

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

TOWN OFFICERS

OF THE TOWN OF

JEFFERSON, NH

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FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

American Red Cross	81
Androscoggin Valley Regional Refuse Disposal District	67
Auditor's Report.....	41
Balance Sheet	22
Births Registered	84
Budget of the Town (MS-636).....	12
CASA of New Hampshire	79
Center for New Beginnings	77
Deaths Registered.....	85
Detailed Expenses.....	30
Financial Report of Trustees of Trust Funds.....	28
Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services Report	46
Forest Fire Warden and State Forest Ranger Report	51
Green Up Jefferson Savings Account.....	40
Highway Report.....	44
Jefferson Conservation Commission	71
Jefferson EMS Savings Account	39
Jefferson Firemen's Association Report	50
Jefferson Historical Society	58
Marc A. Hurzeler M.D. Library Report.....	53
Marc A. Hurzeler M.D. Library Trustees Report	56
Marriages Registered	83
Nevers Scholarship Fund	82
North Country Council Report	68
North Country Home Health & Hospice Services.....	72
Northern Human Services Report - White Mountain Mental Health	75
Planning Board Report	60
Schedule of Town Property.....	23
Summary Inventory of Valuation.....	16
Summary of Expenditures	20
Summary of Receipts	18
Tax Collector's Report	24
Tax Rate Computation.....	17
Town Clerk's Report	26
Town Officers	3
Transfer Station Report	45
Treasurer's Report.....	27
Veteran's Memorial Fund Treasurer's Report.....	38
Warrant 2024 Town Meeting	4
Zoning Board of Adjustment Report	65

TOWN OFFICERS

MODERATOR	Lynne Holland
SELECTMEN	Norman Brown, <i>Chair</i> Terri Larcomb Kevin Meehan
TREASURER	Cheryl Meehan
TAX COLLECTOR	Jennifer Kenison
TOWN CLERK	Linda Cushman
SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST	Cheryl Meehan Debbie Dubois Christine Smith
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	Hank Verret, <i>Director</i>
PLANNING BOARD	Michael Meehan, <i>Chairman</i>
BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS	Kim Perry, <i>Chairman</i>
FIRE CHIEF	Chris Milligan
TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST FUNDS	Jason Call Cheryl Marshall Michael Meehan
LIBRARY TRUSTEES	Elizabeth Milligan Brenda Roy Jeannie Kenison Leslie Seppala Betty Bovio
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	David Govatski, <i>Chairman</i>

WARRANT 2024 TOWN MEETING

THE POLLS WILL BE OPEN FROM NOON TO 8:00 P.M.

To the inhabitants of the Town of Jefferson in the County of Coos in said State, qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You hereby notified to meet at the Jefferson Community Center/Town Office 178 Meadows Rd. in said Town of Jefferson on Tuesday, the 12th day of March next, at 7:30 of the clock in the evening, to act upon the following subjects:

ARTICLE 1: To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year (ballot vote)**

ARTICLE 2: Are you in favor of Amendment #1 to the Jefferson Land Use Plan Ordinance as recommended by the Planning Board as follows: Add a new Article XII regarding Recreational Campgrounds to define and follow recreational campgrounds by special exception and to provide minimum standards for recreational campgrounds, including frontage, lot size, campsite size, setbacks, and screening. (ballot vote)** YES NO

ARTICLE 3: Are you in favor of Amendment #2 to the Jefferson Land Use Plan Ordinance as recommended by the Planning Board as follows: Add a new Article XIII regarding Short Term Rentals to define and allow short term rentals by special exception, and to provide additional special exception considerations for short term rentals. (ballot vote)** YES NO

ARTICLE 4: Are you in favor of stopping any new developments of new campgrounds being built in the Town of Jefferson? Petitioned Article (ballot vote)** YES NO

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,103,003 for general municipal operations for the ensuing year. Select Board recommend.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$55,000 to be added to the Capital Reserve Funds as listed. Select Board recommend.

\$50,000 Highway Vehicle CRF

\$5,000 Highway Repair & Maintenance CRF

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,000 to be added to the Expendable Trust Funds as listed. Select Board recommend.

\$4,000 Athletic Expendable Trust

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be added to the Building Capital Reserve Fund. Select Board recommend.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,000 to be added to the Capital Reserve Funds as listed. Select Board recommend.

\$2,000 Dump Closure CRF

\$2,000 Transfer Station CRF

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$65,000 to be added to the Capital Reserve Funds as listed. Select Board recommend.

\$50,000 Fire Truck CRF \$5,000 Fire Station CRF

\$10,000 Fire Dept. Equipment CRF

ARTICLE 11: Are you in favor of discounting the Broadband Capital Reserve Fund. Said funds and accumulated interest to date of withdrawal are to be transferred to the Town's general fund. As of 2023 year end, the amount in the Broadband Capital Reserve Fund is approximately \$2,630. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 12: Are you in favor of establishing an Airport Road Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of maintaining the Jefferson side of Airport Road, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be placed in the fund. This amount to come from TAXATION. Further, to name the Select Board as the agent to expend from said fund. The Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2 to 3. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 13: Are you in favor of modifying the Veteran's Tax Credit and the All Veteran's Tax Credit in accordance with RSA 72:28, II and RSA 72:28-b from the current tax credit of \$50 per year to \$500 per year. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 14: Are you in favor of adopting the provisions of RSA 76:15-a to provide for the semi-annual collection of taxes? If this is adopted, two tax bills will be issued each year – one payable in July and one payable December 1.

ARTICLE 15: Are you in favor of establishing a Solar Power Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purposes of installing solar panels on town buildings and/or properties, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000 to be placed in the fund. This amount to come from TAXATION. Further, to name the Select Board as the agent to expend from said fund. The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2 to 3. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to allow the Tax Collector to accept prepayment of taxes in accordance to RSA 80:52-a.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to increase the Select Board salary from \$2,174 to \$3,000 and raise the sum of \$2,477 for this purpose. Select Board recommend.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to increase the Treasurer's salary from \$2,302 to \$3,000 and to raise the sum of \$698 for this purpose. Select Board recommend.

ARTICLE 19: Resolution for the Town of Jefferson to consider short term rentals not owned by a current or previous Jefferson resident as businesses bound by all state and federal laws on lodging and accommodations. The Land Use Ordinance states that when considering an application for Special Exception "Hotel, motel, tourist accommodations and lodging units shall be defined in the strictest sense". The best way to adhere to that is to stop regulating business model short term rentals (purchased by non residents for the purpose of renting) with verbiage from the Land Use Ordinance regarding Home Based Businesses and to designate them as the just businesses. Owner occupied rentals, ancestral homes of the owner, and those operated in the former home of the owner (provide the latter occupied the house a minimum of five years) are exempt.

ARTICLE 20: Resolution for town boards and committees to be more transparent. Requiring all boards, committees, and departments of Jefferson, New Hampshire to surpass New Hampshire's 91/A Right to Know law by posting meeting and hearing notifications, agendas, and minutes (including drafts) on the town's website: Meeting and hearing announcements to be posted to be posted no fewer than two days in advance, draft minutes no more than five days after, and agendas no later than 3 p.m. the day of meeting or hearing at 6 p.m. or later, or by 3 p.m. the preceding day if the meeting is during the daytime.

ARTICLE 21: Select Board- By petition of 25 or more eligible voters of the Town of Jefferson to see if the Townspeople will vote to clarify that in March of 2019 the registered voters of the Town of Jefferson were presented with Warrant Article #13 which, once passed, authorized the Select Board salary to be increased from \$1,500 to \$2,000. No warrant has been presented to the Townspeople since that time to raise and appropriate additional funds for this elected position. On January 15, 2024 the Select Board voted to increase their salary from \$2,000 to \$3,000 each, at their Select Board meeting. They also voted at this meeting to increase the salary of the Select Board Chair position from \$100 to \$500. If the Select Board members were paid higher than \$2,000 in any year 2019 or after, the Townspeople further request that the Town Clerk produce the record(s) showing the Townspeople's authorization of said increase(s). Town Clerk must exhaust all efforts to immediately produce and publicly post this record(s), including any applicable meeting minute attested copies or other

verification from the Town's records, the State of New Hampshire or any other applicable agency that may have retained copies. Per NH RSA 91-A:4 IV (b) "If a public body or agency is unable to make a governmental record available for immediate inspection and copying the public body or agency shall, within 5 business days of request: (1) Make such record available; (2) Deny the request; (3) Provide a written statement of the time reasonably necessary to determine whether the request shall be granted or denied and the reason for the delay." The Townspeople further request that in making the record available, the aforementioned record(s) shall be posted on the Town website and at two local physical locations, such as the Jefferson Post Office and the Old Corner Store.

ARTICLE 22: Town Clerk- By petition of 25 or more eligible voters of the Town of Jefferson to see if the Townspeople will vote to clarify that in March of 1998 the registered voters of the Town of Jefferson were presented with Warrant Article #16 which, once passed, authorized the Town Clerk salary to be increased from \$700 to \$1,000.

No warrant has been presented to the Townspeople since that time to raise and appropriate additional funds for this elected position. The 2022 Town Annual Report page 23 shows payments of \$14,443 to the Town Clerk and \$1,519 to the Deputy Town Clerk for a total of \$15,962. If the Town Clerk was paid an amount higher than the \$1,000 in any year 1998 or after, the Townspeople further request that the Town Clerk produce the record(s) showing the Townspeople's authorization of said increase(s). Town Clerk must exhaust all efforts to immediately produce and publicly post this record(s), including any applicable meeting minute attested copies or other verification from the Town's records, the State of New Hampshire or any other applicable agency that may have retained copies. Per NH RSA 91-A:4 IV (b) "If a public body or agency is unable to make a governmental record available for immediate inspection and copying the public body or agency shall, within 5 business days of request: (1) Make such record available; (2) Deny the request; (3) Provide a written statement of the time reasonably necessary to determine whether the request shall be granted or denied and the reason for the delay." The Townspeople further request that in making the record available, the aforementioned record(s) shall be posted on the Town website and at two local physical locations, such as the Jefferson Post Office and the Old Corner Store.

ARTICLE 23: Treasurer- By petition of 25 or more eligible voters of the Town of Jefferson to see if the Townspeople will vote to clarify that in March of 1998 the registered voters of the Town of Jefferson were presented with Warrant Article #16 which, once passed, authorized the Treasurer salary to be increased from \$1,000 to \$2,000. No warrant has been presented to the Townspeople since that time to raise and appropriate additional funds for this elected position.

The 2022 Town Annual Report page 24 shows that in 2022 the Treasurer was paid \$2,118. If the Treasurer was paid an amount higher than \$2,000 in any year 1998 or after, the Townspeople further request that the Town Clerk produce the record(s) showing the Townspeople's authorization of said increase(s). Town Clerk must exhaust all efforts to immediately produce and publicly post this record(s), including any applicable meeting minute attested copies or other verification from the Town's records, the State of New Hampshire or any other applicable agency that may have retained copies. Per NH RSA 91-A:4 IV (b) "If a public body or agency is unable to make a governmental record available for immediate inspection and copying the public body or agency shall, within 5 business days of request: (1) Make such record available; (2) Deny the request; (3) Provide a written statement of the time reasonably necessary to determine whether the request shall be granted or denied and the reason for the delay." The Townspeople further request that in making the record available, the aforementioned record(s) shall be posted on the Town website and at two local physical locations, such as the Jefferson Post Office and the Old Corner Store.

ARTICLE 24: Tax Collector- By petition of 25 or more eligible voters of the Town of Jefferson to see if the Townspeople will vote to clarify that between 2008 and 2012 the Tax Collector was paid yearly; between 2013 and 2017 the Tax Collector was paid \$8,500 yearly; between 2018 and 2020 the Tax Collector was paid \$9,000 yearly and on or about June 28, 2021, the Select Board voted to increase the Tax Collector's pay to \$14,000, at their Select Board meeting. The 2022 Town Annual Report page 24 shows that the Tax Collector was paid \$14,826. If the Tax Collector was paid an amount higher than \$9,000 in any year 2020 or after, the Townspeople further request that the Town Clerk produce the record(s) showing the Townspeople's authorization of said increase(s). Town Clerk must exhaust all efforts to immediately produce and publicly post this record(s), including any applicable meeting minute attested copies or other verification from the Town's records, the State of New Hampshire or any other applicable agency that may have retained copies. Per NH RSA 91-A:4 IV (b) "If a public body or agency is unable to make a governmental record available for immediate inspection and copying the public body or agency shall, within 5 business days of request: (1) Make such record available; (2) Deny the request; (3) Provide a written statement of the time reasonably necessary to determine whether the request shall be granted or denied and the reason for the delay." The Townspeople further request that in making the record available, the aforementioned record(s) shall be posted on the Town website and at two local physical locations, such as the Jefferson Post Office and the Old Corner Store.

ARTICLE 25: Supervisors of the Checklist- By petition of 25 or more eligible voters of the Town of Jefferson to see if the Townspeople will vote to clarify that in March of 1995 the registered voters of the Town of Jefferson were presented

with Warrant Article #17 which, once passed, authorized the Supervisors of the Checklist salary to be increased from \$125 to \$200. No warrant has been presented to the Townspeople since that time to raise and appropriate additional funds for this elected position. The 2022 Town Annual Report page 23 shows payments of \$212 to each Supervisor of the Checklist for a total of \$636. If the Supervisors of the Checklist were paid an amount higher than \$200 in any year 1995 or after, the Townspeople further request that the Town Clerk produce the record(s) showing the Townspeople's authorization of said increase(s). Town Clerk must exhaust all efforts to immediately produce and publicly post this record(s), including any applicable meeting minute attested copies or other verification from the Town's records, the State of New Hampshire or any other applicable agency that may have retained copies. Per NH RSA 91-A:4 IV (b) "If a public body or agency is unable to make a governmental record available for immediate inspection and copying the public body or agency shall, within 5 business days of request: (1) Make such record available; (2) Deny the request; (3) Provide a written statement of the time reasonably necessary to determine whether the request shall be granted or denied and the reason for the delay." The Townspeople further request that in making the record available, the aforementioned record(s) shall be posted on the Town website and at two local physical locations, such as the Jefferson Post Office and the Old Corner Store.

ARTICLE 26: Town Records- By petition of 25 or more eligible voters of the Town of Jefferson to see if the Townspeople will vote immediately halt the destruction of any and all Town Records by any elected official, appointed official, Town employee, or any other person(s) having custody of Town Records and to further state that in order to prevent the destruction of any Town record(s) that may:

- (1) Be on the Municipal Records Disposition and Retention Schedule (NH RSA 33-A:3-a);
- (2) Have historical or intrinsic value; or
- (3) Appear to be an original, irreplaceable document that may be significant to a Townspeople(s) such as a deed, vital record, or similar record.

The Townspeople further state that the identification and disposition of Municipal Records shall be at public Municipal Records shall be at public meetings and shall include all municipal officers referenced in NH RSA 33-A:3, as well as at least one percent of the registered voters of the Town of Jefferson who are not also a municipal officer referenced in NH RSA 33-A:3. If any of the aforementioned parties are unavailable to physically attend, then destruction of any record will be delayed until which time all parties are able to physically attend said meeting. These meetings are to occur separately from other board and committee meetings and minutes must retained and posted as applicable

by law. This warrant article is also to clarify that the Select Board meeting minutes state records were shredded and/or otherwise destroyed by person(s) on multiple occasions since Town Hall fire of February 1, 2021, and without the Townspeople knowing what types of records were destroyed and if these records may have been one of the items listed above.

ARTICLE 27: By petition of 25 or more eligible voters of the Town of Jefferson to see if the Townspeople will vote to immediately revoke the Select Board's authority as agents to expend funds from any and all Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) accounts without prior specific approval from the registered voters of the Town of Jefferson. These funds shall only be expended by the authority of the registered voters of the Town of Jefferson shall be voted upon by warrant article applicable by law. This warrant article, if passed, includes:

- (1) Any and all CRF's and expendable funds currently within the custody of the Trustees of the Trust Funds, including but not limited to those listed on page 22 of the 2022 Town Annual Report: Highway Vehicle, Dump Closure, Bridge Repair & Maintenance, Fire Truck, Buildings, Highway Repair, Transfer Station, Perambulation Town Lines, Town Library Fund, Cemetery Maintenance Fund, Fire Department Equipment, Fire Station, Jefferson Municipal Community Center, Broadband Infrastructure. If one of the aforementioned fund accounts are designated to be closed and the funds are directed to be deposited within the general fund in another warrant article and presented at the same time as this warrant article then this warrant article invalidates that vote and the funds and said closure will be placed on hold until which time the funds can be designated for another specific purpose by the registered voters of the Town of Jefferson.
- (2) Any and all Capital Reserve Funds or Expendable Funds newly created in another warrant article and presented to the Townspeople at the same time as this warrant article. This warrant article does not prevent the Townspeople from creating a new CRF, but does revoke the Select Board's authority as agents to expend funds without the approval of the registered voters of the Town of Jefferson.
- (3) Any and all accounts that has or is intended to hold any and all funds received from Primex or other sources, as payment for the loss of our Town Hall building on February 1, 2021. This includes the \$440,603.34 received and referenced in the Select Board meeting minutes dated August 7, 2023, as "being parked in the town's ICS" under the authority of the "Select Board Chair", as well as any further payment(s) from the loss of our Town Hall building.

This does not include any Primex funds intended to replace items lost in the fire, nor does it prevent the creation of a new CRF. This warrant article revokes

the Select Board's authority as agents to expend funds pursuant to the Town Hall building loss without the approval of the registered voters of the Town of Jefferson and invalidates that authority including if it may be presented in another warrant article at the same time as this warrant article.

ARTICLE 28: To transact any other business that may come before the meeting. Given under our hands and seal this 22nd day of February in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Four.

A True Copy: ATTEST

NORMAN A. BROWN, *Chair*
TERRI LARCOMB, *Member*
KEVIN M. MEEHAN, *Member*
Select Board, Town of Jefferson, NH

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2024 (MS-636)

Purpose of Appropriation	Warrant Article #	Expenditures For Period Ending 12/31/23	Approp. For Period Ending 12/31/23	Prop. Approp. For Period Ending 12/31/24 (Recom.)
<u>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</u>				
Executive	05	\$102,353	\$129,589	\$121,078
Election, Registration, and Vital Statistics	05	21,802	29,800	50,813
Financial Administration	05	39,414	49,975	47,374
Property Assessment	05	24,766	27,000	30,000
Legal Expense	05	11,310	7,100	14,750
Planning and Zoning	05	14,639	13,230	15,250
General Government Buildings	05	241,175	250,043	78,250
Cemeteries	05	16,844	12,325	16,400
Insurance Not Otherwise Allocated	05	55,991	48,900	76,300
Other General Government	05	16,543	8,300	8,700
General Government Subtotal		\$544,837	\$576,262	\$458,915
<u>PUBLIC SAFETY</u>				
Police	05	23,786	19,785	33,250
Ambulances	05	49,815	49,815	49,815
Fire	05	182,012	85,825	104,543
Emergency Management	05	0	0	500
Other Public Safety	05	26,184	27,080	16,530
Public Safety Subtotal		\$281,797	\$182,505	\$204,638
<u>HIGHWAYS AND STREETS</u>				
Highways and Streets	05	218,523	242,057	186,900
Bridges	05	0	100	500
Street Lighting	05	6,361	6,000	6,500
Other Highway, Streets and Bridges	05	26,958	46,600	22,500
Highways and Streets Subtotal		\$215,842	\$294,757	\$216,400
<u>SANITATION</u>				
Solid Waste Disposal	05	103,392	119,650	129,050
Solid Waste Facilities Clean-Up	05	5,850	8,830	8,830
Sanitation Subtotal		\$109,242	\$128,480	\$137,880
<u>HEALTH</u>				
Health Agencies and Hospitals	05	9,058	10,650	10,150
Health Subtotal		\$9,058	\$10,650	\$10,150
<u>WELFARE</u>				
Direct Assistance	05	172	5,000	5,000
Welfare Subtotal		\$172	\$5,000	\$5,000

Town of Jefferson, NH

CULTURE AND RECREATION

Parks and Recreation	05	7,408	10,100	10,300
Library	05	35,979	38,565	47,850
Patriotic Purposes	05	65,000	6,000	6,500
Culture and Recreation Subtotal		\$108,387	\$54,665	\$64,650

CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Conservation Administration	05	310	370	370
Conservation and Development Subtotal		\$310	\$370	\$370

DEBT SERVICE

Interest on Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes	05	11,799	5,000	0
Debt Service Subtotal		\$11,799	\$5,000	\$5,000

Total Operating Budget Appropriations **\$1,103,003**

SPECIAL WARRANT ARTICLES

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Warrant Article #</u>	<u>Proposed Appropriations For Period Ending 12/31/2024 (Recommended)</u>
To Capital Reserve Funds <i>Purpose: CRF Funding</i>	06	\$55,000
To Capital Reserve Funds <i>Purpose: CRF Funding</i>	08	\$25,000
To Capital Reserve Funds <i>Purpose: CRF Funding</i>	09	\$4,000
To Capital Reserve Funds <i>Purpose: Funding CRF</i>	10	\$65,000
To Capital Reserve Funds <i>Purpose: Establish CRF</i>	12	\$10,000
To Capital Reserve Funds <i>Purpose: Establish Solar Power CRF</i>	15	\$100,000
To Expendable Trusts <i>Purpose: ETP Funding</i>	07	\$4,000
TOTAL PROPOSED SPECIAL ARTICLES		\$263,000
To Executive <i>Purpose: Increase Select Board Salaries</i>	18	\$2,477
To Financial Administration <i>Purpose: Increase Treasurer Salary</i>	19	\$698
TOTAL PROPOSED INDIVIDUAL ARTICLES		\$3,175

Town of Jefferson, NH

REVENUES

Source of Revenue	Warrant Article #	Actual Revenues For Period Ending 12/31/23	Estimated Revenues For Period Ending 12/31/23	Estimated Revenues for Period Ending 12/31/24
<u>TAXES</u>				
Land Use Change Taxes for				
General Fund	05	\$0	\$2,500	\$700
Yield Taxes	05	0	13,700	13,800
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	05	0	20,618	21,000
Excavation Tax	05	0	25	50
Other Taxes	05	0	1,600	3,002
Interest and Penalties on				
Delinquent Taxes	05	0	12,000	11,635
Taxes Subtotal		\$0	\$50,443	\$50,187
<u>LICENSES, PERMITS, AND FEES</u>				
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	05	0	327,000	350,000
Building Permits	05	0	800	700
Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	05	0	5,475	6,675
Licenses, Permits, and Fees Subtotal		\$0	\$333,275	\$357,375
<u>STATE SOURCES</u>				
Meals and Rooms Tax Distribution	05	0	90,000	100,000
Highway Block Grant	05	0	45,000	55,000
State and Federal Forest Land				
Reimbursement	05	0	34,300	40,000
Railroad Tax Distribution	05	0	18,958	19,050
Intergovernmental Revenues - Other		0	119,930	0
State Sources Subtotal		\$0	\$308,188	\$214,050
<u>CHARGES FOR SERVICES</u>				
Income from Departments	05	0	95	210
Other Charges	05	0	10,000	9,300
Charges for Services Subtotal		\$0	\$10,095	\$9,510
<u>MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES</u>				
Sale of Municipal Property	05	0	1,800	1,000
Interest on Investments	05	0	600	750
Insurance Dividends and				
Reimbursements	05	0	0	50,000
Revenue from Misc. Sources				
Not Otherwise Classified	05	0	465,646	22,075
Miscellaneous Revenues Subtotal		\$0	\$468,046	\$73,825
<u>INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFERS IN</u>				
From Capital Reserve Funds		0	160,674	0
Interfund Operating Transfers In Subtotal		\$0	\$160,674	\$0
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES AND CREDITS		\$0	\$1,330,721	\$704,947

Town of Jefferson, NH

Item	Period Ending 12/31/2024
Operating Budget Appropriations	\$1,103,003
Special Warrant Articles	263,000
Individual Warrant Articles	3,175
Total Appropriations	1,369,178
Less Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits	<u>704,947</u>
Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised	\$664,231

NORMAN A. BROWN, *Chair*
TERRI LARCOMB, *Member*
KEVIN M. MEEHAN, *Member*
Select Board, Town of Jefferson, NH

SUMMARY INVENTORY OF VALUATION

	Number of Acres	2023 Assessed Valuation
LAND		
Current Use (at current use value)	16,722.86	\$ 963,392
Residential (improved & unimproved)	3,720.54	45,223,700
Commercial/Industrial/Mixed Use	451.7	2,125,000
TOTAL TAXABLE LAND		\$ 48,312,092
BUILDINGS		
Residential		91,979,901
Manufactured Housing		4,181,900
Commercial/Industrial/Mixed Use		11,778,500
TOTAL OF TAXABLE BUILDINGS		\$107,940,301
UTILITIES		
Eversource		6,356,500
Portland Pipeline Corporation		2,555,900
TOTAL UTILITIES		\$ 8,912,400
VALUATION BEFORE EXEMPTIONS		\$165,164,793
EXEMPTIONS		
Blind		0
Elderly (10)		387,500
TOTAL EXEMPTIONS		\$ 387,500
NET VALUE FOR LOCAL TAX COMPUTATION		\$164,777,293
Less Utilities		8,912,400
NET VALUE FOR STATE TAX COMPUTATION		\$155,864,893

Land Tax Exempt and Non-Taxable - 9,448.55 Acres

Value - \$15,676,898

Buildings Tax Exempt Non-Taxable Value - \$2,346,700

TAX RATE COMPUTATION

Gross Town Appropriations	\$ 1,380,689
Add Veteran Credit	5,700
Add Overlay	9,964
Less Revenues & Voted Surplus	-682,765
Net Town Appropriations	713,588
Add School Appropriations	2,248,135
Less Adequate Education Grant	-564,903
Less State Education Tax	-238,647
Add County Appropriations	<u>545,649</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$2,703,822</u>
Less Shared Revenues	0
LOCAL TAXES TO BE RAISED	2,703,822
STATE EDUCATION TAX TO BE RAISED	<u>238,647</u>
TOTAL TAXES BEING RAISED	<u>\$2,942,469</u>

PROOF OF COMPUTATION - local valuation 164,777,293 times 16.41 per thousand equals 2,703,995.37, state education tax, local valuation less utilities 156,103,540 times 1.23 per thousand equals 238,838.42 (16.41 + 1.53 = 17.94)

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS

TAXES

Property Taxes	\$3,940,830
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	20,618
Excavation Taxes	23
Sewer Tax	2,290
Yield Taxes	14,147
Interest and Penalties	12,542
Land Use Change Tax	654

LICENSES AND PERMITS

Motor Vehicles	315,250
Building Permits	695
Other Licenses and Permits	7,507

FROM STATE AND FEDERAL

Shared Revenue	-
Rooms and Meals Tax	99,173
Highway Block Grant	58,841
NH Railroad	49
USF & W Revenue Sharing	18,910
UCC Township	675
Statewide Check List	400
Bridge Block Grant	42,264

FROM OTHER GOVERNMENT

Coos County ARPA	37,367
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MISC. REVENUE SOURCES

Reclamation Trust Fund	2,488
State Vital Records	200
Sale Scrap Metal	585
Income from Departments	230
Police Special	16,773
Interest on Investment	871
Other Income	6,129
Historical Society Lease	2,400
Parking Lot Rent	675
Fire Department Reimbursement	27,426
JCC Rental	500

Town of Jefferson, NH

Town Clerk Fees Reimbursed	9,431
Grants	2,115
Sale of Cemetery Lot	1,800
Donations	-
Repurchase of Tax Deed	-
Insurance Claim	443,453
Insurance Refund	-
CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS	
Building CRF	-
Transfer Station Container	-
Highway Vehicle CRF	155,000
Fire Department Equipment	5,674
TRUST & AGENCY	
Library Trust Fund	-
Cemetery Trust	300
TEMPORARY LOAN	
Tax Anticipation Note	<u>855,000</u>
TOTAL REVENUE ALL SOURCES	<u>\$6,103,283</u>

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Executive	\$ 102,353
Election, Registration & Vital Statistics	21,802
Financial Administration	39,414
Revaluation	24,766
Legal	11,310
Planning Board	9,227
Zoning Board	5,412
Town Hall & Other Government Buildings	241,175
Insurance	55,991
Cemeteries	16,844
Other Government Reimbursement	16,543

PUBLIC SAFETY

Fire Department	182,012
Ambulance Service	49,815
Police	23,786
(8560 Reimbursed)	
EMS	26,184

HIGHWAY AND STREETS

Highway Department	218,553
Gravel	13,939
Street Lighting	6,361
Bridge Work	0
Other Highway	13,020

SANITATION

Solid-Waste Disposal and Recycling	103,392
Landfill Monitoring & Groundwater Plans	5,850

HEALTH

North Country Home Health & Hospice	5,600
Food Bank	1,000
White Mountain Mental Health	1,400
Red Cross	508
Center New Beginnings	250
St. Paul's Church Back Pack Program	300

WELFARE

Direct Assistance	172
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Town of Jefferson, NH

CULTURE AND RECREATION	
Park and Recreation	7,408
Library	35,979
Patriotic Purposes	6,500
CONSERVATION	
Conservation Commission	310
CAPITAL OUTLAY OTHER THAN BUILDINGS	
Highway Vehicle	155,000
Fire Expenses	7,746
CAPITAL OUTLAY BUILDINGS	
JCC Building	44,476
CAPITAL OUTLAY EQUIPMENT	
Fire Department Equipment	5,674
DEBT SERVICES	
Temporary Loans (TAN)	855,000
Interest Tax Anticipation Note	11,799
INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT	
Transfer To Capital Reserve Funds	119,000
Transfer to Expendable Trust	4,000
PROPRIETARY FUND	
Sewer	0
PAYMENTS TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS	
Taxes Paid to County	545,649
Taxes Paid to School District	<u>1,942,034</u>
TOTAL	\$4,937,553

BALANCE SHEET

CURRENT ASSETS	Starting Balance	Ending Balance
Cash	\$1,203,900	\$1,291,678
Taxes Receivable	1,016,978	1,055,447
Tax Liens Receivable	-	-
Accounts Receivable	3,370	8,213
Interfund Receivable	-	4,540
Due from Other Governments	-	-
Due from Other Funds	143	143
Other Current Assets	-	-
Prepaid Items	<u>36,224</u>	<u>40,444</u>
Tax Deeded Properties	<u>18,035</u>	<u>18,035</u>
Current Assets Subtotal	\$2,278,650	\$2,418,500
 CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Warrants & Accounts Payable	5,480	48,553
Accrued Salaries and Benefits	4,718	6,401
Intergovernmental Payable	839,347	971,018
Interfund Payable	4,662	4,765
Notes Payable-Current	<u>750,000</u>	<u>1,000,000</u>
Current Liabilities Subtotal	\$1,604,207	\$2,030,737
 FUND EQUITY		
Non-Spendable Fund Balance	54,259	58,479
Restricted Fund Balance	-	-
Committed Fund Balance	-	-
Unassigned Fund Balance	<u>384,606</u>	<u>65,650</u>
Fund Equity Subtotal	\$ 438,865	\$ 124,129
 Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances	<u>\$2,278,650.00</u>	<u>\$2,418,500.00</u>

*Audited 2022

SCHEDULE OF TOWN PROPERTY

Town Parking Lot & Land	\$ 35,500
Old Library, Land and Buildings	135,800
Library JCC Furniture, Equipment, Books	123,806
Police Department	5,000
Fire Department, Building	342,200
Equipment	1,203,000
Highway Department, Garage Building	112,300
Equipment	393,489
Parks, Commons and Playgrounds	108,700
Gravel Pit	71,200
Solid Waste Facility	68,500
Cemeteries	38,300
Deeded Property	134,600
JCC Building & Land	778,300
Furniture and Equipment	<u>250,000</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$3,800,695</u>

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

	<u>LEVY FOR YEAR OF THIS REPORT</u>	<u>PRIOR LEVIES 2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
DR.			
UNCOLLECTED TAXES			
BEGINNING OF YEAR			
Property Taxes		\$1,023,074.12	
Yield Taxes		11,324.42	
Other Taxes		2,024.00	\$1,046.00
Property Tax Credit Balance	(\$10,236.50)		
TAXES COMMITTED			
THIS YEAR			
Property Taxes	2,937,329.00	1,821.00	
Yield Taxes	7,121.12		
Excavation Tax	23.20		
Other Taxes	3,002.00		
OVERPAYMENT REFUNDS			
Property Taxes	100.00		
Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	22.92	9,509.12	93.42
TOTAL DEBITS	<u>\$2,937,361.74</u>	<u>\$1,047,752.66</u>	<u>\$1,139.42</u>

	<u>LEVY FOR YEAR OF THIS REPORT</u>	<u>PRIOR LEVIES 2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
CR.			
REMITTED TO TREASURER			
Property Taxes	\$2,570,882.96	\$ 978,755.94	
Yield Taxes	7,121.12	11,324.42	
Interest (Include Lien Conversion)	22.92	8,399.12	\$ 93.42
Penalties		1,110.00	
Excavation Tax	23.20		
Other Taxes	978.00	1,304.00	8.14
Conversion to Lien (Principal Only)		43,239.15	
ABATEMENTS MADE			
Property Taxes	529.00	3,620.03	
UNCOLLECTED TAXES -			
END OF YEAR			
Property Taxes	379,443.01		
Other Taxes	2,024.00		1,037.86
Property Tax Credit Balance	(23,662.47)		
TOTAL CREDITS	<u>\$2,937,361.74</u>	<u>\$1,047,752.66</u>	<u>\$1,139.42</u>

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Lien Summary

	<u>LAST YEAR'S LEVY</u>	PRIOR LEVIES	
		<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
SUMMARY OF DEBITS			
Unredeemed Liens Balance -			
Beginning of Year		\$26,440.31	\$15,608.42
Liens Executed During Fiscal Year		45,827.83	
Interest & Costs Collected			
(After Lien Execution)		<u>2,407.01</u>	<u>4,640.02</u>
TOTAL DEBITS		<u>\$74,675.15</u>	<u>\$20,248.44</u>

	<u>LAST YEAR'S LEVY</u>	PRIOR LEVIES	
		<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
SUMMARY OF CREDITS			
Redemptions		\$31,439.81	\$15,608.42
Interest & Costs Collected			
(After Lien Execution)		2,407.01	4,640.02
Abatements of Unredeemed Liens		20.10	
Unredeemed Liens Balance -			
End of Year		<u>40,808.23</u>	
TOTAL CREDITS		<u>\$74,675.15</u>	<u>\$20,248.44</u>

Respectfully Submitted,

JENNIFER KENISON
Tax Collector

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Office of the Town Clerk collected \$329,732.25 for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2023 for vehicle registrations, along with Clerk fees in the amount of \$4,479 and Municipal Agent fees in the amount of \$4,610 all of which were turned over to the Town Treasurer.

\$5,016.50 was collected for the Reclamation Trust Fund and \$200 collected for vital records, and \$270 in fees and fines all of which were turned over to the Town Treasurer.

The amount of \$958.50 was collected for the registration of 146 dogs and 4 kennels, which was also turned over to the Town Treasurer.

Respectfully Submitted,

LINDA CUSHMAN

Town Clerk

TREASURER'S REPORT

GENERAL FUND

Cash on hand January 1, 2023		\$ 926,854.39
Received from Tax Collector	\$3,976,648.31	
Received from Town Clerk	333,210.05	
Received from Selectboard	3,224,561.11	
Interest Earned on NOW Account	197.98	
Interest on ICS Account	672.82	
Bank Loan TAN	<u>855,000.00</u>	
	\$8,390,290.27	<u>\$ 8,390,290.27</u>
Total		\$9,317,144.66

General Fund Disbursements

Disbursements Per Selectboard's Orders	\$8,765,143.59	
Transfer to RTF	<u>4,844.00</u>	
Total	\$8,769,987.59	<u>\$8,769,987.59</u>

2023 General Fund Balance

RTF

2022 Balance	\$ 20,865.61	
2023 Deposits	2,526.24	
2023 Interest	<u>16.83</u>	

RTF Balance	\$ 23,408.68	\$ 23,408.68
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RTF CD

2022 Balance	\$ 29,529.05	
2023 Interest	<u>503.30</u>	

2023 RTF CD Balance	\$ 30,032.35	\$ 30,032.35
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Conservation

2022 Balance	\$ 4,351.06	
2023 Interest	<u>3.53</u>	

2023 Conservation Balance	\$ 4,354.59	\$ 4,354.59
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All sewer accounts have been moved to the Trustees of the Trust Funds.

Respectfully Submitted,

CHERYL MEEHAN
Treasurer

FINANCIAL REPORT OF JEFFERSON TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS

For the Year Ended 12/31/2023

Deposits with Passumpsic Bank		
Flora Holmes Fund - River Damage	\$ 20,084.21	
Total Passumpsic Bank		\$ 20,084.21
Deposits with NH Public Deposit Investment Pool		
Cemetery Care & Perpetual Care	69,983.78	
Jefferson Memorial Health Fund	2,845.57	
H. Hartley Conservation Fund	2,092.24	
Honor Roll Fund	1,944.72	
Friends of Ben Kenison Fund	32,040.03	
Nevers-Jefferson Scholarship Fund	34,440.84	
Library Endowment	448,926.25	
Sewer Fund	71,649.01	
Capital Reserve Funds		
#1 Highway Vehicle	57,822.27	
#3 Dump Closure	183,489.04	
#4 Bridge Repair & Maintenance	177.33	
#6 Fire Truck	678.10	
#7 Buildings	171,565.84	
#9 Highway Repair	27,104.45	
#10 Transfer Station	4,321.99	
Perambulating Town Lines	18,890.86	
Town Library Fund	102.92	
Athletic Trust Fund	19,027.67	
Cemetery Maintenance Fund	36,151.78	
Fire Dept. Equipment CRF	5,675.19	
Fire Station CRF	54,414.95	
Jefferson Municipal Community Center	1,070.11	
Broadband Infrastructure CRF	2,630.19	
Total Funds in NHPDIP		<u>1,247,045.14</u>
Total of all Trust Accounts as of 12/31/2023		<u>1,267,129.35</u>
Total of all Trust Accounts as of 12/31/2022		<u>1,296,507.06</u>
Expenditures		
Care of Cemeteries - Town of Jefferson	1,800.00	
White Mtns. Regional H.S. Library	1,513.89	
Nevers/Jefferson Scholarships	0.00	
Highway Vehicle	155,000.00	
Fire Dept. Equipment CRF	5,674.08	
Fire Truck	124,000.00	
Total Expenditures		<u>287,987.97</u>

Town of Jefferson, NH

Additions to Funds

Interest from Passumpsic SB	61.13	
Interest from NHPDIP	66,832.72	
Ben Kenison Fund Donations	0.00	
Nevers/Jefferson Scholarship Donations	0.00	
CR#1 Highway Vehicle	50,000.00	
CR#3 Dump Closure Fund	2,000.00	
CR#6 Fire Truck	25,000.00	
CR#7 Buildings	25,000.00	
CR#9 Highway Repair & Maintenance	5,000.00	
CR#10 Transfer Station	2,000.00	
Athletic Trust Fund	4,000.00	
Cemetery Maintenance Fund	0.00	
Fire Dept. Equipment CRF	5,000.00	
Fire Station CRF	5,000.00	
Sewer Fund	68,716.41	
Total Additions	<u>258,610.26</u>	
Net Increase/Decrease to all Funds		(29,377.71)
Balance as of 12/31/2023		<u><u>\$1,267,129.35</u></u>

Trustees of Trust Funds

JASON CALL
MICHAEL MEEHAN
CHERYL MARSHALL

DETAILED EXPENSES

EXECUTIVE

Norman Brown	\$ 2,274
Terri Larcomb	2,174
Kevin Mehan	2,174
Lynne Holland, Moderator	200
Employer FICA & Medicare	166
Amanda Simino, Administrative Assistant	59,776
Kate McMann, Office Assistant	13,643
Deborah Dubois, Temp. Office Assistant	338
Cynthia Hakansson, Temp. Office Assistant	915
Employer FICA & Medicare	1,874
NH Retirement Company Match	2,826
Printing, Town Reports	1,935
Dues & Memberships	1,187
Office Supplies	2,951
Copier Contract	9
Postage, Envelopes & Box	1,099
Quickbooks	1,283
Phone	557
IT Service & Equipment	-
Advertising	360
Executive Mileage	2,125
Miscellaneous	2,891
Office Equipment	322
ZOOM	670
Executive Training	65
Norton Anti Virus	134
Web Site	407
Service/Late Fees	-

TOTAL

\$ 102,353

ELECTION, REGISTRY & VITAL

Linda Cushman, Town Clerk	11,865
Jen Kenison, Deputy Town Clerk	3,864
Employer FICA & Medicare	432
Cheryl Meehan, Supervisor	230
Deborah Dubois, Supervisor	230
Christine Smith, Supervisor	230
Auto Registration Fees	24
Dog Licenses Fees	400
Vital Records	107
Town Clerk Advertising	100
Mileage	173
Supervisors' Expenses	822
Supervisors' Postage	19
Clerk Convention, Meetings & Dues	260
Town Clerk Printing	229
Telephone	1,687

Town of Jefferson, NH

Town Clerk Postage	147	
Office Equipment	758	
Town Clerk Office Supplies	<u>226</u>	
TOTAL		21,803
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION		
Mary Gross, Deputy Tax Collector	296	
Mary Gross, Tax Collector	7,383	
Jennifer Kenison, Tax Collector	8,730	
Cheryl Meehan, Treasurer	2,302	
Employer FICA & Medicare	525	
Redemptions	0	
Tax Postage	424	
Software	679	
Record Lien	76	
Treasurer Miles	400	
Linda Cushman, Assessing	2,174	
Assessing Office Supplies	0	
Tax Collector Supplies	2,061	
Tax Collector Dues & Meeting	<u>589</u>	
Subtotal	25,639	
Tax Map Conversion/Update	3,875	
Audit	<u>9,900</u>	
TOTAL		39,414
PLANNING		
Charlene Wheeler, Board Secretary	5,265	
Employer FICA & Medicare	146	
Plan Abutter AD	866	
Planning Dues	1,350	
Office Supplies	104	
Abutters' Notices	322	
Postage/Envelopes	116	
Miscellaneous	<u>1,059</u>	
TOTAL		9,227
ZONING		
Charlene Wheeler	3,285	
Employer FICA & Medicare	83	
Hearing	1,868	
Postage	<u>176</u>	
TOTAL		5,412
INSURANCE		
Worker Compensation	4,869	
Property Liability	22,497	
Health Insurance	<u>28,625</u>	
TOTAL		55,991

Town of Jefferson, NH

POLICE

Norman Brown	14,463
Brian Matson	3,082
(8560 reimbursed)	
Employer FICA & Medicare	453
Mileage	2,633
Supplies	2,231
Training	175
Dues	250
CASA	500
	<hr/>

TOTAL

23,786

LIBRARY

Joy McCorkhill	15,708
Emma Wotton, Assistant	6,531
Employer FICA & Medicare	548
Trustees' Allowance	7,500
Heating Propane	1,463
Heating Pellets	1,038
Phone	731
Electricity	2,084
Library Internet	377
	<hr/>

TOTAL

35,979

STREET LIGHTING

Eversource	6,361
	<hr/>

TOTAL

6,361

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Dues	250
Training	60
	<hr/>

TOTAL

310

EMS

Gage Charron	255
Cody Green	162
Kasey Halliday	1,848
Paul Ingersoll	120
Gracie Ingerson	1,023
Christine Marro	66
Elizabeth Milligan	3,980
Dylan Ruggles	51
David Savage	758
Henry Verret	154
Employer FICA & Medicare	183
EMS Radio/Pager	6,669
Medical Supplies	3,746
EMS Training	34
EMS Equipment	7,034
	<hr/>

TOTAL

26,083

Town of Jefferson, NH

LEGAL EXPENSES

Excutive Legal	4,834
PB Legal	518
Tax Coll. Legal	1,343
BOA Legal	<u>4,615</u>

TOTAL

11,310

GENERAL GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS

Rodney Boudle, Grounds	7,640
Employer FICA	529
Belinda Morrison, JCC Bldg. Maintenance	12,632
General Government Grounds	4,855
JCC Internet	6,149
JCC Bldg. Alarm Mon.	425
JCC Alarm	1,301
JCC Bldg. Electric	8,335
JCC Bldg. Pellets	4,150
JCC Bldg. Propane	5,852
JCC Ground Maintenance	165,396
JCC Bldg. Maintenance	19,095
JCC Safety Inspection	910
Miscellaneous	<u>3,905</u>

TOTAL

241,175

CEMETERIES

Starr King	2,306
Indian	1,044
Hillside	2,544
Forrest Vale	3,590
Riverton	1,836
Kilkenny View	54
Wentworth-Reed	846
Rodney Boudle, Kilkenny P/R	2,088
Employer Med/SS	55
Cemetery Supplies	<u>2,481</u>

TOTAL

16,844

PATRIOTIC PURPOSES

4th of July	<u>6,500</u>
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TOTAL

6,500

PARK AND RECREATION

Electricity	199
Skating Rink Maintenance	297
Maintenance Hicks Ball Field	5,245
Baseball/Softball	1,470
Swimming Lessons	<u>198</u>

TOTAL

7,408

Town of Jefferson, NH

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Mike Kenison	61,715
Norman Kenison	25,775
Jeffrey Broe	13,019
Rodney Boudle - Spring Clean Up	760
Employer FICA & Medicare	2,466
Employer NH Retirement	2,892
Garage Propane	3,578
Electric	1,610
Garage Fuel	737
Pressure Washer Repair & Maintenance	0
2022 Ford F-600 Maintenance	3,763
Trimmer Head	250
2012 Dodge Repairs & Maintenance	15
2020 Western Star Repairs & Maintenance	2,591
Backhoe Repair & Maintenance	251
JD Excavator	966
Mulch Head	2,563
Grader Repair & Maintenance	1,784
Purchase of New Grader	50,000
Vehicle Fuel	18,396
Chain Saw Repair & Maintenance	330
Road Maintenance	1,776
Salt	3,005
Winter Sand	10,008
Safety Inspection	185
Shop Supplies	4,051
Hired Equipment	3,300
Beaver Removal	1,030
Road Signs	1,484
Highway Miscellaneous	252

TOTAL

218,553

SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL

Jimmey Howland	28,451
Bruce Hartford	5,997
Robert Thompson	9,728
Employer FICA & Medicare	1,080
Electricity	902
Heater Fuel	376
Hauling to Mt. Carberry C&D	6,079
Hauling to Mt. Carberry MSW	4,460
Hauling to Mt. Carberry Recycling	16,686
Disposal C&D	8,405
Disposal MSW	11,000
Grounds Upkeep	40
Supplies	473
Training Certificates	240

Town of Jefferson, NH

Equipment Maintenance	9,326	
Safety Inspection	<u>151</u>	
TOTAL		103,392
Landfill Monitor	<u>5,850</u>	
TOTAL		5,850
FIRE DEPARTMENT		
Gage Charron	2,139	
Mark Corrigan	5,451	
Lawrence Coulter, Jr.	4,215	
Joshua Couturier	880	
Kenneth Fraser, II	255	
Kasey Halliday	1,533	
Regan Hite	1,376	
Paul Ingersoll	450	
Frederick Ingerson	502	
Gracie Ingerson	1,534	
Raymond Lamitola	1,040	
Christopher Milligan, Chief	23,780	
Cole Milligan	1,872	
Elizabeth Milligan	1,340	
Jacob Morgan	468	
William Patnaude	1,168	
Alan Reynolds	672	
Dylan Ruggles	1,746	
David Savage	1,972	
John Silver, Jr.	144	
Lucas Simino	736	
Taylor Simino	374	
Henry Verret	1,254	
Larry Wells	<u>3,696</u>	
Subtotal	58,597	
Employer FICA & Medicare	1,481	
Electricity	1,366	
Building Fuel	3,674	
Radio & Pager	1,901	
Training	294	
Dispatch	2,500	
New Gear	6,875	
New Equipment	15,412	
Air System	397	
Vehicle Fuel	1,642	
Telephone	673	
Internet	684	
Building Alarm	1,372	
Alarm Monitoring	408	
Safety Inspection	571	
Building Repair & Maintenance	155	

Town of Jefferson, NH

Dues and Subscription	500	
Engine I Repair & Maintenance	1,109	
Engine II Repair & Maintenance	2,909	
Engine III Repair & Maintenance	947	
Van	711	
Tanker I	590	
Shop Supplies	824	
Office Supplies	169	
Box Rent	68	
Misc. - Graphics, Reimbursement		
Training & Mileage, Food for RT115 Accident & Purchase of Mini-Tanker	<u>76,182</u>	
TOTAL		182,012
OTHER GOVERNMENT EXPENSES		
Refunds	10,898	
Tires (paid by RTF)	2,932	
Electronic Mileage	731	
Miscellaneous Expense	<u>1,982</u>	
TOTAL		16,543
OTHER HIGHWAY		
Crushed Gravel	13,939	
Paving	<u>13,020</u>	
TOTAL		26,958
AMBULANCE		
Yearly Contract	<u>49,815</u>	
TOTAL		49,815
HEALTH AGENCIES		
NC Home Health & Hospice	5,600	
White Mountain Mental Health	1,400	
Center for New Beginnings	250	
Local Food Bank	1,000	
Red Cross	508	
St. Paul's Episcopal Church-Back Pack Program	<u>300</u>	
TOTAL		9,058
WELFARE		
Direct Assistance	<u>172</u>	
TOTAL		172
REVALUATION		
Assessing Revaluation	<u>24,766</u>	
TOTAL		24,766

Town of Jefferson, NH

CAPITAL OUTLAY		
Fire Expenses	7,746	
Highway Vehicle	155,000	
FD New Equipment	5,674	
Fire Truck	<u>124,000</u>	
TOTAL		292,420
CAPITAL OUTLAY		
JCC Building	<u>44,476</u>	
TOTAL		44,476
TAN		
Tax Anticipation	<u>855,000</u>	
TOTAL		855,000
INTEREST PAID		
TAN Interest	<u>11,799</u>	
TOTAL		11,799
PAYMENTS TO TRUST FUNDS		
Athletic	<u>4,000</u>	
TOTAL		4,000
PAYMENT TO CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS		
TOTAL	<u>119,000</u>	119,000
PAYMENT TO OTHERS		
County Tax	545,649	
WMR School District	<u>1,942,034</u>	
TOTAL		2,487,683
TAXES BOUGHT BY TOWN		
TOTAL	<u>0</u>	0
GRAND TOTAL		<u>\$5,061,453</u>

VETERAN'S MEMORIAL FUND TREASURER'S REPORT 2023

Balance Forward 1/1/2023	\$8,836.91
Donations	500.00
Interest	<u>6.91</u>
Total	\$9,343.82

EXPENDITURES

2 25' Telescoping Flagpoles	648.00
1 3'x5' New Hampshire State Flag	19.97
Gravel	325.40
5 7"x12"x70" Stanstead Post	<u>2,300.00</u>
Balance 12/31/2023	\$ 6,050.45

Respectfully Submitted,

CHERYL MEEHAN

Treasurer

JEFFERSON EMS SAVINGS ACCOUNT YEAR END TREASURER'S REPORT 2023

Balance 1/1/2023	\$600.18
Donation	100.00
Interest	<u>.44</u>
	\$700.62
EXPENDITURES	
8 Cotton Polo Shirts	<u>204.00</u>
Balance 12/31/2023	\$496.62

Respectfully Submitted,

CHERYL MEEHAN

Treasurer

GREEN UP JEFFERSON SAVINGS ACCOUNT YEAR END TREASURER'S REPORT 2023

09/19/2023 Account Opened	\$767.32
12/9/2023 JCF Sale	160.00
Interest	<u>.18</u>
	\$927.50
EXPENDITURES	
Mums	13.98
Table at JCF 12/9/2023	<u>25.00</u>
Balance 12/31/2023	\$888.52

Respectfully Submitted,

CHERYL MEEHAN

Treasurer



Roberts & Greene, PLLC

PO Box 463 • Keene, NH 03431
603-856-8005

info@roberts-greene.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the Board of Selectmen
Town of Jefferson
Jefferson, New Hampshire 03583

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Jefferson, New Hampshire, 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, the business-type activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Jefferson as of December 31, 2022 and the respective changes in financial position thereof, and where applicable, cash flows, and the budget to actual comparison for the General Fund, for the year then ended in accordance 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, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. 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.
- Conclude 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 certain 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 related information on pages 31-33 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. 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 Jefferson 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 Jefferson's basic financial statements. The combining and individual fund schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates 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 fund schedules are fairly stated in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

December 21, 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roberta A. Greene, PLLC". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned on the right side of the page.

HIGHWAY REPORT

Winter Road Maintenance

Salaries

Michael Kenison	\$ 27,234.50
Norman Kenison	12,741.00
Jeffrey Broe	<u>7,656.25</u>

Total

\$47,631.75

Summer Road Maintenance

Salaries

Michael Kenison	\$34,483.00
Norman Kenison	28,751.50
Jeffrey Broe	10,727.50
Rodney Boudle	<u>760.00</u>

Total

\$74,722.00

Winter Sand 807.12 tons	\$10,008.27
Winter Salt 30.98 tons	<u>3,005.06</u>

Total

\$13,013.33

Gravel 1188.34 tons	\$14,304.82
Culverts	<u>1,776.39</u>

Total

\$16,081.21

Hired Equipment

Mike Kenison	\$ 650.00
Jeffrey Heath - Mowing	<u>2,650.00</u>

Total

\$ 3,300.00

TRANSFER STATION REPORT

Hazardous Waste collection day is June 15, 2024. Check with the attendants for further details.

It has been over 20 years since Jefferson adopted a Recycling Ordinance and joined the Androscoggin Valley Regional Refuse Disposal District.

The recycling of as much waste as possible will continue to reduce the cost of disposal charges to the Town, which is \$58 per ton.

To assist in the operation of the Transfer Station please pre-sort your recyclables before you get to the Transfer Station. This will help keep the traffic flowing.

1. If you are not sure where something goes **ask** the attendant.
2. **Please** sort your items **before** you get to the Transfer Station; this will help people and vehicles to move along efficiently.
3. Flatten corrugated cardboard and remove all contents.
4. Light cardboard (cereal, cracker boxes, etc.) now go with the corrugated cardboard.
5. Junk mail
6. Newspapers and magazines go together.
7. Check with the attendant for proper disposal of **mercury-containing products**.
8. **CPU's**, along with the other video display devices such as computer monitors, televisions, liquid crystal displays and plasma displays greater than 4 inches in diagonal measure, are currently being collected at the Transfer Station for disposal.

TRANSFER STATION HOURS

SUMMER HOURS (after Father's Day)		WINTER HOURS (after Columbus Day)	
Monday	Noon to 5:00 PM	Monday	CLOSED
Wednesday	Noon to 5:00 PM	Wednesday	Noon to 5:00 PM
Saturday	8:00 AM to 5:00 PM	Saturday	8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

We would like to thank everyone for their cooperation.

JIMMEY HOWLAND
ROBERT THOMPSON

Transfer Station Attendants

JEFFERSON FIRE DEPARTMENT AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES 2023

We, the members of the Fire Department would like to first and foremost, thank the Town of Jefferson, our Board of Selectmen, who approved us to purchase a 2020 Dodge Ram 5500 series mini pumper this past December that will replace our current 1980 mini pumper. This new truck will be much more versatile, allowing us to get to areas that are not real accessible in our town with our larger trucks, along with still being our water supply truck to fill tankers and forestry type fires. The truck comes from Upstate NY Plow, Truck and Body in Lethem, NY.

Both departments had a very busy year with a combined 145 incidents we responded to; 88 medical calls for EMS and 57 for the Fire Department, which is an increase from last year of 125. This has steadily increased over the last 3 years. We had a structure fire in January that resulted in injuries to the occupants that required treatment. Both have since recovered, and we cannot stress the importance of having ample working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in our homes.

The end of April into May started out with very dry conditions which lead to a small forest fire that was started by a campfire and high winds. It was contained fairly quickly before it became too large and did not cause any real damage. It is always a good idea to pay attention to the weather, and if you are not sure if you should burn, you can always check with the town Forest Warden, or one of the Deputy Wardens.

We responded to 2 tractor trailer incidents this year, a log truck that rolled over on Rt. 2 and another that went off the road on Rt. 115, spilling its contents of heating oil, to which the clean-up is still going at that property. We spent numerous hours on both scenes, providing scene safety, directing traffic, and assisting with cleanup. In all we responded to 18 incidents that involved a variety of motorized vehicles.

In April, we had three members take a certified SCBA (self contained breathing apparatus) class at the Gorham fire station, along with others from different towns. Our people did very well and passed, which accreditation will go toward their Level 1 certification as they go along. We also had three members take and pass a certified emergency driver course this past fall.

We took a training day at the Burton Training Center in Bethlehem where most of the members attended and partook in live fire training in the burn building, advancing hose lines and streams. It was a good day and all who attended got a lot of it. We have had a house donated to us for training purposes. We have been a few times to do different type scenario base training, and looking to do a full live fire training on the house before spring.

On a lighter note, our department entered the Lancaster Renaissance Fair this summer for the Fire Department Chili Cook-off and brought home 1st place for our efforts. Some of our department members entered the Firemen's Muster at the Lancaster Fair, and brought home a respectable 3rd place for their efforts.

Our department members participated in the annual town 4th of July parade, and assisted the Jefferson Athletic Association with the fireworks show put on by Sherri Anderson and her crew at the Couture ball field. It was a great show and very well attended. We also participated in the Littleton and Lancaster Fire Prevention Week parades. We did have a fire prevention day at the Heartwood Public School, where we

brought a couple pieces of apparatus and some members and had a meet and greet, and did a presentation about fire safety and prevention with the students and staff. It was an enjoyable afternoon for all.

The department was the recipient of a Kubota UTV from the FEPP-Federal Excess Property Program, at no cost to the town, and we received the UTV this past fall. Many thanks to Captain Larry Wells for following through with this, and to the Firemen's Association for purchasing tracks for the UTV and a trailer to haul this to a needed scene. This will be a great asset to have to assist with removing an injured person from the many miles of trails that go through our town and getting into tough areas should we have a forest fire.

Jefferson Fire/EMS were also recipients for funding from the NH Charitable Foundation and the Lancaster Rotary for the purchase of a Stop The Bleed Training Kit that will be used by our north country Stop The Bleed Instructors to be able to put on local training classes in the north country for community members.

Each year I include these home safety tips. A safe home is all our responsibility. We all must take fire safety seriously. Each year thousands of people are injured or killed with property damage in the millions across the country.

1. Fire Safety Is Fire Prevention:

How safe is your home? This can be simple things, such as not overloading extension cords and maintaining your heating systems by having them cleaned and inspected yearly. Burn wood? Or pellets? Please have your wood stove/pellet stove installation approved and inspected. Keep check on creosote build-up in pipes and chimneys and disposing of **Wood Ashes Properly. Improperly disposed wood ashes have caused fatalities and thousands of dollars in damages every year. Start by placing them in a Metal Container. Take Them Outside and wet them down. Never place them in a cardboard box or plastic container! Do not leave them in your home, or bring them back into your home!**

Pellet stoves are good, affordable heat, but there is a misconception that they are maintenance free. This is not the case. These stoves and pipes should be checked and cleaned periodically throughout the heating season. **Do not operate** any unapproved, unvented heating system in the home. Never leave combustible items near any heating system. Make sure all vents for any heating system, dryer vents, doors leading to the outside are clear and clean, especially during the winter months. Always use open fire safely and responsibly. We should all have a check list and the entire family can get involved to help make us safer. Have an escape plan and practice it often. Make sure everyone knows where the designated meeting place is. Never return into a building that has some type of problem.

2. Properly Operating Back-Up Generators:

As we all know from time to time we do lose power here in town. If we should have to rely on a generator to get by until the power is restored, please never run the generator in an enclosed area, meaning basements or garages. Refuel only after the generator has cooled down, and do not try to run more items than the generator is rated for. If you are using a transfer switch in your home, ensure it has been wired properly as this can cause dangerous feedback into the system.

3. Smoke/Co Alarms:

We cannot stress this enough. Every home needs to have adequate **Smoke Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detectors**. These are our first defense should something go

wrong. These need to be in all living areas. Test all you may have once a month. Change your clocks, change your batteries. Have at least 2 working ABC fire extinguishers easily accessible and know how to use them. If you need help installing a detector, or how many you should have and proper placement, please feel free to contact the department.

4. The Only Number To Call For Fire, EMS, Police Is 911:

Keep this number and all Emergency Numbers posted near your phones. Teach your younger children the necessity of this number and only use it when there is an emergency. Never let a small problem become a large one, and never feel you are bothering us. This is a service we provide our residents 24 hours a day.

5. Make Sure Your House Number Is Visible:

The number issued to your home is **your responsibility**. Please be sure your number is in good condition and visible from the road. This will help us and other agencies find you that much faster should you need that service.

6. Permits For Outside Fires:

In accordance with the laws of New Hampshire Forests and Lands, any outdoor fire requires a written permit, when conditions allow. You must obtain a permit for campfires, and to burn brush. Permits are not required for charcoal and gas grills. Permits are only good for the time they are issued for. No exceptions. Any type of fire to do with wood requires a permit. No written permit is needed when there is adequate snow on the ground, covering the area completely where you wish to burn. If you are not sure of the snow requirements, please call a permit issuer first. It might save a lot of aggravation later. It is also a good idea to call a permit issuer and advise us so we can call it into our dispatch center. This lessens the possibility of a well meaning citizen making an unnecessary 911 call.

It is Against The Law to Burn Any Type of Household Trash. This Act is Punishable By Fines. The transfer station will accept all our separated trash. Please call Forest Fire Warden Larry Wells, or any Deputy Warden for any questions you may have.

Knowing what to do during an emergency may have a better ending in a bad situation. For our residents, the Fire Department, free of charge, is willing to give your home a safety inspection, or please contact us with any concerns you may have.

Though we train for many types of incidents, we cannot possibly be totally prepared for everything that could happen. As always, our members have stepped up, dealing with the amount of incidents we responded to, some more serious than others. There are times we quietly help out our folks in town, as they may not have anyone else to turn to, and do so willingly. Thank you members for the professionalism you showed handling these incidents, be proud people, you have served your community well. As we have seen an increase of calls in the past few years, thank you for giving up free and family time to attend meetings, train, and to respond to emergency calls 365 days, 24 hours a day, and strive to give the best possible emergency services we can. I also wish to express our appreciation for the continued support we receive from our Board of Selectmen and from our community members and to all the past members who helped make the department what it is today.

I wish to thank Grafton County Sheriff's Office for our dispatching services and last, but never least, our mutual aid members for assisting us when we need it, and Lancaster Fire Department for providing ambulance service.

Respectfully Submitted,
Chief CHRISTOPHER MILLIGAN

**JEFFERSON FIRE AND EMS
INCIDENT RESPONSES
JANUARY 01 - DECEMBER 31, 2023**

Alarm Activations (check buildings)	6-Fire alarm 4-CO alarm
Propane Leak	1
Brush/Grass/Woods	1
Furnace Issues	2
Hay Bale Fire	1
JEMS (Medical Calls)	88
JFD Assist EMS	5
Motor Vehicle Accident	13
Motor Vehicle Fire	2
Motorcycle Accident	1
Mutual Aid Assists	6 (to other towns)
OHRV Accident	2-snowmachine 1-dirt bike
Oven Fire	1
Smoke Investigation	1
Structure Fire	1
Tractor Trailer Accident	2
Trees/Wires Down	6
Unpermitted Fire	<u>1</u>
Total	145

OFFICER ROSTER 2023

Chief Christopher Milligan
Deputy Chief Mark Corrigan
Captain Lawrence Coulter Jr.
Captain Larry Wells
Lieutenant Henry Verret
Membership 25 JEMS 6

Emergency Management Director Henry Verret
Deputy Emergency Management Director Larry Wells

**NH FOREST AND LANDS
TOWN OF JEFFERSON**

Forest Fire Warden Larry Wells
Deputy Warden Mark Corrigan
Deputy Warden Lawrence Coulter, Jr.
Deputy Warden Fred Ingerson
Deputy Warden Lawrence Kenison
Deputy Warden Christopher Milligan

JEFFERSON FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION 2023

Over the winter months of 2022/2023 our Association members completed the necessary work in the kitchen at the JCC. It had been decided to hold a trial run on April 1st, a breakfast for dinner, which was very well attended and gave us the opportunity to see how things were going to work out in the kitchen with all the new equipment, and being the first breakfast we had held since the fall of 2019. With that going as well as we hoped, we geared up for our annual July breakfast, and again for the one in October, and were also very well attended.

The Firemen's Association has taken on a project, which will honor those who have served in the capacity of Fire and or EMS through the years and have their name engraved on a stone monument that was donated by member John Silver Jr. The stone was given to Barry Normandeau of McCormack & Whitco Memorials, who had the stone work, engraving completed. We are hoping this spring or early summer of 2024 we will have a base erected for the monument to set upon.

The Fire Department was a recipient of a Kubota 4-wheeled utility vehicle from the FEPP (Federal Excess Property Program). The Association voted and agreed to purchase tracks for the UTV and a trailer to haul the UTV to a needed scene. This will make a great asset for the department for assisting EMS with trail-off road injured person removal and getting into areas where the larger equipment cannot during a forest fire, getting equipment into where it is needed.

We are very thankful for the generous donations of products we receive for our breakfasts from the Water Wheel Breakfast and Gift House and Old Corner store, along with the good folks who attend. Without you, we could not make these the success we have. Thank you all who have made donations to the Association. With that, and monies raised by fundraisers, we in turn use these funds to better the Association, the Fire Department and the Town of Jefferson.

Thank you members for your dedication and hard work you continue to give for the benefit of the organization.

Respectfully Submitted,
President WILLIAM PATNAUDE

REPORT OF FOREST FIRE WARDEN AND STATE FOREST RANGER

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.

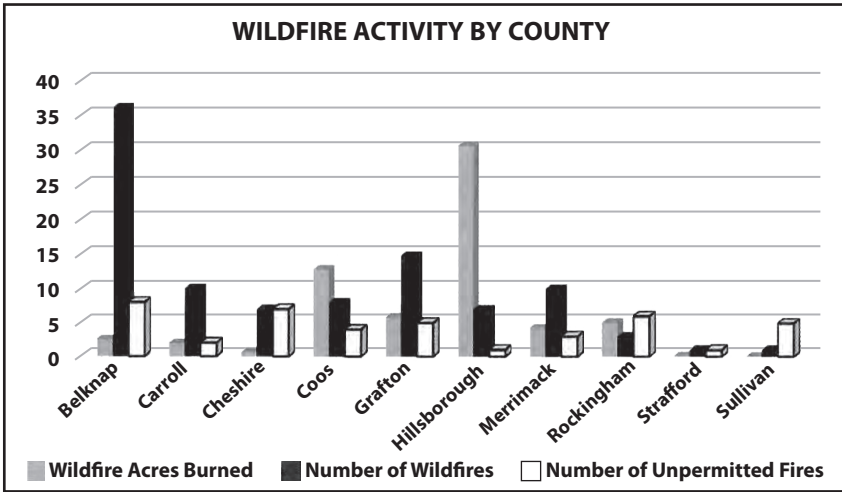
This time of year, we see fires caused by the careless disposal of woodstove ashes. Before dumping your woodstove ashes, you should place them in a covered metal container until they are out cold. Many homes in New Hampshire are located in the wildland urban interface, which is the area where homes and 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. 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 or Fire Department 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. 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/. For up-to-date information, follow us on X and Instagram: **@NHForestRangers**



2023 WILDLAND FIRE STATISTICS

(All fires reported as of December 01, 2023)



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
0	0	22	3	80	4	4	10	1	2	0	4

REMEMBER, ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT WILDFIRES!

2023 MARC A. HURZELER M.D. LIBRARY REPORT

A Public Library Serving the Town of Jefferson

We want to thank everyone who has contributed to the library in the past year. We want to thank you for recognizing the importance of the library's role in providing the opportunity for "knowledge and learning... essential to the preservation of a free government." (RSA 202-A: 1).

We have finally settled into our new space in the Jefferson Community Center. Thank you for the continued support of the town select board and everyone who has been involved and volunteered. You are appreciated. We are still excited about our new space. We hope everyone in the community comes in, takes a look around, and spends a little time. We take suggestions and would like your ideas so we can better serve our community.

We are trying to utilize our new space by offering a variety of programs. Our goal is to offer a creative and educational program every month. In 2023, we offered paint nights, card making, felting, and lotus lanterns for those wanting to be creative. In addition, educational programs on NH history; beekeeping; herbal teas; Haunted New England; and hands on computer/smart device classes on App/Windows basics; internet security and social media. Senior & Friends, Book Club and the Cookbook Club meet monthly in the library space as well. We are always looking for new programming ideas so if there is something you would like please let us know. All programs are offered free of charge or a minimal charge to cover supplies, if you unable to pay but would like to attend; please contact the librarian for arrangements.

The Jefferson Community Calendar is now a fundraiser done by the Library Trustees with the proceeds going back to the community in the form of an annual scholarship. Part of the mission of our library is to promote life-long learning. Any Jefferson senior in high school who wishes to continue their learning whether it be at a trade school, technical, community or traditional college is eligible. Applications will be available from the guidance office at White Mountain Regional High School. We encourage you to be a part of the Jefferson Community Calendar and support our Jefferson seniors. Please contact the library if you would like more information, to purchase a calendar, or wish to purchase an ad for your business. 2023 Scholarship Recipients: Jaylin Bennett and Karter Demming

The library offers our patrons access to the New Hampshire Downloadable Book (NHDB) consortium. This subscription gives library patrons access to downloadable audio and e-books in the state collection. If you have an e-reader (e.g. Kindle), PC, Mac, tablet, or smartphone you can borrow up to three books at a time from the NHDB for up to 14 days. To access this service,

you must be a Marc A. Hurzeler M.D. Library patron and have a library card that has a barcode. Any Jefferson resident may obtain a library card by calling or stopping in during regular library hours.

The library continues to offer high speed wireless internet access to patrons through the Town of Jefferson - Guest. In addition, there is one desktop and five laptop computers available for in-library use. Three iPods, one iPad, and a mobile hotspots are available for circulation. We also have a copier, wireless printer, 3d Printer and laminator available to the public. Our collection contains approximately 10,000 items and includes several newspaper subscriptions and a variety of magazine subscriptions, as well as audio books and movies. Our catalog is automated and you can search our online catalog collection 24/7 via our website. Puzzle exchange, as well as an ongoing puzzle are available during library hours for your pleasure. We are always open to suggestions on how to make the collection more useful for our patrons.

In 2023 Marc A. Hurzeler M.D. Library received multiple grants/gifts:

- In April, we received a Summer Learning Grant from the New Hampshire State Library funded by the Saul Sidore Foundation for \$500 that we used to bring Wildlife Encounters out for our Summer Reading Program.
- In April, we received a donation from John and Susan Openhowski
- In May, we applied for and received the Children's Literacy Foundation - Rural Library Grant. This was a grant for approximately \$1200 in books for the library. In addition our grant partner Heartwood Charter Academy received approximately \$500 in books. In a special kick-off event in November the books were presented at Heartwood with story teller show casing the new books. In the spring of 2024, another story telling event will take place and each child will get to pick out books to take home.
- In September, we received the Humanities to Go Grant for a Sustainability Program offered by Abby Goode.
- In October, we received a \$1000 grant from Lancaster Rotary Charitable Fund to start a new Manga collection for young adults and teens.

By using the library, patrons have saved approximately \$78,000 borrowing books, magazines, audio and video materials rather than purchasing them in 2023. The library will take donations of newer materials, please check with us in advance and bring them in during library hours. Unfortunately, we do not take donations of textbooks, encyclopedia sets or Readers Digests.

Our library is open to every member of our community and surrounding communities as well. If you are unable to physically access the library building, feel free to contact us for assistance by phone at 603-586-7791 or by email: librarian@mahllibrary.org.

Town of Jefferson, NH

Yearly Totals:

Circulation - Adult Materials: 2,497

Circulation - Children's Materials: 524

Circulation - Audio/Video Materials: 809

Library Visits: 2,234

Library Hours: Monday & Tuesday 3pm-8pm; Thursday 9am-1pm & 4pm-8pm;
Saturday 9am-1pm

Library NEW Website: www.mahlibrary.org
(includes access 24/7 to our online catalog)

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/pages/Jefferson-Public-Library/106775262771620

Instagram: jeffersonpubliclibarynh

YouTube: www.youtube.com/channel/UC2r458b_xO-u9AN870apbrw

TikTok: @marca.hurzelermdlibrary

Library Trustees:

JEANNE KENISON BETTE BOVIO

LESLIE SEPPALA BRENDA ROY

ELIZABETH MILLIGAN (*chair*)

Librarian/Library Director:

JOY McCORKHILL

Library Assistant (children/teen focused):

EMMA WOTTON

MARC A. HURZELER, M.D. LIBRARY TRUSTEES REPORT 2023

CHECKING ACCOUNT:

BALANCE 12-31-22 **\$4,066.11**

INCOME:

Town Appropriation	\$ 7,500.00
Grants	507.00
Transfer from Savings	3,056.60
Transfer from Endowment	1,014.97
Calendars	1,198.10
Programs	229.44
TOTAL INCOME:	\$ 13,506.11

EXPENSES:

Books, DVD's & Magazines	\$ 5,041.95
Subscriptions	79.80
Supplies	3,610.12
Equipment	2,235.94
Software	824.00
Calendars	1,719.00
Dues	160.00
Nevers Scholarship	500.00
Programs	2,094.80
Furniture	703.83
Miscellaneous	218.70
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$ 17,188.14

BALANCE: 12-31-23 **\$ 384.08**

SAVINGS ACCOUNT:

BALANCE 12-31-22 **\$6,754.39**

INCOME:

Craft Fair Tables	\$ 425.00
Calendars	1,550.75
Donation	10,000.00
Interest	8.26
TOTAL INCOME:	\$ 11,984.01

EXPENSE:

Transfer to Checking	\$ 3,056.60
TOTAL EXPENSE:	\$ 3,056.60

Town of Jefferson, NH

BALANCE 12-31-23 **\$ 15,681.80**

ENDOWMENT FUND:

BALANCE 12-31-22 **\$ 5,711.96**

INCOME:

Interest \$ 1.67

TOTAL INCOME: **\$ 1.67**

EXPENSES:

Larry Kenison Construction \$ 250.00

Signage 2,035.00

Transfer to Checking 1,014.97

TOTAL EXPENSE: **\$ 3,299.97**

BALANCE 12-31-23 **\$ 2,413.66**

TOTAL FUNDS 12-31-23 **\$ 18,479.54**

Respectfully submitted,
LESLIE SEPPALA, *Trustee*

THE JEFFERSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Our new space in the Jefferson Community Center has been a game changer for the Society, allowing us to function at a level we could only imagine prior. Over the past year we've spent much effort and many volunteer hours organizing and cataloging our holdings, and provided them with proper archival protection. All of this work sets the stage for the buildout of our new museum, a project that will allow us to tell the story of Jefferson as we've never been able to before.

Another goal this past year was to increase our functionality and strength as an organization. We now schedule a Board of Directors meeting the 3rd Thursday of the month (and more as needed) to deal with the Society's operations. Bylaws are being updated to guide the Board and promote continuity as Society leadership changes in the future. We continue to apply for grants and board member training opportunities as we find them applicable.

We've also changed the format of our general membership meetings, held on the first Tuesday of most months, spending most of it presenting a different facet of Jefferson's history. Open to the public as well as members, we look forward to seeing you at one of these soon.

Community engagement and exposure is key to growing our organization. Member emails and social media posts provide snippets of the past and info on present Society happenings. In August we hosted our first Ben and Brad w/Cynthia Mork Show since 2019, and the JGC was a fabulous venue. Also, a New Hampshire Historical Society speaker series "New Hampshire Stories" brought in a large enthusiastic crowd of 50 in September as we partnered with the Seniors and Friends group and the Library. More collaborative events and programs for community groups will be planned through 2024 to help keep us in the eyes and minds of the community. A JGC hallway exhibit space has been started, receiving great reviews and enthusiasm. We will be installing more of these Jefferson history visuals in the hallway space as 2024 progresses.

We are excited to share the Jefferson Historical Society has been chosen as one of 3 State of NH hosts for a traveling Smithsonian Institution exhibit. This well received exhibition, curated by the world's largest museum, education, and research complex will be installed in the Jefferson Community Center for 6 weeks starting late March 2025. As the hosting organization, we have garnered the support and collaboration of a number of Jefferson entities, including the Marc A. Hurzeler M.D. Public Library and Jefferson's newly chartered Heartwood School. Other local museums will be invited to play a role also. This is truly a one of a kind opportunity for our community. Stay tuned for the official announcement and more information soon.

Our goal is to have our new museum ready to accept visitors to coincide with the Smithsonian exhibit's arrival, if not prior. We are looking forward to having you as our guests to see and learn more about Jefferson's remarkable history.

Respectfully Submitted,
The Jefferson Historical Society Board of Directors

JOE MARSHALL-*President*
NANCY GREENLEE-*Vice-President*
ANDREA GENDRON-*Treasurer*
CYNTHIA HAKANSSAN-*Recording Secretary*
DEBBIE DUBOIS-*Membership Secretary*
KATHI GOVATSKI-*Corresponding Secretary*
KATE SAVAGE-*Social Media Coordinator*
ADELE WOODS-*Member At Large*

REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD

The Jefferson Planning Board held twenty-three meetings in 2023. One subdivision and four boundary line adjustments were approved. The Board had more than two dozen consultations with property owners who either wished to subdivide property, adjust boundary lines, or discuss other land use problems. There is also an application for a new campground which, because of many factors, will be continuing into the new year. Application forms were revised and fees for those applications were raised to cover more of the costs incurred by the town. A policy was also put in place for the use of Zoom during a meeting of the Board. The Board had many hours of work sessions on two amendments to the Land Use Ordinance, regulations for recreational campgrounds and for short-term rental units. These two issues were of concern to many of the town's citizens and the Board listened to all who wanted to have input. They also had survey responses from the Master Plan to guide them. The result was two warrant articles to be voted on this March's town meeting. It should be noted the Planning Board has many duties but enforcing compliance to any regulation or ordinance once required is not what the Planning Board is charged to do. This is the duty given to the Select Board to carry out.

Mike Smith served as Chairman but turned over the gavel to Michael Meehan in September. Bob Roy has served as Vice-Chairman for the past year. Regular members now include Jason Call, Michael Smith, and Mark Gross. Diane Allard started as an alternate but left shortly after as she moved away from Jefferson. Rebecca Hatfield and Andrea Gendron are now serving as alternate members. A representative from the Select Board, Kevin Meehan, serves on the Planning Board as well. Charlene Wheeler continued to serve as secretary to the Board. It was with regret the Board accepted the resignation of Donna Laurent and Gil Finch and expressed deep appreciation for all their many years of work done for the town.

Throughout their deliberations Board members have tried to keep to this purpose: to avoid scattered and premature subdivision of land and to provide for the harmonious development of the municipality and its environs in general, which will create conditions favorable to health, safety, convenience, and prosperity while avoiding an excessive expenditure of public funds for the supply of public services.

Once the Board has voted to approve the minutes of a meeting, they are posted on the town's website. All meeting minutes both in draft form as well those with final approval are available to read or to request paper copies of (there is a minimal charge for copies) at the town office.

Town of Jefferson, NH

The Planning Board meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Please see the town's website for additional information as this can sometimes change. Board members are volunteers working with no salary often dealing with difficult applications. They continue to serve the town striving for fairness and consistency, while following town and state regulations in their decision-making process. All meetings are open to the public and the Board encourages anyone who is interested to attend. Citizens who may be interested in serving Jefferson as a Board member are encouraged to contact a Board member or the town office for information.

MICHAEL MEEHAN
Chairman

ARTICLE XII RECREATIONAL CAMPGROUNDS

Definition: NH RSA 216-1:1, VII "Recreational Campground or Camping Park" means a parcel of land on which two or more campsites are occupied or are intended for temporary occupancy for recreational dwelling purposes only, and are not for permanent or year-round residency, excluding recreation camps as defined in RSA 170-E:SS,L.

1. Purpose

These provisions are intended to allow campgrounds as a Special Exception in the Town's Land Use Ordinance provided that the property owner is granted such from the Zoning Board of Adjustment and receives subdivision plan approval from the Planning Board. The campground shall comply with this ordinance to maximize compatibility with surrounding land uses, avoid health and safety hazards, protect environmental and aesthetic resources, minimize demands on public services, not cause significant disruption to others who live or use adjacent areas, and protect the rural and scenic qualities of the community.

2. Adherence to New Hampshire Laws, Statutes and Regulations

All campgrounds must adhere to all applicable laws rules and ordinances, including, but not limited to NH RSA 216-1, RSA 227-L and RSA 485-A. If any provision of this ordinance conflicts with any other provision of the Jefferson Land Use Ordinance, or any other applicable state law, rule or ordinance, the provision imposing the more stringent standard shall be controlling.

3. Definitions:

The definitions set forth in NH RSA 216-1:1 shall apply to this ordinance.

PROVISIONS

- 4. The lot serving as a campground must have a minimum of two hundred (200) feet of frontage on a Class V or better road that is maintained by either the town or the state.**
- 5. The minimum size land required for a campground is twenty (20) acres.**
- 6. The minimum size for an RV or permanent frame recreational camping cabin campsite is two thousand (2000) square feet.**
- 7. The minimum size for a tent only campsite is eight hundred (800) square feet.**
- 8. Maximum Occupancy per campsite is eight (8) people.**

- 9. Setback requirements - distance. No Individual campsite may be located within two hundred (200) feet of a public way, land boundary, stream, lake, or pond. All structures must conform to the Land Use Ordinance setback requirements.**
- 10. Setback Screening requirement. The Planning Board may impose setback screening requirements if the setback area does not provide sufficient natural screening to provide reasonable privacy both for the campsites and for abutting properties.**

11. Access

The campground shall have adequate, safe vehicular access from a public highway, including sufficient sight distances for vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians to safely enter and exit the campground. In determining whether the campground has adequate vehicular access, residential density and road conditions along the public highways that provide access to the campground may be considered. The applicant may be required to obtain a traffic impact study to assess traffic safety concerns and the need for capital improvements. All signs, including their dimensions and placement must be approved.

Campgrounds that utilize access from a state-owned highway must obtain applicable permits from the NH Department of Transportation to authorize the new change or use.

Adequate provisions shall be made for the parking and/or arrival and departure of vehicles to preclude any potential backup on public highways.

All internal campground roads and driveways shall comply with town commercial driveway standards and be maintained in good condition.

Campground roads must provide sufficient emergency access to every campsite that conforms to the state fire code. This includes, but is not limited to: insuring sufficient road width, overhead clearance, and turning radius for emergency vehicles. In the event that the campground ceases to exist as a campground, all roads within will cease to have approved standing for any other use until the Planning Board grants approval for the subsequent use.

OPERATIONS

- 12. Campgrounds are seasonal, recreational facilities. Except for the owner or operator, there may be no permanent residents and all sites must be unoccupied outside of the posted open dates for the campground.**
- 13. Sites may not be sold; the land is strictly the property of the campground owner.**

ARTICLE XIII

SHORT-TERM RENTALS

SECTION 1. Definition

“Short-Term Rental” is a commercial use in a dwelling unit where transient lodging is provided for compensation for stays of between one and 30 consecutive nights, and where the dwelling unit would normally be considered a residential living unit not associated with regulated commercial activities such as a hotel, motel or bed-and-breakfast.

SECTION 2. Purpose

2.1 To preserve the traditional character of residential neighborhoods that can be negatively impacted by this type of use.

2.2 To help preserve the quality and quantity of housing stock for year-round residential use.

2.3 To ensure the safety of Short-Term Rental occupants.

SECTION 3. Application Procedure

3.1 Short-Term Rentals are permitted by Special Exception.

3.2 Specific items to consider in the Special Exception application beyond those listed in Article VII, Section I.C of the Land Use Ordinance.

3.2.1 Setbacks to property lines and proximity to abutting parcels and/or residences.

3.2.2 Compatibility with neighborhood and abutting properties

3.2.3 Other uses of subject property.

3.2.4 Road status of subject property (public versus private).

3.2.5 Driveway access (topography, width, shared, right-of-way).

3.2.6 Adequate onsite parking.

3.2.7 Owner-occupied or absentee owner.

SECTION 4. Fines and Penalties for Violations

4.1 Using a dwelling unit for Short-Term Rentals without a valid Special Exception being granted and an approved permit from the Select Board will subject the owner to fines and penalties outlined in RSA 676:17.

REPORT OF THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

The Jefferson Zoning Board of Adjustment held eight meetings in 2023. Eleven applications for Special Exceptions and one application for a Variance were heard. Seven of the Special Exception applications were proposals to operate a short-term rental unit. Additionally, there are six pending applications for short-term rental units to be heard in January of 2024. The Board also held one rehearing on an application after appeals. The Zoning Board of Adjustment usually schedules meetings for the second Thursday of the month, but only meets when an application for a Variance, a Special Exception or an Appeal from an Administrative Decision is brought before them. Once the Board has voted to approve the minutes of a meeting, they are posted on the town's website. All meeting minutes both in draft form as well those with final approval are available to read or to request paper copies of (there is a minimal charge for copies) at the town office.

Kim Perry and Jason Call ably served as Chairman and Vice-Chairman, respectively, for the past year. Regular members include Thomas Walker, Burleigh Wyman, and Rodney Houghton. Wayne Bilquin serves as an alternate. Charlene Wheeler continues to serve as secretary to the Board. Currently, there are openings for alternate members on the Board to fill. Citizens who may be interested in serving the town in this capacity are encouraged to contact the town office, a Board member, or the Board secretary.

The Board has approved revisions of application forms with a new fee schedule. The Select Board agreed with the Zoning Board of Adjustment that increased fees were necessary to cover the cost to taxpayers these applications generated. Application forms for Special Exceptions, Variances, as well as an Appeal to an Administrative Decision are available at the town office or to download on the town's website.

All property in the town is considered residential but certain sections of the Land Use Ordinance provide that a particular use of property will be permitted by Special Exception if specific conditions are met. Permitted uses by Special Exception are listed in Article III, Section 2 of the Land Use Ordinance. A Variance is an authorization, which may be granted under special circumstances, to use property in a way that is not permitted under the strict terms of the Land Use Ordinance. Please keep in mind the town's Master Plan is a 10-year guideline for the town's future direction, not the town's current ordinances. Anyone wishing to erect a new building, modify an existing one, or change the use of the property from being strictly residential should check with the Select Board, the Planning Board, or the Zoning Board of Adjustment, as required, so they have the necessary information before any project begins to avoid later problems.

Town of Jefferson, NH

Throughout their deliberations Board members have tried to keep to this purpose: to promote the health, safety, economic and general welfare of the inhabitants of Jefferson; to protect the value of property; to prevent the overcrowding of lands; to conserve our natural resources; to avoid undue concentration of population; and to facilitate the adequate provisions of other public requirements.

Board members are volunteers working with no salary often dealing with difficult applications. They continue to serve the town striving for fairness and consistency, while following town and state regulations in their decision-making process. All meetings are open to the public and the Board encourages anyone who is interested to attend.

KIM PERRY
Chairman

ANDROSCOGGIN VALLEY REGIONAL REFUSE DISPOSAL DISTRICT 2023 ANNUAL REPORT OF DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

Our Materials Recycling Facility processed a total of 1,044.99 tons of materials, for the period January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023, representing \$123,652.86 of marketing income to the District. Recyclables shipped to market included: aluminum - 23.63 tons; newspaper/magazines - 45.25 tons; corrugated cardboard - 459.14 tons; PET plastic - 82.05 tons; HDPE plastic - 43.38 tons; tin - 42.64 tons; mixed office paper - 44.29 tons. In addition, 304.61 tons of glass were processed for reuse.

Our Transfer Station recycling income totaled \$76,816.07. Recycling at the Transfer Station consisted of 787.22 tons of wood that was processed through a grinder, 456.10 tons of scrap metal; 161.82 tons of leaf and yard waste and 442.11 tons of brush which was chipped. In addition, 670 refrigerators/air conditioners; 295 propane tanks; 6,156 tires; 54,379 feet of fluorescent bulbs; 888 fluorescent U tubes and HID lamps; 1,380 ballasts; and 49.73 tons of electronics were recycled. We also received 1,355 gallons of waste oil which was used in our waste oil furnace to heat the recycling center. The District owns and operates the Recycling Center and Transfer Station.

District Officers are: Chair Linda Cushman of Jefferson; Vice Chair Yves Zornio of Gorham and Secretary-Treasurer Michael Rozek of Berlin. Other District Representatives: David Roy of Randolph, Randy Fortin of Milan, Alan Rossetto of Northumberland, Stephan Gilman of Stark, Christopher Holt of Dummer, Robert Theberge for the Coos County Unincorporated Places and Scott Rineer of Errol.

The District conducted its thirty-first Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on June 10th. The collection was held at the District Transfer Station with 323 households participating. The 2024 Household Hazardous Waste Collection will be held on Saturday, June 15th, at the District Transfer Station, 100 West Milan Road, Berlin.

2023 was the twenty-first year of operations for the AVRDD Mt. Carberry Landfill. Since purchasing the landfill in December 2002, no assessments have been made to the District municipalities for Mt. Carberry Landfill operations, with income raised through landfill tipping fees covering operating expenses. The landfill is operated, under contract with the District, by Cianbro Corporation.

No assessments will be made to the member municipalities for the 2024 AVRDD Budget.

Respectfully Submitted,

LISA G. RIENDEAU
Executive Director



NORTH COUNTRY COUNCIL

161 Main Street • Littleton, NH 03574 • 603.444.6303
info@nccouncil.org • www.nccouncil.org

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

North Country Council Regional Planning Commission and Economic Development District is one of nine regional planning commissions in New Hampshire established by RSA 36:46. The Commission's region consists of serving 50 communities and 25 unincorporated places in the northern third of New Hampshire. The Council serves in an advisory role to local governments in order to promote coordinated planning, orderly growth, efficient land use, transportation access, and environmental protection. The Council's professional staff provides transportation, land use, economic development, community, and environmental planning services; geographic information services (GIS); data collection and analysis; grant writing; grant administration; facilitation; and project management. In 2023, the North Country Council undertook the following activities in the region: Launched the new [website](#) in June!

Collaborated with other Regional Planning Commissions through the NH Association of Regional Planning Commissions and Director meetings in Concord. Supported efforts and attended regional planning and municipal conferences. Bulk ordered and distributed New Hampshire Planning and Land Use Regulation books to local land use boards (estimated savings of \$75.00 per book).

Transportation

Staff completed over 160 traffic counts during the 2023 collection season.

A major update to the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) was approved by the North Country Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) and Council Representatives. This update consisted of an expanded regional context, background, goals, objectives, corridor datasheets, and updated challenges & opportunities and maps section.

Staff worked with communities throughout the year on noted transportation concerns and opportunities. These included different funding options, community projects for on-call engineering support services, and coordinating meetings with local officials and other agencies.

Began the Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Plan process, including work by the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) to finalize the regional project

priority rankings and the approval of the initial funding allocation. Two projects were submitted to the NH DOT on behalf of the region.

Staff attended 4 Governor's Advisory Commission on Intermodal Transportation (GACIT) hearings during September 2023 and presented regional projects at 3 of these meetings.

Economic Development

Coordinated 6 comprehensive Economic Development Committee (CEDS) meetings. Focusing on connecting resources in the region, learning about innovative strategies for improved economic prosperity, and sharing regional information as well as adopting the 2023-2028 CEDS update that was also adopted by the Council's Board of Directors. We welcomed the new EDA Maine and New Hampshire field representatives for a two-day tour of the region and various Economic Development projects and opportunities.

The Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) was updated and adopted by the Board of Directors. The new 5-year RHNA is complete with data, projections for the future, and, most importantly, tools! Visit our website to see more about this report!

9 communities in the region were awarded Housing Opportunity Planning (HOP) Grants for planning, demolition, and housing construction. This includes five (5) communities that have partnered with the Council to complete Opportunity Planning Grants and make regulatory changes in an effort to reduce barriers to housing production.

Staff reviewed and responded to 3 Developments of Regional Impact over the course of the year.

The Council continued to assist the Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) & State of NH Bureau of Economic Affairs (BEA) in providing development assistance to potential and awarded grantees. In 2023, the Council provided pre-project development coaching assistance to over 25 NBRC applicants, assistance to 10 new NBRC grantees in getting NTP, and technical assistance to NHBEA Capacity Consultant ADG for statewide program support to over 30 NBRC active grantees.

Continued work with 3 regional employer groups to bring employer housing conversation toward action using the NH Employer Workforce Through NHFA funding.

Continued to assist Coos County with the Coos County Broadband Committee, as well as providing technical support to the Carroll County Broadband Committee.

Environmental Planning

North Country Council assisted in coordinating and staffing 2 Household Hazardous Waste events for the Pemi-Baker Solid Waste District (PBSWD). There were 289 participants that brought the equivalent of 4,000 gallons of hazardous materials that were removed from the waste stream.

The Council collaborated with Saco Headwaters Alliance, NH Fish & Game, NH Geological Survey of DES and Green Mountain Conservation Group, and NH Association of Conservation Commissions for the Saco River Watershed Stream Crossing Assessment project.

Resiliency Emergency Planning

Staff supported the development of a North Country Food and Agriculture Council made up of industry leaders, businesses and organizations who has formed a Steering Committee and hosted two annual food and agriculture summits.

Staff are facilitating the development of a North Country Climate Resiliency Resource Guide for businesses and communities through a collaborative effort the Council is providing for regional environmental, education, and outdoor organizations and businesses working on climate resiliency.

North Country Council is providing support and facilitation for the newly formed North Country Arts and Culture Collaborative that is bringing together leadership, businesses, and organizations within the Arts and Culture industry to develop a strategic plan to support the arts and the creative economy.

Mapping and Data Analysis

North Country Council developed ArcGIS Online Hubs to be a resource for the region. The Hubs offer spaces to find grants, funding opportunities, and data resources that are applicable to the North Country. Users can find funding opportunities and data resources related to community & economic development, environmental, housing, transportation, business, arts & culture, and more!

Provided mapping and data services to communities throughout the region in support of project development and funding opportunities.

JEFFERSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Regular monthly meetings in 2023 met in-person at the Jefferson Community Center on 178 Meadows Road in the Conference Room. The meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month starting at 7 pm. Interested Jefferson residents are welcome to participate in any Conservation Commission meeting. Citizens are encouraged to contact any member with questions, help in filling out wetland permits, or to provide suggestions. We are looking for additional volunteers to serve on the Jefferson Conservation Commission.

The members of the Jefferson Conservation Commission are:

- Nancy Decourcey
- David Govatski
- Charles Muller
- Jamie Savage

Notable accomplishments of the Commission:

- Assisted with forestry and wildlife management field trips in Jefferson with UNH Extension.
- Organized volunteers to work on the trails at the Pondicherry National Wildlife Refuge, Cross New Hampshire Adventure Trail, and the Cohos Trail.
- Assisted Jefferson residents and businesses with wetland permit applications. These included the Portland Pipeline Company, Eversource, and the NH Department of Transportation.
- Monitored Conservation Easements in Jefferson.
- Continued to update the Natural Resource Inventory for Jefferson.
- Attended the NH Association of Conservation Commission annual training day.
- Assisted in the monitoring and eradicating invasive species at the Pondicherry National Wildlife Refuge.



North Country Home Health & Hospice Agency

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

North Country Home Health & Hospice Agency provides quality services that include Hospice, Home Health, Palliative, and Long-Term Care. Within these services we also provide nursing, rehabilitation, social services, and homemaking in 51 towns, covering all of Coos County and northern Grafton County and we've expanded our territory south to Plymouth, NH. **In 2023, for the Town of Jefferson, we visited 3 patients on Long-Term Care and Palliative Care 7 times, provided Home Health services to 28 patients over 414 visits, and cared for 4 patients on Hospice Care over 66 visits.** Our providers visited your friends and neighbors in your community over 490 times in 2023 to provide vital care.

Hospice Care is centered on improving the quality of life for patients and supporting their caregivers in realizing goals and wishes. Our dedicated team, including physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, social workers, home health aides, spiritual counselors and volunteers, collaborates with patients to manage pain, address emotional and spiritual needs, and provide necessary medications and equipment. Beyond end-of-life care, we offer family and caregiver education, short-term inpatient treatment for challenging symptoms, and bereavement counseling for surviving loved ones. Choosing hospice is not a surrender, but a decision to focus on quality of life, offering a unique, compassionate approach that diverges from the traditional medical model.

Home Health Care plays a pivotal role in addressing the growing healthcare needs of our community. Our proficient clinical team adeptly monitors health issues and delivers disease management within the familiar confines of patients' homes, mitigating the necessity for more expensive healthcare alternatives like hospitalization or long-term institutional care. With a primary focus on restoring patients to their baseline, our dedicated nursing team and therapists work collaboratively. Given the heightened strain on hospitals over the past year, we've operated at an elevated capacity to alleviate their burden, creating space for much-needed beds. This increased demand has introduced a higher acuity of Home Health patients, presenting a unique challenge that we're committed to addressing with unwavering dedication.

Long-Term Care is committed to delivering essential home health aide, homemaking, and companion services to individuals facing challenges in performing vital activities of daily living independently, including bathing, dressing, meal preparation, and household tasks. These services are particularly

designed to assist those with physical, medical, or mental limitations, enabling them to maintain their independence. Our focus is to support the elderly and disabled, facilitating their ability to stay in the comfort of their homes while averting hospital readmissions and preventing the need for long-term institutionalization. By addressing these fundamental needs, we strive to enhance the quality of life for those we serve.

Our Palliative Care Program, launched as a pilot in 2019, has rapidly expanded from its initial 5 patients to now encompass 112 active patients. Distinguished by its primarily home-based approach, our Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) and Social Workers engage with patients in their homes to delve into discussions about their serious illnesses, advanced care planning, code status, goals, wishes, and, most importantly, what holds significance for them. While the program targets individuals with serious illnesses, it doesn't necessitate terminal conditions, as Hospice does. Recognizing the broad spectrum of patients in need, especially in our service territories, NCHHA fills a crucial gap between Home Health services for recovery and Hospice services for terminal cases. Palliative Care acts as a vital bridge, offering support for those with serious illnesses who may not be ready for Hospice services yet.

The team at the North Country Home Health & Hospice Agency, along with our esteemed Board of Directors, expresses profound gratitude to the Town of Jefferson for their unwavering support of our agency. This steadfast commitment enables us to fulfill our mission of delivering services to individuals, irrespective of their ability to pay. Our dedication extends to providing essential services in the Town of Jefferson, ensuring that clients and their families can reside in the familiarity of their homes within a safe and supportive environment. By doing so, we aim to enhance overall health outcomes within the community and uphold our commitment to fostering well-being in the lives of those we serve.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'REN ANDERSON', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

REN ANDERSON

Senior Manager of

Philanthropy & Community Engagement



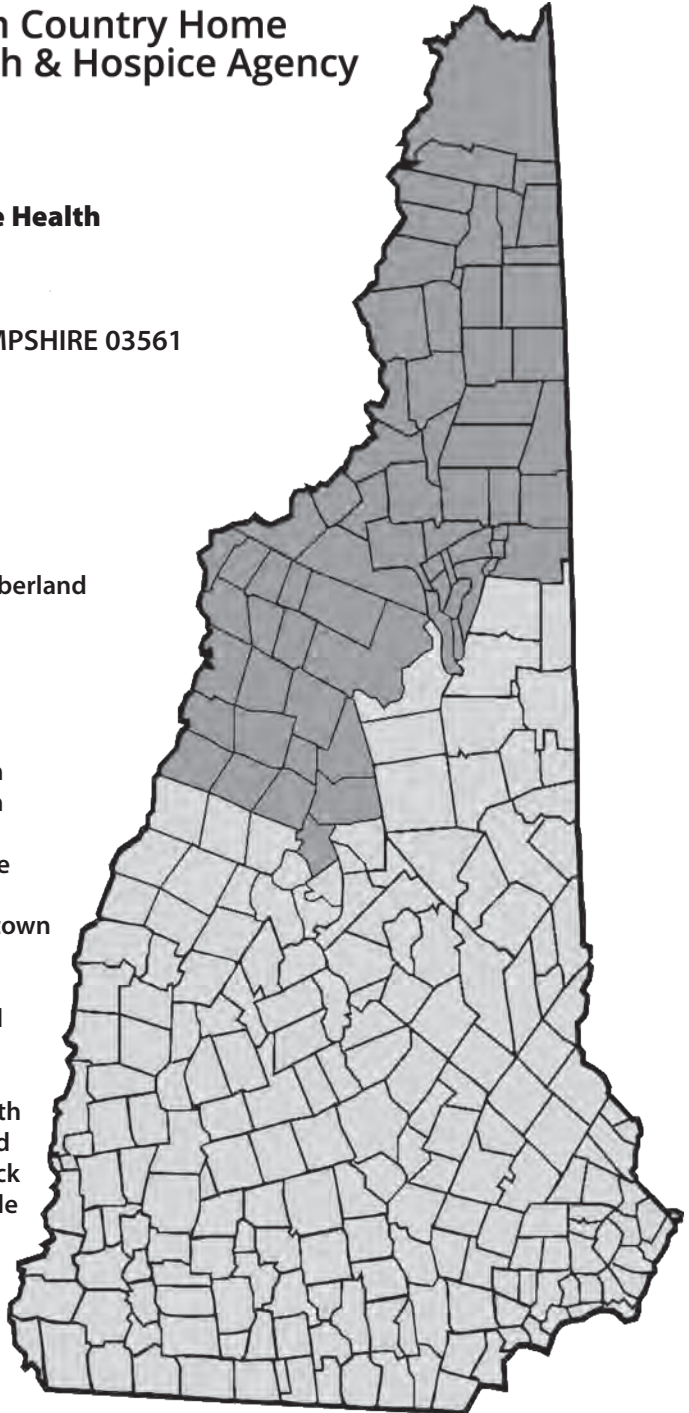
**North Country Home
Health & Hospice Agency**

SERVICE AREA

North Country Home Health and Hospice Agency

536 COTTAGE STREET
LITTLETON, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03561
(603) 444-5317
FAX: (603) 444-0980

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| Bath | Lyman |
| Benton | Milan |
| Bethlehem | Millsfield |
| Berlin | Monroe |
| Cambridge | Northumberland |
| Campton | Odell |
| Carroll | Orford |
| Clarksville | Piermont |
| Colebrook | Pike |
| Columbia | Pittsburg |
| Dalton | Plymouth |
| Dixville | Randolph |
| Dummer | Rumney |
| Easton | Shelburne |
| Ellsworth | Stark |
| Errol | Stewartstown |
| Franconia | Stratford |
| Gorham | Success |
| Haverhill | Sugar Hill |
| Jefferson | Thornton |
| Kilkenny | Warren |
| Lancaster | Wentworth |
| Landaff | Whitefield |
| Lincoln | Woodstock |
| Lisbon | Woodsville |
| Littleton | |





White Mountain Mental Health

29 Maple Street • PO Box 599 • Littleton, NH 03561

603-444-5358 • Fax 603-444-0145

Lancaster • 603-788-2521 ext. 2138

Lincoln • 603-745-2090 | Woodsville • 603-747-3658

2023 Director's Report

Northern Human Services-White Mountain Mental Health is one of 10 community mental health centers in New Hampshire that provides an array of services to meet the mental health needs of all persons residing in Northern Grafton County and lower Coos County. As the safety net provider of mental health services for these geographic areas, White Mountain Mental Health strives to ensure that everyone in the community, regardless of income or insurance status, has access to high quality mental health services. These services include 24/7 emergency services, outpatient therapy for adults and children, psychiatric services for established clients, case management and functional support outreach services, Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) services, Supported Employment services, a 6 bed adult residential group home and three supported, short-term transitional beds available for clients in need of housing while awaiting stable, permanent, affordable housing. For those that are uninsured or underinsured, Northern Human Services offers a sliding fee scale as well as affordable payment plan options so necessary services are still accessible to individuals regardless of their ability to pay.

We continue to see a huge demand for mental health services in our catchment area that is exceeding clinic capacity; individuals experiencing acute psychiatric crises are triaged via Mobile Crisis/Rapid Response through Northern Human Services and, once stabilized, are prioritized for treatment at the closest NHS community mental health center. According to 2021 data from the National Institute of Mental Illness, it is estimated that more than one in five US adults live with a mental illness (approximately 57.8 million adults ages 18 years and older), with young adults aged 18-25 years having the highest prevalence compared to other age groups. Additionally, an estimated 49.5% of adolescents in the US have a mental illness with approximately 22.2% experiencing severe impairment and/or distress. The statistics for New Hampshire tell a similar story. 221,000 adults in New Hampshire have a mental health condition, of which 57,000 NH adults have a serious mental illness and 15,000 NH youth aged 12-17 years have depression. On average, one person in the United States dies by suicide every 11 minutes. In New Hampshire, 279 lives were lost to suicide in 2021. Providing emergency services is arguably our most important service and also the costliest and often not a reimbursable

service for some commercial insurances. Every year we ask the towns that we serve for funding to help offset the costs of this incredibly important service so no one who is having an acute psychiatric emergency has to worry about cost while in crisis.

In 2023, 12 uninsured or underinsured residents of Jefferson received services from White Mountain Mental Health. Our cost for these services was \$7,860.20 of which \$2,253.20 were fees from Emergency Services. Despite the rising cost of care, we are requesting level funding from the town of Jefferson. All funds received from Jefferson go directly to Jefferson residents that are uninsured or underinsured and help us to provide needed services to the residents of Jefferson.

We appreciate the support that we have received from the town of Jefferson over the years and are thankful to the voters for recognizing the importance of timely access to mental services for all residents.

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Finkle". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Amy" and last name "Finkle" clearly distinguishable.

AMY FINKLE

Director of Behavioral Health
White Mountain Mental Health
Northern Human Services

Center for New Beginnings

229 Cottage Street • Littleton, NH 03561

603-444-6465 • Fax 603-444-6233

www.centerfornewbeginnings.org • info@centerfornewbeginnings.org

*A Special Place for Children & Families. Excellent Care and Caring...
Individual, Group and Family Psychotherapy ~ Employee Assistance*

Dear North Country Neighbor:

Thirty-eight years ago, The Center for New Beginnings was founded in Littleton to provide services mainly to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Today our nonprofit organization is dedicated to improving the lives of people who struggle with depression, anxiety, grief, trauma, marital problems, and many other difficulties. The children and teenagers we see come with a myriad of challenges that reflect the social, cultural, and economic struggles of our time. *We are also working hard to answer the needs of those suffering with addiction - a widespread problem.* Our service area covers the northern third of New Hampshire, from the Kancamagus Highway north to the Canadian border, and northwest to the neighboring Vermont counties - in local terms, the White Mountains, Great North Woods, and Northeast Kingdom regions. However, we do not exclude clients outside our area who wish to travel to receive services at the Center.

We are often asked "what makes you different from Northern Human Services"? We are not a federally funded community mental health center. We are an independent non-profit. We provide short term care for acute issues, rather than long term care for more chronic cases. There is significant need for both types of services. We both have substantial wait lists, and are continuously looking to add more qualified providers.

We are asking for your help to meet the needs of your community. The ever-increasing costs of overhead versus stagnant insurance reimbursements result in a continuous budget tightrope.

In 2023, The Center for New Beginnings provided services to 449 individuals. We logged 5200 patient appointments. Seven of our clients reside in Jefferson. We are requesting \$250 from the town for the upcoming year. When we do have extra funds available, such as these town donations, we have the flexibility to assist our clients who have difficulty meeting their high deductibles or co-pays or a loss of insurance coverage.

When people are mentally healthy they are better employees, more conscientious parents, and are able to positively contribute to their communities. Healthy children do better in school, control behaviors that are disruptive in class, and grow up to be resilient adults. Individuals who are mentally stable are much less likely to commit crimes or wreak havoc among their families, coworkers, and communities. Everyone benefits from a population that is mentally healthy.

Please contact us if you would like to learn more about the counseling services we provide for individuals and their families, or our Employee Assistance Program, a confidential counseling and referral resource program for employees and their family members to help them deal with personal and work-related issues.

Good works have always relied upon the generosity of good people. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors

The Center for New Beginnings

NANCY DICKOWSKI, Bethlehem

JOY DAVIS, Bethlehem

KAY KERR, Bethlehem

CHRISTINE POLITO, Bethlehem

ILMA GALEOTE, Littleton

ANNETTE CARBONNEAU, Franconia



Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

New Hampshire

800.626.0622 • www.casanh.org



Dear Select Board,

I am writing today to ask the Town of Jefferson to consider a \$500 appropriation to advocate for Jefferson's most vulnerable children. This will allow CASA of New Hampshire to recruit, train, and support a volunteer advocate to provide a voice for the children of Jefferson who have experienced abuse or neglect. 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 includes 70 children from Coos 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.

Our children are in crisis.

Each year, one million American children are confirmed victims of abuse and neglect and more than half a million are in foster care.

In New Hampshire, hundreds of these children come to the attention of the courts annually. Our children need someone to tell their stories, to be a strong advocate, to get to know them and make their voices heard in a complex, confusing, and often overburdened child protection system.

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. Our trained volunteer advocates speak for our children's best interests in the New Hampshire Family court system. In recent years, the need for our services has increased dramatically.

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.

CASA of NH has an incredibly strong team of staff, board of directors, and more than 600 volunteer advocates who are completely committed to this difficult but life-changing work. Support from the Town of Jefferson will help us to further this mission by providing neglected and abused children in your community with a caring and compassionate advocate to help see them through their most difficult days.

Town of Jefferson, NH

In addition to all of the good work they do for our children, our CASA volunteers also save the state more than \$3.5M in legal fees - fees that would otherwise be paid for by state tax dollars. If CASA of NH cannot provide a volunteer, the state will then hire a paid GAL (Guardian ad Litem) at \$60 per hour plus travel costs.

Below are our most recent fiscal-year-end statistics specific to your county and the state:

FY 2023 BY THE NUMBERS

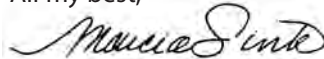
	<u>Statewide</u>	<u>In Coos County</u>
Children Served	1,549	57
Volunteers	612	38
Miles Traveled	609,391	30,417
Hours of Volunteer Time	87,585	3,065
Value of Volunteer Advocacy	\$3.5M	

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.

Thank you so much for your consideration of this request for your next funding cycle. Should you require additional materials to support this letter, please contact Tarah Bergeron, Development Associate at (603) 626-4600 x2113 or by emailing tbergeron@casanh.org.

I look forward to updating you with our progress and the impact that your support will have on New Hampshire's victimized children.

All my best,



MARCIA R. SINK
President & CEO



American Red Cross
Northern New England Region

Coös County Service Delivery
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

Disaster Response

In the past year, the American Red Cross has responded to **7 disaster cases in Coös County**, providing assistance to **20 individuals**. Most commonly, these incidents were home fires. Red Cross workers were on the scene to provide food, clothing, lodging, emotional support, and more to families during their hours of greatest need. Our teams also provide Mass Care to first responders. Things like food, water, and warm drinks strengthen the brave people of your local Fire and Police Departments as they answer the call to keep your residents safe.

Town/City	Disaster Events	Individuals
Berlin	6	18
Jefferson	1	2

Home Fire Campaign

Last year, Red Cross staff and volunteers worked throughout Coös County to educate residents on fire, safety and preparedness. We made **6 homes safer** by helping families develop emergency evacuation plans.

Blood Drives

We collected **539 pints** of life-saving blood in **21 drives** in Coös County.



Training Services

Last year, **77 Coös County residents** were taught a variety of important lifesaving skills such as First Aid, CPR, Babysitting Skills and Water Safety.



Service to the Armed Forces

We proudly assisted **26 of Coös County's Service Members, veterans and their families** by providing emergency communications and other services, including counseling and financial assistance.

Volunteer Services

Coös County is home to **13 American Red Cross Volunteers**. We have volunteers from all walks of life, who are trained and empowered to respond to disasters in the middle of the night, to teach safety courses, to help at our many blood drives, and so much more. The American Red Cross is proud that **90%** of its staff is made up of volunteers; they are truly the heart and soul of our organization.



NEVERS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

This scholarship was established in 1981 by the family of Wilbur and Gurda Nevers in honor of their 50th Wedding Anniversary. It is available to any Jefferson High School senior seeking to advance in higher education in any field. Any student wishing to apply for the scholarship may request an application from the Guidance Department at the White Mountains Regional High School.

The Scholarship Committee consists of the Library Trustees, Librarian and the Town Clerk. This year three scholarships were awarded, and they went to Madeline Lorenz, Karter Deming and Jaylin Bennett.

We wish to express our sincere appreciation to the Nevers family and to all who have contributed to their scholarship fund. Donations to the fund may be sent to the Nevers - Town of Jefferson Scholarship Fund in care of the Jefferson Trustee of Trust Funds, 173 Meadows Road, Jefferson, NH 03583.

Respectfully Submitted,

ELIZABETH MILLIGAN
Library Chair Trustee

MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN THE TOWN OF JEFFERSON, NH 01/01/2023-12/31/2023

Person A's Name and Residence	Person B's Name and Residence	Town of Issuance	Place of Marriage	Date of Marriage
WASUTA, NADIA MARIE JEFFERSON, NH	HICKS, GARRETT FORREST JEFFERSON, NH	LANCASTER	JEFFERSON	08/05/2023
LABOUNTY, JACOB EDWARD LANCASTER, NH	DUTKEWYCH, LEAH ELIZABETH JEFFERSON, NH	LANCASTER	JEFFERSON	08/06/2023
LANGKAU, MALLORY ANNE JEFFERSON, NH	GROSS, TREVOR BRICE JEFFERSON, NH	LANCASTER	TAMWORTH	12/31/2023

Total number of records 3

**BIRTHS REGISTERED IN THE TOWN OF JEFFERSON, NH
01/01/2023-12/31/2023**

<u>Child's Name</u>	<u>Birth Date</u>	<u>Birth Place</u>	<u>Father's/ Partner's Name</u>	<u>Mother's/ Parent's Name</u>
GOTTSHALL, IVY JUDE	02/03/2023	LITTLETON, NH	GOTTSHALL, JOSHUA DEAN	COUTURE, BRENNAH RAE
INGERSON, WESLEY ELLIOTT	03/24/2023	NORTH CONWAY, NH	INGERSON, CODY ELLIOTT	INGERSON, JESSIE VERA

Total Number of Records 2

DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE TOWN OF JEFFERSON, NH 01/01/2023-12/31/2023

Decedent's Name	Death Date	Death Place	Father's/Parent's Name	Mother's/Parent's Name Prior to First Marriage/Civil Union	Military
BRONSON, OPAL L.	01/14/2023	JEFFERSON	GROSS, HOMER	PERRY, PEARL	N
DAVIS, DEBRA ANN	02/17/2023	JEFFERSON	KROL, JOHN	SKINNER, IRENE	N
FRIEND, NATHAN NORRIS	02/22/2023	JEFFERSON	FRIEND, GILMAN	WILSON, JOYCE	N
HOLMES, JAMES PRESTON	03/14/2023	LACONIA	HOLMES, DONALD	BERGSTROM, GLADYS	N
ESTES, ESTELLE ADLER	07/04/2023	LITTLETON	ADLER, FRANK	SHAPPELL, DONNA	N
MERROW, SHERRY E.	08/04/2023	JEFFERSON	STILES, ALGER	GOULD, GLENNA	N
MILLER, ROBERT L.	09/13/2023	JEFFERSON	MILLER, LOUIS	PECK, THERESA	Y
TRAINER, VIOLET M.	09/20/2023	DERRY	TRAINER, LEONARD	VARNUM, FRANCES	N
RYMSZEWICZ, BRUCE JOHN	10/22/2023	JEFFERSON	RYMSZEWICZ, STEPHEN	FOURNIER, JULIA	N
PASCHAL, STELLA	10/31/2023	JEFFERSON	INGERSON, ALBERT	PAGE, HELEN	N
WILLEY III, RAY CARL	11/03/2023	JEFFERSON	WILLEY II, RAY	BAILEY, JANET	N
MONTBLEAU, MARY J.	11/17/2023	WHITEFIELD	ALEXANDER, JOHN	BURKE, ISABEL	N

Total Number of Records 12

