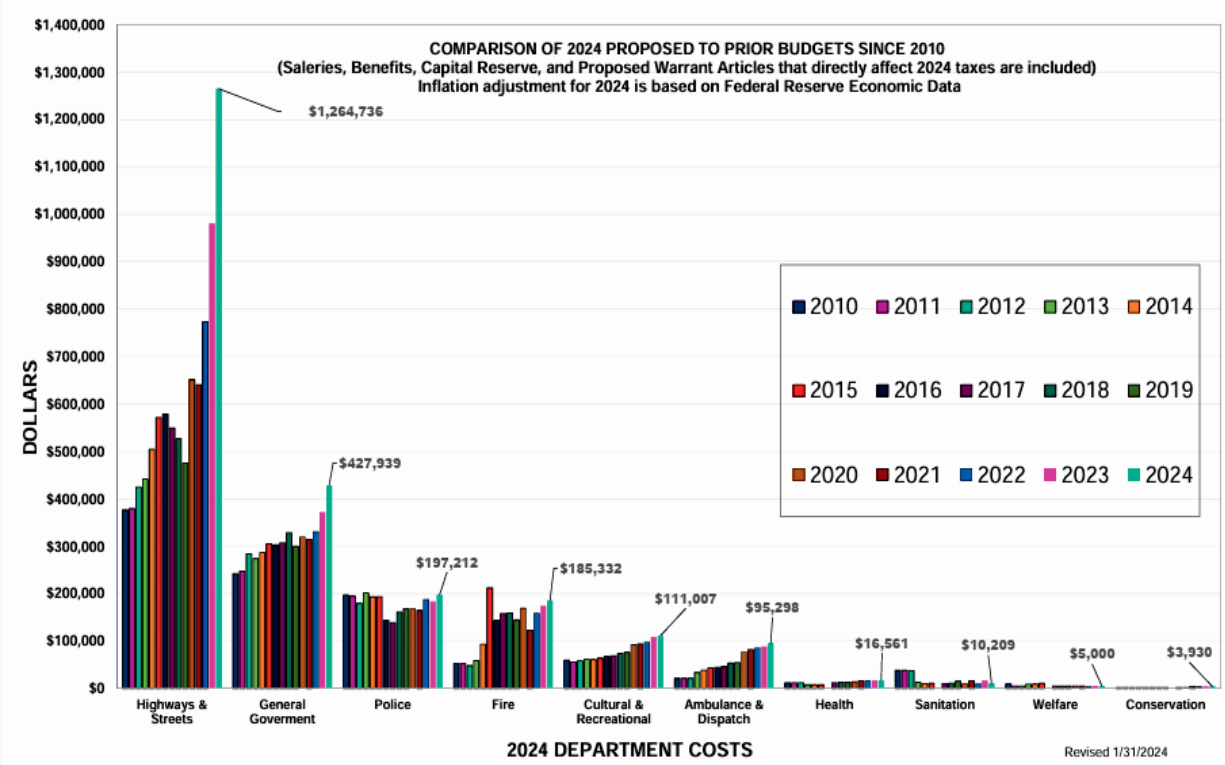


**ORFORD TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS FINANCIAL REPORT (DRAFT)  
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023**

Trust Fund Name (Date)	BOY Balance At Cost \$	BOY Balance At Market \$	ADDED FUNDS	INVESTMENT REALIZED GAINS	DIVIDEND INCOME	INTEREST INCOME	EXPENDED FUNDS	EOY Balance At Cost \$	EOY Balance At Market \$	Year Change At Market \$	CODE
<i>Cemetery Trusts (448)</i>											
COMMON CEMETERY TRUST (1916) Perpetual (Note 1)	424,994.35	549,762.05	850.00	18,877.13	6,456.50	2,703.59	13,900.00	439,981.57	645,955.25	96,193.20	B&I
<i>Orford Capital Reserve Funds &amp; Expendable Trust Funds</i>											
ROAD IMPROVEMENT CRF (1994)	446,050.61	446,050.61	277,161.00			8,244.48	292,967.33	438,488.76	438,488.76	(7,561.85)	B
DUMP CLOSURE CRF (1991)	12,892.67	12,892.67				254.69		13,147.36	13,147.36	254.69	B
FIRE TRUCKS CRF (1983)	401,736.49	401,736.49	56,056.00			8,296.66		466,089.15	466,089.15	64,352.66	B
FIRE DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT CRF (2015)	121,354.93	121,354.93	32,348.00			2,526.81	15,660.93	140,568.81	140,568.81	19,213.88	B
FIRE TRUCK MAJOR MAINTENANCE CRF (2017)	12,928.16	12,928.16	3,850.00			280.16		17,058.32	17,058.32	4,130.16	B
HEAVY EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE ETF (2003)	27,758.76	27,758.76	7,883.00			542.54	3,821.47	32,362.83	32,362.83	4,604.07	B
GRADER CRF (1983)	226,868.60	226,868.60	7,391.00			4,132.53		238,392.13	238,392.13	11,523.53	B
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT TRUCKS CRF (1997)	408,665.27	408,665.27	81,799.00			7,553.88	304,644.00	193,374.15	193,374.15	(215,291.12)	B
LOADER CRF (1983)	110,003.26	110,003.26	23,716.00			2,325.62		136,044.88	136,044.88	26,041.62	B
POLICE VEHICLE CRF (2023) (Note 2)	60,009.48	60,009.48	10,000.00			440.58	58,081.25	12,368.81	12,368.81	(47,640.67)	B
POLICE VEHICLE PPV & COMP. EQUIP. MAINT. CRF (2023) (Note 3)	7,444.51	7,444.51				145.48	524.95	7,065.04	7,065.04	(379.47)	B
TOWN BUILDINGS CRF (2019)	100,783.97	100,783.97	19,839.00			1,821.42		122,444.39	122,444.39	21,660.42	B
TOWN TAX MAP CRF (2002)	4,418.01	4,418.01				87.27		4,505.28	4,505.28	87.27	B
CEMETERY MOWER/BUILDING CRF (2015)	16,646.99	16,646.99	1,480.00			334.10	7,299.00	11,162.09	11,162.09	(5,484.90)	B
TREE CARE AND REPLACEMENT ETF (1991)	135.95	135.95	10,000.00			102.17	1,800.00	8,438.12	8,438.12	8,302.17	B
TOWN PROPERTY ETF (2000)	43,051.55	43,051.55	29,000.00			938.75	6,905.09	66,085.21	66,085.21	23,033.66	B
WWII MONUMENT MAINTENANCE ETF (2004)	3,024.70	3,024.70				59.75		3,084.45	3,084.45	59.75	B
WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION CRF (2004)	6,511.01	6,511.01				128.62		6,639.63	6,639.63	128.62	B
BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT CRF (2021)	2,008.59	2,008.59				39.67		2,048.26	2,048.26	39.67	B
REVALUATION CRF (2022)	7,015.79	7,015.79	7,000.00			148.81		14,164.60	14,164.60	7,148.81	B
<i>Orford Village District Capital Reserve Fund</i>											
MAINTENANCE CRF (2022)	30,007.38	30,007.38	1,000.00			15.34		31,022.72	31,022.72	1,015.34	B
<i>Private (Donor-Funded) Trusts</i>											
COMMUNITY FIELD 2 (HAZEN MOREY) (1985)	5,868.83	5,868.83				2.95		5,871.78	5,871.78	2.95	B
PLAYGROUND (2011)	9,039.70	9,039.70				4.54		9,044.24	9,044.24	4.54	B
ORFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT BEQUEST (ALICE MANN) (1949) Perpetual	7,036.17	13,968.43		292.36	109.16	0.50		7,438.19	17,983.53	4,015.10	B&I
HAZEN MOREY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS SCHOLARSHIP (1985)	951.80	951.80				0.48		952.28	952.28	0.48	B
MENTA SAWYER SCHOLARSHIP (1987) Perpetual	8,905.81	8,905.81				42.68	500.00	8,448.49	8,448.49	(457.32)	B
SCHOOLS FUND FOR EXCELLENCE (1989) Perpetual	36,723.02	36,723.02				49.15		36,772.17	36,772.17	49.15	B
LENORE NILES FUND (1991)	176,030.95	201,011.09		13,730.47	2,416.10	4.46	580.73	191,601.25	236,293.97	35,282.88	B&I
TOWN HALL HERITAGE CENTER TRUST (2013)	47,848.18	47,848.18			361.05	20.15		48,229.38	48,229.38	381.20	B&I
<b>UNALLOCATED</b>											
Totals	2,766,715.49	2,923,395.59	569,373.00	32,899.96	9,342.81	41,247.83	706,684.75	2,712,894.34	2,974,106.08	50,710.49	
	Unrealized CG	156,680.10					Investment Unrealized CG		261,211.74		

Notes:  
(1) Both TTF and Cemetery Trusts were created by Warrant Article 13, 1916.  
(2) Change of Purpose (Orford Warrant Article 16, 2023).  
(3) Change of Purpose (Orford Warrant Article 17, 2023).  
Code B = Trust Funds in Bank Accounts Only (Checking, Savings & CDs). No risk to principal.  
Code B&I = Trust Funds also include Investment Accounts (Mutual Funds & Brokerage). Some risk to principal.  
UNALLOCATED = Any Accrued Interest Income from common Bank Accounts not yet apportioned to individual Trust Funds.  
"Perpetual" indicates that the Trust may only spend Income, not Principal.





**ORFORD VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT SCHEDULE FOR 2024**

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040
<b>HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT</b>																					
Truck #2 10																					
Truck #3 10																					
1.5 Ton Truck 5																					
Loader 25																					
Backhoe 17																					
Grader 30																					
<b>POLICE DEPARTMENT</b>																					
POLICE VEHICLE 7																					
DATABASE UPDATE 25K CAP																					
<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT</b>																					
Pumper Engine #3 30																					
Rescue Equipment Truck 30																					
Tanker Truck #2 30																					
<b>CEMETERY</b>																					
Mower																					

revised 11/16/2023

**ROBERTS & GREEN, PLLC**  
**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Orford, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Orford as of December 31, 2022, and the respective changes in financial position thereof, and the budget to actual comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

**Basis for Opinions**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Town of Orford, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

**Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Town's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

**Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements. In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Consider whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Town's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, any significant audit findings, and any internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

### **Required Supplementary Information**

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the pension and OPEB related schedules on pages 31 – 34 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about 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 do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

The Town of Orford has not presented a management's discussion and analysis. Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America have determined that the management's discussion and analysis is necessary to supplement, but is not required to be part of, the basic financial statements.

### **Supplementary Information**

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Orford's basic financial statements. The combining and individual general fund schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. These schedules are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the combining and individual general fund schedules are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

**2023 SUMMARY INVENTORY OF VALUATION  
Town of ORFORD in Grafton County**

This is to certify that the information provided in this report was taken from the official records and is correct to the best of our knowledge and belief. Rev 1707.03(d)(7) - Selectboard of the Town of Orford

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>Number of Acres</u>	<u>2023 Assessed Valuation by City/Town</u>
<b>1. VALUE OF LAND ONLY</b>		
A. Current Use (At Current Use Values) RSA 70-A	25,557.84	\$ 1,249,534
B. Conservation Restriction Assessment (At Current Use Values) RSA 79-B	8.00 0	770 0
C. Discretionary Easement RSA 79-C	0	0
D. Discretionary Preservation Easement RSA 79-D	0	0
E. Taxation of Land Under Farm Structures RSA 79-F	0	0
F. Residential Land	2,348.42	37,911,800
G. Commercial/Industrial Land ( <b>DO NOT</b> include Utility Land)	<u>180.49</u>	<u>3,314,000</u>
H. Total of Taxable Land	<b>28,114.75</b>	<b>42,476,104</b>
I. Tax Exempt and Non-Taxable Land	1,749.31	5,635,900
<b>2. VALUE OF BUILDINGS ONLY</b>		
(Exclude Amounts Listed on Lines 3A and 3B)	<b>Structures</b>	<b>Valuation</b>
A. Residential		105,139,888
B. Manufactured Housing as defined in RSA 674:31		2,322,100
C. Commercial/Industrial ( <b>DO NOT</b> include Public Buildings)		7,887,000
D. Discretionary Preservation Easement RSA 79-D		
Number of structures	10	44,512
E. Taxation of Farm Structures RSA 79-F	0	<u>0</u>
<b>F. Total of Taxable Buildings</b>		<b>\$115,393,500</b>
G. Tax Exempt & Non-Taxable Buildings		9,703,400
<b>3. PUBLIC UTILITIES</b> (see RSA 83-F:1 V for complete definition)		
A. Public Utilities (Real estate/buildings/structures/machinery/ dynamos/apparatus/poles/wires/fixtures of all kinds and descriptions/pipelines, etc.)		<b>\$ 2,611,300</b>
<i>Utility Summary:</i>		
PSNH dba Eversource Energy	\$1,314,400	
New Hampshire Electric Corp	1,275,500	
Great River Hydro LLC	21,200	
Green Mt. Power Corp	<u>200</u>	
Grand Total Valuation of all Utility Companies	\$2,611,300	
B. Other Public Utilities		<b>0</b>
<b>4. MATURE WOOD AND TIMBER</b> (RSA 79:5) <span style="float: right;"><b>0</b></span>		
<b>5. VALUATION BEFORE EXEMPTIONS</b> (Total of Lines 1H, 2F, 3A, 3B and 4) (This figure represents the gross sum of all taxable property in your municipality) <span style="float: right;"><b>\$160,480,904</b></span>		
<b>6. Certain Disabled Veterans</b> RSA 72:36-a (Paraplegic and Double Amputees Owning Specially Adapted Homesteads with VA Assistance)		
Total # granted	0	0
<b>7. Improvements to Assist the Deaf</b> RSA 72:38-b		
Total # granted	0	0
<b>8. Improvements to Assist Persons with Disabilities</b> RSA 72:37-a		
Total # granted	0	0
<b>9. School Dining/Dormitory/Kitchen Exemption</b> RSA 72:23 IV (Standard Exemption Up To \$150,000 for each)		
Total # granted	0	0
<b>10. Water/Air Pollution Control Exemptions</b> RSA 72:12-a		
Total # granted	0	0
<b>11. MODIFIED ASSESSED VALUATION OF ALL PROPERTIES</b>		
(Line 5 minus Lines 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10) This figure will be used for calculating the total equalized value of your municipality.		<b><u>\$160,480,904</u></b>

## 2023 SUMMARY INVENTORY OF VALUATION

<b>12. Blind Exemption</b> RSA 72:37	Total # granted	0	
	Amount granted per exemption	0	\$ 0
<b>13. Elderly Exemption</b> RSA 72:39 a & b	Total # granted	3	\$75,000

**Elderly Exemption Report: Total Number of individuals granted an elderly exemption for the current year and total amount of exemption granted:**

AGE	#	MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE EXEMPTION AMOUNT	TOTAL ACTUAL EXEMPTION AMOUNT
65 - 74	0	\$15,000	\$ 0
75 - 79	0	\$ 20,000	\$ 0
80+	<u>3</u>	\$25,000	<u>\$75,000</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>\$75,000</b>

<u>Elderly Exemption Report</u>	<u>Income Limits</u>	<u>Assess Limits</u>
Single	\$25,000	\$ 40,000
Married	37,500	40,000
<b>14. Deaf Exemption</b> RSA 72:38-b	Total # granted	0
	Amount granted per exemption	0 \$ 0
<b>15. Disabled Exemption</b> RSA 72:37-b	Total # granted	1
	Amount granted per exemption	5,000 5,000
<b>16. Wood-Heating Energy Systems Exemption</b> RSA 72:70	Total # granted	0 0
<b>17. Solar Energy Exemption</b> RSA 72:62	Total # granted	0 0
<b>18. Wind Powered Energy Systems Exemption</b> RSA 72:66	Total # granted	0 0
<b>19. Additional School Dining/Dormitory/Kitchen Exemption</b> RSA 72:23 IV (Amounts in excess of \$150,000 exemption)	Total # granted	0 0
<b>20. TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNT OF EXEMPTIONS</b> (Sum of Lines 12-19)		<b>\$ 80,000</b>
<b>21. NET VALUATION ON WHICH THE TAX RATE FOR MUNICIPAL, COUNTY &amp; LOCAL EDUCATION TAX IS COMPUTED</b> (Line 11 minus Line 20)		<b><u>\$160,400,904</u></b>
<b>22. LESS Utilities</b> (Line 3A) Do NOT include the value of OTHER utilities listed in line 3B		<b>\$ 2,611,300</b>
<b>23. NET VALUATION WITHOUT UTILITIES ON WHICH TAX RATE FOR STATE EDUCATION TAX IS COMPUTED</b> (Line 21 minus Line 22)		<b><u>\$157,789,604</u></b>

<u>Veterans' Tax Credits</u>	<u>Limits</u>	<u>Individual</u>	<u>Tax Credits</u>
Veterans' Tax Credit RSA 72:28, 72:28-b	\$ 500	42	\$21,000
All Veterans Tax Credit RSA 72:28-b	\$ 500	2	1,000
Surviving Spouse RSA 72:29-a	700	1	700
Tax Credit for Service-Connected Total Disability RSA 72:35	4,000	5	20,000
Combat Service Tax Credit RSA 72:28c	500	0	
<b>TOTAL NUMBER AND AMOUNT</b>		<b>51</b>	<b>\$42,700</b>

<u>Deaf &amp; Disabled Exemption Report</u>	<u>Income Limits</u>	<u>Assess Limits</u>
Single	\$13,400	\$ 35,000
Married	20,400	35,000

## 2023 SUMMARY INVENTORY OF VALUATION

<b><u>Current Use Report – RSA 79-A</u></b>	Total No. of Acres Receiving Current Use	Assessed <u>Valuation</u>
Farm Land	1,698.31	\$ 425,051
Forest Land	7,698.56	379,430
Forest Land with Documented Stewardship	14,824.85	425,263
Unproductive Land	1,216.55	17,613
Wetland	<u>139.57</u>	<u>2,177</u>
<b>TOTAL (See Item 1A)</b>	<b>25,577.84</b>	<b>\$ 1,249,534</b>

<b><u>Other Current Use Statistics</u></b>	<u>Total Number of Acres</u>
Receiving 20% Recreation Adjustment	9,571.12
Removed from Current Use during Current Year	7.77

	<u>Total Number</u>
Total Number of Owners in Current Use	210
Total Number of Parcels in Current Use	431

### **Land Use Change Tax**

Gross monies received for Calendar Year 2022 \$ 3,110.00

#### Conservation

Allocation: Percentage: 50%

Monies to Conservation Fund \$ 1,555.00

Monies to General Fund \$ 1,555.00

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

	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Valuation</u>
Farm Land	0.00	\$ 0.00
Forest Land	4.00	481.00
Forest Land with Documented Stewardship	4.00	289.00
Unproductive Lane	0.00	0.00
Wet Land	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
	<b>8.00</b>	<b>770.00</b>

### **Other Conservation Restriction Assessment Statistics**

Owners in Conservation Restriction 1

Parcels in Conservation Restriction 1

### **Discretionary Preservation Easements - RSA 79-D**

Owners	Structures	Structure Valuation
4	10	\$44,512

Description of Discretionary Preservation Easement Granted (i.e.: Barns, Silos, etc.)

Map	Lot	Block	%	Description
000008	000093	000051	65	79D HISTORIC BARN
000008	000029	000054	60	79D HISTORIC BARN
000008	000093	000077	65	79D HISTORIC BARN
000008	000093	000077	65	79D HISTORIC BARN
000008	000093	000077	75	79D HISTORIC BARN
000008	000093	000077	75	79D HISTORIC BARN
000008	000093	000077	75	79D HISTORIC BARN
000008	000093	000077	75	79D HISTORIC BARN
000008	00091B	000013	75	79D HISTORIC BARN
000008	00091B	000013	75	79D HISTORIC BARN
000008	00091B	000013	75	79D HISTORIC BARN

**Payments in Lieu of Tax from Renewable Generation Facilities (RSA 72:74)** **\$4,101.00**



## 2023 SUMMARY INVENTORY OF VALUATION

### Village District: VILLAGE WATER DISTRICT

<u>CATEGORY</u>	Number of <u>Acres</u>	2022 Assessed Valuation <u>by City/Town</u>
<b>1. VALUE OF LAND ONLY</b>		
A. Current Use (At Current Use Values) RSA 70-A	36.00	\$ 6,701
B. Conservation Restriction Assessment RSA 79-B	0	0
C. Discretionary Easement RSA 79-C	0	0
D. Discretionary Preservation Easement RSA 79-D	0	0
E. Taxation of Land Under Farm Structures RSA 79-F	0	0
F. Residential Land (Improved and Unimproved Land)	40.42	2,293,400
G. Commercial/Industrial Land ( <b>DO NOT</b> include Utility Land)	19.43	827,700
<b>H. Total of Taxable Land</b>	<b>95.85</b>	<b>3,127,801</b>
I. Tax Exempt and Non-Taxable Land	15.03	516,000
<b>2. VALUE OF BUILDINGS ONLY (Exclude Amounts Listed on Lines 3A and 3B)</b>		
A. Residential		\$ 5,345,400
B. Manufactured Housing as defined in RSA 674:31		126,400
C. Commercial/Industrial ( <b>DO NOT</b> include Public Buildings)		1,784,300
D. Discretionary Preservation Easement RSA 79-D		
Number of structures	0	0
E. Taxation of Farm Structures RSA 79-F	0	0
<b>F. Total of Taxable Buildings</b>		<b>\$ 7,256,100</b>
G. Tax Exempt & Non-Taxable Building (\$1,252,000)		821,900
<b>3. PUBLIC UTILITIES (see RSA 83-F:1 V for complete definition) within district</b>		
A. Public Utilities (Real estate/buildings/structures/machinery/ dynamos/apparatus/poles/wires/fixtures of all kinds and descriptions/pipelines, etc.)		\$ 0
B. Other Public Utilities		0
<b>4. MATURE WOOD AND TIMBER (RSA 79:5)</b>		0
<b>5. VALUATION BEFORE EXEMPTIONS</b>		<b>\$ 10,383,901</b>
(This figure represents the gross sum of all taxable property in your municipality)		
<b>Exemptions</b>	<b>Total Granted</b>	<b>Valuation</b>
<b>6. Certain Disabled Veterans RSA 72:36-a (Paraplegic and Double Amputees</b>		
Owning Specially Adapted Homesteads with VA Assistance)	0	0
<b>7. Improvements to Assist the Deaf RSA 72:38-b V</b>	0	0
<b>8. Improvements to Assist Persons with Disabilities RSA 72:37-a</b>	0	0
<b>9. School Dining/Dormitory/Kitchen Exemption RSA 72:23 IV</b>		
(Standard Exemption Up to \$150,000 for each)	0	
<b>10. Water/Air Pollution Control Exemptions RSA 72:12-a</b>	0	0
<b>11. MODIFIED ASSESSED VALUATION OF ALL PROPERTIES</b>		
(Line 5 minus Lines 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10) This figure will be used for calculating the total equalized value of your municipality.		<b>\$ 10,383,901</b>
<b>12. Blind Exemption RSA 72:37</b>	Total # granted 15,000	
Amount granted per exemption	0	\$ 0
<b>13. Elderly Exemption RSA 72:39 a &amp; b</b>	Total # granted 0	0
<b>14. Deaf Exemption RSA 72:38-b</b>	Total # granted 0	0
Amount granted per exemption	0	0
<b>15. Disabled Exemption RSA 72:37-b</b>	Total # granted 0	0
Amount granted per exemption	5,000	0
<b>16. Wood-Heating Energy Systems Exemption RSA 72:70</b>	0	0
<b>17. Solar Energy Exemption RSA 72:62</b>	Total # granted 0	0
<b>18. Wind Powered Energy Systems Exemption RSA 72:66</b>	0	0
<b>19. Additional School Dining/Dormitory/Kitchen Exemption</b>		
RSA 72:23 IV (Amounts in excess of \$150,000 exemption)	0	0
<b>20. TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNT OF EXEMPTIONS (Sum on Lines 12-19)</b>		<b>0</b>
<b>21. NET VALUATION ON WHICH THE TAX RATE</b>		
<b>FOR VILLAGE DISTRICT IS COMPUTED (Line 11 minus Line 20)</b>		<b>\$ 10,383,901</b>

**ORFORD VILLAGE DISTRICT  
2023**

Minutes from the April 11, 2023 Annual Meeting

**Warrant Articles**

**Article 1 – Election of Officers**

- For a 1-year term – moderator
- For a 1-year term – Clerk
- For a 1-year Treasurer
- For a 3-year Commissioner
- For a 2-year Commissioner
- For a 1-year Auditor

*The following was moved and seconded and passed without any dissenting votes – For 1-year term: Gail Dimmick, Moderator, Jane Hebb, Treasurer, Roberts & Greene, PCCL, Auditor, David Smith for the 3-year Commissioner, William McKee for the 1-year Commissioner.*

**Article 2 – District Operations** – to raise an appropriate \$54,471 for general district operations with \$4957 to come from a state grant, \$34,014 from user fees and \$15,500 to come from the unassigned fund balance.

*Article 2 was passed by voice vote*

**Article 3 – Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund** - to see if the village district will vote to add \$1,000 to the Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund with said funds to come from the general district’s operations. The Commissioners are agents to expend from this fund.

*Article 3 was passed by voice vote*

**Article 4 – to transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting**

*There was no other business addressed*

Jane Hebb, Acting Clerk

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**2023 Appropriations**

4196	Insurance	\$ 1,564	4711	Long Term Bond & Notes	\$16,522
4331	Administration	\$ 3,550		<b>Total Operations</b>	<b>\$54,471</b>
4332	Water Services	\$26,685			
4335	Water Treatment	\$ 6,150	4915	Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 1,000

**ASSESSOR'S REPORT  
2023**

In 2023, there were roughly 110 properties visited that had indicated they made changes to the property or had ongoing construction as of April 1, 2022. These properties were adjusted accordingly.

Data Verification of all properties will continue this year. We visited roughly 200 properties for assessment data verification. We expect to visit another 200-250 properties. Our goal is to verify the physical data to ensure the assessments are accurate. If no-one is at home, we will take the opportunity to verify the exterior measurements of all primary improvements (buildings etc.).

If an adult is home at the time of the visit, the representative from the Assessor's Office will ask to verify the interior information via tour provided by the adult, if it is safe for all involved. At no time will a representative enter a property where a minor is the only person home. In the event a property is posted "No Trespassing", the representative will knock on the door to seek permission to verify the physical data. In the event no-one is home, there will be no attempt to verify the exterior data. The Assessing Official will make another attempt on a subsequent date. If the property is "Posted" and gated the Assessor's Office will not enter the premises. However, there will be a letter sent requesting an appointment to verify the physical data. If the property owner doesn't respond to the request, the Assessor will estimate the features of the property to the best of his/her ability.

It is of the utmost importance to have accurate data to ensure all property owners in Orford are assessed equitably.

Orford conducted a town-wide re-assessment in 2020 bringing the assessments to market value as of April 1, 2020. The real-estate market continues to be very robust with values continuing to increase. The 2023 estimated weighted mean assessment to sale ratio is 64.7%. The estimated median assessment to sale ratio is 70.3%. Please be advised this is subject to the Department of Revenue's final determination which will be completed sometime in the first quarter of 2024. The next scheduled town wide revaluation will be conducted in 2025 unless it becomes necessary prior to 2025.

Please take the time to review your property record card for accuracy on an annual basis. If you have questions, please contact the selectmen's office.

I would like to thank you for your continued cooperation.

Todd Haywood, RES, CNHA  
Orford Assessing Agent

**Emergency Management Director  
2023**

During this past year, members of the Towns Boards, Commissions, community members along with department heads met to revise the Haz-mitigation plan. This involves reviewing the old plan and making changes which takes hundreds of hours to complete. After this, the plan is rewritten to account for changes that have taken place in the last five years within the Town. Once the plan is written it is returned to the group to review the changes. Currently the plan has been submitted to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for final approval. This plan will lead the Town in the event of a natural or man-made disaster in the future.

Kevin Follensbee  
Emergency Management Director

**ORFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT  
2023**

Our mission continues to be community-focused through our efforts to protect the lives, property and environment of our local community and visitors with compassionate trained professionals. Orford Fire responded to our highest number of calls yet in 2023! We currently have 19 members including junior members and support staff. Our members have various levels of certification including level 1 and 2 firefighters, cold water rescue, pumping and cold weather pumping and airpack. Some members have their EMT or paramedic certification. All members are CPR/AED certified. Our members have put in many long hours over weekends, evenings, and holidays for various trainings and calls. In addition, many of our members have put in a large amount of hours working on, including but not limited to upkeep of the fire trucks, cleaning the station, fire hydrant maintenance, and performing weekly and monthly equipment checks.

We continue to train in such areas as cold-water pumping, SCBA, ladders, and driver training. We also spend time “preplanning” various scenarios so that we are better prepared to serve the community for any future emergencies. We spent time looking for possible water sources for hard-to-get-to places, troublesome driveways, and places that might provide us with challenges and how to best approach the situation if an emergency ever happens there. We do all these activities, because we are group of people who love to serve the town of Orford.

Please dial 911 in the event of any emergencies. The members of the Orford Fire Department would like to remind you that we are on call 24/7, 365 days a year. We are here to serve the community. If you have any questions or would like to check out the department, please feel free to reach out to any of our members. We are always looking for new, dedicated members. If you have a desire to serve and help your community, please contact the department. Stop by the fire station on the first and third Monday of the month when we have training.

The members of the department would like to thank the town for their continuing support your Orford fire Department responded to 232 calls in 2023.

Mutual Aid Calls	68	Powers Lines	5	Wood Rescues	5
Brush Fires	4	Medical Calls	96	Trees Down	3
Fire Alarms	21	Auto Accidents	14		
Service Calls	14	Structure Fire	1		

Our call volume over the last 8 years:

2022: 186	2020: 114	2018: 153	2016: 117
2021: 139	2019: 141	2017: 126	2015: 132

We hope you do not have one, but if you do have an emergency, you can count on us being there. Here’s to a safe 2024.

Respectfully submitted, Terry Straight, Fire Chief

# Report of Forest Fire Warden and State Forest Ranger 2023

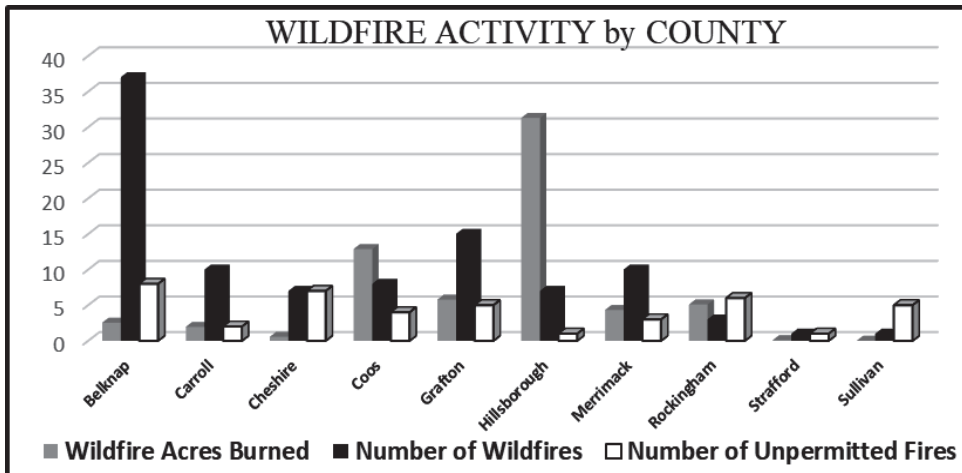
This past year we observed wet weather in late spring and throughout the summer. This led to reduced wildfire activity throughout the state and allowed many of our state firefighting resources to respond to Nova Scotia and Quebec to assist our Canadian neighbors with their record wildfire season. We were also able team up with local fire departments and provide many wildfire trainings throughout the state.

This time of year, we see fires caused by the careless disposal of woodstove ashes. Before dumping your woodstove ashes, you should place them in a covered metal container until they are out cold. Many homes in New Hampshire are located in the wildland urban interface, which is the area where homes and flammable wildland fuels intermix. Every year New Hampshire sees fires which threaten or destroy structures, a constant reminder that wildfires burn more than just trees. Even with the lower wildfire threat in New Hampshire in 2023, properties within the Wildland Urban Interface were still impacted, with 8 structures threatened and 3 destroyed by wildfires. Homeowners should take measures to prevent a wildfire from spreading to their home. Precautions include keeping your roof and gutters clear of leaves and pine needles and maintaining adequate green space around your home free of flammable materials. Additional information and homeowner recommendations are available at [www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org). Please help Smokey Bear, your local fire department, and the state’s Forest Rangers by being fire wise and fire safe! We ask everyone to remember Smokey’s message about personal responsibility and follow his ABC’s: **Always Be Careful** with fire. If you start a fire, put it out when you are done. **“Remember, Only You Can Prevent Wildfires!”**

As we prepare for the 2024 fire season, please remember to contact your local Forest Fire Warden Jim Hook 353-4834 or either of the Deputy Fire Wardens Jimmy Carter 353-9669, Kevin Follensbee 603-252-5723 to determine if a fire permit is required before doing ANY outside burning. Under State law (RSA 227-L:17) a fire permit is required for all outside burning unless the ground is completely covered with snow. Fire permits are also available online in most towns and may be obtained by visiting [www.NHfirepermit.com](http://www.NHfirepermit.com). The burning of household waste is prohibited by the Air Resources Division of the Department of Environmental Services. You are encouraged to contact the local fire department for more information. Safe open burning requires your diligence and responsibility. Thank you for helping us to protect New Hampshire’s forest resources. For more information, please contact the Division of Forests & Lands at (603) 271-2214, or online at [www.nh.gov/nhdf/](http://www.nh.gov/nhdf/). For up-to-date information, follow us on X and Instagram: [@NHForestRangers](https://www.instagram.com/NHForestRangers)



## 2023 WILDLAND FIRE STATISTICS



Year	Number of Wildfires	Wildfire Acres Burned	Number of Unpermitted Fires*
2023	99	64.5	42
2022	59	203	48
2021	66	86	96
2020	113	89	165
2019	15	23.5	92

\*Unpermitted fires which escape control are considered Wildfires.

CAUSES of FIRES REPORTED											
Railroad operations & maintenance	Firearm & explosives use	Undetermined	Recreation & ceremony	Debris & open burning	Natural	Other causes	Power generation, transmission, distribution	Smoking	Arson	Misuse of fire by a minor	Equipment & vehicle use

## **Highway Department Report 2023**

After a relatively mild and uneventful winter, there was an easy mud season compared to 2022. Major reconstruction and graveling of our back roads was a significant factor in having no roads impassable, and we continue to supplement gravel on an as-needed basis and improve ditching.

The large culvert at Clough Brook (Beeson's beaver bog) on the Orfordville Road was replaced with a new large culvert, headers and adjustable static level feature to maintain habitat integrity without overflow and washing out the roadbed. The culverts at Indian Pond are galvanized steel and were rusted out due to age and tannic acid in the beaver water. They need replacement with 3 4-foot plastic culverts to maintain flow and keep water from washing out the road bed in construction season 2024.

Our big, long-awaited project was Phase 1 of the Archertown Road in the hill section from below the campground exit to the top of the hill. Tree removal, pavement grinding, ditching, underdrain culvert replacement, plus ledge removal, additional gravel, guardrails, then underlayment asphalt were done by Wanner Excavation, R&D Paving, Allstate Construction and directed by Right Angle engineer, Erin Darrow, NH PE. This section will be completed fully when travel surface asphalt is added to all of the Archertown Road Phase 1 and Phase 2 (2024) is completed this summer. In addition, overlay was put down on the Archertown Road from Route 10 to Townshed Road using the Special NH Highway Block Grant funds. Overlay was also put down from the Dublin Road Ext. to the start of Phase I on Archertown Road using APRA funds received from Grafton County.

Following two large snowfalls in December 2022 where the power grid crashed and our Highway Department complex was affected, we now have a new Kohler generator and new diesel pump at the Town Garage. So, whatever the weather, our highway crew can function independently to be your first response to aide fire, police, emergency services and the power and communications grid maintain or re-establish public safety services. This is huge.

Further, we have taken delivery of a new 2024 Western Star 10-wheeler dump/plow truck, replacing a worn out, broken down 2009 International 6-wheel drive truck which had become an operational and financial nightmare. A new 2024 Western Star 6-wheeler will replace the 2013 International 6-wheeler (to be sold) later this year. Supply and production issues for newly ordered trucks have dissolved, so the new Ford 550 truck anticipated for 2025 will be ready early (see explanation in Selectmen's Report).

Last, sadly our Road Crew Foreman, Steve Williams, died suddenly in May after being with us for only 8 months. Steve's experience and innovations he brought from a career in highway work will be hard to match. Also, Jeff Roberts, road crewman and grader operator left for private industry in August. So, it was another year of short staffing, with Roger Hadlock holding down the fort. In October, Ted Nutter Jr. returned to the Orford Highway Department as the Crew Supervisor, and Zach Shell of Wentworth is a new truck driver. Former Selectmen and Road Agent Tim Chase filled in as grader operator and extra plow guy. Despite all those staff changes, the year ended very positively, and we hope to promote or find a new Road Agent in 2024.

Signed,  
Reluctant, Acting Road Agents  
Orford Board of Selectmen

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**In 2023, 124 Police Officers were killed in the line of duty while serving their communities. My thoughts and prayers go out to their families and their communities. May they all Rest in Peace, knowing their sacrifice was not in vain, but a sacrifice of their love for the communities they served. In 2023, 378 Police Officers were shot in the line of duty, the highest number on record.**

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## **Report of the Orford Police Department 2023**

The Orford Police Department's mission is to provide professional and compassionate police service through community partnerships that build trust, reduce crime, create a safe environment, and enhance the quality of life in the Orford community. To fulfill that mission, Integrity, Respect, Fairness, and Excellence are the core values of this department.

In 2023, a total of 1,340 calls for service were responded to by law enforcement, an increase of 549 over 2022. This increase included a total of 419 motor vehicle enforcement stops that occurred during regular patrol hours and during the NH Highway Safety over-time enforcement grant which accounted for 99 of the additional stops. Overall investigatory or serious incident calls for service have decreased since last year, which also attributed to the increase in regular street patrol activities. Near the latter end of 2023, however, several investigatory heavy incidents occurred resulting in less patrol activities during normal work activities. The Highway Safety Grant overtime enforcement will continue, however.

SCAMS: Please remember that the IRS, Social Security Administration, and ANY other State or Federal Entity or Agency does NOT and will NOT contact you via telephone requesting personal information over the phone. If you get a call of this type, hang up and do not provide ANY personal information. Regardless of how convincing they sound, if it was truly them, they would already have the information and if it was as serious as claimed, would probably visit you in person.

Any other caller requesting personal information or indicating any form of fee, gift card, or financial information for you to pay to receive a prize, is also a SCAM. The calls are annoying and tiresome but, the best thing to do is HANG UP. There is little to no probability of getting your money returned.

Law enforcement, just like many other professions, continue to struggle in recruiting and retention of officers and New Hampshire is no exception. Limited availability of the State Police, for non-emergency calls for service, have resulted in many requests having to wait until I am back on duty. The Piermont PD and Orford PD extended police patrol contract agreement is working great, as I am sure many have noticed Piermont's presence in Orford as a result at times. This contract agreement is also providing Orford PD with an additional police resource in assisting with investigations, warrants, and other activities where multiple officers may be needed.

***Keep your family's safety and security in mind at all times by locking and securing your homes, your businesses, and your vehicles. Do not leave valuables in your vehicles at any time, and report any suspicious activity.***

Please drive safely, watch for things that are out of place, take care of your neighbors and

**"If you see something, say something."**

Respectfully submitted,

Jason D. Bachus  
Chief of Police

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**SCHEDULE OF TOWN PROPERTY**  
**TOWN-OWNED LAND, BUILDINGS, AND EQUIPMENT**  
*2020 Revaluation Assessments*

<u>Departments</u>	<u>Land &amp; Buildings Assessed Value</u>	<u>Equipment Replacement Value</u>
<b><u>Cemeteries</u></b>		
Dame Hill Cemetery	\$ 44,000	
Orford West Cemetery (Street Cemetery)	112,900	
Orford East Cemetery (Davistown)	38,200	
Cemetery Building	12,500	
Equipment		25,000
<b><u>Fire Department</u></b>		
Vehicles		810,000
Hose & Rack		20,000
<b><u>Highway Department</u></b>		
Land and Buildings, Recycling Center	207,900	
Townshed Road Gravel Pit	59,500	
Orfordville HWY Garage	1,800	
Mobile Equipment		398,000
Vehicles		415,000
Contents		80,000
<b><u>Library - Free Library</u></b>		
Land and Building	165,200	
Furniture and Equipment		15,000
<b><u>Parks and Playgrounds</u></b>		
Community Field	143,500	
Connecticut River Boat Landing	144,000	
East Common w/ Bandstand	97,700	
West Common	22,100	
Indian Pond Picnic Area	240,500	
Lower Baker-Boat Access	138,400	
Upper Baker Pond-Town Beach	166,600	
Playground	2,500	
<b><u>Police Department</u></b>		
Vehicle		57,000
Speed Cart		7,300
<b><u>Town Office (Includes Police Department)/Town Buildings</u></b>		
Land and Buildings	309,700	
Furniture and Equipment		90,000
Heritage Center	79,900	
<b><u>Conservation Commission</u></b>		
Former Watkins Land (Sunday Mt. Development)	1,600	
Former Richmond Land	202,600	
Former Theodore R. Eck Land	58,200	
<b><u>Additional Town Property</u></b>		
Flat Rock	10,400	
Hall Land	20,700	
Huckins Hill Road	12,600	
N/S Rt 25A former Jones Property	11,400	
Former Brookside Store Land	1,300	
Former Ducharme Property	<u>154,500</u>	
(Adjacent to Boat Launch)		_____
	\$2,460,200	\$1,917,300

Replacement Values for buildings, contents, vehicles and equipment are insured thru PRIMEX



## CEMETERY COMMISSION 2023

Tree Removal at Dame Hill Cemetery: The Cemetery Commissioners and the Tree Warden identified several trees at Dame Hill Cemetery that needed to be removed because they were either dead or were damaging the stone walls and vault. Longto Tree Service and Thomson Tree Service who removed the trees in January and November, respectively.

Cemetery Rules and Regulations: The Commission finished updating the Cemetery Rules and Regulations that were originally written in 1973. The complete set of Rules and Regulations is posted on the Town of Orford website. A sub-set of the Rules and Regulations dealing with plantings, vehicles in the cemeteries, monument placement and the prohibition of dogs in the cemeteries were posted at each cemetery. The signs were made by Vision Signworks LLC.

Purchase of Cemetery Plots: The Commission increased the cost of purchasing a 5'X10' plot from \$100 to \$150 and now also require the purchaser to pay for four corner posts estimated at \$50 each. These changes are included in the updated Rules and Regulations.

Gravestone Restoration: P&C Gravestone Restoration submitted a proposal asking to be allowed to restore gravestones in Orford Cemeteries when requested by family members of the interred. Paul and Claudia Tracy of Orford, proprietors of P&C Gravestone Restoration, are trained in gravestone restoration and have years of experience. The Commission approved their proposal. You can contact P&C Gravestone Restoration at [claudiatracy62@gmail.com](mailto:claudiatracy62@gmail.com).

New Hampshire Cemetery Association: The Orford Cemetery Commission joined the NH Cemetery Association this year. NHCA promotes the advancement of knowledge in the operation and maintenance of cemeteries and facilitates the exchange of information among industry professionals and volunteers. Commissioners Brenda and David Smith attended the NHCA Fall Meeting in October and found it very informative and useful.

2024 Projects: The Commission will continue discussions begun in 2023 regarding above ground burials for cremations and the use of independent contractors for digging graves with the objective of issuing appropriate rules. Other planned projects include a Veteran's Memorial, fence maintenance and a five-year plan for tree care.

The Commission thanks Chase Kling for his active participation and wise counsel in our meetings and activities. We also thank the anonymous people who placed flowers at the cemeteries and Chase and Sue Kling who donated Christmas wreaths this year made by Mill Gardens. Julia Fifield and Ann and Joe Davis donated wreaths for many years. Anyone interested in donating flowers or wreaths in the future can contact one of the Commissioners.

Commissioners: Brenda Smith, David Smith, and Linda Pease  
Selectboard Representative: Chase Kling

**CHURCH FEASIBILITY STUDY COMMITTEE  
2023**

The Church Feasibility Study Committee was formed as the result of the March 2023 Town Meeting and the passing of Article 19 stating “to see if the Town will vote to instruct the Selectboard to consider the feasibility of the Town purchasing the Orford Congregational Church building located on Main Street at an amount mutually determined by both parties”. The Committee consisted of six Orford residents appointed by the Selectboard with Selectboard Chair John Adams as an Ex-officio member. As publicly posted, the Committee convened once a week for seven months. It submitted a final Report of its findings to the Board in December 2023. The Report may be read in its entirety on the Town website.

The Committee’s process for arriving at a recommendation included looking at the past and present uses and the amenities of the building, researching annual maintenance needs, and forming and implementing a plan for the greater Orford community to become familiar with the assets of the building and an opportunity to propose possible uses of the building. Two “Open Houses” of the building inviting the public were held and a questionnaire mailed to all Orford postal patrons. In conclusion, as supported by input of town residents, the committee recommended that the Town further explore possible Town uses of the building. Suggestions from the community included a Central Library, Town Offices, a Community Center, a day/child care center, rental options such as the Grafton County Senior Citizen Center , housing, and an emergency center. The Committee also researched possible funding resources to modify the building for other uses.

**To be fully informed of the findings, the Committee recommends that everyone read the Report available on the Town website. Look under Committees; click on Church Study, then on documents then on the Report. The Report is also available at both Libraries.**

**COST TO ACQUIRE THE CHURCH** The congregation of the Church has dwindled and it no longer feels it can sustain the stewardship of the building. They are not prepared to state a cost to acquire the Church at this time. They will, of course, should the Town be interested in moving forward.

**ANNUAL COST TO MAINTAIN THE CHURCH** We have the annual figures from 2022 at the time of writing this report. The annual costs were **\$27,252** and mowing and custodial services were donated at that time.

**ANTICIPATED MAINTENANCE FOR THE CHURCH** is included in the inspection report done by River Valley Home Inspections LLC. Costs associated with the maintenance have not been determined.

**FOR COMPARISON, COSTS ARE PROVIDED FOR THE TOWN OFFICE BUILDING:**

Annual Costs to maintain the Town Office Building: We have the figures from 2022 at the time of writing this report. The annual costs were \$9,080.89

Anticipated maintenance for the Town Office Building: In 2015 the Orford Long Range Planning Report specified short and long term maintenance needs for the Town Office Building. Some have been completed and we have not included them in these figures. Many have not. We have taken the figures from 2015 and escalated them to suggest what they would be today, eight years later. We have been conservative in this exercise by assuming that the increase in inflation has been 3% per year (we know it was 7% in the recent past) however we have used the higher estimate figure in our calculations. This is only to give us an idea of what the costs of caring for the Town Office Building may be. Short Term Needs are estimated to be \$270,093.99. Long Term Needs are estimated to be: \$500,202.05 Total needed to maintain and Upgrade the Town Office Building is \$770,296.05

## Summation

All the information the Church Study Committee has gathered says yes, the Town should consider the acquisition of the Orford Community Church at an amount to be mutually determined by both parties. If the Town chooses to move forward to do more exploration of possibilities more research will need to be done.

One idea is to use it as the **Orford Town Office Building**. The current Town Office building is in need of major repairs. We have been told that it is not always easy for the Town to secure space for meetings at Rivendell because of sport schedules and the Town Office space is limited for committee meetings or Town meetings. The lower level might be used for the Police Station. The **Orford Libraries** have voted they want to consolidate into one Town Library. The Church may have the space for that. Again, an inspection and report by construction engineers will be necessary. An **Orford Community Center**. The Town could acquire the Church as a Community Center, something many think is important. Town meetings of all sorts could be held there. It could continue as the Lyme Orford Senior Citizen Center and many other activities outlined on pages six and seven could be held. Rental income could help pay for costs. Additionally, a nonprofit group could be formed, independently of the Town to undertake converting the Church into a community Center.

Sylvia Paxton (Chair), Ann Green, Eva Daniels, Jenny Littlewood, David Smith, Heidi Peyton  
John Adams (Ex-Officio)

## **NILES TRUST FUND 2023**

The Niles Trust Fund was established in 1990 following a generous bequest of \$50,000 to the Town of Orford made by Mrs. Eleanor (Harry) Niles. Both Mrs. Niles and her husband, Harry, formed a fondness for Orford and its citizens following their move to town in 1950. They made this bequest to the town to be used for activities and opportunities that will be of benefit to Orford residents. In 1990, a warrant article was passed at Town Meeting to establish a committee for the purpose of making recommendations for disbursements. In keeping with Mrs. Niles's civic interests, the funds will be available for improving community facilities and sponsoring organizations and individuals of Orford with limited available resources for financial aid to support new opportunities and activities.

The Committee met with Chris Crowley, Trustee of the Orford Trust Funds, at which time it was agreed to request the Trustees to manage the Fund as if it were a Perpetual fund and disbursements be made from income only.

The Committee did not receive any requests for grants in 2023.

Orford residents, town committees and organizations are encouraged to consider applying for funding for projects which will benefit the town and its residents. Applications are available on the Orford website and at the Town Office. Interested applicants are encouraged to submit proposals at least two weeks in advance of the event in order to allow time for the Committee's review and approval.

The Niles Fund Committee  
Ann Green (Chair), Jennifer Tilden, Melinda Ricker, Ruth Hook, David Coker

## Orford Free Library

The year 2023 was a successful one for the Free Library. We saw an increase in visits by adult patrons. Our total patron count for the year was 1532. The library circulated 4419 items.

An initiative at the library was to expand the variety of items we lend to patrons. Our new items included binoculars for both adults and children, naturalist backpacks for families, garden tools and an Orion StarBlast telescope. In addition, we have a shredder, laminator and paper cutter which may be used by patrons in-house. We will continue to add to this lending collection.

The Free Library provided programs and activities for all ages. These included: our mystery book discussion series, a subscription to Mango Languages, monthly story times, the Summer Reading Program, "All Together Now," held in collaboration with the Social Library, pumpkin carving, Take and Make kits, an ornament making workshop for Barbara's Red Stocking and the Senior Center and the joint Holiday Open House held with the Orford Historical Society.

The Free Library sincerely thanks the Friends of the Orford Libraries for their generous support. Their funding provided supplies for the Take and Make Kits and the ornament making workshop, special programming for the Summer Reading Program, new items to lend to patrons, the Mango Languages subscription, new display shelves in the children's room, and passes to Squam Lakes Science Center and the Fairbanks Museum

We were delighted to have new volunteers join us. Their help to our Director, Laurel Fulford, and in covering Sunday hours, is very much appreciated.

Board of Trustees: Susan Kling, Carol Boynton, Stacey King

Library Director: Laurel Fulford

### Receipts

Cash on hand January 1, 2023	\$ 9,207.25
Town of Orford	27,460.50
Gifts/Donations	1,225.00
Friends of Orford Libraries' gift	2,600.00
Sale/Copier/Printer	825.00
Misc.	718.25
Interest	<u>5.19</u>
	\$42,041.19

### Expenditures

Books	3,061.35
Multimedia	1,074.71
Magazines	209.91
Librarian	14,274.00
Fuel/Heat	1,848.76
Repair/Improvements/Equipment	1,426.65
Postal	167.30
Telephone	451.38
Electric	647.00
Copier/Library Supplies	476.35
Grounds	510.00
Computer/Internet Services	719.88
Dues/Memberships	1,030.00
Programs/Materials	764.71
Howe/Evergreen/Mango Fees	1,923.00
Misc.	731.21
Balance in checking account December 31, 2023	<u>12,724.98</u>
	\$42,041.19

## Orford Social Library

2023

Over 4000 patrons utilized the programs and materials at the Orford Social Library in 2023. We continued to offer a variety of weekly and monthly programs involving 2250 people last year to help introduce people to new ideas and to strengthen connections with each other.

The library again applied for, and was awarded, several grants. The Byrne Foundation provided the remaining \$4000 (along with \$10,000 awarded last year from an anonymous regional funder) to be able to install solar panels on the roof of the library and reduce our energy costs. The American Library Association granted us \$20,000 to provide better accessibility for people with physical disabilities. We will regrade and redo the brick pathways so they don't flood/freeze and also replace the deteriorating handicap ramp with one that is ADA compliant.

Highlights of our programming included lending out E-bikes, a hiking discussion with Nancy and Charlie Foote, a Pollinator Talk, a Paint and Sip, and a program on Becoming an Animal Adventurer. Grants for two New Hampshire Humanities Book Discussions included *Gilded Suffragists & Beneficence*. There was an author discussion with Teresa Lust on her book *A Blissful Feast*. We continued to partner with the Free Library to support the Summer Reading theme with the popular annual Squam Lakes live animal show as well as some other freshly-imagined presentations.

Our regular programming included: The Ice Cream Social, Witches of Orford, Holiday Open House, Poem on a Postcard, Plant Exchange, and Seed giveaway. Weekly programs continue with Mah Jongg, German Conversation, French Conversation, Bridge, Knitting, & Crokinole along with monthly Book Discussions, Story and Art time, and Tech Help.

We could not provide such a wide range of quality services and engaging events without the continued financial support from community members, the town of Orford and the Friends of the Orford Libraries. Sincere thanks to you all! In addition, our loyal volunteers: Beverly Andrews-Potry, Eva Daniels, Althea Goundrey, Ann Green, Joanne Kirsten, Jean Kuskowski, Dave Smith, Gary and Gail Dimick deserve much appreciation for their continued help and support. Final thanks go to Trustees Lisa Wheelock (chair), Esther Dobbins Marsh (treasurer), Gail Keefer (secretary), Libby Chapin, Bonnie McCouch, Brynne MacMurtry, and Tom Trunzo for their on-going dedication and efforts.

Cash Balance as of 01/01/2023	4,568.53		<b>2023 Expenses:</b>
<b>2023 Income:</b>			Salaries & P/R Taxes
Town of Orford	28,269.00		Education, Dues & Travel
General Fundraising	7,782.84		Books, Magazines & Audio
Program Grants & Donations	675.50		Library Office Expenses
Book Sale	587.00		Office Phone & DSL
Misc. Income	30.00		Insurance
Raffles, Advent Calendar Sales	2,291.00		Fundraising Expenses & Programs
Investment Redemption	12,000.00		Heat, Water & Electricity
Designated Income:			Building & Grounds Maintenance
Friends	2,200.00		Computer & Copier Expenses
Investments-Special Projects	8,000.00		Accounting Fee
Other	550.00		Designated Income Expenses
			Grant Funds transferred to Savings
			<b>Total 2023 Expenses</b>
<b>Total 2023 Income</b>	<b>58,385.34</b>		<b>62,827.12</b>
			Cash Balance as of 12/31/2023
			4,126.75

**ORFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
2023 Annual Report

The Orford Conservation Commission (OCC) actively initiates and participates in conservation-related projects around Orford. Our objectives remain to promote, launch, and continue dedicated stewardship of the many remarkable natural resources in Orford.

The projects undertaken by the OCC in 2023 included:

- Mountain View Farm Conservation Area: The OCC cosponsored and promoted a stargazing party at this beautiful and protected land in Quinttown.
- Orford Conservation Land: Richmond Property: Continued maintenance of the trail to the Connecticut River from Rt. 10 and monitored tree plantings at riparian buffer. Piermont Heights Road: Monitored and reported to Society for the Protection of Forests.
- Easement Reviews: Conducted annual reviews of conserved land in Orford.
- Conservation Easements: Worked on conservation easement projects with the Upper Valley Land Trust (UFLT).
- Jacobs Brook flooding/erosion mitigation and restoration of aquatic life: Continue to monitor this site after extensive flood mitigation work completed. Continued repairs to regrading and plantings. Mitigation project worked well during high water events.
- Orfordville Road Bog: The OCC paid for a design by Horizons Engineers for a culvert with integrated spillway. The project is complete! The design maintains water height to support aquatic life and to prevent road erosion.
- Japanese Knotweed Control: Colonies were managed along Tillotson Falls Road, Route 25A, and Brook Road. Roadside mowing was coordinated with these efforts. Thanks to the Orford Highway Department for their assistance in knotweed control. Continued work is tentatively planned for 2024.
- Other activities: Reviewed wetland permit applications; reviewed NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) letters to landowners regarding wetlands violations or failing septic systems; and reviewed possible sites for Connecticut River Conservancy cleanup efforts. Planned invasive plant species identification and containment project for 2024.
- Water Testing: Water testing conducted mid-May through Labor Day at ten sites along Jacobs Brook, at Indian Pond beach/boat launch, and the Baker Ponds. Site testing schedule at fewer sites (Jacobs Brook) will continue for 2024. Our intrepid water testers remain committed.
- Pollinators: Plan training for and demonstrations of plantings for pollinators in 2024.
- Hike Orford: Planning initiated for numerous hikes and related programs around Orford for 2024. Come join us!

Commissioners and Alternates:

Edmond Cooley (Chair), [conservation@orfordnh.us](mailto:conservation@orfordnh.us), Bob Hedges (Vice-Chair), Harry Pease, and Craig Putnam; Alternates: Emily Bryant (Asst. Secretary), John Miller, and Fran Plaisted (Secretary).

**PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS COMMITTEE**  
**2023**

The Parks and Playground Committee once again hosted Green Up Day. It was nice to meet so many of you in person at the transfer station. We will continue to have kits available for early pick up outside at the Town Office or from Sandra and crew at the transfer station. Thanks to Sandra Marsh and crew for all the help with this. We would not be able to do this without all of their help! Thank you to everyone that participated!

Diamond Turf and Trees continues to assist us with improving the playing fields at the Community Field. We continue to work improving the grass areas. The fields seem to hold up better to the continuous fall use with the steps we have been taking with fertilization and grub control. We plan to continue to improve this area.

I once again would like to thank Lawrence Hibbard for all the time and effort he has put into the upkeep of the Community Field and other town properties. He puts many hours into maintaining the various town properties, and it has not gone unnoticed!

Robb and Lawrence once again made sure the flags were up on the telephone poles around town. A special thanks to Bill McKee for continuing to raise and lower the flags around town when necessary.

The combined swim program with Piermont was a huge success this past year. They had a 3-week swim program that had 94 area kids enrolled. They had a total of 70 kids from Orford and Piermont. The other 24 students paid to participate in our program. They came from many surrounding towns including Bradford, Woodsville, Pike, Wells River, and Fairlee!

The concerts at the Bandstand continue to bring in people from many neighboring towns. They are an event that many look forward to. Thank you to the Bandstand Committee that works hard to bring in the many talented groups to entertain us on many summer evenings. Please check out their newly created Facebook Page to help keep everyone updated. The parks and playground committee thanks the Bandstand Committee for their understanding while we are working through the issues at the bandstand.

The Open-Air Market continued once again on the common. Thank you to Cara Dyke for all your efforts to pull this together and keep it going. If you have not checked it out please stop by some Saturday morning and see what the many vendors have available for you! Orford Open Air Market also has a Facebook page where you can find more information or contact Cara about becoming a vendor.

We look forward to seeing everyone in May at the transfer station for Green Up Day!

## Orford Planning Board 2023

Meetings of the Orford Planning Board are held at 5:30 PM on the second Tuesday of each month in the Town Hall. Agendas are available at the Post Office, Town Hall, and published on the ListServe and Town website. The public is always welcome to visit and be heard at our meetings. As COVID continued to inhibit public participation, the Planning Board decided to provide virtual attendance at each meeting. Contact the Selectboard office for the virtual link. The Board is an all-volunteer Board. If you have land use matters such as subdivisions, lot line adjustments, boundary line agreements, or merger of lots, we encourage you to contact the Board or our Planning Assistant, Vickie Davis at the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission at [vdavis@uvlsrc.org](mailto:vdavis@uvlsrc.org) for guidance.

The Board has seven-member positions including a Selectboard representative, and there are three alternate positions. If you are inspired to be of service to our community with this important and interesting work, please contact the Planning Board or our Planning Assistant. It has been difficult to find volunteers for these positions, and there were vacancies throughout the year. After November, the Board did not have a quorum to hold a meeting in December. If you have an interest in planning and guiding the Town of Orford's development, please consider joining the Board. This Board is vital to represent you and the Town.

The Planning Board provided several meetings for informal discussions with property owners to discuss potential subdivisions and reviewed the Subdivision Regulations and Rules of Procedure for amendments to improve implementation and provision of service to Orford residents and property owners. In addition, the Planning Board held several public hearings as noted below.

### *Public Hearings:*

1/10/23: Chase, Major Subdivision for six lots on Route 25A

2/14/23: Continued hearing for Chase

6/13/23: Riehl, Lot Merger, Brook Road; Sheila Thomson Trust, Lot Line Adjustment, Route 10 and Connecticut River

8/22/23: Nutter/Gray, Minor Subdivision for two lots on Brook Road; Minor Subdivision for Marjorie Green Trust for three lots on Mud Turtle Pond Road; Minor Subdivision for Marjorie Green Trust for two lots on Orfordville Road

9/12/23: Subdivision Regulations Amendments Public Hearing

10/10/23: Daigneault/Davis Lot Merger, Route 10 and Connecticut River; Eastman Lot Merger Sunday River Development Road

11/14/23: Mount Cube Farm, LLC Minor Subdivision of three lots, Route 25A; Rules of Procedure Amendments Public Hearing

Many thanks to Terry Straight and Harry Osmer for their many years of dedicated service and thank you to Kenny King and Faith Knapp for stepping up to join the Board in more recent years.

Terry Straight, Chair

Kenny King, Vice-Chair

Harry Osmer, Member

Faith Knapp, Member

John Adams, Selectboard Representative

Nicholas Kellogg, Alternate

Paul Griffin, Alternate

Kevin Follensbee, Selectboard Rep Alternate



## **TOWN ROAD COMMITTEE 2023**

The official Road Committee was established at the 2022 Annual Town Meeting and was created to assist the Road Agent (Selectmen has been acting Road Agent for nearly 2 years) with the purpose of this committee to assist the road agent with project planning, estimating for bids and other major items that impact the highway department.

The committee members consist of: Mike Wright, Herb Austic and Charlie Smith. Between these members, we have a total of 107 years of expertise in the areas of civil engineering, contract management, road construction and building, at local and state levels:

- Road and highway maintenance and construction
- Vehicle or heavy equipment operation and maintenance
- Bid writing (including specifications and performance criteria under best practices)
- Assist with project management (ensuring performance criteria is met and work to avoid additional project costs)
- Building layout or construction
- Safety
- Computer hardware and software – management and updates
- Special projects

The committee continues to work with the select board to clarify board members' understanding of the purpose and scope of the committee. The position of the committee is that it was created by the voting residents in 2022 to serve the Town of Orford by providing quality knowledge of expertise in all areas above while ensuring viable costs within budgets by project.

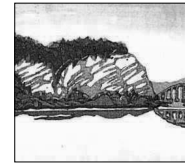
For almost two (2) years, the select board members have been acting as Road Agent and have not scheduled quarterly meetings with the committee. The committee, however, attended many of the select board meetings and work sessions, either in person or via audio, at no cost to the Town. The committee is dedicated to ensuring the needs of the residents are met and working alongside the Road Agent.

Mike Wright-Road Committee Member  
Herb Austic-Road Committee Member  
Charles Smith Jr-Chairman Road Committee

# *Upper Valley Local River Subcommittee*

## of the Connecticut River Joint Commissions

New Hampshire - Piermont, Orford, Lyme, Hanover, Lebanon  
Vermont - Bradford, Fairlee, Thetford, Norwich, Hartford



### **Connecticut River – Upper Valley Local River Subcommittee – Annual Report 2023**

The Upper Valley Subcommittee of the Connecticut River Joint Commissions (CRJC) meets every two months and consists of up to two volunteers nominated by riverfront municipalities, with allowance for alternates. Throughout 2023, the Subcommittee has maintained a hybrid meeting format where a quorum of participating municipalities is required to be present in person. Current members of Vermont are Ben Dana and Peter Berger from Fairlee; Lynn Bohi and David Barrell from Hartford; Bill Bridge and Linda Matteson from Thetford; Ted Unkles from Bradford; and openings in Norwich. Current members of New Hampshire are Alice Creagh from Hanover; Ruth Bleyler and Eric Agterberg from Lebanon; Bill Malcolm from Lyme; Carl Schmidt and Edmond Cooley from Orford; and openings in Piermont. Those with one representative have an opening for a second volunteer. During 2023, Bill Malcolm served as chair. Meetings and events are open to the public.

Upper Valley is one of the five subcommittees a part of the CRJC since 1989. The Subcommittees provide a local voice to help steward the resources on or affecting the Connecticut River, particularly on topics related to the maintenance of good water quality, wildlife habitat, and appropriate development. Specific responsibilities include providing feedback on proposed permits and plans to NH Department of Environmental Services, VT Agency of Natural Resources, and municipalities. In addition, CRJC is responsible for maintaining a bi-state watershed plan.

During 2023, Upper Valley engaged several issues. Projects that were reviewed include a RT12A bridge replacement, erosion control and stormwater discharges off residential and commercial properties, water reclamation project in Hanover, gas station development, stream alteration permits, and relicensing of Wilder Dam. Upper Valley is also following the relicensing of the Glen Hydro Facility on the Mascoma River.

CRJC supported outreach efforts in service of the Connecticut River, including the Making Room series: Planning for those who are here and those on their way; as well as the Connecticut River Watershed Partnership meeting in coordination with Friends of Conte. Further, Upper Valley supported water quality monitoring efforts along the Connecticut River.

In 2024, Upper Valley will continue their activities in management, outreach, and learning for the Connecticut River. Upper Valley welcomes local participation in permit reviews, educational events, watershed planning, and water quality monitoring. If you are interested to learn more, please contact us at [info@crjc.org](mailto:info@crjc.org).



## Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission Highlights 2023

- Local to communities: UVLSRPC staff have worked with several municipalities in planning circuit rider work and GIS support and provided technical assistance on transportation-related projects. Staff have assisted municipalities with successful grant writing and completed plans such as hazard mitigation plans, natural resource inventories, and master plans.
- Housing: UVLSRPC continued to fight our region's housing challenges by assisting communities in receiving grant funds and facilitating regulatory audits and updates. We have also expanded our housing work and hired a Housing Navigator that is assisting communities with outreach and addressing various interests in the housing conversation. For more information on our housing work <https://www.uvlsrpc.org/housinguvls/>
- Transportation: UVSLRPC has the knowledge and expertise in Regional Transportation. Our team has provided technical assistance to over 20 projects of regional priority to advance them toward implementation. This effort resulted in at least 3 funding awards for construction. Our goal is to bring more transportation funds to the Upper Valley Region through project development and technical assistance. Our team is also in the final stages of updating the Region's Long-Range Transportation Plan that showcases both capital and non-capital strategies to improve the region's transportation system. <https://www.uvlsrpc.org/projects/transportation/regional-corridor-transportation-plan/>
- Project Highlights: UVLSRPC has been awarded funding and has worked extensively on brownfields priorities, solid waste management, composting and food scraps, clean transportation, Sullivan County Trails, stream and culvert assessments, lead paint reduction, and creating a new stormwater program.

UVLSRPC will continue to serve its member communities in addressing the region's highest priorities.

Connect with us at [info@uvlsrpc.org](mailto:info@uvlsrpc.org) or 603-448-1680

Meghan Butts, Executive Director, [mbutts@uvlsrpc.org](mailto:mbutts@uvlsrpc.org)



## 2023 Annual Report

2023 has been a busy year for Upper Valley Ambulance. We are on track to respond to more calls than ever before. Ambulance services across the country are seeing this same trend. Some folks have asked for my opinion on this. Honestly, some of it has to do with our healthcare system and most of it has to do with our growing population that is aging.

### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission statement of Upper Valley Ambulance continues to be:

*Upper Valley Ambulance is a pre-hospital service whose primary focus is to provide high quality emergency care to our nine-member towns. Our organization is committed to providing efficient, prompt and creative transportation systems both on a local and regional basis. We will meet the ongoing healthcare needs of the communities that we serve, and strive to provide total customer satisfaction. We will be proactive in seeking new opportunities to fulfill this mission.*

To fulfill this, we have built a plan to replace equipment on a regular basis while keeping cost as low as possible. We have had to increase our staffing to accommodate the increase in calls over the past several years. We have seen a 49% increase in 911 calls since 2015. This increase affects equipment and personnel.

Our overall insurance budget for 2024 will be 21% higher than 2023. Our well-trained personnel need to be able to pay for their rent, food, groceries and fuel to have fulfill lives. We believe that happy employees make better employees and thus better providers for all that call us in a time of need.

The per capita rate that we receive from the nine Towns that we serve covers 40% of our total operating budget. We cover the remainder of our budget by billing for services provided. On average, it costs \$822.00 to provide one ambulance transport. Insurance carriers reimburse us a fraction of this cost. We take on extra work such as doing interfacility transfers, cover races and other events to help offset these deficits.

We currently have eleven full-time providers (including two administrative staff) and about 24 part-time providers. We have six providers certified at the Paramedic level, twelve at the Advanced EMT level, and seventeen at the EMT level. We have three ambulances, two of which are 4-wheel drive to accommodate the winter road conditions. We are slated to replace our oldest ambulance (2017) in early 2024 with another 4-wheel drive ambulance. We continually keep our providers well-trained and up to date on new equipment, procedures and protocols.

Our providers are extremely proud of the work that they do, and they should be. Upper Valley Ambulance has become highly respected in the EMS community for their professionalism, skill and compassion. I am proud to be the Director of this fine organization.

If you ever have questions, please feel free to contact me. I love to brag about who we are and what we do!

Very Sincerely  
Alan Beebe, Executive Director

**VISITING NURSE AND HOSPICE FOR VT AND NH**  
***Home Health, Hospice and Pediatric Services Orford, NH***

Visiting Nurse and Hospice for Vermont and New Hampshire (VNH) is one of the oldest and largest non-profit providers of in-home healthcare services in the region. VNH is committed to providing the highest quality care throughout all stages of life, from maternal child care to end of life hospice care, and everything in between. Providing individuals and families with the care they need within the comfort of their own home allows them to maintain comfort and dignity throughout their time of care.

VNH services reduce cost associated with town programs for emergency response and elder care. With quality care provided at home, there is less need for costly hospital and emergency room trips. And with VNH support, residents can age in place rather than relocating to a state or local nursing home.

Between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2022, VNH made 505 in-home visits.

- **Home Health Care**: 14 residents with short-term medical or physical needs.
- **Hospice Services**: 4 residents who were in the final stages of their lives.
- **Skilled Pediatric Care**: 3 residents for well-baby, preventative and palliative medical care.

VNH serves many of Orford's most vulnerable citizens – the frail elderly and disabled, at-risk families, people with terminal illnesses, children with chronic medical needs and the uninsured and underinsured. We are dedicated to delivering outstanding home health and hospice services that enrich the lives of the people we serve.

It is with your help that we are able to provide services like this to those in need. Orford's annual appropriation to VNH helps to ensure that all have access to quality care when and where it is needed most. On behalf of the people we serve, we thank you for your continued support.

*Anthony Knox, Community Relations Manager*

**GRAFTON COUNTY SENIOR CITIZENS COUNCIL, INC.**  
**REPORT 2022/2023**

Grafton County Senior Citizens Council, Inc. (GCSCC) is a private nonprofit organization that provides programs and services that support the health and well-being of our communities' older citizens as well as adults with disabilities. GCSCC's programs enable community members to remain independent in their own homes and communities for as long as possible.

GCSCC operates eight senior centers (located in Bristol, Canaan, Haverhill, Lebanon, Lincoln, Littleton, Orford, and Plymouth) and sponsors the Grafton County ServiceLink Resource Center and RSVP Volunteer Center (an AmeriCorps Seniors project). Through GCSCC's network, older adults and their families take part in a range of community-based long-term services including home-delivered meals, community dining programs, transportation, outreach and counseling, chore/home repair services, recreational and educational programs, and volunteer opportunities.

From July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, 117 older residents of Orford were served by one or more of GCSCC's programs offered through Orford Area Senior Services. In addition, 11 residents were served through ServiceLink.

- Older adults from Orford enjoyed 3,494 meals prepared by GCSCC.
- Orford residents received wellness calls, assistance with problems, crises, or issues of long-term care through 66 visits with a trained outreach worker and 137 contacts with ServiceLink.
- Orford residents participated in 201 health, education, or social activities.
- 3 door-to-door, on-demand bus rides were provided for Orford residents.

The cost for GCSCC to provide services for Orford residents in 2022-2023 was \$50,031.26

Such services can be critical for older adults and adults with disabilities who want to remain in their own homes and out of institutional care in spite of chronic health problems and increasing physical frailty. Doing so saves tax dollars that would otherwise be expended for nursing home care. GCSCC's programs also contribute to a higher quality of life for older friends and neighbors. As our population ages, supportive services such as those offered by GCSCC are becoming even more critical.

GCSCC would very much appreciate Orford's support for our programs that enhance the independence and dignity of older adults and adults with disabilities. GCSCC enables our community members to meet the challenges of aging, while remaining in the security and comfort of their own communities and homes.

*Kathleen Vasconcelos, Executive Director*

### **TRI-COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM**

Tri County CAP is a Family of Programs, serving families in Coos, Carroll, and Grafton Counties. We are dedicated to improving the lives and well-being of New Hampshire's individuals, families, and communities. We provide opportunities and supports for people to learn and grow in self-sufficiency and to get involved in helping their neighbors and improving the conditions in their communities. We seek to eliminate the root causes of poverty through the development of programs that allow low-income individuals the opportunity to meaningfully participate in the State and National economy and the social fabric of their communities through programs that address: Education; Emergency Support; Economic Development; Food Self Sufficiency; Marshalling of Local Resources; and Transportation.

Tri County Community Action Program provides opportunities to strengthen communities by improving the lives of low to moderate income families and individuals.

Annually we serve more than 24,000 individuals that reside over 4,455 sq. miles of Northern New Hampshire. TCCAP and our 16 service programs provide services to all residents of Coos, Carroll, and Grafton County's requesting and needing support.

During our Fiscal Year 2023 we served a Total of 66 Orford Clients valuing \$72,287.26 in services provided.

Tri County Community Action Program thanks all communities and counties that we serve for their financial support of the programs, so that we may be able to continue to provide services to our community families in need.

*Brenda Gagne, Chief Programs Officer*

### **WEST CENTRAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

Our sincere thanks to the Town of Orford and its residents for their generous and long-standing support of community behavioral healthcare and West Central's mission to serve local communities with expert and compassionate care for our most vulnerable friends and neighbors.

in fiscal year 2023 (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023), West Central Behavioral Health (West Central) served 1092 adults and 538 children, providing behavioral health services at outpatient clinics across the region, residential care for adults, community-based programs, substance use treatment, and 24-hour mobile crisis response. Over 50,398 services were delivered, 18,378 of which were to children ages 3 -17. Additionally, 24/7 Mobile Crisis Response (MCR) services were made available via the NH Regional Response Access Point (NHRRAP).

As the only provider of comprehensive, community-based mental health treatment and support services in the area, West Central was pleased to provide mental and behavioral health services for those in Orford during the last fiscal year. With your support, a total of 73 services were provided to 6 residents, including 6 children. We were grateful to receive \$1800 in funding from the Town of Orford, which was crucial in providing services for adults, families, and children in need. By supporting access to mental health care, the Town of Orford is investing in the health and safety of the town and its residents. Mental health affects every facet of a community's welfare, and is more important than ever in these difficult times.

West Central is one of ten community mental health centers (CMHCs) delivering behavioral health services to individuals and families throughout New Hampshire. West Central provides services for individuals of all ages including:

- Adult Outpatient Programs
- Child and Family Services
- Arbor View- a licensed community residence in Newport for adults diagnosed with severe and persistent mental illness
- Mobile Crisis Response teams are available 24/7 through New Hampshire's Rapid Response Access Point (NHRRAP) crisis helpline
- Employee Assistance Programs, available to area businesses to provide confidential mental health services for employees.
- Community-based services, provided year 'round in schools, nursing homes, workplaces, and correctional facilities. West Central helped establish the state's first school-based mental health clinic and led the integration of mental health into local primary health care settings.

We are grateful to be able to support the residents of Orford, and the larger community, as they educate their children and provide for their families.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH COUNCIL OF THE UPPER VALLEY**

The PHC is the largest and broadest coalition of advocates on public health issues in the greater Upper Valley region. Our mission is to improve the health of Upper Valley residents through shared public health initiatives. We have become a trusted and solution-oriented convener that makes a positive difference in the lives of everyone in our region. The PHC is a force multiplier for the organizations, professionals, and citizens, who together make our communities healthier places to live, work, and play.

Our work in 2023 included:

- Released a new Community Health Improvement Plan that describes the collaborative strategies partners will use to address community health priorities.
- Hosted regular meetings for PHC partners to share information and provide opportunities for problem solving.
- Distributed COVID test kits to social service organizations for vulnerable residents.
- Provided staff support to Upper Valley Strong as the coalition responded to the July flooding.
- Hosted six flu clinics in rural communities with support from Dartmouth Health, Geisel School of Medicine and local partner, providing over 1,500 free vaccines.
- Served as host for the Upper Valley Community Health Equity Partnership, a program funded through a grant from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- Collaborated with local school districts and the Hartford Community Coalition to provide summer meals for children in the region.

PHC appreciates the opportunity to serve the residents of Orford and will continue to work hard to meet your needs in 2024. For more information about PHC, visit us at [www.uvpublichealth.org](http://www.uvpublichealth.org).

### CASA

Founded in 1989, Court Appointed Special Advocates of New Hampshire is the only nonprofit organization in the state that protects the rights of our state's abused and neglected children to live, learn and grow in the embrace of a loving family. Last year, CASA of New Hampshire advocated for more than 1,500 children throughout the state. Unfortunately, due to the unavailability of trained advocates, 277 children did not have the benefit of a CASA by their side- this number includes 27 children from Grafton County. As we look to the future, please help us reach our goal of having trained advocates available for 100% of the children who need them most.

The effects of the pandemic have begun to surface, leading to a rise in both the number and complexity of cases. We are faced with some of the most severe neglect of children that I have witnessed during my tenure. Children and families clearly struggled during the long months of isolation, and continue to do so today.

New Hampshire's abused and neglected children are a part of every community within our state and range in age from birth to 21. National studies show that children with a CASA volunteer benefit in countless ways – they are more likely to be placed in safe, permanent homes, receive better mental, emotional and physical health services, and have fewer placement changes than children without a focused advocate. With the support of a CASA advocate, neglected and abused children have access to a brighter future.

The work that the Town of Orford is helping us achieve has never been more important. Your contribution can help to bring these children out of the confusion and into the arms of a loving family.

*Marcia Sink, President & CFO*

### WISE

WISE leads the Upper Valley to end gender-based violence through survivor-centered advocacy, prevention, education and mobilization for social change.

Since 1971, WISE has been dedicated to providing trauma-informed advocacy and support for victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, stalking, and human trafficking within 23 communities in Windsor and Orange Counties, VT and Grafton County, NH. WISE supports people through the confidential and free 24-hour crisis line, on-site emergency housing and housing advocacy, legal services, safety planning, groups, and in-person advocacy at the WISE Program Center, police stations, courthouses, hospitals, social service agencies, and at Dartmouth College. In FY23 (7/1/22-6/30/23), WISE provided advocacy and other critical support services to a total of 1333 people. Among the advocacy responses sought from WISE, emergency shelter, legal advocacy, and accompaniments were the most common. WISE advocates are available every hour, every day at 866-348-WISE, or text at 603-836-9472 or chat online at [resourceconnect.com/wiseuv/chat](https://resourceconnect.com/wiseuv/chat).



**VITAL STATISTICS**

**Town of Orford for the year ending December 31, 2023**

<b>Marriages</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Groom's Name</b>	<b>Bride's Name</b>	<b>Place of Residence</b>
01/07/2023	Smith Jr., Charles Edward	Kriezis, Cassia Regina	Orford
07/01/2023	Beaupre, Kenneth David	Stevens, Mikayla Rose	Orford
07/19/2023	Woods, Nathan Michael	Landgraf, Alexis Shari	Orford

<b>Births</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Child's Name</b>	<b>Place of Birth</b>	<b>Mother's Name</b>
04/17/2023	Ste Marie, Clayton Robert	Lebanon, NH	Fields, Jordyn
06/01/2023	Payne, Eloise Grey	Lebanon, NH	Payne, Caitlin
07/12/2023	Miller, Emma Jean	Lebanon, NH	Miller, Rozzlyn
08/11/2023	Muhlestein, Felix Quintus	Lebanon, NH	Muhlestein, Natalie
08/28/2023	Gray, Addison Joan	Lebanon, NH	Gray, Lindsay
10/14/2023	Beck, Luke Levien	Lebanon, NH	Beck, Chris
10/29/2023	Laurendeau, Madison Mae	Lebanon, NH	Laurendeau, Jennifer

<b>Deaths</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Decedent's Name</b>	<b>Death Place</b>	<b>Mother's Name</b>
01/01/2023	McGoff Jr., James Earl	Orford	Lamotte, Margaret
01/03/2023	Thomson, Peter Meldrim	New Hampshire	Kelly, Gail
06/29/2023	Pease, Francis G	Orford	Howard, Theda
10/05/2023	Loren, Franco	Orford	Meidl, Anna
10/18/2023	Pike, Helen	Orford	Cutler, Glayds
10/27/2023	Quackenbush, Lyle Robert	Orford	Bruce, Elaine



# TOWN DIRECTORY

Web Site: [www.orfordnh.us](http://www.orfordnh.us)

E-mail: [orfordselectmen@orfordnh.us](mailto:orfordselectmen@orfordnh.us)

## SELECTBOARD MEETINGS

2529 Route 25A, Orford, NH

Selectboard holds a meeting every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4th Wednesday at 5:30 PM to conduct Town business;

Appointments with the public start at 5:30 PM.

## SELECTBOARD OFFICE

The Selectboard office is located in the Town Office

Esther Dobbins-Marsh, Administrative Assistant

**Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

**Friday 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

**603-353-4889**

**FAX 603-353-4489**

## TOWN CLERK

Town Clerk's office is located in the Town Office

Deborah Hadlock, Town Clerk

E-mail: [townclerk@orfordnh.us](mailto:townclerk@orfordnh.us)

**Office Hours: Tuesday 1:00 - 6:00 PM**

**Wednesday 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

**Thursday 8:00 - 11:00 AM**

**603-353-4404**

## TAX COLLECTOR

Tax Collector's office is located in the Town Office

Deborah Hadlock, Tax Collector

**Office Hours: Thursday 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

**603-353-4404**

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

**Call 9-1-1 for AMBULANCE or emergencies**

Police Department is located in the Town Office

Jason Bachus, Police Chief

E-mail: [Orfordpd@orfordnh.us](mailto:Orfordpd@orfordnh.us)

**603-353-4252**

## ANIMAL CONTROL

**603-353-4252**

**603-353-4889**

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

**Call 9-1-1 for emergencies**

Kevin Follensbee, Acting Fire Chief

**603-252-5723**

## FIRE PERMITS

Fire Warden Jim Hook 353-4834, or Deputies: Chief Kevin Follensbee 603-252-5723,  
Jimmy Carter 353-9975

## HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Selectboard, Acting Road Agent

Urgent Dispatch

E-mail: [Highway@orfordnh.us](mailto:Highway@orfordnh.us)

**603-353-9366**

**603-643-2222**

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Kevin Follensbee

**603-252-5723**

## PLANNING BOARD

Planning Board holds its' meeting the second Tuesday of every month at 5:30 PM. If you need to schedule an appointment, please contact the Planning Assistant Vickie Davis at 603-448-1680 or email [vdavis@uvlsrpc.org](mailto:vdavis@uvlsrpc.org)

**603-353-4889**

## FREE LIBRARY

Laurel Fulford, Librarian

Tuesday and Friday 3:30-7:30 PM; Saturday 9 -11:30 AM; Sunday 2-5 PM

Email: [orfordfreelibrary@mytopsmail.com](mailto:orfordfreelibrary@mytopsmail.com)

**603-353-9166**

## SOCIAL LIBRARY

Laine Warsavage, Library Director

Monday 1-8 PM; Wednesday 9 AM-1 PM; Thursday 1-8 PM; Saturday 9 AM-1 PM

E-mail: [orfordsoclib@gmail.com](mailto:orfordsoclib@gmail.com)

**603-353-9756**

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