

CHARLESTON VERMONT

*A Petition to alter the name of the Town of
Navy to that of Charleston*

*To the Honorable General Assembly of the State
of Vermont next to be holden at Montpelier I humbly
petitioneth the undersigners being Inhabitants of the
Town of Navy in the County of Orleans and State of
Vermont that the name of the Town of Navy may
be altered to that of Charleston*

*Honors see fit to take into consid
petition and grant our request
consider ourselves under the grate
for the same and as in duty b
Navy 20th September 1824*

**Annual
Town Report**
for the year ending
December 31st, 2025

**TOWN MEETING
& COMMUNITY MEAL
MARCH 3, 2026**

CHARLESTON ELEMENTARY

2026 Town Meeting Warning pg. 13

Town Meeting Information pg. 6

Please bring your town report.

H. G. Cole

Contacts

Town Clerk.....895-2814/ FAX 895-2714

5063 VT Route 105, West Charleston, Vermont 05872
townofcharlestonvt@comcast.net
www.charlestonvt.org

Regular hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs 8:00 am – 3:00 pm (unless otherwise posted); closed Wednesdays and Fridays; closes at 1:00pm day before election; other hours by appointment.

Special Hours Oct 19-23, 2026: Monday–Thursday 8-3; Friday 8–5

Listers.....802-895-2814
charlestonlisters@comcast.net

Road Foreman/Town Garage.....802-895-2932

Charleston Elementary School.....802-895-2915

Animal Control Officer & Town Health Officer.....802-995-3234

Town Fire Warden (Burn permits).....802-673-9879

State Police Barracks, Derby.....802-334-8881

Orleans County Sheriff's Dept.....802-334-3333

Fire, Ambulance, Police.....911

Selectboard

Meetings are held at the Town Clerk's Office on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 6:00 pm. Open to the public. Minutes are available for inspection at the Town Clerk's and at www.charlestonvt.org. Business may be brought to the Selectboard at a meeting or by submitting written comments via the Town Clerk.

Planning Commission

Meetings are held quarterly at the Town Clerk's Office at 5:30pm.
2026 schedule: March 12, June 11, September 10, and December 10.
Business may be brought to the Planning Commission at a meeting or by submitting written comments via the Town Clerk.

Public Posting Locations

Notices and agendas for regular and special meetings, elections and the like are posted at the Town Clerk's Office, East & West Charleston Post Offices, Charleston Elementary, West Charleston Corner Store, and charlestonvt.org

Cover: An 1825 petition to rename the town. Read more on page 45.

Town of Charleston, VT Annual Report 2025

Table of Contents

Municipal Resources

Contacts.....	Inside Cover
Town Officers.....	2
Important Dates.....	4
Town Clerk Services.....	5
Town Meeting & Voter Registration.....	6
Road Policies.....	7
Community Solar Project	8
Recycling & Composting	8
Dog Licenses.....	9
2025 Vital Statistics.....	10
2025 Annual Review.....	11

2026 Town Meeting & Budget

2026 Budget Preview	12
Town Meeting Warning.....	13
2026 Proposed Town Budget.....	15
2026 Proposed Appropriations.....	22
Minutes of the 2025 Annual Town Meeting.....	23

2025 Balance Sheet

Auditors' Report.....	26
General Fund Comparative Statement.....	26
Special Funds Balance.....	27
Statement of Indebtedness & Assets.....	27

2025 Revenue & Expense

Treasurer's Report: Statement of Receipts & Disbursements.....	29
Statement of 2025 Municipal Tax Rate.....	31
Statement of Taxes Raised.....	32
Selectboard Report.....	33
Road Department Report.....	36
Cemetery Commissioners' Report.....	38
Listers' Report and Property Tax Exemptions.....	39
Delinquent Tax Collector's Report.....	40

Emergency Services Reports

Charleston Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.....	41
Newport Ambulance Service.....	43

Town Officers

ELECTED POSITION	TERM	OFFICER	EXPIRES
Moderator	1 Yr	John Kellogg	2026
Town Clerk & Treasurer	3 Yrs	Teri Gray	2028
Selectboard	3 Yrs	Patrick Austin	2028
		Timothy Jenness	2026
		Terry Rollins	2027
Listers	3 Yrs	Jean Wilson	2027
		Steve Wilson	2028
		Robert Wilson	2026
Town Auditors	3 Yrs	Michael Morelli	2027
		Diana Marckwardt	2028
		Janice Bowen	2026
First Constable	2 Yrs	Michael Tynio	2027
Second Constable	1 Yr	Natasha 'Any' Tynio	2026
Cemetery Commissioners	5 Yrs	Darald Moulton	2026
		Martin Davis	2027
		Grace Frizzell	2029
		Janice Bowen	2028
		Sherman Allen, Jr.	2030
School Directors	3 Yrs	Mary Esposito	2027
		Sarah Jenness	2028
		Rebecca Midthun	2026
N.C.U.H.S. Director	3 Yrs	Mary Esposito	2027
ELECTED AT GENERAL ELECTION	TERM	OFFICER	EXPIRES
Justices of the Peace	2 Yrs	Benjamin Applegate	1/31/2027
		Carolyn Hannan	1/31/2027
		Samantha Stevens	1/31/2027
		Jean Wilson	1/31/2027
		Amy Wagner	1/31/2027

Town Officers cont.

APPOINTED OFFICERS:

Road Commissioner	Patrick Austin, Timothy Jenness, Terry Rollins
Road Foreman	Wendell Hastings
Assistant Clerk & Treasurer	Colleen Kellogg
Delinquent Tax Collector	Teri Gray
Town Fire Warden	Blair Moulton
Tree Warden	Justin Taft
Fence Viewers	Blair Moulton Darald Moulton (<i>open seat</i>)
Animal Control Officer/ Poundkeeper	Sarah Jenness
Surveyor of Wood & Coal	Michael Currie
Health Officer	Sarah Jenness
911 Coordinator	Jean Wilson
NVDA Representative	Michael Gonyaw
NEKWMD Representative	Patrick Austin
Planning Commission	John Kellogg, Chair Tom Wagner, Clerk Bill McMaster Eleanor Leger Blair Moulton
Community Solar Oversight Committee	Tom Jensen, Colleen Kellogg, Diana Marck- wardt, Terry Rollins
Hazard Mitigation Plan Committee	Patrick Austin, Teri Gray, John Kellogg, Christopher Lawson, Patrick McLaughlin, Duane Moulton, Wendell Hastings, Maria Young, Tom Wagner, Mary Esposito, Tim Jenness, Terry Rollins, Samantha Slayton, Kevin Lacoss, Lt. Andrew Jensen, Jeff Johansen, Phil Brooks, Colleen Kellogg, Molly Dockter

Important Dates

2026

- 1/1 Town Office Closed
- 1/19 MLK Day – Town Office Closed
- 2/16 Presidents’ Day – Town Office Closed
- 2/21 2025 Town Reports available
- 3/3 Town & School District Annual Meeting, 10:00 am at Charleston Elementary. Community Meal to follow.
- 4/1 Vermont Deadline to License Dogs w/o late penalty
- 4/15 Deadline: VT Income Tax Return, Homestead Declaration & Property Tax Adjustment Claim (3% penalty for late filing)
- 5/1 Deadline to apply to VT Office of Veterans Affairs for property tax exemption
- 5/2 GreenUp Day, drop off bags at Town Office
- 5/25 Memorial Day – Town Office Closed
- 7/2 Town Office Closed for Independence Day
- 8/1 2026 Property Tax Bills mailed (approximate)
- 8/11 Statewide Primary Election, 10am to 7pm at Town Clerk’s Office
- 9/7 Labor Day – Town Office Closed
- 10/12 Indigenous Peoples Day – Town Office Closed
- 10/21 Town Office OPEN 8-3 Wednesday for payment of property taxes
- 10/23 Property Tax payments due to Town Clerk by 5 pm,
(Office OPEN 8-5)
- 11/3 General Election, 10am to 7pm at Town Clerk’s Office
- 11/26 Thanksgiving – Town Office Closed – NO Selectboard Mtg
- 12/24 Christmas Eve– Town Office Closed
- 12/31 Town Office Closed

2027

- 1/18 MLK Day – Town Office Closed
- 2/15 Presidents’ Day – Town Office Closed
- 3/2 2027 Town Meeting

Town Clerk Services

Dog Licenses: Licenses are available by Feb 1st of each year, and ALL dogs must be licensed by April 1st. Fee is \$11.00 for spayed/neutered dogs and \$15.00 for intact dogs. Must present certificate of current rabies vaccination and proof of spay/neuter. Late fees apply after April 1st. To license by mail, print the form online at <https://bit.ly/4gYPLah>

Green Mountain Passports: Persons 62 or older are eligible to apply for a Green Mountain Passport, which provides free admission to Vermont State Parks and Historic Sites. Contact the office for further information.

Land Posting: If you wish to post your land you must file a form at the Clerk's office annually for a cost of \$5.00. Guidelines for "legal posting" are available with sign location and size.

Land and Historical Records: Property and other official records are available for self-service viewing during normal business hours. If you require assistance, please call ahead.

Marriage Licenses: Marriage licenses can be issued up to 60 days prior to the event for a fee of \$80, plus \$10 for your own copy. For questions about getting married in Vermont, contact Dept. of Health at 802-863-7200 or 800-439-5008.

Notary: Notary services are available to Charleston taxpayers and residents at no cost. Please call ahead.

Property Tax Payments: The Clerk will accept tax payments in person or by mail up to the 5:00pm October 23, 2026 deadline. At that time, unpaid taxes are placed in the hands of the delinquent tax collector, subject to penalties. Please note that post markings are not acceptable as payable dates.

Recording: Documents for recording in the Charleston Land Records can be mailed or presented in person along with the \$15 per page fee. \$25 for plat maps.

Vital Records: Certified copies of Birth, Marriage and Death Certificates are available for \$10 each. An application must be filled out to obtain certified copies of a birth or death certificate.

Teri Gray, Town Clerk & Treasurer

Town Meeting & Voter Registration

Town & School District Annual Meeting, March 3rd

Charleston Elementary School, 255 Center School Rd, 10:00 am until all business is concluded. All offices and articles are voted from the floor. Local ballot voting for North Country Union High School District will continue at the School until 7:00 pm.

Charleston residents and property owners who are not registered voters are encouraged to attend Town Meeting, however, you may not vote on any measure. Non-voters may not comment on any business unless they are given permission by a majority of voters present.



Charleston Girl Scout Troop # 64165 invites community members to stay after the Town Meeting for a meal of chicken and biscuits. This meal is provided through troop funds, with support from NCSU Encore and the Community Schools Programs. Water will be provided; please feel free to bring another beverage if you wish. Girl Scout cookie sales will begin at 9:00 a.m.

Other 2026 Charleston Elections

- Statewide Primary Election, August 11th, Town Clerk's Office, 10:00am-7:00pm
- General Election, November 3rd, Town Clerk's Office, 10:00am-7:00pm

Register to Vote

Applicants must register to vote in the town where they currently reside. Eligible residents can register to vote at the Town Clerk's office on any day up to and including Election Day during open hours.

You may also register to vote online at **the Vermont Voter Portal** vote.vermont.gov

First Time Registering by Mail or Online

If you are registering to vote in Vermont for the first time by mail or online, you must include a scan or photocopy of an acceptable form of ID. Acceptable forms of ID are:

- Valid photo ID (driver's license or passport)
- Current utility bill
- Current bank statement
- Another government document containing your residential address

Once you are registered to vote, you may update your information, view a sample ballot, request an absentee ballot, print a voter registration certificate, and more at the Vermont Voter Portal.

Am I eligible to register to vote?

To be eligible to vote in Vermont you must: (Eligibility requirements are in 17 V.S.A. § 2121, 2122)

1. be a citizen of the United States;
2. be a resident of Vermont and a resident of the town in which you apply to be added to the checklist; (OR be a military or overseas voter qualified under the federal Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act whose last place of residence in the United States immediately prior to moving overseas was in a Vermont town or city);
3. take, or have previously taken, the Voter's Oath; and
4. be 18 years of age or older or will be 18 on or before the day of election.

Highway Right-of-Way (ROW) & Policies

The Town's ROW. Vermont law gives towns a legal maintenance right-of-way (ROW) on all Town highways, which extends 24.75 feet in either direction from the center of the road. Within the ROW, the Town has the authority to perform maintenance like ditching, cutting trees, and altering the roadbed as needed. State law also specifies that items are placed in the ROW at the owner's risk, and the Town assumes no responsibility for damage to these items—this includes mailboxes.

State Mandates. The Town is obligated to maintain road drainage networks—road crown, ditches, and culverts—according to state standards. Proper drainage means fewer washouts, fewer costly repairs over time, and less road pollution and sediment in our waterways. The Selectboard has adopted the following policies to make sure the Town highway department can perform needed maintenance.

Driveway Culvert Policy: It is the responsibility of a property owner to buy, install, and maintain driveway culverts. For ANY driveway entering a town highway, property owners must consult with the Road Foreman, who will determine the required culvert specifications (never smaller than 15 inches in diameter per state standards). If a property owner fails to install the appropriately sized culvert, the town highway crew may cut a ditch across the driveway to maintain proper road drainage. *(adopted June 11, 2015)*

ROW Fencing Policy: Fencing in the Town ROW is installed at the owner's risk. Fencing installed in the ROW, or which blocks access to the ROW, must be removed upon request of the Road Foreman for maintenance and construction projects. In such cases, the Road Foreman will notify the property owner of the deadline to remove fencing. If fencing is not removed, it will be removed by the highway crew or contractor, and the Town is not responsible for damage incurred. Owners are responsible for reinstalling fencing and must install it outside of the ROW. The Town cannot take responsibility for damage caused by necessary snow-plowing, so it is strongly recommended that fences be taken down before winter. *(adopted 12/14/2017)*

Policy on Utilities in the ROW: Any cable or utilities installed under the road or within the Town's highway ROW must be buried at a minimum depth of four feet below the level of the road and ditch to allow the highway crew to perform routine ditching and culvert replacement without interrupting residents' services. Keep in mind that 'Dig Safe' does not detect low voltage cables, like telephone and television cables. *(adopted 12/14/2017)*

No Plowing of Snow Across Highways. State law prohibits plowing, blowing or shoveling of snow across or onto a Town or state highway. It also gives Towns authority to levy fines and penalties, and to hold violators liable for damage to property, vehicles, and any undue cost to the Town for removal of this snow. By law, the actual cost for the specific equipment and manpower used to remove this snow may be charged to the private property owners, with a minimum charge of one hour per Road Department personnel and equipment.

WINTER SAND: The Selectboard currently permits residents to fill a 5-gallon bucket or two from the small sand pile near 105 for deicing your driveway. Please bring bucket(s) and a shovel. For safety, please keep off the road department sand pile behind the garage. Use of sand for any commercial purpose is prohibited.

Charleston Community Solar

In its seventh full year of operation, the Charleston Community Solar array generated 101.32 MWh and a total of \$21,430.20 in credits toward VEC accounts for the School, Fire Department, Streetlights, Town Office and Garage. To track array production, visit charlestonvt.org, and select 'Departments' then 'Community Solar.'

Year	Electricity Produced	Credits Generated
2018 (July - Dec)	63.042 MWh	\$11,358.95
2019	104.106 MWh	\$19,377.57
2020	110.159 MWh	\$20,814.93
2021	96.300 MWh	\$19,098.38
2022	112.253 MWh	\$21,452.57
2023	102.16 MWh	\$20,322.35
2024	108.48 MWh	\$22,374.31
2025	101.32 MWh	\$21,430.20

Recycling & Composting Options

The Town of Charleston does not provide curbside rubbish or recycling pickup. Please contact your trash hauler about recycling services in your area.

Local rubbish haulers include: Casella 802-895-4889, Myers 802-655-4312, or see nekwmd.org for a list of licensed haulers. Food scraps CANNOT go in the trash.

Charleston residents can drop off recycling and food scraps at local facilities:

- **Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District, Lyndonville, 802-626-3532**

Charleston is a NEKWMD member town. Sorted recycling and food scraps can be dropped off at the Lyndonville facility, 224 Church Street, on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8am – 4pm and Saturday from 8 am – 3 pm. Detailed sorting guidelines and home composting resources available from NEKWMD, online at nekwmd.org.

- **Casella Waste, Coventry, 802-334-8300**

Zero-sort recycling, food scraps, and household trash can be dropped off during residential hours for a fee. List of accepted and prohibited items available from Casella. Hours are M–F 7 am – 3:30 pm, Sat 8–11:30 am.

DOG LICENSES - IT'S THE LAW!

Avoid late fees by licensing your dog on or before April 1st

All dogs must be licensed in their town every year per state law. Dog licenses expire April 1st of each year. Please make sure your dog has a current rabies vaccination and certificate signed by a veterinarian. To license by mail, print the form online at <https://bit.ly/4gYPLah>

License fees for 2026:

- Spayed or Neutered dogs are \$11.00 on or before April 1st;
- Dogs not spayed or neutered are \$15.00 on or before April 1st.

2025 Dog Licenses Sold (162 dogs were licensed in 2025)

By April 1	Cost	Qty	Total Fees
Spayed/Neutered Dogs	11.00	57	627.00
Intact Dogs	15.00	30	450.00
Kennel License (up to 10 dogs)	58.00	1	58.00
Kennel License (extra dog)	3.00	6	18.00

After April 1

Spayed/Neutered Dogs	13.00	40	520.00
Intact Dogs	19.00	10	190.00
New Neutered Dogs	11.00	4	44.00
New Intact Dogs	15.00	5	75.00

Total Due for Dog Licenses			\$1,982.00
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Total Collected

Town License Fees			957.00
State License Fees			1,025.00
Total Dog Fees Collected			\$1,982.00

Pet Dealers

A breeder/kennel selling 3 or more litters per year is required to obtain a Pet Dealer permit.

Charleston Dog Ordinance

A Town Dog Ordinance authorizes the Constable/Animal Control Officer to issue tickets and fines for failing to license, for having a dog running at large (on any street, school property, or on any land owned, used or occupied by another), or for otherwise allowing a dog to be a nuisance to others. These range from \$100 for a first offense up to \$500 with impoundment of the dog for repeat offenses. The full text of the Dog Ordinance can be viewed at the Town Clerk's Office.

2025 Vital Statistics

Births



Derrick DeSanto II to Samantha Sink and Derrick DeSanto	January 2025
Arlo Morrill to Amanda Dobler and Douglas Morrill	February 2025
Sarah Miller to Barbara and Noah Miller	July 2025
Grendolyn Uhlendorff to Sadie Chandler and Kevin Uhlendorff	July 2025
Lainey Deth to Amber Morse and Lawrence Deth	October 2025
Noah Miller to Lydia and Levi Miller	November 2025
Wrenlee Lantagne to Gianna Silvestro and Chad Lantagne	November 2025



Civil Marriages

Saba Valadkhan to Farshad NiaziShahraki	April 2025
Kelly Newton to John Griffin III	August 2025

Deaths



Leon Moulton	age 65	January 2025
Ronald Moulton	age 79	January 2025
E. Anne Allen	age 74	February 2025
James Sloan	age 73	February 2025
Dale Bowen	age 74	February 2025
Avis Rogers	age 95	March 2025
Wendel Ridley	age 86	March 2025
Jacinta Ahrens	age 73	March 2025
Christopher Powers	age 60	May 2025
Frank Antonelli	age 80	July 2025
Richard Barnard	age 80	July 2025
Bernard Crownson	age 78	July 2025
Richard Davio Sr.	age 72	August 2025
Avis Collins	age 83	September 2025
Brenda Thomas	age 95	October 2025
George Scott Jr.	age 74	December 2025
Shirley Moulton	age 76	December 2025

2025 Annual Review

In 2025, the Town of Charleston:

Repared Durgin and Church Hill Roads, with 90% reimbursement through a VTrans Class 2 Roadway grant.

Improved culverts, ditching, and crown on Ten Mile Square Rd using Better Roads and Grants-in-Aid programs.

Reduced flood risk on Hudson Rd via culvert upgrade, ledge removal, and dredging under Bridge #4 near Crowe Hill Rd.

Received full FEMA reimbursement for 2023 and 2024 disasters and completed all eligible repairs, including hazard mitigation funds for a sta-mat surface on Hinton Hill Rd to reduce erosion (state reimbursement pending).

Lowered Class 4 road costs by installing salvaged culverts on Crawford Hill Rd, partnering with Westmore to seed banks on Town Farm Rd, and using gravel tailings on Tripp Hill Rd (Crowe Hill Rd culvert replacement delayed to 2026).

Paved the town office and garage yard, with 52% costs covered by a 2024 Local Economic Impact (LEI) grant for flood-impacted towns; a 2025 LEI grant will fund 60% of the top coat.

Replaced the 2009 motor grader with a 2025 model featuring a larger moldboard and packer/roller attachment to improve road surfaces, especially on erosion-prone sharp corners.

Initiated an engineering contract to upsize a 48" culvert over Allyn Brook on Hinton Hill Rd, which plugged and closed the road in 2024 (construction planned for 2027, eligible for 90% VTrans reimbursement).

Initiated a professional a survey of the Barton gravel pit to clarify property lines and optimize use (completion expected early 2026).

Applied for a SFY2027 Better Roads grant to upgrade Mill St in East Charleston Village in 2026.

Began reappraisal work for the 2026 Grand List under contract with NEMRC; costs are covered by the Reappraisal Reserve Fund, not tax revenue.

Continued cemetery improvements, including storage shed and fence repairs, plus a donated engraved sign at West Village Cemetery from the Allen Family.

2026 Budget Preview

Key changes from prior years include:

- Increased premiums for commercial and workers' compensation insurance
- Eliminated Delinquent Tax Collection funding, as these duties now handled by the Treasurer
- Higher health insurance costs due to increased enrollment, premium increases, and expanded employee coverage
- Highway expenditures for road salt, chloride, and other materials returning to typical annual levels

2025 Highway Fund Surplus

The Highway Fund closed 2025 with a surplus of \$284,898.95, primarily due to un-budgeted FEMA reimbursement revenues.

In January, the Selectboard applied \$80,000 of this surplus to reduce the principal and annual payment on a loan taken out in 2025 for the purchase of the grader. As a result, the revised annual payment is less than the amount the Town had been paying on loans for earlier equipment purchases, all of which were paid off in 2025.

Under new Vermont law, the remaining surplus will carry forward. The Board intends to apply these funds to identified upcoming highway capital projects, many of which address flood-related erosion risks documented during recent disaster events, including:

- Concrete abutment repairs to Bridge 16 on Hudson Road and Bridge 7 on Mad Brook Road, scheduled for 2026
- Gravel resurfacing for erosion-prone sections of Hudson Road, East Echo Lake Road, and other affected roadways
- The required 10 percent local match for a new large culvert on Hinton Hill Road, with construction planned for 2027
- Top-coating the highway portion of the Town Yard; initial paving was completed in 2025, with the topcoat planned for 2026
- Pavement heave repairs on Hudson Rd

The grader purchase did not require use of the Road Equipment Reserve Fund. The fund balance remains at \$232,818, helping the Town remain prepared for rising equipment replacement costs.

The Charleston Selectboard respectfully requests your support for the proposed 2026 budget.

2026 Town Meeting Warning

The legal voters of the Town of Charleston are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Charleston Elementary School Building on Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 10:00 am to transact the following business from the floor.

Article 1. To elect a Town Moderator for the ensuing year.

Article 2. To elect all officers required by law:

- Selectboard member for a term of 3 years
- Lister for a term of 3 years
- Auditor for a term of 3 years
- Second Constable for a term of 1 year
- Cemetery Commissioner for a term of 5 years

Article 3. Shall the voters authorize the Treasurer to collect current taxes with a final due date of Friday, October 23, 2026, with taxes not physically received in the Town Clerk's office by 5:00 pm on said date (postmarks not accepted) to be treated as delinquent and subject to collection by the Treasurer as collector of delinquent taxes?

Article 4. Shall the voters authorize total fund expenditures of \$1,053,018 for selectboard, highway, and cemetery operating expenses for the year beginning January 1, 2026, of which \$803,809 shall be raised by taxes and \$249,209 by non-tax revenue?

Article 5. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$55,609.00 to the Charleston Volunteer Fire Department and direct the Selectboard to assess a tax over and above the budget to meet the same?

Article 6. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$11,674 to the following organizations, which received appropriations of the same amount in 2025, and direct the Selectboard to assess a tax over and above the budget to meet the same?

- a. \$1000 to Charleston Historical Society for support of the museum and collection
- b. \$1,000 to Echo Lake Protective Association for milfoil prevention programs
- c. \$800 to NorthWoods Stewardship Center for conservation and education services
- d. \$700 to Island Pond Library for services to residents
- e. \$1,650 to Rural Community Transportation for transportation services to residents
- f. \$500 to Orleans County Citizens Advocacy for mentoring individuals with developmental disabilities
- g. \$600 to Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging for services to elder and

2026 Town Meeting Warning

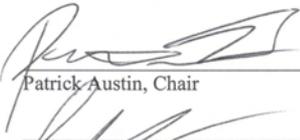
disabled Vermonters

- h.** \$1,074 to Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc. for mental health, substance use, and intellectual disabilities services to residents
- i.** \$500 to Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Shelter for care of unwanted pets
- j.** \$3,000 to Orleans Essex VNA & Hospice for community nursing and health programs
- k.** \$50 to GreenUp Vermont for the statewide cleanup event and bags
- l.** \$100 to Vermont Symphony Orchestra Symphony Kids for performances for local students
- m.** \$700 to Umbrella for domestic violence prevention and services to victims

Article 7. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$1,500 to the Dailey Memorial Library, and direct the Selectboard to assess a tax over and above the budget to meet the same?

Article 8. To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

DATED AT CHARLESTON, VERMONT THIS 22nd DAY OF January 2026



Patrick Austin, Chair



Tim Jenness, Vice Chair



Terry Rollins

Selectboard, Town of Charleston

2026 Proposed Town Budget

	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Budget
00-6-10 Tax Revenues			
00-6-10.05 Current Property Taxes	173,559.52	151,448.93	193,671.00
00-6-10.15 Land Use/Hold Harmless	106,000.00	106,938.00	109,000.00
00-6-10.18 Delinquent Taxes	0.00	74,190.96	0.00
00-6-10.19 Delinquent Taxes Interest	0.00	3,147.83	0.00
00-6-10.20 PILOT Taxes	1,200.00	1,214.40	1,214.00
00-6-10.23 Tax Overpays	0.00	9,310.80	0.00
00-6-10.30 Tax Collector Fees	0.00	5,935.27	0.00
Total Tax Revenues	280,759.52	352,186.19	303,885.00
00-6-20 Permits Revenues			
00-6-20.05 2nd Class Liquor Lic.	70.00	70.00	70.00
00-6-20.10 Marriage Licenses (State)	260.00	130.00	260.00
00-6-20.15 Marriage License (Town)	60.00	30.00	60.00
00-6-20.20 Dog Licenses	800.00	957.00	780.00
00-6-20.25 Dog License Fees	896.00	1,025.00	910.00
Total Permits Revenues	2,086.00	2,212.00	2,080.00
00-6-40 Fees & Other Revenues			
00-6-40.05 School Department	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
00-6-40.10 Town Clerk Fees	8,000.00	10,283.50	8,500.00
00-6-40.15 Records Preservation Fee	2,300.00	3,300.00	2,400.00
00-6-40.20 Interest, Checking Acct.	1,500.00	2,941.97	1,500.00
00-6-40.62 Prev. Year School Tax Adjust.	0.00	25,500.57	0.00
00-6-40.80 DMV renewals	15.00	30.00	15.00
00-6-40.83 Reappraisal Transfers	0.00	22,500.00	0.00
00-6-40.85 Reappraisal Fund	0.00	7,220.00	0.00
00-6-40.90 Clerk Grants	0.00	20,000.00	0.00
00-6-40.91 Aquatic Nuisance (Echo)	0.00	21,930.00	0.00
00-6-40.92 Water Quality Grant (Echo)	0.00	1,000.00	0.00
00-6-40.97 Net Metering	13,000.00	17,659.87	14,000.00
00-6-40.99 Misc. Fee Receipts	0.00	3,474.54	0.00
Total Fees & Other Revenues	29,815.00	140,840.45	31,415.00

2026 Proposed Town Budget cont.

	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Budget
00-6-50 Road Dept Revenues			
00-6-50.10 State Aid, Highways	99,416.88	51,225.06	102,450.00
00-6-50.17 Better Roads Grant	0.00	20,000.00	0.00
00-6-50.20 Special Highway Grants	0.00	127,345.60	0.00
00-6-50.21 FEMA DR4720	0.00	55,206.16	0.00
00-6-50.22 FEMA DR4810	0.00	344,999.45	0.00
00-6-50.25 Equipment Loan	0.00	267,822.00	0.00
00-6-50.35 Taxes for Roads	571,037.50	571,037.50	596,982.00
00-6-50.99 Misc. Road Receipts	0.00	33,870.96	0.00
Total Road Revenues	670,454.38	1,471,506.73	699,432.00
00-6-60 Cemetery Revenues			
00-6-60.10 Sale of Lots	0.00	312.00	0.00
00-6-60.15 Interest	2,550.00	4,025.42	3,000.00
00-6-60.20 Dividends (Dominion)	50.00	48.08	50.00
00-6-60.25 Perpetual Care	0.00	180.00	0.00
00-6-60.27 Stone Pres. Fund	0.00	208.00	0.00
00-6-60.30 Posts	0.00	200.00	0.00
00-6-60.37 Taxes for Cemetery	13,606.00	13,606.00	13,156.00
Total Cemetery Revenues	16,206.00	18,579.50	16,206.00
TOTAL REVENUES	999,320.90	1,985,324.87	1,053,018.00
EXPENSES			
05-7 Selectboard			
05-7-10.00 Salaries	3,600.00	3,600.00	3,600.00
05-7-12.00 Social Sec. Exp. Board	223.20	223.20	223.00
05-7-13.00 Med exp. Board	52.20	52.20	52.00
05-7-14.00 Child Care Exp Board	31.68	31.68	32.00
05-7-19.00 Training/Workshops	25.00	0.00	25.00
05-7-20.00 Advertising & Printing	2,000.00	1,306.76	2,000.00
05-7-26.00 Legal Services	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
05-7-31.00 Water Quality Expenditure	0.00	22,930.00	0.00
05-7-55.00 Planning Commission	1,000.00	158.99	1,000.00
05-7-99.00 Misc. Select Board Expense	475.00	2,000.00	475.00
Total Selectboard	8,907.08	30,302.83	8,907.00

2026 Proposed Town Budget cont.

	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Budget
10-7 Election Unit			
10-7-10.10 Election Officers	100.00	0.00	100.00
10-7-12.00 Election Officers SS	6.20	0.00	6.00
10-7-13.00 Election Officers Medi	1.45	0.00	1.00
10-7-14.00 Child Care Exp	0.44	0.00	1.00
10-7-21.00 Election Supplies	500.00	361.95	500.00
Total Election Unit	608.09	361.95	608.00
15-7 Finance Department			
10-15-7-10.00 Clerk/Treasurer Salary	48,000.00	49,463.74	49,140.00
10-15-7-10.05 Asst. Clerk/Treasurer	30,600.00	33,591.75	31,700.00
10-15-7-10.10 Auditors Wages	1,000.00	585.00	1,000.00
10-15-7-10.20 Health Officer	300.00	0.00	300.00
10-15-7-10.25 Fire Warden	200.00	200.00	200.00
10-15-7-12.00 Social Security Expense	4,966.20	5,198.10	5,105.00
10-15-7-13.00 Medicare Expense	1,161.45	1,215.73	1,194.00
10-15-7-13.50 Child Care Expense	576.84	401.53	595.00
10-15-7-14.00 Retirement Expense	12,325.44	12,827.27	13,145.00
10-15-7-16.00 Workers Compensation Ins.	14,611.12	12,695.56	17,427.00
10-15-7-17.00 Mileage, Clerk & Asst.	1,200.00	1,417.03	1,200.00
10-15-7-18.00 Health Insurance	11,122.32	17,943.55	28,965.00
10-15-7-19.00 Training/Workshops/Dues	1,350.00	1,130.00	1,350.00
10-15-7-21.00 Office Supplies	2,000.00	2,256.69	2,400.00
10-15-7-22.00 Postage	1,800.00	1,792.28	2,000.00
10-15-7-23.00 Telephone	1,600.00	1,660.00	1,650.00
10-15-7-24.00 Office Equipment/Repairs	900.00	395.00	900.00
10-15-7-24.50 Records Preservation	750.00	95.77	750.00
10-15-7-25.00 Computer, Website, Support	8,400.00	7,683.75	8,000.00
10-15-7-30.00 Commercial Insurance Pkg	15,787.60	15,787.62	20,000.00
10-15-7-98.00 Tax Refunds	0.00	9,310.80	0.00
Total Finance Dept	158,650.97	175,651.17	187,021.00

2026 Proposed Town Budget cont.

	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Budget
17-7 Listers			
17-7-10.00 Listers Salaries	6,000.00	2,948.00	6,000.00
17-7-12.00 Soc. Sec.Exp. Listers	372.00	182.78	372.00
17-7-13.00 Medi. Exp. Listers	87.00	42.75	87.00
17-7-14.00 Child Care Exp Listers	26.40	12.98	26.00
17-7-17.00 Listers Mileage	300.00	103.49	300.00
17-7-19.00 Listers Professional Devel.	200.00	0.00	200.00
17-7-20.00 Listers postage	200.00	501.60	200.00
17-7-21.10 Listers Supplies & Equipment	200.00	0.00	200.00
17-7-22.00 BCA Tax appeals/abatement	100.00	0.00	100.00
17-7-23.00 Computer support/maps	3,500.00	4,775.12	2,000.00
17-7-25.00 Reappraisal Expenses	0.00	29,720.00	0.00
Total Listers	10,985.40	38,286.72	9,485.00
20-7 Delinquent Tax Collector			
20-7-10.00 Tax Collector Wages	3,453.54	220.63	0.00
20-7-12.00 Soc Sec Expense Tax Coll	214.12	13.68	0.00
20-7-13.00 Medi. Exp. Tax Coll.	50.08	3.20	0.00
20-7-14.00 Child Care Exp Tax Coll.	15.20	0.97	0.00
20-7-17.00 Mileage/expenses, Del Col	75.00	0.00	0.00
Total Delinquent Tax Collector	3,807.93	238.48	0.00
30-7 Plant (Town Office)			
30-7-21.00 Janitor & Supplies	850.00	866.42	850.00
30-7-22.00 Grounds Maintenance	650.00	605.50	650.00
30-7-28.00 Repairs & Upkeep	3,000.00	24,365.53	3,000.00
30-7-30.00 Community Solar	21,100.00	21,148.34	21,100.00
30-7-32.00 Electricity	2,800.00	3,099.59	3,100.00
Total Plant (Town Office)	28,400.00	50,085.38	28,700.00
35-7 Public Safety			
10-35-7-10.00 Law Enforcement Salary	500.00	75.00	500.00
10-35-7-11.00 Animal Control Salary	4,000.00	2,938.50	4,000.00
10-35-7-12.00 Public Safety Soc. Sec	279.00	186.83	279.00
10-35-7-13.00 Public Safety Medi	65.25	43.69	65.00
10-35-7-14.00 Public Safety Child Care	19.80	13.24	20.00
10-35-7-16.00 Public Safety Mileage	700.00	390.40	700.00
10-35-7-17.00 Public Safety Telephone	530.00	532.98	530.00

2026 Proposed Town Budget cont.

Public Safety cont.	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Budget
10-35-7-25.00 911 Road Signs	1,000.00	855.90	1,000.00
10-35-7-32.00 Street Lights	2,000.00	1,292.03	1,400.00
10-35-7-34.00 Ambulance Service	63,707.00	63,706.92	66,075.00
10-35-7-44.00 Solid Waste/Recycling	1,200.00	1,184.36	1,200.00
10-35-7-99.00 Misc. Public Safety	400.00	0.00	400.00
Total Public Safety	74,401.05	71,219.85	76,169.00
45-7 Assessments			
45-7-54.00 County Tax	20,500.00	19,810.77	20,000.00
45-7-56.00 Westmore (Town Farm) Tax	170.00	151.30	170.00
45-7-57.00 Barton pit tax	2,500.00	2,328.50	2,500.00
45-7-58.00 VLCT dues	2,574.00	2,574.00	2,650.00
Total Assessments	25,744.00	24,864.57	25,320.00
48-7 Fees Expenses			
48-7-36.00 Marriage License (State)	260.00	130.00	260.00
48-7-38.00 Dog License Fees	896.00	1,025.00	910.00
Total Fees Expenses	1,156.00	1,155.00	1,170.00
Total Selectboard	312,660.52	392,165.95	337,380.00
50-7 Highway Department			
10-50-7-10.00 Wages	230,000.00	222,560.98	240,000.00
10-50-7-10.05 Road Admin	10,200.00	10,969.50	10,600.00
10-50-7-11.00 Road Commissioner	3,600.00	3,600.00	6,000.00
10-50-7-12.00 Social Security Expense	15,115.60	14,757.95	15,909.00
10-50-7-13.00 Medicare Expense	3,535.10	3,451.46	3,721.00
10-50-7-13.50 Child Care Expense	1,012.00	969.76	1,056.00
10-50-7-14.00 Retirement Expense	31,924.00	27,863.47	34,500.00
10-50-7-15.00 VLCT Unemployment Ins.	2,286.00	2,284.00	2,408.00
10-50-7-18.00 Health & Disability Ins.	46,561.68	40,392.74	59,288.00
10-50-7-21.00 Supplies	8,500.00	8,040.02	8,500.00
10-50-7-22.00 Tools/Equipment	2,500.00	620.54	2,500.00
10-50-7-23.00 Telephone	1,200.00	1,327.38	1,350.00
10-50-7-24.00 Parts & Repairs	50,000.00	50,145.10	51,000.00
10-50-7-25.00 Technology	500.00	600.00	500.00
10-50-7-30.00 Hired Services	21,000.00	26,400.00	22,000.00
10-50-7-31.00 Waste Disposal	1,200.00	1,327.90	1,350.00

2026 Proposed Town Budget cont.

Highway Department cont.	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Budget
10-50-7-70.00 Gasoline	500.00	273.60	500.00
10-50-7-71.00 Diesel & Oil	47,500.00	45,079.39	47,500.00
10-50-7-72.00 Tires	10,000.00	6,506.00	5,000.00
10-50-7-73.00 Blades & Shoes	4,250.00	11,600.26	5,000.00
10-50-7-74.00 Sand, Gravel, Stone	10,000.00	462.00	5,000.00
10-50-7-74.10 Erosion Stone	8,000.00	3,626.00	5,000.00
10-50-7-74.20 Gravel Crushing/Processing	40,000.00	59,280.00	40,000.00
10-50-7-76.00 Chloride, Salt	32,500.00	44,469.74	45,000.00
10-50-7-78.00 Road Supplies	15,000.00	26,248.40	15,000.00
10-50-7-78.15 Road Equipment	0.00	382,383.50	0.00
10-50-7-78.25 Building Repairs (Garage)	5,000.00	30,036.93	5,000.00
10-50-7-78.30 Road Signs	1,500.00	1,038.00	1,500.00
10-50-7-78.50 Propane	2,500.00	4,510.53	4,200.00
10-50-7-79.00 Paving	0.00	142,172.64	1,500.00
10-50-7-85.00 Road Equip Loan Payment	49,220.00	47,830.82	43,200.00
10-50-7-87.00 Equipment Rental	1,000.00	175.00	1,000.00
10-50-7-88.00 Municipal Rd Gen Permit	1,350.00	1,350.00	1,350.00
10-50-7-91.00 DR4810 Storm Repairs	0.00	33,111.00	0.00
10-50-7-99.00 Misc. Road Expenses	1,000.00	4,839.50	1,000.00
Total Highway Department	658,454.38	1,260,304.11	687,432.00
54-7 Class IV Highway Dept.			
10-54-7-10.00 Wages	4,000.00	898.45	4,000.00
10-54-7-30.00 Hired Services	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
10-54-7-74.00 Sand & Gravel	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
10-54-7-78.00 Road Supplies (culverts)	0.00	0.00	0.00
10-54-7-99.00 MISC CLASS IV	3,500.00	0.00	3,500.00
Total Class IV Highway Dept.	12,000.00	898.45	12,000.00
Total Highway	670,454.38	1,261,202.56	699,432.00
60-7 Cemetery Expenses			
10-60-7-10.00 Wages	11,500.00	10,285.00	11,500.00
10-60-7-12.00 Social Security Expense	713.00	637.67	713.00
10-60-7-13.00 Medicare expense	167.00	149.13	167.00
10-60-7-14.00 Child Care Expense	51.00	45.26	51.00
10-60-7-21.00 Flags	175.00	127.50	175.00
10-60-7-24.00 New Equipment	500.00	0.00	500.00

2026 Proposed Town Budget cont.

Highway Department cont.	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Budget
10-60-7-28.00 Repairs & Supplies	2,000.00	856.30	2,000.00
10-60-7-60.25 Perpetual Care	0.00	0.00	0.00
10-60-7-60.30 Corner Posts	0.00	200.00	0.00
10-60-7-70.00 Gasoline & Oil	1,000.00	691.17	1,000.00
10-60-7-87.00 Fencing	100.00	246.49	100.00
10-60-7-99.00 Misc. Cemetery Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Cemetery	16,206.00	13,238.52	16,206.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES (w/o Appropriations)	999,320.90	1,666,607.03	1,053,018.00

2026 Proposed Appropriations

	FY 2025 Voted	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Proposed
85-7-95 Appropriations			
10-85-7-95.01 Road Equipment Fund	0.00	26,798.68	
10-85-7-95.10 Volunteer Fire Dept.	55,609.00	55,609.00	55,609.00
10-85-7-95.20 NEK Human Services	1,074.00	1,074.00	1,074.00
10-85-7-95.25 VNA & Hospice	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
10-85-7-95.30 Citizens Advocacy	500.00	500.00	500.00
10-85-7-95.35 NEK Council On Aging	600.00	600.00	600.00
10-85-7-95.55 Daily Memorial Library	1,350.00	1,350.00	1,500.00
10-85-7-95.70 Umbrella	700.00	700.00	700.00
10-85-7-95.75 Charleston Historical Soc	500.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
10-85-7-95.80 NorthWoods Stewardship Ctr	800.00	800.00	800.00
10-85-7-95.85 Rural Community Transport	1,650.00	1,650.00	1,650.00
10-85-7-95.94 VSO Symphony Kids	100.00	100.00	100.00
10-85-7-95.95 Echo Lake Milfoil Project	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
10-85-7-95.97 Pope Mem. Frontier An. Soc	500.00	500.00	500.00
10-85-7-95.98 Island Pond Library	700.00	700.00	700.00
10-85-7-95.99 Green UP Vermont	50.00	50.00	50.00
Total Appropriations	68,133.00	95,431.68	68,783.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES (w/ Appropriations)	1,067,453.90	1,762,038.71	1,121,801.00

Minutes of the 2025 Annual Town Meeting

Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at the Charleston Elementary School

The Annual Town & School District Meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Moderator John Kellogg, with School Business concluding at 10:28 am.

Article 1. To elect a Town Moderator for the ensuing year. With Moderator John Kellogg elected during School Business, town business began with Article 2.

Article 2. To elect all officers as required by law.

Town Clerk & Treasurer: Teri Gray was nominated, seconded, and elected for 3 years.

Selectboard: Pat Austin, Robert Devaney Jr, and Tom Wagner each received a nomination and second, Candidates offered comment: Tom Wagner has been a full-time Charleston resident since 2017 and a Vermonter for many generations. He served as an officer in the Airforce and held a career in finance, giving him skills to manage a town budget and support roads and resources while keeping town affordable for families. Bob Devaney is “old school” with an open mind. His son Jan Devaney recognized his 10 years of service on the CVED, and 20 years running a town business. Pat Austin has always lived in town and runs a large trash business with his father—whose father and grandfather also ran businesses in town. He served eight years on the school board and four on the Selectboard, and if voters would like him to serve, he will continue as before. 101 paper ballots were cast: Austin 51; Wagner 35; and Devaney 15. Pat Austin was elected for 3 years. Voters applauded retiring board member Peter Moskovites.

Lister: Steven Wilson was nominated, seconded, and elected for 3 years.

Lister: Seeing no nominations, the Selectboard will appoint a lister until next Town Meeting.

Auditor: Diana Marckwardt was nominated, seconded, and elected for 3 years.

First Constable: Michael Tynio was nominated, seconded, and elected for 2 years.

Second Constable: Anya Tynio was nominated, seconded, and elected for 1 year.

Cemetery Commissioner: Sherman Allen was nominated, seconded, and elected for 5 years.

Article 3. Shall the voters authorize the Selectboard to appoint a Delinquent Tax Collector to be compensated hourly, with delinquent tax penalties retained as revenue to the Town? A motion was made and seconded. Vote: Ayes

have it: RESULT: Passed. Discussion: Treasurer Teri Gray said that Grace Frizzell decided not to run, and this is an opportunity to take the job in-house because there is much more to the delinquent tax process than previously. The moderator said the collector has been an individual paid by penalties collected, but this article would bring the role into the town office. The Selectboard would appoint an individual, and it will no longer be elected. If voted down, a collector will be elected under the next article. Grace Frizzell confirmed she is not seeking reelection.

Article 4. To elect a Delinquent Tax Collector for a term of 1 year. Because Article 3 passed, Article 4 was passed over by agreement of all voters.

Article 5. Shall the voters authorize the Treasurer to collect current taxes with a final due date of Friday, October 24, 2023, with the policy of turning over to the delinquent tax collector taxes not physically received by the Treasurer in the Town Clerk’s office by 5:00 pm on October 24, 2025, with postmarks not accepted as timely payment? A motion was made and seconded. Vote: Ayes have it. RESULT: Passed. No discussion.

Minutes

- Article 6. Shall the voters authorize total fund expenditures of \$999,320.90 for selectboard, highway, and cemetery operating expenses for the year beginning January 1, 2025, of which \$758,203.02 shall be raised by taxes and \$241,117.88 by non-tax revenue?** A motion was made and seconded. Vote: Ayes have it. RESULT: Passed. Discussion: Former Selectboard Chair Peter Moskovites said the board kept the tax rate essentially flat compared to last year; it will result in a tax increase of \$4.44 on a \$100,000 property. The town purchased a new truck in 2024 without the encumbrance of a loan. Roadside ditching is ongoing to control erosion. Regarding non-tax revenue, Treasurer Teri Gray directed voters to budget revenue line items like state aid, hold harmless payments, marriage and dog license fees. Asked about a zero-dollar budget for storm repairs, Asst. Treasurer Colleen Kellogg said the town does not raise taxes in anticipation of a disaster, but if one occurs, an expense line item is created to capture costs for potential reimbursement.
- Article 7. Shall the voters authorize the Selectboard to transfer the 2024 Road Surplus of \$26,798.68 to the Road Equipment Reserve Fund?** A motion was made and seconded. Vote: Ayes have it. RESULT: Passed. Discussion: Peter Moskovites said the Road Equipment Reserve has about \$200,000, and the board usually asks voters to do this with a small surplus. Grader replacement is on the horizon and will cost \$300,000 to \$400,000.
- Article 8. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$55,609.00 to the Charleston Volunteer Fire Department and direct the Selectboard to assess a tax over and above the budget to meet the same?** A motion was made and seconded. Vote: Ayes have it. RESULT: Passed. Discussion: CVFD Treasurer Blair Moulton said the department is entering its 71% year and is one of two Vermont departments that is 100% volunteer. The budget is level funded, but they will have to ask for more in the future to replace expiring turn-out gear. Budget funds covered replacement of AED paddles for over \$2100. CVFD appreciates support from townspeople including two successful fundraisers in 2024. Scott Scelza suggested taxpayers give more so R members don't have to fundraise on top of their volunteer time.
- Article 9. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$11,174 to the following organizations, which received appropriations of the same amount in 2024, and direct the Selectboard to assess a tax over and above the budget to meet the same?**
- a. \$500 to Charleston Historical Society for support of the museum and collection
 - b. \$1,000 to Echo Lake Protective Association for milfoil prevention programs
 - c. \$800 to NorthWoods Stewardship Center for conservation and education services
 - d. \$700 to Island Pond Library for services to residents
 - e. \$1,650 to Rural Community Transportation for transportation services to residents
 - f. \$500 to Orleans County Citizens Advocacy for mentoring individuals with developmental disabilities
 - g. \$600 to Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging for services to elder and disabled Vermonters
 - h. \$1,074 to Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc. for mental health, substance use, and intellectual disabilities services to residents
 - i. \$500 to Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Shelter for care of unwanted pets
 - j. \$3,000 to Orleans Essex VNA & Hospice for community nursing and health programs
 - k. \$50 to GreenUp Vermont for the statewide cleanup event and bags

l. \$100 to Vermont Symphony Orchestra Symphony Kids for performances for local students

m. \$700 to Umbrella for domestic violence prevention and services to victims?

A motion was made and seconded. Pat Austin moved to amend the article to increase the Charleston Historical Society appropriation to \$1,000, and the motion to amend was seconded. Discussion: Austin pointed out that CHS is part of the town and one of the lowest funded. Julianne Woolard made voters aware that NorthWoods is in Charleston, and that many organizations on the list offer services not available in Charleston—like libraries, which are especially important to families with young children. Peter Moskovites said organizations can increase their amount by gathering petition signatures from 5% of voters. The amendment passed by voice vote. With no further discussion, the motion passed as amended. RESULT: Passed as amended.

Article 10. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$1,350 to the Dailey Memorial Library, and direct the Selectboard to assess a tax over and above the budget to meet the same?

A motion was made and seconded. Vote: Ayes have it. RESULT: Passed. Discussion: Dailey board member Mickey Morelli said the library circulated petitions to increase Charleston's appropriation by \$100 to help with increased salaries and insurance. Most Vermont libraries are funded 80-90% by their towns. Dailey is under 50%, so they conduct fundraisers and really appreciate town appropriations from Derby, Holland, Morgan and Charleston.

Article 11. To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

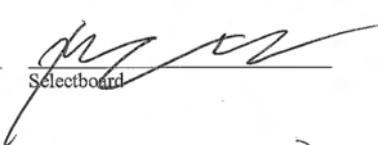
Peggy Stevens, town representative to NEK Broadband, said the network is coming this year to 41 nodes in Charleston, which will bring service to over 300 Charleston addresses within the next year. Residents can look up their address at the back table. Other addresses are not yet funded, and residents can help NEK Broadband seek BEAD grants by signing a petition. NEK Broadband service and support is as good or better than currently available broadband, and it's cheaper. Everyone deserves equal access to high-speed internet for reasons like telehealth, working from home, and children's education. NEK Broadband is hiring—job info is at the back table. The North Country Career Center received a grant to train installers, so job training is available. Blair Moulton said the Charleston Volunteer Fire Department will hold its oyster supper this year. A commercial kitchen is set up at the fire station, and the event will be held there from now on.

Seeing no other business, the Annual Town Meeting was adjourned at 11:29 am.

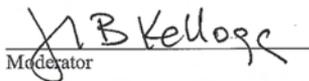
DATED AT CHARLESTON, VERMONT THIS 4th DATE OF MARCH 2025.



BCA



Selectboard



Moderator



Town Clerk

Auditors Report

We have audited all Town Officers' books and found them correct as reported herein. As part of this audit, we reviewed revenues, disbursements, payroll records, and financial statements and all backup records for transactions. We believe this to be a correct statement on the condition of the Town of Charleston as of December 31, 2025. The reports will be mailed to all voter households and will be available from the Town Clerk.

Respectfully submitted this 12th day of January 2026

Town Auditors


Janice Bowen


Diana Marckwardt


Michael Morelli

General Fund Comparative Statement Two-Year Period Ending December 31, 2025

Current Assets	Dec. 31, 2024	Dec. 31, 2025
General Cash Account	671,631.47	894,917.63
Revenues not yet received		
Delinquent Taxes	41,981.66	44,280.40
TOTAL CASH ASSETS	713,613.13	939,198.03
Encumbered Funds		
Road Surplus/Deficit	26,798.68	284,898.95
Records Preservation Fund	24,512.90	27,812.90
Cemetery Funds (due to CD)	-	180.00
Cemetery Stone Preservation Fund	384.00	592.00
Delinquent Tax Overage	2,680.84	2,680.84
Hinton Hill Rd Engineering contract	-	1,416.20
2025 State Road Aid	49,756.58	-
Barton Pit surveyor contract	-	3,000.00
Grant Match, 2025 Paving Contract	29,254.40	-
Office & Hwy Yard Pavement & Repairs	20,000.00	20,000.00
	153,387.40	340,580.89
Unencumbered Funds	560,225.73	598,617.14
	713,613.13	939,198.03
Increase in Unencumbered Funds from previous year	27,927.15	38,391.41

NOTE: The surplus is used by the General Fund for operating expenses until the current year's taxes come in.

Special Funds Balance

Road Equipment Fund

Balance January 1, 2025	205,911.66
2024 Surplus Voted at Town Meeting	26,798.68
Interest	104.52
Balance December 31, 2025	232,814.86

Reappraisal Fund

Balance January 1, 2025	82,812.51
Add Receipts, State of Vermont	7,220.00
Deduct 2025 Reappraisal Contract Fees	-22,500.00
Interest	41.13
Balance December 31, 2025	67,573.64

Statement of Indebtedness

The Town now has the following loans with Community National Bank:

Purpose of Loan	2017 10-Wheel Mack Truck, Excavator & Trailer	2020 Intl Truck Loan	2018 Solar Installation Loan	2025 Grader Loan
Date	10/27/2015 <i>refinanced 2018</i>	4/02/2019	11/20/2018	9/25/25 <i>refinanced Jan 2026</i>
Principal	317,049.00 <i>new 190,346.95</i>	125,089.00	286,845.33	267,822.00 <i>new 192,444.68</i>
Interest Rate	1.79%	3.00%	3.875%	4.44%
2025 Payment	28,006.55	19,824.27	20,873.62	NA
Next Payment Date	Paid off	Paid off	11/20/2026	11/1/2026
Next Payment Amount	NA	NA	20,873.62	43,239.17
Balance 12/31/2025	0	0	209,400.35	267,822.00
Final Payment Date	10/27/2025	11/20/2025	11/20/2038	11/1/2030

Statement of Assets

The Selectboard reports the following assets of the Town of Charleston in addition to those reported in the Financial Statements:

Asset	Purchase Date	Original Cost
Barton Gravel Pit	2012	400,000
Town Garage	-	246,000
Town Clerk's Office & Equipment	-	160,000
Worth Gravel Pit (Ten Mile Sq Rd)	2009	200,000
Town Farm (Westmore Acreage)	-	55,400
Town Farm (Charleston Acreage)	-	104,800
Cemeteries	-	44,200
Blake Lot	-	5,000
Loader (Volvo L60)	2005	120,000
2019 Loader (Volvo L90) w/Angle Plow	2020	160,000
2025 Mack 10-wheel Truck	2024	273,344
2017 Mack 10-wheel Truck	2016	194,500
2015 Mack 10-wheel Truck	2014	186,000
2020 International 6-wheel Truck	2019	165,000
2017 Ford F-350 Diesel w/ Plow	2017	57,755
2015 CAT Excavator w/ Attachments	2015	103,000
CAM Equipment Trailer	2015	18,575
John Deere Grader w/Plow & Walk'n'Roll	2025	434,000
5 Snow Plows	-	12,000
Hay wagon	2020	1,400
Motorized Screen	2007	13,500
Culvert Thawer	2014	7,500
Small tools, etc.	-	11,000
Custom Shoulder Retriever Attachment	2018	7,500
Grizzley Screen	2013	7,000
2 Way Radios	2012, 2016	5,400
Security Equipment	2014	3,600
Air Compressor	2023	3,550
Tool Cabinets	-	2,050
York Rock Rake	2021	1,000
Tire Safety Cage	-	500
Road Machine	-	100
¾ HP Drill Press	2015	400
Small generator (donated)	2021	400
Steel Chop Saw	2014	1,400
¾ battery impact tools	2019	725
Husqvarna power head & broom	2019	645
Husqvarna Chainsaw	2022	700
75 Gal Fuel Tank	2015	400
Fuel Transfer Pump	2015	300
Wedge Locks, pair	2017	600
John Deere Z315E ZTrak (Cemetery)	2023	3,549
10'x40' Steel Conex (used)	2025	4,000

Treasurer's Report:

Statement of Receipts & Disbursements

January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025

Tax Receipts	\$
2025 Property Taxes Collected	2,364,271.08
VT Property Tax Adjustment Payments	19,329.73
2025 Overpayments by Individuals	9,132.36
Current Use Hold Harmless from State of VT	106,938.00
Delinquent Taxes from Del. Tax Collector	74,190.96
Total Tax Receipts	2,573,862.13
 Licenses	
Liquor Licenses	70.00
Dog Licenses	957.00
Marriage Licenses	30.00
Total Licenses	1,057.00
 Fees Received	
Recording and Copies	10,283.50
Motor Vehicle Renewals	30.00
Fees for Records Preservation	3,300.00
Total Fees	13,613.50
 Transfers to State of Vermont	
Fees for Dog Licenses	1,025.00
Fees for Marriage Licenses	130.00
Total Transfer to State of Vermont	1,155.00
 Delinquent Tax Collector	
Interest on Delinquent Taxes	3,147.83
8% Penalty on Delinquent Taxes	5,935.27
Overpayments	178.44
Total Delinquent Tax Collector	9,261.54
 Grants	
Aquatic Nuisance / Watershed Grants (Echo Lake)	22,930.00
Total Grants	22,930.00

Statement of Receipts & Disbursements cont.

Miscellaneous

Charleston School District, financial services	5,000.00
Charleston School, 2024 Education Tax Refund	18,903.57
NCUHS, 2024 Education Tax Refund	6,597.00
Community National Bank, NOW account interest	2,941.97
State of VT Reappraisal Fund, per-parcel payment	7,220.00
State of VT, Current Use Changes	3,410.40
State of VT, Local Economic Impact (LEI) Grant	20,000.00
State of VT, Ticket Revenue	64.14
Solar Net Metering from School/CVFD	17,659.87
From Reappraisal Fund for 2026 Reappraisal Contract	22,500.00
State of VT, PILOT	1,214.40

Total Miscellaneous	105,511.35
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Total 2025 Road Receipts less Taxes (see Road Report)	900,469.23
Total 2025 Cemetery Receipts less Taxes (see Cem Rpt)	4,973.50

Total	3,632,833.25
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Transfer to Elementary & High School Accounts	1,647,508.38
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Total after transfer	1,985,324.87
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Add Balance, January 1, 2025	671,481.47
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Total including January Balance	2,656,806.34
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Deduct Disbursements:

Selectboard Orders & Appropriations	487,597.63
Road Dept Orders	1,261,202.56
Cemetery Orders	13,238.52

Total Disbursements	1,762,038.71
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GENERAL FUND BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 2025	894,767.63
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Accounted for as follows:

Community National Bank NOW Checking account	894,767.63
Cash on hand	150.00

Balance December 31, 2025	894,917.63
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Statement of 2025 Municipal Tax Rate

General		173,559.52
Roads		571,037.50
Cemetery		13,606.00
Veterans Exemption		5,805.24
Appropriations		68,633.00
Charleston Historical Society	1,000.00	
Charleston Volunteer Fire Department	55,609.00	
Dailey Memorial Library	1,350.00	
Echo Lake Protective Association	1,000.00	
Green Up	50.00	
Island Pond Library	700.00	
Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging	600.00	
Northeast Kingdom Human Services	1,074.00	
NorthWoods Stewardship Center	800.00	
Orleans/Essex VNA & Hospice	3,000.00	
Orleans County Citizens Advocacy	500.00	
Pope Memorial Animal Society	500.00	
Rural Community Transportation	1,650.00	
VSO Symphony Kids	100.00	
Umbrella	700.00	
TOTAL BUDGET TO BE RAISED		832,641.26
Municipal Grand List		1,139,415.00
Tax Rate for Municipal		0.730762
AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXES		832,641.26

Statement of Taxes Raised

Taxes Billed	Grand List	Tax Rate	Total Raised
Non-Homestead Education	583,910.14	1.6949	989,669.33
Homestead Education	560,699.00	1.5714	881,082.46
General	1,139,376.00	0.1523	173,526.70
Roads	1,139,376.00	0.5012	571,055.23
Cemetery	1,139,376.00	0.0119	13,558.72
Veterans Exemption	1,139,376.00	0.0051	5,810.89
Fire Department Appropriation	1,139,376.00	0.0488	55,601.57
Svc Org Appropriations	1,139,376.00	0.0114	12,989.00
		Total Taxes Billed	<u>2,703,293.90</u>

Adjustments to Original Billings

Late Homestead penalty	<u>721.65</u>
	Final Taxes Billed <u>2,704,015.55</u>

Taxes accounted for as follows:

Property Taxes Collected by Treasurer	2,383,600.81
State Payment to School	243,925.04
Delinquent Taxes Turned Over to Delinquent Tax Collector	<u>76,489.70</u>
	<u>2,704,015.55</u>

Distribution of Treasurer's Collections

General Fund	736,092.43
School Fund	<u>1,647,508.38</u>
	Total Distribution <u>2,383,600.81</u>

Selectboard Report

EXPENSES

Town Officers & Employees

Total Wages paid to Officers & Employees	93,622.62
Social Security paid	5,804.59
Medicare paid	1,357.57
Child Care Credit paid	460.40
VMERS Retirement	12,827.27
Health Insurance	17,943.55
	<hr/>
	132,016.00

Insurance

VLCT/PACIF, Commercial Package	15,787.62
VLCT, Workers Comp. Insurance	12,695.56
	<hr/>
	28,483.18

Printing & Advertising

Repro Vermont, Town Reports	953.01
Kelsey Evans, Town Report layout	280.00
	<hr/>
	1,233.01

Other Expenses

Planning Comm. Supplies	158.99
Clerk & Treasurer Supplies	2,256.69
Clerk & Treasurer Postage	1,792.28
Listers' Expenses (IT, postage, supplies, tax maps, misc.)	5,276.72
Listers' Mileage	103.49
Listers' Reappraisal Expenses (transfer to Reserve)	7,220.00
NEMRC (2026 Reappraisal)	22,500.00
The Chronicle, ordinance notice	73.75
Animal Control mileage	390.40
Animal Control Telephone	532.98
Records Preservation Supplies	95.77
	<hr/>
	40,401.07

Selectboard Report cont.

Utilities & Upkeep

Electricity	3,099.59
Street Lights	1,292.03
Community Solar	21,148.34
Telephone	1,660.00
Solid Waste/Recycling	1,184.36
Lawn Care	605.50
Equipment & Repairs	994.99
Building Upkeep/Repairs	24,365.53
Town Office Janitorial	866.42
911 Road Signs	855.90
	<hr/>
	56,072.66

Taxes Paid Out

Orleans County Treasurer, County Tax	19,810.77
Town of Westmore, Town Farm Property Tax	151.30
Town of Barton, Gravel Pit Property Tax	2,328.50
	<hr/>
	22,290.57

Miscellaneous

Newport Ambulance Service	63,706.92
VT State Treasurer, Marriage Licenses	130.00
VT State Treasurer, Dog Licenses	1,025.00
VLCT, dues	2,574.00
VMCTA, dues	90.00
NVDA, dues	970.00
Tax refunds	9,310.80
NEMRC, computer support/contract	6,588.76
Kevaco, website hosting	495.00
Clerk/Treasurer & Selectboard mileage	1,417.03
200th Anniversary Dinner	2,000.00
Notary training	70.00
Election Supplies	361.95
	<hr/>
	88,739.46

Selectboard Report cont.

Grant Expenses

Echo Lake Protective Association	22,930.00
	<u>22,930.00</u>

TOTAL SELECTBOARD BUDGET EXPENDITURES	392,165.95
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Voted at Town Meeting

Rd Equipment Fund (surplus)	26,798.68
NEK Council on Aging	600.00
Charleston Historical Society	1000.00
Charleston Volunteer Fire Dept.	55,609.00
Dailey Memorial Library	1,350.00
Green Up Vermont	50.00
Island Pond Public Library	700.00
NEK Human Services	1,074.00
NorthWoods Stewardship Center	800.00
Orleans County Citizens Advocacy	500.00
OEVNA & Hospice	3,000.00
Rural Community Transport	1,650.00
Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Society	500.00
Echo Lake Protective Association	1,000.00
VSO Symphony Kids	100.00
Umbrella	700.00
	<u>95,431.68</u>

TOTAL SELECTBOARD DISBURSEMENTS	487,597.63
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Road Department Report

SUMMARY

Road Dept Receipts

State Aid, Class 2 & 3 Highways	51,225.06
FEMA Disaster Assistance DR4720	55,206.16
FEMA Disaster Assistance DR4810	344,999.45
VTrans Class 2 Roadway Grant (Repave Durgin/Church Hill Rds)	112,345.60
VT Better Roads Grant (Ten Mile Square Rd culverts/ditching)	20,000.00
VT Grants-in-Aid Grant (Ten Mile Square Rd culvert/ditching)	15,000.00
Insurance Payment for Damaged Plow	9,786.76
Towns of Westmore & Brownington, sale of winter sand	22,520.00
Access Culvert Reimbursement from Property Owners	1,564.20
Equipment Loan for Grader	267,822.00
Total Road Receipts	900,469.23
Voted for 2025 Road Budget (Taxes)	571,037.50
Road Receipts plus Tax Revenue	1,471,506.73
2024 Highway Funds Encumbered for 2025 Paving Grant Match	29,254.40
2025 State Highway Aid Received in 2024	49,756.58
TOTAL ROAD REVENUES	1,550,517.71

Deduct Disbursements

Highways	1,260,304.11
Class IV	898.45
Total Disbursements	1,261,202.56

Deduct Encumbrances

Funds Encumbered for Surveyor Contract	3,000.00
Funds Encumbered for Engineering Contract	1,416.20
Total Encumbrances	4,416.20

Surplus/Deficit

284,898.95

EXPENDITURES

Highway Department

Wages & Stipends	238,028.93
Social Security paid	14,757.95
Medicare paid	3,451.46
Child Care Credit paid	969.76
Retirement	27,863.47
VLCT Unemployment Ins.	2,284.00
Health, Vision and Disability Insurance	40,392.74
Supplies	8,040.02
Tools/Equipment	620.54

Road Department Report cont.

Expenditures cont.

Telephone	1,327.38
Parts & Repairs	50,145.10
Tech Patrol, wifi equipment & setup	600.00
David White Trucking, roadside mowing & pavement sweeping	19,300.00
JBL Hauling & Excavating, storm repairs & grant work	12,955.00
Circumspect Land Surveying, Barton Pit Survey 50%	3,000.00
Andy J. Lawrence Trucking, haul conex	100.00
Casella, waste disposal	1,327.90
Diesel, Oil, Gas	45,352.99
Tires	6,506.00
Blades & Shoes	11,600.26
Dupuis Sand & Gravel, sta-mat	462.00
Dupuis Sand & Gravel, erosion stone	3,626.00
Dupuis Sand & Gravel, sta-mat (FEMA Hazard Mitigation)	24,156.00
Simpson Dirtworx, gravel crushing	59,280.00
Innovative Surface, dust control chloride	43,469.74
Adam Kennedy Enterprises, chloride storage tanks	1,000.00
Johnson Hardware, culverts	25,823.40
Gray's Mobile Arc, hay	425.00
United Construction & Forestry, grader purchase	371,322.00
HP Fairfield, plow	10,096.00
Burlington Communications, truck radio	965.50
Pike Industries, repave Durgin & Church Hill Rds	142,172.64
Pike Industries, pave Town yard	18,294.40
Michael Amatruda, garage building repairs	1,384.73
Tardif Heating & Mechanical, heater repair	1,327.80
Green & Son Concrete, pad for storage tanks	9,030.00
Eastern Metal, delineator posts & reflectors	1,038.00
Moe's Equipment, purchase 10' x 40' conex	4,000.00
Community Nat'l Bank, equipment loan annual payment	47,830.82
Bourne's Energy, propane	4,510.53
VT DEC, MRGP renewal & annual fees	1,350.00
Newport Rental, mini-skid	175.00
Kingdom Gravel, MSHA Refresher Training	90.00
J & S Electrical, repair electric service cable	213.00
Newspaper Job Postings	536.50
TOTAL ROAD EXPENDITURES	1,261,202.56

Cemetery Commissioners' Report

Receipts	Total
Hillside - Dividend from Dominion Resources	48.08
Hillside - CD Int from Community National Bank	2,284.96
West Village - CD Int from Community National Bank	1,740.46
Lot(s) sold	900.00
Voted at Town Meeting for Cemetery Dept.	13,606.00
Total Receipts	18,579.50

Disbursements	
Wages Paid for Labor	10,285.00
Social Security, Medicare & Child Care Credit paid	832.06
Heritage Memorials, corner posts	200.00
Driver's Outdoor Power Equipment, Repairs/Supplies	352.05
Gervais Ace Hardware	268.48
Charleston Corner Store, Gas	691.17
The Pick & Shovel	442.23
American Legion, Flags	127.50
Colleen Kellogg, fence parts	17.97
Newport Farm & Garden	22.06
Total Disbursements	13,238.52
Receipts Less Disbursements	5,340.98
\$180 in General Fund until February 2026 Hillside CD deposit	-180.00
Updated Receipts Less Disbursement	5,160.98

Cemetery Trust Funds	Total
Hillside: Community Natl Bank CD @3.95% matures 2/1/2026	46,945.84
West Village & Bly et al: Community Natl Bank CD @3.95% matures 2/1/2026	35,738.01
Total Trust Funds, December 31, 2025	82,683.85

Note: Bly et all = Bly, Crawford, Buck & Morrill Cemeteries

Policies of the Cemetery Commissioners:

No graves are to be opened after November 15th or before April 15th.

No shrubs or bushes will be planted on lots in any cemetery.

All flowers will be removed before the first cutting in the spring.

Green burial is not permitted.

The Town does not finance lots.

Prices are as follows: Full lot \$1,100; half-lot \$900; \$600 cremation lot

Listers' Report

The results of the December 2025 Equalization Study have been received from the state. The common level of appraisal (CLA) is 65%, down from 72.71% in 2024. The coefficient of dispersion (COD) is a measure of uniformity of appraisal within the town and is 15.75%, a decrease from 18.18% in 2024.

2026 Reappraisal Update

The townwide reappraisal will be completed before June 2026. The prior reappraisal for the town was in 2019 and values have changed significantly since then. The reappraisal will establish new land schedules and cost tables to reflect current market values in the town.

This is a statistical update based on current property information. If you have made changes to your property in the past year, expect an in-person site visit from the listers.

All property owners will be receiving an official notice of Change of Appraisal in the mail by mid May. This booklet will contain new values as well as previous values for all Grand List parcels in town. You will have the opportunity to view your data online and talk with an assessor from NEMRC after new values are established. Please be aware that the filing of any appeal is timely, so watch for this mailing. This new appraisal is to be considered current market value—based on the most recent 3 years of town sales.

The following breakdown is available for your information and review:

Charleston 2025 Municipal Grand List Summary

Property Type	# of Parcels	\$ Listed Value
Residential	374	63,818,500
Mobile Homes	81	5,157,400
Seasonal	56	5,719,000
Lake Properties	102	30,112,100
Commercial	7	671,700
Utilities	3	5,169,000
Farms	23	11,465,300
Open Land	105	7,525,300
Totals	751	129,638,300
Less exemptions*		(15,700,700)
TOTAL GRAND LIST		113,937,600

*Exemptions include: Current Use: \$15,103,200; Veterans \$480,000; Contracts \$117,500

TOWN RESIDENTS are reminded to file their HOMESTEAD DECLARATION (form HS 122) by April 15, 2026 to avoid a Late Homestead Penalty (3% of the Education Tax): For more information or to file online, visit www.tax.vermont.gov.

Respectfully Submitted,
Charleston Board of Listers

Delinquent Tax Report 2025

Tax Year	Balance on 1/1/25	Delinquent 2025 Taxes	Collected in 2025	Uncollected as of 12/31/25
2024	41,981.66	0.00	30,913.20	11,068.46
2025	0.00	76,489.70	43,277.76	33,211.94
Total	41,981.66	76,489.70	74,190.96	44,280.40

Delinquent Taxes as of 12/31/25

Parcel #	Owner	Unpaid Tax
3700274	274 Hopkins Hill Realty	4.54
3200109	Belmore, Syman	616.10
9030086	Bemis, David R	5,134.13
3300612	Chandler, June Life Estate & Sadie Chandler Et Al	1,084.24
8004686	Ferrie, Jana L.	411.72
0500780	French, Rodger & Kathleen Lyford	848.97
0800051	Griffin, Francis E.	970.14
1302141	Hart, Angiemarie	886.59
2500413	Hodge, Joda	1,081.82
8007245	Jensen, Mildred, Estate	160.09
0500936	Jensen, Thomas	1,135.15
0500652	Johnson, Benjamin	903.46
0402143	Keenan, Scott & Deanna	7,046.12
4800076	Kennedy, Monte	1,933.21
1301847	Labounty, Arlean (Hillis)	1,082.35
3900016	Lacroix, Laura	1,130.33
0110185	Lowell, Robin & Nicole	2,310.48
1301043	Malmude, Anna	2,542.68
8000996	Messier, Norman	1,398.82
1300667	Morrill, Douglas	5,926.63
8006301	Morse, Amber	2,706.33
8004621	Mount, Jeffrey & Dana Bellevance	1,050.28
1701159	Nutile, William F. R.	453.59
2500301	Oldacre, Mareo, Parina Godbolt & Clifton Oldacre	606.41
8003960	Plankey, Larry & Frances	1,125.47
0200745	Royston, Joseph	30.41
8003156	Skinner, Todd	1,700.34
Total		44,280.40

Charleston Volunteer Fire Department

P.O Box 106

East Charleston, Vermont 05833

Fire Department Report to the Town of Charleston Year Ending 2025

The year 2025 marks the 71st year for the Charleston Volunteer Fire Department. 2025 saw the department called out a total of 40 emergency calls. Breakdown of the calls included- search and rescue, structure/chimney fires, ambulance assist, motor vehicle accidents, fire or (CO) detector activations, and mutual aid calls to area departments.

Our membership in 2025 stands strong with 26 regular members.

In 2025 we once again had two very successful fundraisers our BBQ in August, and the Oyster supper this year which was held at the fire station for the first time was very successful. We want to thank all who were able to attend, and also thank you to all the Charleston community for your continued support.

Because of the two great fundraisers this year's budget CVFD submits a request of \$55,609.00. This request remains level funded same as last year. This request includes annual tanker payment of (\$11,755.00 and \$2,291.00 for Charleston's share of dispatching.) Morgan will be billed for their share of dispatching also.

As always, the commitment of CVFD members to their community is voluntary, with no members being financially reimbursed for their time. All dollars which the department receives, goes directly to defray cost of operations.

We thank the Charleston community for their continued support.

Charleston Vol. Fire Dept.Inc
Profit & Loss
 January 1 through December 26, 2025

	Jan 1 - Dec 26, 25
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Devaney BBQ	7,307.30
Donations	927.62
Interest Income	24.84
Oyster Supper	19,347.00
sale of enclosed trailer	2,500.00
Town of Charleston	55,609.00
Town of Morgan	20,005.00
Total Income	106,720.76
Gross Profit	106,720.76
Expense	
Dispatcher Expenses	3,404.92
Dues	
NEIMA	100.00
Dues - Other	648.00
Total Dues	748.00
E Dispatch	1,572.00
Insurance	
W/C Insurance	1,217.00
Insurance - Other	12,800.00
Total Insurance	14,017.00
Office Expenses	453.72
Oyster supper expenses	2,674.71
Plowing	1,625.00
Postage, Mailing Service	858.00
Professional services	913.00
Repairs	
Engine repair	1,017.07
SCBA Repair	155.00
Station Repairs	12,927.88
Truck Repair	9,131.49
Repairs - Other	1,985.49
Total Repairs	25,216.93
Ronalds memorial	80.00
Secretarial	90.00
Shirley memorial	500.00
Supplies	
Station supplies	2,652.00
Supplies - Other	6,841.37
Total Supplies	9,493.37
Training	1,805.80
Utilities	
Electric	539.20
Heating Oil	3,863.91
Utilities - Other	5,813.60
Total Utilities	10,216.71
Total Expense	73,669.16
Net Ordinary Income	32,051.60
Net Income	32,051.60

Newport Ambulance Service, Inc.

PO Box 911, Newport, VT 05855 PH (802)334-2023

2025 Annual Report

Dear Community Members,

On behalf of everyone at Newport Ambulance Service, we extend our sincere gratitude for your continued trust and partnership over the past year. Serving your community is a responsibility we never take lightly, and your support makes it possible for us to deliver high-quality, timely, and compassionate emergency medical care when it matters most.

Newport Ambulance has become one of the largest regional ambulance services in the State of Vermont; employing over sixty (60) employees with four (4) stations covering 830 sq. miles for seventeen (17) Towns, and five (5) Unified Towns & Gores. In 2025, we responded to 5,809 calls for service.



This year brought its share of challenges, but also incredible moments of teamwork, resilience, and progress. In 2025, Newport Ambulance Service was named “Service of the Year” by the Vermont State EMS office. In addition, our employee Samantha Atwood was named “BLS Provider of the Year”. Additional recognition to Jeffrey Johansen (NAS Director) and Robert Jacobs (Division Supervisor) were both honored at the Jay Peak “One Town” celebration. We are especially proud that our crews have been recognized for two (2) cardiac saves in 2025, one in Hyde Park and the other in Coventry.

Our crews respond to calls day and night in every kind of weather, providing critical care, safe transport, and reassurance during some of life’s most stressful moments. None of this would be possible without the commitment each Town shows through funding, collaboration, and open communication.

Highlights from this year include:

- Continued investment in advanced life-support equipment and cardiac monitoring technology
- Ongoing training in trauma care and community risk reduction
- Improvements in response times and coordinated dispatch with partner agencies
- Strong collaboration with local fire departments, police, and emergency management teams
- Service of the Year Award by the Vermont State EMS office.

Every upgrade we’ve made—whether equipment, training, or staffing—reflects our core mission: to protect the health and safety of the people who live, work, and visit in your Towns.

Your support is the backbone of a reliable EMS system. When you partnership with Newport Ambulance Service, you're investing in readiness, professionalism, and the assurance that help will arrive quickly, fully equipped, and with the skill needed to save lives.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to continuous improvement, transparent communication, and strengthening our connection with each community we serve. Thank you again for your partnership and for recognizing the importance of strong, sustainable EMS coverage. Newport Ambulance Service thanks you for your continued support and looks forward to serving you and your community for years to come.

We are honored to stand beside you!

With appreciation,

Jeffrey J. Johansen

Executive Director Newport
Ambulance Service

YEAR IN NUMBERS (2025)

Total EMS Calls: 5809

Mutual Aid Provided: 106 incidents

Mutual Aid Received: 11 incidents

Average Response Time: 8 minutes, 45
seconds

Transports to Hospital: 4051

Non-Transport Patient Care: 1758

Cardiac Arrest Responses: 67

Narcans Administrations: 45

Community Events & Standbys: 110



FROM NAVY TO CHARLESTON

In September 1825, a group of the town's early inhabitants—then living in the town of Navy—petitioned the Vermont General Assembly, requesting that “the name of the Town of Navy may be altered to that of Charleston.” The act approving the name change was passed on November 16, 1825, and November 2025 marked the 200th anniversary of this milestone.

34.—An act, altering the name of the town of Navy to that of Charleston.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Vermont, That the town of Navy, in the county of Orleans, shall be hereafter known and called by the name of Charleston.

Town of Navy to be called Charleston.

Provided, That for the term of three years after the passing of this act, in all publick notices and advertisements, which shall or may, in any degree or manner, affect the exposure of the lands in said township for sale, at vendue, for taxes or otherwise, or shall respect any meeting or proceeding of the proprietors of said township, the said town shall be called in said publication *Charleston, late Navy, in the county of Orleans.*

Designation of town in land notices, for three years.

[*Passed Nov. 16, 1825.*]