

Town of Bradford
New Hampshire



Annual Reports of the Town
For the year ending December 31, 2025

Annual Reports
of the
Select Board and Other Offices
of the
Town of Bradford, New Hampshire
for the year ending
December 31, 2025
&
Vital Statistics
for the year ending
December 31, 2025

Cover photo: Lake Massasecum Courtesy of Jim Dexter

Photos in this report have been shared by many people. We thank all of them for their generous contribution of time and memories. Photo credit is given where possible.

We are on the unceded land of Nd'akinna which has long served as a site of meeting for Abenaki people from Pagôntegok (Contoocook), O'quasskikonaquan (Newbury) and beyond for thousands of years. Nebizonbik (Bradford Springs) provided healing waters and people exchanged goods at the village site behind Lake Massasecum, calling this land home. The town of Bradford honors, recognizes, and respects these Abenaki, as the traditional stewards of the lands and waters on which we gather today. In that spirit, today we will begin by acknowledging that we are guests in this land. We need to respect and help protect the lands within our use and share of the bounty with our Abenaki partners today.

We dedicate this Annual Town Report to



Bruce Allen Edwards, 76, from Bradford, NH passed away Tuesday December 30, 2025. Bruce was born February, 15, 1949, in Clinton Massachusetts. He moved to Bradford at an early age. He owned and operated Bruce's Auto Repair for 45 years. He is survived by his wife Cheryl married for 35 years, His Daughter Amanda Kernan and grandchildren, Son Allen Edwards.

Ruby Jane Johnson, 94, Jane as she was preferred, passed away Wednesday, September 24th, 2025, at her home of the past 42 years in Bradford, NH. Jane passed quietly at home with Don, Chuck and her loyal loved Miniature Schnauzer guard dog by her side. Jane was a member of Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). She was a member of the Bradford Women's Club, served on the Planning Board in Bradford, was a volunteer for several years at Newbury's Information Booth during summers. Jane would like nothing better as a Memorial than for her friends to plant trees and flowers to enhance Bradford's ever improving appearance and sense of pride in our Town.





Tom Marshall passed away on November 11, 2025. Tom spent summers at his family's camp on Lake Massasecum since before he was a year old, and was able to enjoy all 80 years of his life in his favorite place, alongside his wife, Judy, his two children, and 4 grandchildren. In addition to his love of Bradford, and Lake Massasecum, Tom loved snowmobiling, playing cribbage, puttering in his garage, Corvettes, and most of all, his family and community. Spending time with Tom, whether he was a friend, neighbor, uncle, "Grampa", dad, father-in-law, brother-in-law, or husband, one could not help but be impacted by his pure joy and love of life, his warm hugs, his friendly laugh, and his endless sayings. To be in his presence was always a welcomed feeling. His family is grateful for the legacy he left in us, and he is deeply missed.

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**2025 DIRECTORY OF OFFICIALS
ELECTED**

Moderator

Bruce Storm	term expires 2026
Kathleen Bigford, Assistant Moderator	pro tem

Select Board

Marlene Freyler, Chair	term expires 2026
Charles F. Meany III	term expires 2027
Beth Downs	term expires 2028

Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Erica Gross	term expires 2027
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Supervisors of the Checklist

Tom Marshall (deceased)	term expires 2026
Linda Cansler (appointed)	term expires 2026
Susan Gildersleeve	term expires 2028
Judy Marshall	term expires 2030

Trustees of the Trust Funds

Dan Innis (resigned)	term expires 2026
Bruce Gezelman	term expires 2027
Scott McCaskill	term expires 2028

Trustees of Brown Memorial Library

Laura Beaton	term expires 2026
Mary Keegan-Dayton	term expires 2026
Robin Steiner – (alternate)	term expires 2026
Jason Grey	term expires 2027
Caitlin Banaszak	term expires 2028
Jesse Griffin	term expires 2028
Devin Pendleton	term expires 2028
Maria Storm	term expires 2028

Scholarship Committee

Mary Keegan Dayton	term expires 2026
Devin Pendleton	term expires 2027
Mary Chris Duncan	term expires 2028

Cemetery Commission

Sheila Denoncourt	term expires 2026
Marlene Freyler	term expires 2027
Linda Cansler	term expires 2028

Budget Committee

Beth Downs	Select Board Representative
Karen Hambleton	term expires 2026
Timothy McKenna	term expires 2026
Kimberly Firth	term expires 2027
Jen Richardson, Chair	term expires 2027
Bliss Dayton	term expires 2028
Justin Dohrn	term expires 2028

Historic District Commission

Laurie Buchar, Friends of the Bradford Center Meetinghouse (FBCM)
 - formerly UCS Union Congregational Society

George Cilley, (BHS) Bradford Historical Society

Seth Benowitz, Conservation Commission

Marlene Freyler, Selectman

Sheila Denoncourt, Cemetery Commission

Planning Board

Charles F. Meany III	Select Board Representative
Bruse Gezelman	term expires 2026
Kelly McCaskill-Eneguess	term expires 2026
Katie Olohan	term expires 2026
Carol Meise, Chair	term expires 2027
Shanna Griffin	term expires 2027
Kathleen Bigford	term expires 2028
Pam Bruss	Alternate 2026
Steve Chase	Alternate 2026

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Nathanial Bruss	term expires 2026
Jim Varney	term expires 2026
William Duffy	term expires 2027
Laura Beaton	term expires 2028
Brooks McCandlish, Chair	term expires 2028

APPOINTED BY THE SELECTMEN

Road Agent	Steve Hall
Road Crew – Full Time	Sam Fortune
	Justin Fitzgerald
	Dan Cilley
Road Crew – Part Time	Al Piroso
Administrator	Karen Hambleton (resigned)
	Scott Butcher (appointed)
Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant	Maureen Brandon
Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector	Amelia Dohrn
Deputy Treasurer	Jason Grey
Overseer of the Public Welfare	Cheryl Frey
Health Officer, Acting	Bryan Nowell
Town Treasurer	Steve Pierce

Police Department

Edward Shaughnessy, Chief
Full Time Officers:
Neil Flanagan, Sergeant
Glen Drewniak, Sergeant
Jacob Hubbard, Officer

Part Time Officers:
Henry Thomas, PT Officer
Kevin Faria, PT Officer
William Graham, PT Officer
Carolyn Valiquet, Admin. Asst./PT Officer

Transfer Station

Transfer Station Manager
Transfer Station Attendant

Lois Kilnapp
Ken Anderson

Conservation Commission

J. Ann Eldridge, Chair
Meg Fearnley, Treasurer
Patricia Furness, Secretary
Brooks McCandlish
George Beaton

Nathanial Bruss
Doug Southard
Seth Benowitz, Alternate
Scott MacLean, Alternate
Rebecca Herman, Alternate
Everett Weber, Alternate

Parks and Recreation

Devin Pendleton, Chair (resigned)
Patty Heffner (resigned)
Bruce Edwards

Katie Olohan, Secretary (resigned)
Libby Curtis Webb (resigned)

Brown Memorial Library Staff – Appointed by Library Trustees

Ellen Barselle, Director
Ellie Brown, Assistant Librarian
Laurie Buchar, Children’s Librarian
Seth Benowitz

Patty Furness
Deborah Gregory
Melissa Mitchell
Joy Baker, Custodian

Fire Department

Bryan Nowell, Fire Chief
Carl Goldberg, Captain
Felicia Starr, EMT
Brooks McCandlish, EMT
Emily Roy, AEMT
John Hill, FF/EMT
John McDonald, FF
Robert Naughton, FF

Steve Hansen, Lieutenant
Robert Green, Lieutenant
Anthony Fry, FF/EMT
Matt Gerald, FF
Neil Donnenfeld, EMR
Brian Rondeau, FF/AEMT
Kathleen Payne, AEMT
Ian McLoughlin, FF/AEMT

Forest Fire Warden

Steve Hansen

Emergency Management Coordinator

Bryan Nowell

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer

Walter Royal

Road and Bridge Repair Committee

Steve Hall, Chair
Charles F. Meany III, Select Board Representative
Caleb Connor
Nate Kimball

Matt Ordway
Gary Perkins
Jim Pickman
Dan Cilley

Economic Development Committee

Scott McCaskill, Chair
Jim Bibbo, Vice Chair

Marlene Freyler, Select Board Representative
Matt Monahan, Central NH Regional Planning

Energy Committee

Sandra Bravo, Chair
Susan Reeder Moss, Secretary
Marlene Freyler, Select Board Representative

Rett Weber
Laura Ryder

Facilities Use Committee

Bruce Gezelman, Chair
Scott McCaskill, Secretary

Charles F. Meany III, Select Board Representative
Andrew Pinard

Political Committees

Republican–Steve Pierce

Democrat–Eileen Kelly

Representative to Kearsarge Regional School Board
Representative to Municipal Budget Committee

Eric Gregoire
James V. Bibbo III

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTARY

Welcome to the 2025 Annual Town Report. There is a lot of information about Town Departments and Committees that help make Bradford a great place to live. The Selectmen and Budget Committee were hard at work preparing the budget for Town Meeting in March.

Last Spring, Town Meeting approved a lease agreement for a new Caterpillar four-wheel drive backhoe and the purchase of the 2026 International six-wheel dump truck outfitted with equipment for the Highway Department. It was also voted to fund the demolition and removal of the masonic building at 89 West Main Street and the lot merged with 91 West Main.

In March, the back part of the Town Hall roof was damaged by strong winds and had to be replaced.

On May 1st, Karen Hambleton resigned as Town Administrator. She took a job in Hopkinton as their new Administrator on June 26th. Best of luck to Karen in her new position. The Town would like to thank Bruce Storm and his committee for their time and work finding a new Administrator for the Town of Bradford.

Maureen Brandon agreed with the Board of Selectmen to do her regular duties and to fill in as Interim Administrator until we hired a new Administrator. A Great Big Thank You to Maureen and a job well done for the Town.

First responders John Hill, Emily Roy, and Felicia Starr assisted in the birth of a baby girl, May 6th and Fire Chief Bryan Nowell awarded each of the with a Stork Pin.

In June, the Historical Society hosted a reenactment of General Lafayette's visit to Bradford.

In September our new Town Administrator, Scott Butcher, started with us. Scott was hired by the Selectmen and Department Heads.

Three members of the Parks & Recreation committee sent in their resignations to the Town. The Select Board appreciates all the work that Devin and her committee have done for the Town over the years.

Road Agent Steve Hall gave us his resignation in November as he heads toward retirement effective December 31st. He will remain with us on a part-time basis until his replacement is hired. Thank you for all of the years you have served the Town.

Respectfully submitted,
Bradford Select Board

Marlene Freyler, Chair
Charles F. Meany III
Beth Downs

**Town of Bradford
State of New Hampshire**

Town Warrant of Town Meeting March 11th, 2025

The Polls will open at 8:00 am, and not close earlier than 7:00 pm, on March 11th, 2025.

To the inhabitants of the Town of Bradford in the County of Merrimack in the said State qualified to vote in town affairs: .

You are hereby notified to meet at the Bradford Town Hall on West Main Street in said Bradford, N.H. on Tuesday the eleventh day of March next, at eight o'clock in the morning to act on the following articles:

Article One: To choose all necessary town officials for the ensuing year.

Total Votes Cast: 332 (20 absentee ballots were cast)

Selectman 3 years - Vote for not more than 1

Beth Downs	167 Elected
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Budget Committee 3 years - Vote for not more than 2

Bliss Dayton	273 Elected
Justin Dohrn	204 Elected

Cemetery Commission 3 years - Vote for not more than 1

Linda Cansler	5 Elected
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Planning Board 3 years - Vote for not more than 2

Kathleen Bigford	272 Elected
Laurie Colburn	251 Elected

Scholarship Committee 2 years - Vote for not more than 1

Devin Pendleton	254 Elected
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Scholarship Committee 3 years - Vote for not more than 1

Write-in tie – This will be determined by appointment from the committee.

Trustees of the Brown Memorial Library 3 years - Vote for not more than 4

Caitlin Banaszak	255 Elected
Devin Pendleton	265 Elected
Maria Storm	243 Elected

Write-in tie – This will be determined by appointment from the committee.

Trustees of the Trust Funds 3 years - Vote for not more than 1

Scott McCaskill 276 Elected

Zoning Board 3 years - Vote for not more than 2

Laura Beaton 231 Elected

Brooks McCandlish 231 Elected

KEARSARGE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION, March 11, 2025

Question 1 To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the Municipal Budget Committee’s recommended amount \$55,387,481 for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries for the school district officials and agents, and for the payment for the statutory obligations of the District. The School Board recommends \$55,387,481. This article does not include appropriations voted in other warrant articles. This warrant article asks the voters to raise and appropriate for the support of schools, the salaries of School District Officials and Agents, and for the statutory obligations of said District, and to authorize the application against said appropriation of such sums as are estimated to be received from the State sources, together with other income, the School Board to certify to the Selectmen of each of the Towns of Bradford, New London, Newbury, Springfield, Sutton, Warner, and Wilmot, the amount to be raised by taxation by said towns. (School Board Recommends 6-0) (Municipal Budget Committee Recommends 6-1) Vote {X} for only one: A or B

- A. \$55,387,481 for the proposed Operating Budget recommended by the School Board
 - B. \$55,387,481 for the proposed Operating Budget recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee
- A. 202 B. 71

Question 2 To see if the School District will vote to approve the cost item included in the Collective Bargaining Agreement reached between the Kearsarge Regional School Board and the Kearsarge Regional Educators Association which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Estimated Increase</u>
2025-2026	\$857,617
2026-2027	\$879,608
2027-2028	\$861,580

And further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$857,617 for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. (School Board Recommends 6-0) (Municipal Budget Committee Recommends 7-0)

YES 222 NO 94

Question 3 To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$100,000 to be placed in the School Buildings Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund for the purpose of repair, unanticipated utility costs, and maintaining the school buildings and equipment, with such amount to be funded from unassigned fund balance (surplus funds) remaining on hand as of June 30, 2025. (School Board Recommends 6-0) (Municipal Budget Committee Recommends 6-1)

YES 239 NO 81

Question 4 To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$100,000 to be placed in the Capital Reserve Roof Fund for the purpose of replacement or major repairs to roofs in the district with such amounts to be funded from unassigned fund balance (surplus funds) remaining on hand as of June 30, 2025. (School Board Recommends 6-0) (Municipal Budget Committee Recommends 6-1)

YES 242 NO 77

Article Two: Zoning Ordinance To see if the Town will vote to adopt provisions which seek to update dates, definitions, map references and provide clarity for various requirements as recommended by the State of New Hampshire. These requirements are recommended by the State to ensure that Bradford stays in compliance with the Federal Flood Program. Maintaining compliance with the Flood Program is required for Bradford property owners to maintain their flood insurance. The following question will appear on the Official Ballot:

"Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Bradford Planning Board for the Town of Bradford Zoning Ordinance as follows:

To amend Article IX FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE as necessary to comply with requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program. .

This Amendment was recommended for approval by the Planning Board by a vote of 5-0."

YES 263 NO 63

Article Three: Zoning Ordinance - To see if the Town will vote to adopt provisions which seek to establish a Surface Water Overlay District. The Surface Water Overlay District (SWOD) is an overlay that establishes buffers from the major lakes, ponds, rivers and streams in Bradford. The provisions of the SWOD only apply to area within the SWOD buffer area and they establish a series of prohibited land uses and conditional land uses. Conditional uses within the SWOD buffer are those uses allowed in the underlying zoning district that are allowed if additional stormwater protections are put in place. It also establishes that the Planning Board is the permitting authority for Conditional Use Permits. Lastly, the SWOD also establishes additional standards and setbacks for all land uses within the SWOD buffer. The following question will appear on the Official Ballot:

"Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Bradford Planning Board for the Town of Bradford Zoning Ordinance as follows:

To establish a new Article, SURFACE WATER OVERLAY DISTRICT, that creates setbacks and standards for surface water protection to be administered by the Bradford Planning Board through a Conditional Use Permit process as described in NH RSA 674:21.

This Article will replace the current Article XI, ENFORCEMENTS, which will be redesignated as Article XII; all subsequent amendments articles will be renumbered accordingly.

This Amendment was recommended for approval by the Planning Board by a vote of 5-0."

YES 231 NO 91

Election officials present at the March 11, 2025, Town Election:

Moderator: Bruce Storm

Assistant Moderator: Kathleen Bigford

Town Clerk: Erica Gross

Deputy Town Clerk: Amelia Dohrn

Supervisors of the Checklist: Judith Marshall, Thomas Marshall, and Susan Gildersleeve

Selectmen: Beth Downs, Marlene Freyler, and Charles F. Meany III

Ballot Clerks: Mary Derry, Denise Renk, Robert Toppi, Kathleen Barr, Maria Storm, Sterling Gross, and Tandy Hartford

Counters: Carey Rodd, Beth Rodd, Steve Pierce, Jason Grey, Algrid Leonas, Annette Leonas, Barbara Southard, Tandy Hartford, Julie Lutter, Dawn Gezelman, Bruce Gezelman, and Martha Barron

The count ended at 10:30 pm, and the results were announced.

Article Four: To adjourn the meeting until Wednesday, March 12th, 2025, at 7:00 pm, at the Kearsarge Regional Elementary School, on Old Warner Road in Bradford. Raising the money and remaining articles in the Warrant will be taken up at the adjourned meeting.

Bruce Storm, Moderator, opened the meeting at 7:01 pm.

Bruce Storm, Moderator, introduced Harriet Douglass, who led us in the Pledge of Allegiance in honor of her husband, Donald Douglass, who was a Veteran of the Army-Air Force. Harriet is also the holder of the Boston Post Cane as the oldest and nicest person.

Beth Downs, Chairperson of the Selectboard, welcomed everybody to the March 11th, 2025, Town Meeting and thanked them for coming.

Bruce Storm, Moderator, went over the rules of conduct for the meeting, asking neighbors and friends to respect each other’s right to an opinion. He then read the election results for the zoning, town, and school. He mentioned that due to the number of write-ins, they were posted at the Town Clerk’s office.

Laurie Colburn, Budget Committee, then gave a presentation showing the highlights, the 2025 proposed appropriations, and a year-to-year trend in tax rate drivers.

Article Five: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Million Nine Hundred Forty-Nine Thousand Five Hundred Nineteen Dollars (\$2,949,519.00) for general municipal operations. This article does not include amounts appropriated by other warrant articles. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends \$2,946,569.00. Budget Committee recommends \$2,949,519.00.

	<u>Select Board</u>	<u>Budget Committee</u>
1. Executive	243,610.00	243,610.00
2. Elections & Vital Statistics	4,600.00	4,600.00
3. Financial Administration	105,368.00	105,368.00
4. Revaluations	47,500.00	47,500.00
5. Legal	45,000.00	45,000.00
6. Employee Benefits	1.00	1.00
7. Planning & Zoning	13,138.00	13,138.00
8. General Gov	137,551.00	136,501.00
9. Cemetery	25,000.00	25,000.00
10. Insurances	113,560.00	113,560.00
11. Other General Gov	9,500.00	9,500.00
12. Police Department	647,134.00	647,134.00
13. Fire Department	159,000.00	159,000.00
14. Rescue Services – FAST	9,700.00	9,700.00
15. Rescue Services – Contract	80,000.00	80,000.00
16. Building Code Department	26,780.00	26,780.00
	<u>Select Board</u>	<u>Budget Committee</u>
17. Civil Defense	1.00	1.00
18. Highway Department	732,630.00	737,630.00
19. Bridges	1.00	1.00
20. Street Lighting	2,400.00	2,400.00
21. Solid Waste Collection	100,910.00	100,910.00
22. Solid Waste Disposal	31,100.00	31,100.00
23. Inoculations	1.00	1.00
24. Welfare Administration	7,468.00	7,468.00
25. Welfare Payments	30,177.00	30,177.00
26. Parks and Recreation	23,759.00	22,759.00

27. Library	95,479.00	95,479.00
28. Patriotic Purposes .	5,450.00	5,450.00
29. Community Center	38,550.00	38,550.00
30. Other Conservation	1,200.00	1,200.00
31. Economic Development	1.00	1.00
32. Long Term Notes	209,000.00	209,000.00
33. Interest on TAN notes	1,000.00	1 000.00
Total	\$ 2,946,569.00	\$ 2,949,519.00

Bruce Storm, Moderator, read Article Five and asked for a motion to accept the article. Beth Downs moved to approve Article Five, which Marlene Freyler seconded.

Article Passed with a voice vote.

Article Six: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$8,500.00) to be placed in the 2024 Police Department Equipment Expendable Trust Fund. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends. Budget Committee recommends.

Bruce Storm, Moderator, read Article Six and asked for a motion to accept the article. Beth Downs moved to approve Article Six, which Marlene Freyler seconded.

Article Passed with a voice vote.

Article Seven: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) to be placed in the 2021 Police Vehicle Capital Reserve Trust Fund. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends. Budget Committee recommends.

Bruce Storm, Moderator, read Article Seven and asked for a motion to accept the article. Beth Downs moved to approve Article Seven, which Marlene Freyler seconded.

Article Passed with a voice vote.

Article Eight: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) to fund the 2006 Fire Department Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends. Budget Committee recommends.

Bruce Storm, Moderator, read Article Eight and asked for a motion to accept the article. Beth Downs moved to approve Article Eight, which Marlene Freyler seconded.

Article Passed with a voice vote.

Article Nine: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) to fund the 2020 Fire Equipment Expendable Trust Fund. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends. Budget Committee recommends.

Bruce Storm, Moderator, read Article Nine and asked for a motion to accept the article. Beth Downs moved to approve Article Nine, which Marlene Freyler seconded.

Article Passed with a voice vote.

Article Ten: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-Two Thousand Dollars (\$72,000.00) to purchase turnout gear for the Fire Department. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32: 7, VI and will continue until the money is spent or December 31, 2030. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends. Budget Committee recommends.

Bruce Storm, Moderator, read Article Ten and asked for a motion to accept the article. Beth Downs moved to approve Article Ten, which Marlene Freyler seconded.

Article Passed with a voice vote.

Article Eleven: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to fund SCBA bottle and apparatus replacement. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will continue until the money is spent or December 31, 2030. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends. Budget Committee recommends.

Bruce Storm, Moderator, read Article Eleven and asked for a motion to accept the article. Beth Downs moved to approve Article Eleven, which Marlene Freyler seconded.

Article Passed with a voice vote.

Article Twelve: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the total sum of Three Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$375,000.00) to fund road maintenance, preservation and paving. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32: 7, VI and will continue until the money is spent or December 31, 2030. (Majority vote required). Select Board recommends. Budget Committee recommends.

Bruce Storm, Moderator, read Article Twelve and asked for a motion to accept the article. Beth Downs moved to approve Article Twelve, which Marlene Freyler seconded.

Russell Von Beren: Wanted to know if this is above and beyond what the highway department does. Is this for private contractors to come in and pave the roads?

Steve Hall, Road Agent: First, thank you to the highway crew for their work over the past winter. It's been a crazy up-and-down year, and you've done a great job. I appreciate that.

There are comments about the highway department not having a plan. We do have a plan. We come in every day to maintain, build, and improve the town's infrastructure. We work diligently with the Selectboard and other departments, the Budget Committee, the CIP Committee, etc. We have identified vehicle replacement and projected projects. We have identified \$1.4 million worth of culvert work that needs to be addressed and four bridges in town that need attention. Three are

red-listed, one with an estimated cost of about \$500,000.00. Pricing is in today's world, not 2 or 3 years later.

So, addressing the \$375,000.00, we met a couple of weeks ago with Central New Hampshire Planning, trying to get a feel for where we were with the results of work performed over the last 3 years. This program was approved at the 2021 town meeting and the projects were started in 2022. In the last 3 years, we crack-sealed and chip-sealed a portion of Fairgrounds Road, Center Road, and Massasecum Lake Road, did a double chip seal on Pleasant View Road, along with micro-surfacing other locations. We have replaced culverts, dug rocks, overlaid Jones Road and Center Road, crack-sealed and chip-sealed a portion of Old Warner Road, and micro-surfaced other locations. We have removed rocks, replaced culverts, cleaned ditches, reclaimed, paved, and coated for one mile on West Road. We cut trees, did stump removal, reclaimed ditches, paved the base road on Fairgrounds Road for 3,700 feet, and re-did the shoulders on both roads. The expanded monies for the last 3 years were \$125,000.00 for 2022, \$380,000.00 for 2023, and a little over \$349,000.00 for 2024. The Plan for 2025 would be to place a top coat of asphalt on West Road and Fairgrounds Road, with the cost estimated at around \$200,000.00. This is not only paving; it is all-inclusive of everything needed for this project. There is a map that shows all the roads slated for improvements. If we were to do that every year with \$350,000.00, you can see the amount flatten out a bit and then start to decline.

This is just an overview of what is going on with the costs.

Rachel Sweetbrown: Will the smaller roads be addressed?

Steve Hall, Road Agent: Absolutely, but West Road is over 4 miles long, and Fairgrounds Road is 3 plus miles, so we are trying to focus on the main arteries in town first.

Andrew Pinard: Could the updated plan be accessible to everybody on the website? This way we could have a good sense of how the spending and maintenance will get to those secondary and tertiary paved roads.

Steve Hall, Road Agent: This has been laid out. However, if we don't have enough money to follow the plan, things get changed and realigned. That's why we met with Central New Hampshire Planning. We are behind the eight ball, so we're trying to play catch-up again.

David Camire, Sr.: Is the paving going to be done by a private company?

Steve Hall, Road Agent: Yes, it will go to a professional company.

Marlene Freyler, Selectboard: In the last few years, since the road plan came in, we have been unable to do it because there has not been enough money. The roads are bad because the plan gets cut every year, and now we are 2 years behind. Also, prices are high.

Mel Pfeifle: Our operating budget has superseded what we are putting into our capital budgets. Even though this year it doesn't look like our operating budget has gone up much. It's already escalated to the point that it's out of whack with what we can spend on the capital budget. We have 46 miles of roads. I'd like you guys to consider this in the future. We need to adjust our operating budgets to the point where we can recapitalize the town.

Bruce Storm, Moderator, re-read Article Twelve and asked for a motion to accept the article. Beth Downs moved to approve Article Twelve, which Marlene Freyler seconded.

Article Passed with a voice vote.

Article Thirteen: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the total sum of Two Hundred Fifty-Four Thousand Dollars (\$254,000.00) to purchase a 2026 International six-wheel dump truck outfitted with equipment. This appropriation will come from the 2020 Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of Two Hundred Eighteen Thousand Dollars (\$218,000.00) with the balance of Thirty-Six Thousand Dollars (\$36,000.00) to be raised by taxation. Further, this will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32: 7, VI and will continue until the money is spent or December 31, 2030. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends. Budget Committee does not recommend (6-1).

Bruce Storm, Moderator, read Article Thirteen and asked for a motion to accept the article. Beth Downs moved to approve Article Thirteen, which Charles F. Meany III seconded.

Tate Sweetbrown: What will this be replacing?

Steve Hall, Road Agent: This is replacing a 2008 International dump truck. It's got about 90,000 miles on it, and it's 17 years old. It is a front line piece. It has an all-purpose body on it, and a front line piece plow wing setup. The multi-purpose body had some issues. It's got rot holes in it and has been repaired twice already. The center chain has been replaced twice, and that cost about \$3,000.00. Cross members are rotted and cracked, and the body underneath needs repair. We've got an estimate to repair that for about \$6,600.00. The basic value of the truck is maybe between \$5,000.00 and \$6,000.00 if you're going to trade it or sell it outright. However, we are trying to acquire a grant, and where we would get one-quarter of that money, which is about \$63,000.00. If we acquire that grant, the stipulation is that you must destroy that truck. You have to blow a hole in the motor, which brings the value down and is not worth anything. From 2017 to date, we have put \$52,000 into that truck for repairs.

Jason Grey: It seems if this article is written correctly, this is a new piece of equipment, and I believe I understand the reason for article 14 that the Budget Committee doesn't approve this because they wish to fund a capital reserve piece and eventually replace this piece of equipment. However, as the Road Agent has alluded to, this item is from 2017, so it seems like it's well past its useful life. While a capital plan is an awesome idea, it is only effective if you have a piece of equipment with a useful life left to replace. For example, a few years ago, we bought a used piece of equipment for a truck. It broke down and couldn't be fixed. Then we had to buy another used piece of equipment. So, while the Capital Improvement Plan is good, a Capital Improvement

Plan only really works if the piece of equipment you're going to replace has useful life in it. This will allow you to save money over the course of that time to replace it while also factoring items like inflation and rising costs inside of it so well. It may seem like a large cost to buy a new piece of equipment now versus putting \$110,000.00 into the Capital Reserve Program, but it doesn't really sound like this piece of equipment will last long enough for us to raise money to purchase a new piece of equipment five or so years down the line. I think we do need the Capital Improvement Plan, but we need to have it be for equipment that can last while we raise the money to go ahead and pick it back up.

Pam Bruss, Capital Improvement Plan Committee: I am on the CIP and worked with the Select Board and the Budget Committee, and a little bit of background on what happened here might be better to understand. The paving was at \$550,000.00 as a plan for this year, and we know the CIP is great. It's a plan. All plans change. The first couple of years are supposed to be accurate, but then it gets less accurate as the years go by just because of change. This truck was in the plan for next year, which is why the Budget Committee decided to stick with that. We know it's old, but the CIP Committee prioritized the roads over the equipment. We've been working hard and diligently with Steve, and he's been progressing so much on plans for roads and equipment. So, kudos to him for that. But at the last minute, the plan changed, so he changed the equipment and the roads. The CIP did recommend \$550,000.00 for paving, putting this truck in next year and the backhoe for the year after that, but you'll see that that's all been pushed into this year, decreasing the paving. Although we know it doesn't have a useful life, we're just trying to catch up for 15 years of not doing everything we should have done.

Tate Sweetbrow: Between Articles 13 and 14, which one is more important at the moment?

Steve Hall, Road Agent: They both have their purpose, and both are important.

Eric Werner: Have we looked into the possibility of leasing this?

Steve Hall, Road Agent: I went to the different committees, approaching them, trying to bring this to fruition; I went in with the plan of leasing both of these pieces of equipment. We have enough money in the CIP now to fund them if we went along with x amount of dollars in the future and just keep adding to that. There are pros and cons to leasing, and obviously, you will be spending money to enable you to do that. The feeling of the boards was to purchase the truck outright and then possibly lease the backhoe if that's an option as we go into the following articles.

Marlene Freyler, Selectboard: The Selectboard was in favor of leasing. If you leased, you could leave some of the money in there. Let it grow and on the backhoe, the interest rate is cheaper than the money that we have to put in to fix the backhoe, which is almost 80,000.00.

A discussion started up, which was interrupted by the Moderator, saying this is on the warrant and that now is not time for a discussion on it.

Beth Downs, Chairperson of the Selectboard: I was the withstanding selectmen who disagreed with purchasing the truck this year or the backhoe. The plan was when Steve came to us in October and the CIP, that the truck he wants to replace today would last another year. In November, it changed, but now it's not. It's a piece of garbage. I think now is not the right time to be expending all of the money out of our Capital reserves when he has other trucks that he can use and use this current truck until it dies and I feel the same way about the backhoe and the climate that the thing that the world is in now, I don't think that the town should be burdened with making payments plus interest to get anything. And yes, we can pay outright for the new truck, but then there's nothing in the CIP if something happens. We all know what happens to your savings if you don't have savings and something catastrophic happens.

Steve Hall, Road Agent: Just to clarify, everyone's using the word leasing. This is a lease purchase. After that time frame, whether it's 5 years or 7 years. Whatever you choose, the town will own that piece of equipment, and both units will have a 7-year warranty. There's pretty much bumper-to-bumper as far as coverage. You would be doing away with many of the repairs that might incur. My repair budget last year was \$78,000.00.

Bruce Storm, Moderator: Can you reiterate the actual budget implications of this truck mentioned in Article 13?

Steve Hall, Road Agent: It's an International dump truck with a plow, a wing, and an all-purpose dump body. It's a sander, dump body combination. The total cost is \$254,000.00 but will only have \$36,000.00 of impact on taxation.

Josh Stewart: Could you speak more about the potential grant?

Steve Hall, Road Agent: The latest word is that it has been reviewed, and they are trying to move forward. The caveat to the grant is that you must pay full price upfront, even if you receive it. You cannot deduct the Grant amount from it.

Article Passed with a raised hand vote.

Article Fourteen: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Ten Thousand Dollars (\$110,000.00) to fund the 2020 Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Trust Fund. This article is null and void with the passage of Article Thirteen. (Majority vote required). Select Board recommends. Budget Committee recommends (4-3).

Article is null and void with the passage of Article 13.

Article Fifteen: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-Four Thousand (\$74,000.00) to fund the 2020 Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Trust Fund. This article is null and void with the passage of Article Fourteen. (Majority vote required). Select Board recommends. Budget Committee does not recommend.

Bruce Storm, Moderator, read Article Fifteen and asked for a motion to accept the article. Beth Downs moved to approve Article Fifteen, which Marlene Freyler seconded.

Andrew Pinard: Could the Budget Committee speak to why they didn't recommend it?

Jen Richardson, Chairperson, Budget Committee: We didn't recommend this one since we didn't recommend Article 13 and Article 15, but we did recommend Article 14, which had a total raised by taxation of \$110,000.00.

Article Passed with a voice vote.

Article Sixteen: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) to fund the 2019 Road and Bridge Expendable Trust Fund. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends. Budget Committee recommends (5-1).

Bruce Storm, Moderator, read Article Sixteen and asked for a motion to accept the article. Beth Downs moved to approve Article Sixteen, which Charles F. Meany III seconded.

Article Passed with a voice vote.

Article Seventeen: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into a lease purchase agreement to acquire a Caterpillar four-wheel drive backhoe and further to authorize the Select Board to issue and negotiate such notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon. (This agreement will contain a fiscal funding non-appropriation clause). The total cost of the backhoe is One Hundred Seventy-Three Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$173,300.00). The lease amount of One Hundred Seventy-Three Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$173,300.00) will be payable over a term of 5 years with an annual appropriation of not more than Thirty-Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$38,500.00). Further, to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$38,500.00) to fund the 2025 payment. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends. Budget Committee does not recommend (5-1).

Bruce Storm, Moderator, read Article Seventeen and asked for a motion to accept the article. Beth Downs moved to approve Article Seventeen, which Charles F. Meany III seconded.

Eileen Kelly: Could someone please define fiscal funding non-appropriation clause?

Karen Hambleton, Town Administrator: It will be paid over a period of years which means that you will see the amount come up in the future warrant. If the town, in the future, decides not to fund the lease payment for that year, the vehicle goes back, and we don't have to pay it.

Charles F. Meany III, Selectboard: We can also pay it off at any time and are not restricted to a 5-year lease.

Steve Hall, Road Agent: The machine that we're trying to replace is a 2011 John Deere backhoe.

It's got little about 7,000 hours on. It's 14 years old. It is, again, a front line piece. Some repairs are needed for this machine. We've taken it to the dealer, who is quoting us about \$42,000.00 to repair the front and rear pins and bushings. There is a trade value of \$26,000.00, so the price would be \$173,300.00. However, a program is going on as we speak for this particular machine. Caterpillar is offering another \$20,000 discount if we purchase that machine. Again, since 2017, we have put \$37,000 into that machine.

Article Passed with a raised hand vote.

Article Eighteen: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$80,000.00) to fund the 2015 Town Equipment Repair and Purchase Expendable Trust Fund. This article is null and void with the passage of Article Seventeen. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends. Budget Committee does not recommend.

Article is null and void with the passage of Article 17.

Article Nineteen: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$41,500.00) to fund the 2015 Town Equipment Repair and Purchase Expendable Trust Fund. This article is null and void with the passage of Article Eighteen. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends. Budget Committee recommends.

Bruce Storm, Moderator, read Article Nineteen and asked for a motion to accept the article. Beth Downs moved to approve Article Nineteen, which Marlene Freyler seconded.

Article Passed with a voice vote.

Article Twenty: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) to fund the 2008 Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends. Budget Committee recommends.

Bruce Storm, Moderator, read Article Twenty and asked for a motion to accept the article. Beth Downs moved to approve Article Twenty, which Charles F. Meany III seconded.

Article Passed with a voice vote.

Article Twenty-One: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eleven Thousand Seven Hundred and Forty-Five Dollars (\$11,745.00) to be placed in the 2021 Police Vehicle Capital Reserve Trust Fund. This appropriation will come from unassigned fund balance and represents the funds received from the Police Department's sale of two cruisers in 2024. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends. Budget Committee recommends.

Bruce Storm, Moderator, read Article Twenty-One and asked for a motion to accept the article. Beth Downs moved to approve Article Twenty-One, which Rachel Sweetbrown seconded.

Article Passed with a voice vote.

Article Twenty-Two: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One

Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) to fund the 2020 Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Trust Fund. This appropriation will come from unassigned fund balance and represents the funds received from the Highway Department's sale of a dump body in 2024. (Majority vote required). Select Board recommends. Budget Committee recommends (5-1).

Bruce Storm, Moderator, read Article Twenty-Two and asked for a motion to accept the article. Beth Downs moved to approve Article Twenty-Two, which Charles F. Meany III seconded.

Article Passed with a voice vote.

Article Twenty-Three: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) to fund the demolition and removal of the Masonic Building at 89 West Main Street (Map 16 Lot 87) from Town property. This appropriation will come from unassigned fund balance, be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32: 7, VI and will continue until the money is spent or December 31, 2030. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends. Budget Committee recommends.

Bruce Storm, Moderator, read Article Twenty-Three and asked for a motion to accept the article. Beth Downs moved to approve Article Twenty-Three, which Marlene Freyler seconded.

Bruce Gezelman made a motion to amend Article Twenty-Three to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$65,000.00), which Patricia Moreland seconded.

Bruce Gezelman: I've been involved with the Mason building and I believe we should take it down. This would preclude Article 27, which is for Ninety-Seven Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars (\$97,500.00).

Ann Eldridge: I want to amend the wording of this article to include demolition and removal but also assessment and abatement if there are any hazardous materials in that building.

Bruce Storm, Moderator: This amendment does not mention that.

Unknown speaker: What about asbestos removal?

Charles F. Meany III, Selectboard: No one has to ask that question again. All state and federal regulations will be complied with when destroying that building. We will not give you mesothelioma. We will not put lead in your hair. We have to write the specifications before we do anything, and it will all be included in the specifications. We have been in contact with the State of New Hampshire, so it will comply with all regulations.

Amelia Dohrn: I just had a question about this one because it was my understanding, and I might be wrong, that the \$5,000.00 was supposed to be put in, then slowly start saving money to afford the demolition of the building. Not to assume it would only cost \$5,000 to tear it down. Is that right?

Bruce Storm, Moderator: I think that's correct.

Bliss Dayton: Speaking to the amendment, is there another \$60,000.00 available in the unassigned fund balance?

Karen Hambleton: I don't know exactly how much is in the fund balance because it gets calculated based on how we go through the year. It would certainly put a dent in it. Last year, we had approximately \$50,000.00 available to help offset taxes and the Select Board opted not to do that using my balance because it would have taken us below the 5% that the state recommends.

Mel Pfeifle: How close are we to the 10% rule? Bruce Gezelman, how did you come up with the \$60,000.00?

Bruce Gezelman: We've been talking with multiple demolition people and have come up with a ballpark amount. We have to actually have a firm contract before we have the exact amount. There is already \$5,000.00 set aside. This was going to be another \$5,000.00, but the building is not getting better. The roof is blowing off, and you can find pieces all over Main Street. The longer we wait to destroy this building, the more damage will incur. The money I am talking about is to supersede the money in Article 27.

Beth Downs, Chairperson of the Selectboard: Draining the fund balance doesn't help us at all, and we need a certain percentage in order to end every year with the Department of Revenue. I personally disagree with this. We do not have the funds to do it. I think we ought to just wait. The building's not going to go anywhere.

David Leathers: It seems like we're now talking about whether we should tear the building down. But the real point was we have Article 27 for \$96,000.00, and now somebody's saying we can do it for \$65,000.00. Realistically, has this really been looked into at this point in time? Not that I disagree with the need to take the building down. We should take it down, so I don't know if anyone can elaborate more on the discrepancy between these two figures, but I think that would be important.

Brooks McCandlish: I'm a member of the fire department. This building was given to the town of Bradford. I forgot how many years ago, I believe five or six. The fire department is not in the business of owning land, so it went to the select people, as it should. A lot of people in town felt it was a nice historic building that shouldn't just be torn down. That's why there's been so many years of discussion about this. An estimate was done, and this is not a firm estimate, but something was done at the time, said it would cost as much as \$50,000.00 to take it down. It's been 6 years. The roof is blowing off. It is going to be rotting. It's not doing the town any good sitting there, and it could be a potential hazard. It could be an asset if that building is gone. The idea of saving a historic building has been well studied, and it would take a lot more money than that. The town has been looking into this, but there are no grants available for it. Last year the

proposal was to put it up for auction. Somebody would take the responsibility of moving the building or salvaging what they could from it, then leaving the site clean. I think that the idea of saving it has been pretty well examined. Personally, I think it's high time that something's done there. The roof is disappearing as we speak. It's been coming off for several years now. Shingles are all over the place. We're not seeing as many anymore, probably because a lot of them are gone. One last point: the final article said \$96,500.00. I think the amount was based on a bid from a local contractor, and my understanding was that it was the worst-case bid. Assuming that there are all kinds of hazardous waste that need to be dealt with. The first step would be to assess that. In any case, the contractor said if it's not the worst case, then we are not going to have to spend that money. \$65,000.00 may be enough since the hazardous material assessment has not yet been done. We don't really know, but I think at least what we should do would be to vote for the \$65,000.00 to go on with this project instead of just continuing to take it down the road. The costs are just going to go up.

Tate Sweetbrow: My real issue is where the money comes from in this one in the amendment. Are we trying to just find money from places where we don't necessarily have the money? I'm not saying it shouldn't be done. I just feel that the way this warrant article is written doesn't allow it to come from a place where we have the money.

Bruce Storm, Moderator: For clarification purposes, we have an amendment to Article 23 that changes \$5,000.00 to \$65,000.00, and that amendment was approved. We have not voted on it yet. There is an article later that we must also pay attention to. Mr. Gezelman said this would supersede Article 27, but I have no indication that that would be the case.

Andrew Pinard: The other consideration with this amendment is that if you amend this, this is coming from an unassigned fund balance, which kicks the can down the road until whatever those funds are being determined. If the intent is to study and figure out exactly what mitigation is required and then act upon it, this kicks this can down till October or November, whenever the Select Board votes on how to use the unassigned fund balance, and there's no guarantee that it's the correct amount. The question I have is whether or not the timing of \$65,000.00 is prudent or whether the future considerations of this body might make the time shift sooner rather than later to accomplish the goals of the body, which might be to remediate the problem and remove the property. I ask that we vote this article down and make the amendments to Article 27.

Mel Pfeifle: I agree with Andrew because, taking it out of the fund balance, we have to have a minimum amount. I don't know what we have in the fund balance, but secondly, we very often offset our taxes with what's left over from the fund balance. I would prefer to vote for this as it comes forward at the \$95,000.00 and amend that article, over taking this out of the fund balance.

Bruce Storm, Moderator, asked for a vote on the amendment to Article 23.

Amendment to Article 23 Failed with a voice vote.

Bruce Storm, Moderator, re-read Article Twenty-Three and asked for a vote.

Bruce Storm, Moderator, read Article Twenty-Three and asked for a motion to accept the article as originally written.

Beth Downs moved to approve Article Twenty-Three, as originally written, which Bruce Gezelman seconded.

Article 23 Passed with a raised hand count.

Brooks McCandlish made a motion to move Article 27 up next. Rachel Sweetbrown seconded.

Motion to move Article 27 up next Passed.

Article Twenty-Seven: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$97,500.00 (Ninety-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) for the purpose of asbestos abatement and the demolition of the former Masonic Lodge located at 89 Main Street (Map 16, Lot 87). This is to be non-lapsing funds pursuant to RSA 32: 7, VI and will continue till the project is complete or December 31, 2030. By Petition. (Majority vote required.) Select Board does not recommend. Budget Committee does not recommend.

Bruce Storm, Moderator, read Article Twenty-Seven and asked for a motion to accept the article. Beth Downs moved to approve Article Twenty-Seven, which Bruce Gezelman seconded.

Chris Aiken made a motion to Amend Article 27 from \$97,500.00 to \$92,000.00. Rachel Sweetbrown seconded.

Laurie Colburn, Budget Committee: Not sure if I can make this motion, but I would like to amend this to add a project completion date of December 31, 2026. Just want to voice my opinion.

Bruce Storm, Moderator: That would be changing the essence of the Article and a second amendment.

Bruce Storm, Moderator, called for a vote on the amendment to change Article 27 to read \$92,000.00 instead of \$97,500.00.

Amendment to Article 27 Passed with a voice vote.

Bruce Storm re-read Article 27 to read as follows:

Article Twenty-Seven: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$92,000.00 (Ninety-Two Thousand Dollars) for the purpose of asbestos abatement and the demolition of the former Masonic Lodge located at 89 Main Street (Map 16, Lot 87). This is to be non-lapsing funds pursuant to RSA 32: 7, VI and will continue till the project is complete or December 31, 2030. By Petition. (Majority vote required.) Select Board does not recommend. Budget Committee does not recommend.

Bruce Storm, Moderator, asked for a motion to accept the article. Marlene Freyler moved to approve Article Twenty-Seven, which Tate Sweetbrown seconded.

Amended Article Passed with a raised hand vote.

Article Twenty-Four: "Resolution to Conserve and Maintain New Hampshire's Public Natural Resources"

"People, plants, and wildlife require clean air, pure water, and a healthy environment. The voters in the Town of Bradford call upon our governor, senators, representatives, and other elected officials to conserve and maintain New Hampshire's public natural resources for the benefit of this and future generations."

The record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice to Bradford's State Legislators and to the Governor of New Hampshire, informing them of the instructions from their constituents, by Bradford's Select Board, within thirty days of this vote."

Bruce Storm, Moderator, read Article Twenty-Four, and asked for a motion to accept the article. Beth Downs moved to approve Article Twenty-Four, which Charles F. Meany III seconded.

Barbara Southard: The reason for this resolution is that you know many states have the idea of inalienable rights to a healthy environment in their constitution, but not New Hampshire, and recently, there've been several bills put before our legislature about something related to this, and they haven't moved forward. So I think it's very important to tell our legislators that we care about that. We think that we deserve to have a healthy environment, and our kids especially deserve to have it.

Article Passed with a voice vote.

Article Twenty-Five: "Property Taxes for Private Education: A Call for Responsible Use"

"Whereas, taxpayers have a right to know how their money is spent and deserve clear, verifiable evidence that it is being spent wisely and delivering results; and

Whereas, taxpayer dollars are being diverted from public schools to private and religious education through Education Freedom Accounts (vouchers), and this shift does not reduce public school expenses, leaving local taxpayers to cover the difference through higher property taxes; and

Whereas, unlike public schools, private education funded by taxpayers through vouchers lacks key accountability measures, such as reporting how funds are used, tracking student performance, ensuring services for students with disabilities, and conducting background checks for staff;

Therefore, we, the voters of Bradford, New Hampshire, call on our state elected officials to uphold their duty to fiscal responsibility by rejecting any expansion of taxpayer funding for private education until we have full accountability, transparency, and a sustainable funding plan that ensures no further strain on public schools or local property taxpayers.

We further direct the Bradford Select Board to deliver this warrant article and results in writing to New Hampshire's Governor and members of the State Legislature within thirty days of this vote."

Bruce Storm, Moderator, read Article Twenty-Five and asked for a motion to accept the article. Andrew Pinard moved to approve Article Twenty-Five, which Beth Downs seconded.

Kathleen Bigford, Assistant Moderator: I just wanted to give a little bit of an explanation about why this motion came to be, and this comes on the heels of the incredible support that was shown on January 4th at the deliberative session of the Kearsarge Regional School District. At that meeting, it was stressed that our representatives and senators need to know that the Kearsarge Regional School District wants fair funding for the district. While there are concerns with using public money for placements in private and religious programs, this warrant article seeks to let Governor Ayotte and Bradford's representatives in the New Hampshire legislature know that voters in Bradford, New Hampshire, are expecting fair and adequate funding for the Kearsarge Regional School District as tax dollars are diverted to fund non-public educational programs. One of the expenses of New Hampshire's Education Trust Fund is the Education Freedom Account, also called vouchers. Vouchers are essentially public support of private education. Private schools funded through education, freedom accounts, or EFA's are not subject to the same requirements as public schools, including financial oversight by locally elected officials, academic progress reporting, special education mandates, student disability mandates, instructor certification, and criminal background checks for all staff and volunteers. To date, there has been no information from the Bipartisan Education Freedom Account Oversight Committee that reports how public school requirements are being met by private educational providers. Again, this warrant is a statement to Governor Ayotte, Senator Innis, and Representatives Caplan, Kelly and Payeur. The Bradford residents would like them to uphold their duty of physical responsibility by rejecting any expansion of taxpayer funding for private education until there is a sustainable accountable funding plan that ensures no further strain on public schools or local property taxes.

Article Passed with a voice vote.

Article Twenty-Six: To see if the Town will vote to create the Efficiency Opportunity Committee for the purpose of identifying strategies to reduce Bradford's unsustainable property tax growth while continuing to maintain quality services. The Committee shall include one or more members of the Select Board, one or more members of the Budget Committee, one or more members of the Capital Improvement Plan Committee/Planning Board, and any Bradford resident with interest. Members of the Efficiency Opportunity Committee will collaborate, document and present strategic opportunities to the Select Board for consideration and discussion with Bradford residents. By Petition. (Majority vote required.) Select Board does not recommend (2-1). Budget Committee recommends (4-2-1).

Bruce Storm, Moderator, read Article Twenty-Six and asked for a motion to accept the article. Beth Downs moved to approve Article Twenty-Six, which Marlene Freyler seconded.

Marlene Freyler, Selectboard: The Town Attorney wrote me on this, and I'll read verbatim what he said;

I am mailing to confirm to the Select Board that I spoke with Marlene Freyler concerning the questions about the Position Warrant Article 26 for the annual meeting. I gave Marlene my opinion that Article 26, concerning the creation of an Efficiency Opportunity Committee, would be advisory only and not legally enforceable. In other words, if the town meeting votes to adopt this article, the Select Board could take this as advice from the voters to create such a committee. However, because this committee is not required by state law it would exist only to present information to the Select Board and would be comprised of town officials who cannot be compelled to serve on such committees. The creation of the committee is not legally enforceable ie voters could not sue or require the committee to have meetings as described in the warrant article.

Andrew Pinard: I admire and appreciate the initiative of developing such a committee, but I share the frustration expressed by the Town Attorney about the dictation of who will serve, when they will serve, and how it will serve. I do not share Marlene's or the Town Attorney's concern that this committee would be a compelling activity. The language in the petition does not say that the selectmen must do it very specifically says for consideration and discussion. I think that it might be beneficial to strike the language associated with the specific qualifications of who must serve on the committee. An advisory committee is very important to have, and I think at least one selectman should serve. But I think this should be a recommendation of the composition, not a dictate by this body.

Andrew Pinard made a motion to amend the wording of Article 26 to read "To see if the Town will vote to recommend the creation of" and "the committee may include one or more members of the Select Board, etc." And leave all the rest the way it is. Marlene Freyler seconded.

Amendment Passed with a voice vote.

Kim Firth, Budget Committee: In October and November of 2024 we partnered together to field a survey and there were lots of great recommendations from that survey, opportunities for efficiency. During the Budget Committee discussions, there were other great ideas and opportunities that needed further research. I think that this is a committee that really has the opportunity to roll up its sleeves, learn together, and explore different possibilities, some of them small and practical and some of them big, like looking at possible ways to work creatively with other towns as we do with our ambulance. Shorter-term and longer-term opportunities for efficiencies in the budget. I think this is an opportunity to engage folks in the town. I really believe that we've got a lot of talent here in Bradford and it would be terrific to engage more folks beyond just the Budget Committee and the Select Board. I think people are probably watching out there, but not a lot of people come to the meetings. We are not able to benefit from your thinking. This is an opportunity to engage everybody. We're seeing some significant tax increases, and what you all voted on today was a 10 percent increase in your taxes. Looking at

the Capitol Improvement Plan, which is posted online, you can see just what is recommended each year and then the operating budget, the school, a national and state climate where policies are really kicking the can to the locals to make up on what has been government's responsibility, federal government's responsibility and state government's responsibilities.

Andrew Pinard made a motion to amend the wording to eliminate Efficiency Opportunity and have it read "a committee." Rachel Sweetbrown seconded the motion.

Amendment Passed with a voice vote.

Bruce Storm re-read Amended Article 26 to read as follows:

Article Twenty-Six: To see if the Town will vote to recommend the creation of a Committee for the purpose of identifying strategies to reduce Bradford's unsustainable property tax growth while continuing to maintain quality services. It's recommended that the Committee may include any Bradford resident with interest. Members of the Committee will collaborate, document and present strategic opportunities to the Select Board for consideration and discussion with Bradford residents. By Petition. (Majority vote required.) Select Board does not recommend (2-1). Budget Committee recommends (4-2-1).

Amended Article Passed with a voice vote.

Article Twenty-Seven Moved to after Article Twenty-Three

Article Twenty-Eight: To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of the Town Offices. To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Article Passed with a voice vote.

Bradford Select Board,

Beth Downs, Chairman
Marlene Freyler, Selectmen
Charles F. Meany III, Selectmen

A true copy attest:

Official Town Warrant and Minutes for the Election on March 11, 2025, and Meeting on March 12, 2025. 124 registered voters attended the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 9:32 pm. These minutes are abridged. A full recording of the meeting is available at the Town Clerk's office.



Erica Gross
Town Clerk/Tax Collector

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR COMMENTARY 2025

2025 brought many changes to the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's office.

In January, I was happy to swear in our new deputy, Amelia Dohrn. She has been training diligently to take over full responsibility of this office in January of 2027. Most deputies only learn a portion of the job, but she has gone above and beyond to learn all of the responsibilities that will be required of her when she is appointed in January 2027.

March brought us the Town Election. We implemented the E-Poll Pads, which is a wonderful new voter registration system. 332 voters showed up, while only 124 registered voters were present at the Town Meeting.

Thank you to all of our amazing ballot clerks and counters who give so much of their time on election day and help with set-up and clean-up before and after.

We have been tediously creating a cemetery program that will enable the Cemetery Committee and the public to view burial permits, deeds, cemetery maps, veteran/military status, as well as Find-a-Grave links. This is turning out to be a much bigger project than anticipated, but we are excited that this will make genealogy research easier and more efficient. Once complete, it will be available on the town website.

We now have a secure drop box in our office door for tax payments and registration renewals. We have rearranged our little office to make it more functional, and are excited to repurpose the old desks from the Mason's lodge as ours.

This office would like to extend our gratitude to the new Town Administrator, Scott Butcher, and the Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant, Maureen Brandon, for their help in getting the tax rate set without delay. This was the first time in ten years that we were able to mail our second tax bills promptly.

Notes:

Remember to email a picture of your dog for the Dogs of Bradford wall in our office. If you haven't already, come by on a Wednesday and meet the office mascot, Odie Beans, our favorite Corgi.

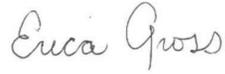
It's been great being able to issue Regular Veteran's plates and Antique plates in the office.

If you change your address (drop or add a P.O. Box), please get in touch with our office so your tax records can be updated.

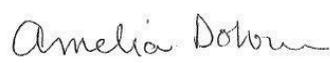


Once again, a huge thanks to all of you for helping us help you during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,



Erica Gross and
Town Clerk/Tax Collector



Amelia Dohrn
Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Office Hours:

Monday CLOSED

Tuesday 8:00-12:00 & 1:00-4:00

Wednesday 12:00-5:00

Thursday 10:00-7:00

Friday CLOSED

TOWN CLERK RECEIPTS • JANUARY 1, 2025 – DECEMBER 31, 2025

<u>TOWN CLERK SERVICES</u>	<u>NET</u>	
ATV REGISTRATIONS	3,043.00	
BAD CHECK FEE	10.00	
CHECKLIST	200.00	
HUNTING/FISHING LICENSES	1,793.50	
MARRIAGE LICENSES	300.00	
POSTAGE	2.25	
SNOWMOBILE REGISTRATIONS	2,800.00	
UCC FILING	1,110.00	
VITAL STATISTICS	880.00	
<hr/>		
TOTAL	\$10,138.75	<u>\$10,138.75</u>

<u>DOG LICENSES</u>		
RENEWALS & NEW	3,033.00	
LATE FEES	146.00	
2025 CIVIL FORFEITURES	900.00	
<hr/>		
TOTAL	\$4,079.00	<u>\$4,079.00</u>

<u>DMV TRANSACTIONS</u>		
BOATS	22,075.92	
MOTOR VEHICLES	590,504.42	
<hr/>		
TOTAL	\$612,580.34	<u>\$612,580.34</u>

TOTAL TOWN CLERK ACTIVITY **\$626,798.09**

Schedule of Credit and Debit Cards 2025

Month	Clerk	Taxes	Total
January	\$13,203.06	\$108,057.57	\$121,260.63
February	\$19,816.18	\$26,801.62	\$46,617.80
March	\$5,480.54	\$11,382.58	\$16,863.12
April	\$16,913.19	\$17,499.40	\$34,412.59
May	\$15,143.17	\$33,138.61	\$48,281.78
June	\$15,724.58	\$194,389.34	\$210,113.92
July	\$16,301.59	\$112,170.71	\$128,472.30
August	\$18,201.17	\$22,536.31	\$40,737.48
September	\$21,334.98	\$9,421.96	\$30,756.94
October	\$11,892.59	\$16,268.61	\$28,161.20
November	\$11,905.56	\$85,009.10	\$96,914.66
December	\$13,458.88	\$300,867.91	\$314,326.79
TOTALS	\$179,375.49	\$937,543.72	\$1,116,919.21

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Town	\$136,137.43	\$145,638.84	\$152,145.49	\$177,866.19	\$179,375.49
Tax	\$449,282.82	\$537,356.35	\$476,078.42	\$896,643.58	\$937,543.72
Total	\$585,420.25	\$682,995.19	\$628,223.91	\$1,074,509.77	\$1,116,919.21

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION**

**Resident Death Report
January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025**

<u>Decedent's Name</u>	<u>Death Date</u>	<u>Father's Name</u>	<u>Mother's Name</u>	<u>Military</u>
Rowell, Shawn Edmund	01/06/2025	Rowell, Edmund	Moore, Janice	N
Elliott, Michael Scott	01/14/2025	Elliott, Sr., James	Bump, Labetta	Y
Roberge, Mary Amelia	04/09/2025	Perry, Charles	Coffey, Mary	N
Otto, Chrysanthe B.	04/25/2025	Ely, Roy	Kichu, Helen	N
Pugliese, Lorraine C.	05/19/2025	Kastic, Charles	Oram, Christina	N
Davison, Herman A.	08/24/2025	Davison, Albert	Westgate, Dorothy	Y
Johnsen, Ruby Jane	09/24/2025	Seabrook, Carrol	Crouch, Magdilin	Y
Keller, George Richard	10/30/2025	Keller, George	Hanson, Elinore	Y
Marshall, Thomas	11/11/2025	Marshall, Edward	Kent, Eunice	Y
Arsenault, Michael J.	11/21/2025	Arsenault, Donald	Silva, Rosalind	
Magistro, Salvatore Paul	11/30/2025	Magistro, Frank	Fimiani, Anne	
Luberti, Geraldine Ann	12/08/2025	Unknown	Unknown	
Waite, Matthew	12/19/2025	Waite, Scott	Behr, Cheryl	
Edwards, Bruce Alan	12/30/2025	Edwards, William	Dill, Elaine	

Total Number of Records - 14

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
Resident Birth Report
January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025

<u>Child's Name</u>	<u>Birth Date</u>	<u>Birth Place</u>	<u>Father's Name</u>	<u>Mother's Name</u>
Stearns, Madelyn Amy	02/14/2025	Hanover, NH	Stearns, Parker H.R.	Stearns, Sarah E.
Allen, Scout Louise	04/28/2025	Lebanon, NH	Allen, Christopher S.	Allen, Kimberly A.
Roy, Hadley Louise	08/01/2025	Concord, NH	Roy, Matthew A.	Roy, Kendall A.
Chadwick, Mason James	08/20/2025	Lebanon, NH	Chadwick, William	Harris, Erica Lynn
Gleason, Zachary David	09/12/2025	Lebanon, NH	Gleason, Jr, Thomas	Gleason, Kayla M.
Murphy III, Robert C.	11/12/2025	Lebanon, NH	Murphy Jr. Robert	Murphy, Shania R.
Hazard, Baby Girl	12/09/2025	Concord, NH		Rolfe, Cassidy L.

Total Number of Records - 7

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
Resident Marriage Report
January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025**

<u>Person A's Name and Residence</u>	<u>Person B's Name and Residence</u>	<u>Place of Marriage</u>	<u>Date of Marriage</u>
Martin, II, Gerald H. Bradford, NH	Snitkin, Duncan Scott Bradford, NH	Bradford, NH	07/10/2025
McLoughlin, Ian T. Bradford, NH	Zuppe, Carly Rae Bradford, NH	Newbury, NH	08/17/2025
Giroux, Chasen Dean Bradford, NH	Dogan, Gulsum Bradford, NH	Manchester, NH	11/21/2025

Total Number of Records – 3



Tax Collector's Report

For the period beginning and ending

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

Instructions

Cover Page

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

For Assistance Please Contact:

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

ENTITY'S INFORMATION

Municipality: County: Report Year:

PREPARER'S INFORMATION

First Name		Last Name	
<input type="text" value="Erica"/>		<input type="text" value="Goss"/>	
Street No.	Street Name	Phone Number	
<input type="text" value="75"/>	<input type="text" value="West Main Street"/>	<input type="text" value="(603) 338-2288"/>	
Email (optional)			
<input type="text" value="tc@bradford.nh.gov"/>			



Debits					
Uncollected Taxes Beginning of Year	Account	Levy for Year of this Report	Prior Levies (Please Specify Years)		
			Year: 2024	Year: 2023	Year: 2022
Property Taxes	3110	\$772,268.42	\$242.00		
Resident Taxes	3180				
Land Use Change Taxes	3120				
Yield Taxes	3185	\$5,626.67			
Excavation Tax	3187				
Other Taxes	3189				
Property Tax Credit Balance		(\$9,365.65)			
Other Tax or Charges Credit Balance					

Taxes Committed This Year	Account	Levy for Year of this Report	Prior Levies		
			2024		
Property Taxes	3110	\$7,758,752.00			
Resident Taxes	3180				
Land Use Change Taxes	3120	\$10,300.00			
Yield Taxes	3185	\$13,979.33			
Excavation Tax	3187	\$33.90			
Other Taxes	3189				

Overpayment Refunds	Account	Levy for Year of this Report	Prior Levies		
			2024	2023	2022
Property Taxes	3110				
Resident Taxes	3180				
Land Use Change Taxes	3120				
Yield Taxes	3185				
Excavation Tax	3187				
Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	3190	\$3,444.38	\$12,590.59		
Interest and Penalties on Resident Taxes	3190				
Total Debits		\$7,777,143.96	\$790,485.68	\$242.00	\$0.00



Credits

Remitted to Treasurer	Levy for Year of this Report	Prior Levies		
		2024	2023	2022
Property Taxes	\$7,407,555.67	\$704,175.99		
Resident Taxes				
Land Use Change Taxes	\$202.04			
Yield Taxes	\$12,867.54	\$137.39		
Interest (Include Lien Conversion)	\$3,444.38	\$11,058.59		
Penalties		\$1,532.00		
Excavation Tax	\$33.90			
Other Taxes				
Conversion to Lien (Principal Only)		\$69,435.71		
Discounts Allowed				

Abatements Made	Levy for Year of this Report	Prior Levies		
		2024	2023	2022
Property Taxes		\$3,550.00		
Resident Taxes				
Land Use Change Taxes				
Yield Taxes				
Excavation Tax				
Other Taxes				
Current Levy Deeded				



Uncollected Taxes - End of Year # 1080	Levy for Year of this Report	Prior Levies		
		2024	2023	2022
Property Taxes	\$396,507.92	\$596.00	\$242.00	
Resident Taxes				
Land Use Change Taxes	\$10,097.96			
Yield Taxes	\$1,111.79			
Excavation Tax				
Other Taxes				
Property Tax Credit Balance	(\$54,677.24)			
Other Tax or Charges Credit Balance				
Total Credits	\$7,777,143.96	\$790,485.68	\$242.00	\$0.00

For DRA Use Only	
Total Uncollected Taxes (Account #1080 - All Years)	\$353,878.43
Total Unredeemed Liens (Account #1110 - All Years)	\$65,135.80



Lien Summary

Summary of Debits

	Last Year's Levy	Prior Levies (Please Specify Years)		
		Year: 2024	Year: 2023	Year: 2022
Unredeemed Liens Balance - Beginning of Year			\$38,619.68	\$27,056.38
Liens Executed During Fiscal Year		\$73,861.83		
Interest & Costs Collected (After Lien Execution)		\$1,579.53	\$3,292.28	\$3,910.13

Total Debits	\$0.00	\$75,441.36	\$41,911.96	\$30,966.51
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Summary of Credits

	Last Year's Levy	Prior Levies		
		2024	2023	2022
Redemptions		\$37,345.74	\$17,046.32	\$20,010.03
Interest & Costs Collected (After Lien Execution) #3190		\$1,579.53	\$3,292.28	\$3,910.13
Abatements of Unredeemed Liens				
Liens Deeded to Municipality				
Unredeemed Liens Balance - End of Year #1110		\$36,516.09	\$21,573.36	\$7,046.35

Total Credits	\$0.00	\$75,441.36	\$41,911.96	\$30,966.51
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For DRA Use Only	
Total Uncollected Taxes (Account #1080 - All Years)	\$353,878.43
Total Unredeemed Liens (Account #1110 -All Years)	\$65,135.80



BRADFORD (53)

1. CERTIFY THIS FORM

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

Preparer's First Name

Preparer's Last Name

Date

Erica

GROSS

1/2/2026

2. SAVE AND EMAIL THIS FORM

Please save and e-mail the completed PDF form to your Municipal Bureau Advisor.

3. PRINT, SIGN, AND UPLOAD THIS FORM

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

PREPARER'S CERTIFICATION

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

Erica Gross, Town Clerk / Tax Collector

Preparer's Signature and Title



2025
\$16.89

Tax Rate Breakdown Bradford

Municipal Tax Rate Calculation			
Jurisdiction	Tax Effort	Valuation	Tax Rate
Municipal	\$3,025,603	\$462,644,029	\$6.53
County	\$720,201	\$462,644,029	\$1.56
Local Education	\$3,685,519	\$462,644,029	\$7.97
State Education	\$376,902	\$455,616,029	\$0.83
Total	\$7,808,225		\$16.89

Village Tax Rate Calculation			
Jurisdiction	Tax Effort	Valuation	Tax Rate
Lake Todd Village	\$4,124	\$14,219,500	\$0.29
Total	\$4,124		\$0.29

Tax Commitment Calculation	
Total Municipal Tax Effort	\$7,808,225
War Service Credits	(\$61,600)
Village District Tax Effort	\$4,124
Total Property Tax Commitment	\$7,750,749



Adam Denoncour
Deputy Director of Municipal and Property Division
New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration

11/6/2025

Appropriations and Revenues

Municipal Accounting Overview

Description	Appropriation	Revenue
Total Appropriation	\$4,043,764	
Net Revenues (Not Including Fund Balance)		(\$1,084,526)
Fund Balance Voted Surplus		(\$17,745)
Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes		\$0
War Service Credits	\$61,600	
Special Adjustment	\$0	
Actual Overlay Used	\$22,510	
Net Required Local Tax Effort	\$3,025,603	

County Apportionment

Description	Appropriation	Revenue
Net County Apportionment	\$720,201	
Net Required County Tax Effort	\$720,201	

Education

Description	Appropriation	Revenue
Net Local School Appropriations	\$0	
Net Cooperative School Appropriations	\$4,962,340	
Net Education Grant		(\$899,919)
Locally Retained State Education Tax		(\$376,902)
Net Required Local Education Tax Effort	\$3,685,519	
State Education Tax	\$376,902	
State Education Tax Not Retained	\$0	
Net Required State Education Tax Effort	\$376,902	

Valuation

Municipal (MS-1)

Description	Current Year	Prior Year
Total Assessment Valuation with Utilities	\$462,644,029	\$458,390,544
Total Assessment Valuation without Utilities	\$455,616,029	\$451,682,844
Commercial/Industrial Construction Exemption	\$0	\$0
Total Assessment Valuation with Utilities, Less Commercial/Industrial Construction Exemption	\$462,644,029	\$458,390,544

Village (MS-1V)

Description	Current Year
Lake Todd Village	\$14,219,500

Bradford

Tax Commitment Verification

2025 Tax Commitment Verification - RSA 76:10 II

Description	Amount
Total Property Tax Commitment	\$7,750,749
1/2% Amount	\$38,754
Acceptable High	\$7,789,503
Acceptable Low	\$7,711,995

- DRG Commit

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

Commitment Amount	7,758,752
Less amount for any applicable Tax Increment Financing Districts (TIF)	
Net amount after TIF adjustment	7,758,752

Under penalties of perjury, I verify the amount above was the 2025 commitment amount on the property tax warrant.

Tax Collector/Deputy Signature: <i>Erica Gross</i>	Date: 11/6/2025
---	------------------------

Requirements for Semi-Annual Billing

Pursuant to RSA 76:15-a

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

Bradford	Total Tax Rate	Semi-Annual Tax Rate
Total 2025 Tax Rate	\$16.89	\$8.45
Associated Villages		
Lake Todd Village	\$0.29	\$0.15

Fund Balance Retention

Enterprise Funds and Current Year Bonds	\$0
General Fund Operating Expenses	\$8,826,386
Final Overlay	\$22,510

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

[1] The National Advisory Council on State and Local Budgeting (NACSLB), (1998), *Framework for Improved State and Local Government Budgeting: Recommended Budget Practices (4.1)*, pg. 17.
 [2] Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), (2009), *Best Practice: Determining the Appropriate Level of Unrestricted Fund Balance in the General Fund*.
 [3] Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), (2011), *Best Practice: Replenishing General Fund Balance*.

2025 Fund Balance Retention Guidelines: Bradford	
Description	Amount
Current Amount Retained (10.08%)	\$889,768
17% Retained <i>(Maximum Recommended)</i>	\$1,500,486
10% Retained	\$882,639
8% Retained	\$706,111
5% Retained <i>(Minimum Recommended)</i>	\$441,319

ROBERGE AND COMPANY, P.C.

Certified Public Accountants

Member – American Institute of CPA’s (AICPA)
Member – AICPA Government Audit Quality Center (GAQC)
Member – AICPA Private Company Practice Section (PCPS)
Member – New Hampshire Society of CPA’s

P.O. Box 129
Franklin, New Hampshire 03235
Tel (603) 524-6734
jroberge@rcopc.com

To the Board of Selectmen
Town of Bradford
Bradford, New Hampshire

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Bradford as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our engagement letter to you dated December 31, 2024. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Significant Audit Findings

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the Town of Bradford are described in the Notes to the financial statements. We noted no transactions entered into by the governmental unit during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management’s knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the Town of Bradford’s Statement of Net Position financial statements (related footnote) were:

- Actuarial Valuation of Post-Employment Benefits under GASB 75.
- Proportionate Share of NHRS Medical Subsidy OPEB Liability.
- Proportionate Share of NHRS Net Pension Liability.

Management’s estimate of the valuation of OPEBs is based on an actuarial valuation. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the valuation in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole. The estimate of the proportionate share of net pension liability of the NHRS is based on the Town’s current percentage of contributions to the system.

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

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

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

Disagreements with Management

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

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated as of the report date and updated if applicable.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

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

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the governmental unit's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

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

Very truly yours,

Roberge and Co., P.C.

ROBERGE AND COMPANY, P.C.

Franklin, New Hampshire

May 28, 2025

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Town of Bradford
Year Ended December 31, 2024

The Board of Selectmen, as "management" of the Town of Bradford (the "Town"), a local municipality located in the County of Merrimack, New Hampshire, submits this section of the Town's annual financial report in order to present our discussion and analysis of the Town's financial performance during the year ended December 31, 2024, in accordance with the implementation provisions of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 34 (GASB 34). Please read it in conjunction with the financial statements which follow this section.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- The Town's total combined net position increased by \$164,189 or 2% between December 31, 2023, and 2024.
- The Town's total combined net position amounted to \$10,542,032 as of December 31, 2024. Net position consisted of \$8,533,364 invested in capital assets net of related debt; \$726,244 restricted for specific purposes; and an unrestricted balance of \$1,282,424.
- The Town's long-term liabilities, consisting of general obligation debt, unamortized bond premium, other postemployment benefit obligations, and net pension liability decreased by a net (additions less reductions) \$173,052 during the year ended December 31, 2024.
- During the year, the Town's expenses were \$164,189 less than the \$3,966,802 in revenues generated from charges for services, operating grants and contributions and general revenues (consisting of property taxes and local, state and federal grants and contributions not restricted to specific purposes).

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Town of Bradford
Year Ended December 31, 2024

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

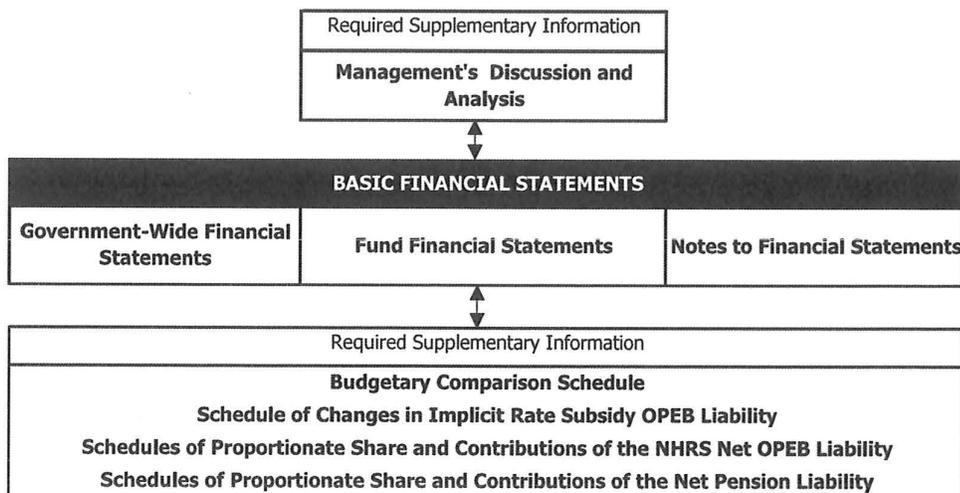
This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Town's basic financial statements. The Town's financial statements are comprised of three primary sections or components: (1) basic financial statements, (2) required supplementary information, and (3) other supplementary information.

The basic financial statements include two kinds of statements that present different views of the Town based upon measurement focus and basis of accounting.

- The first two statements are government-wide financial statements that provide both long-term and short-term information about the Town's overall financial status.
- The remaining statements are fund financial statements that focus on individual parts of the Town, reporting the Town's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements. The governmental funds statements tell how the Town's services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending. Fiduciary fund statements provide information about the financial relationships in which the Town acts solely as a trustee or agent for the benefit of others, to whom the resources belong.

The financial statements also include notes that explain some of the information in the financial statements and provide more detailed data. The statements are followed by a section of required supplementary information that further explains and supports the information in the financial statements. Exhibit A-1 shows how the required parts of this annual report are arranged and related to one another.

Exhibit A-1



MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Town of Bradford
Year Ended December 31, 2024

Exhibit A-2 summarizes the major features of the Town's financial statements, including the portion of the Town government they cover and the types of information they contain.

Exhibit A-2

	Government-Wide	Fund Statements	
		Governmental	Fiduciary
SCOPE	Entire Town government (except fiduciary funds)	All activities of the Town that are not proprietary or fiduciary	Instances in which the Town is the trustee or agent for someone else's resources
REQUIRED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	Statement of Net Position	Balance Sheet	Statement of Fiduciary Net Position
	Statement of Activities	Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances	Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position
ACCOUNTING BASIS	Accrual	Modified Accrual	Accrual
MEASUREMENT FOCUS	Economic Resources	Current Financial Resources	Economic Resources
TYPE OF INFORMATION ASSETS AND DEFERRED OUTFLOWS, AND LIABILITIES AND DEFERRED INFLOWS	All assets and deferred outflows, and liabilities and deferred inflows, both financial and capital, short-term and long-term	Only assets expected to be used up and liabilities that come due during the year or soon thereafter, no capital assets included	All assets and deferred outflows, and liabilities and deferred inflows, both short-term and long-term debt
TYPE OF INFORMATION REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND EXPENDITURES	All revenues and expenses during the year, regardless of when cash is received or paid	Revenues for which cash is received during or soon after the end of the year, expenditures when goods or services have been received and payment is due during the year or soon thereafter	All revenues and expenses during the year, regardless of when cash is received or paid

The remainder of this overview section of management's discussion and analysis explains the structure and contents of each of the statements.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Town of Bradford
Year Ended December 31, 2024

Government-Wide Financial Statements:

The first two basic statements are government-wide financial statements that provide both long-term and short-term information about the Town's overall financial status and report net position and changes in them. Net position is the difference between (a) assets and deferred outflows of resources and (b) liabilities and deferred inflows of resources and is one way to measure the Town's financial health, or financial position.

- Over time, increases or decreases in the Town's net position is one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating, respectively.
- In order to assess the overall health of the Town other non-financial factors should also be considered, such as changes in the Town's general revenues (principally property taxes and general state aid), and federal and state intergovernmental revenues (grant programs); the condition of the Town's buildings and other depreciable property (likelihood of emergency repairs or maintenance); and other items subject to significant financial or budgetary uncertainty.

The government-wide financial statements of the Town are included in the Governmental Activities category. Most of the Town's basic services are included here, such as executive, public safety, highway maintenance, sanitation, culture and recreation and conservation services. General revenues, including property taxes, state aid, and federal and state grant programs, finance most of these activities.

Fund Financial Statements:

The fund financial statements provide more detailed information about the Town's most significant funds, not the Town as a whole. Funds are accounting devices that the Town uses to keep track of specific sources of funding and spending for particular purposes. State law, regulation or bond covenants actually require the establishment of some funds, while others are established to comply with the requirements of grantors. The Town reports the following funds:

Governmental Funds - Most of the Town's basic services are included in governmental funds, which focus on (1) how cash and other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash flow in and out and (2) the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. Consequently, the governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view that helps determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the Town's programs. Because information does not encompass the additional long-term focus of the government-wide statements, we provide additional information on the subsequent page that explains the relationships (or differences) between them.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Town of Bradford
Year Ended December 31, 2024

CONDENSED FINANCIAL INFORMATION AND ANALYSIS OF THE TOWN AS A WHOLE

Net Position

Exhibit B-1 shows the composition of the Town's total combined net position, which increased between December 31, 2023, and 2024 by \$164,189 or 2% to \$10,542,032.

Exhibit B-1 NET POSITION

	Governmental Activities		
	2023	2024	Change
Assets			
Current and other assets	\$ 4,312,415	\$ 4,679,671	\$ 367,256
Noncurrent assets	<u>10,983,867</u>	<u>10,845,423</u>	<u>(138,444)</u>
Total assets	<u>15,296,282</u>	<u>15,525,094</u>	<u>228,812</u>
Deferred Outflows of Resources			
Deferred outflows of resources	<u>221,853</u>	<u>143,100</u>	<u>(78,753)</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>221,853</u>	<u>143,100</u>	<u>(78,753)</u>
Liabilities			
Current liabilities	1,498,841	1,647,419	148,578
Noncurrent liabilities	<u>3,566,174</u>	<u>3,388,489</u>	<u>(177,685)</u>
Total liabilities	<u>5,065,015</u>	<u>5,035,908</u>	<u>(29,107)</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources			
Deferred inflows of resources	<u>75,277</u>	<u>90,254</u>	<u>14,977</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>75,277</u>	<u>90,254</u>	<u>14,977</u>
Net Position			
Net investment in capital assets	8,570,867	8,533,364	(37,503)
Restricted	947,425	726,244	(221,181)
Unrestricted	<u>859,551</u>	<u>1,282,424</u>	<u>422,873</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ 10,377,843</u>	<u>\$ 10,542,032</u>	<u>\$ 164,189</u>

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

**Town of Bradford
Year Ended December 31, 2024**

A portion of the net position is either invested in capital assets or restricted as to the purposes they can be used for.

- The Town's investment in capital assets (land and land improvements, buildings, furniture and equipment and infrastructure, net of accumulated depreciation), net of related debt, is the largest component of the total combined net position.
- Restricted net position represents capital reserves and specific fund net position amounts that are not available for discretionary spending.

Unrestricted net position is a positive of \$1,282,424; it is the result of having available assets and deferred outflows of resources that are more than liabilities and deferred inflows of resources.

Change in Net position

The Town's total revenues were \$3,966,802 while total expenses were \$3,802,613, resulting in an increase in net position of \$164,189.

Exhibit B-2 shows that a significant portion of the Town's total revenues came from the following general revenue sources; 67.80% from property taxes, 12.17% from local sources and unrestricted fees and, 5.52% from State of New Hampshire source intergovernmental revenues primarily derived from state aid programs. Program revenues directly associated with a specific department accounted for the following percentages of total revenues, charges for services provided 1.54% of total revenues, while operating grants and contributions provided 2.31% of total revenues.

Exhibit B-2 SOURCES OF TOWN REVENUES

	Governmental Activities				Change		
	2023		2024				
Program Revenues							
Charges for services	\$ 14,568	0.35%	\$ 61,023	1.54%	\$ 46,455	318.88%	
Operating grants and contributions	331,747	8.08%	91,549	2.31%	(240,198)	-72.40%	
General Revenues							
Property taxes	2,822,847	68.79%	2,689,365	67.80%	(133,482)	-4.73%	
Local sources	459,695	11.20%	482,635	12.17%	22,940	4.99%	
State of New Hampshire sources	159,033	3.88%	219,065	5.52%	60,032	37.75%	
Miscellaneous revenue	315,845	7.70%	423,165	10.67%	107,320	33.98%	
	<u>\$ 4,103,735</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>\$ 3,966,802</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>\$ (136,933)</u>	<u>-3.34%</u>	

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Town of Bradford
Year Ended December 31, 2024

Exhibit B-3 shows that 17.68% of the Town's total expenses were for general government operations. Public safety expenses accounted for 22.71% of total expenses, while 19.48% were for maintenance of highways and streets.

Exhibit B-3 TOWN EXPENSES

Governmental Activities

Functions / Programs	2023		2024		Change	
	\$	%	\$	%	\$	%
General government	625,128	16.70%	672,372	17.68%	47,244	7.56%
Public safety	827,090	22.10%	863,509	22.71%	36,419	4.40%
Highways and streets	720,441	19.25%	740,651	19.48%	20,210	2.81%
Sanitation	120,309	3.21%	120,299	3.16%	(10)	-0.01%
Welfare	35,145	0.94%	25,738	0.68%	(9,407)	-26.77%
Culture and recreation	265,827	7.10%	380,481	10.01%	114,654	43.13%
Conservation	19,069	0.51%	1,000	0.03%	(18,069)	-94.76%
Debt service	108,415	2.90%	98,092	2.58%	(10,323)	-9.52%
Capital outlay	617,291	16.50%	403,446	10.61%	(213,845)	-34.64%
Other financing uses	39,582	1.06%	35,282	0.93%	(4,300)	-10.86%
Unallocated						
Depreciation	363,879	9.72%	461,743	12.14%	97,864	26.89%
	<u>\$ 3,742,176</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>\$ 3,802,613</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>\$ 60,437</u>	<u>1.62%</u>

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

**Town of Bradford
Year Ended December 31, 2024**

Governmental Activities

Exhibit B-4 presents the net cost of the Town's largest functions based upon the total expense, less charges for services and operating grants and contributions of each function. The net cost reflects the amount that was funded by general revenues (principally property taxes and general state aid).

Exhibit B-4 TOTAL AND NET COST OF SERVICES

	2023		2024	
	Total Cost of Services	Net Cost of Services	Total Cost of Services	Net Cost of Services
Functions / Programs				
General government	\$ 625,128	\$ 624,294	\$ 672,372	\$ 645,528
Public safety	827,090	747,465	863,509	853,122
Highways and streets	720,441	467,674	740,651	649,102
Sanitation	120,309	107,220	120,299	101,058
Welfare	35,145	35,145	25,738	25,738
Culture and recreation	265,827	265,827	380,481	375,930
Conservation	19,069	19,069	1,000	1,000
Debt Service	108,415	108,415	98,092	98,092
Capital outlay	617,291	617,291	403,446	403,446
Other financing uses	39,582	39,582	35,282	35,282
Unallocated				
Depreciation	363,879	363,879	461,743	461,743
	<u>\$ 3,742,176</u>	<u>\$ 3,395,861</u>	<u>\$ 3,802,613</u>	<u>\$ 3,650,041</u>

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

**Town of Bradford
Year Ended December 31, 2024**

The total cost of all governmental activities this year was \$3,802,613; the total net cost was \$3,650,041. The primary financing for these activities of the Town was as follows:

Taxes

- The amount that was paid by taxpayers was \$2,653,314 from property taxes, \$19,239 from yield taxes and \$11 in excavation taxes.
- Interest collected on delinquent taxes was \$43,319, while abatements and deeds charged against current year taxes were \$79,250.

State of NH Sources

- Meals and rental tax distributions were received in the amount of \$165,579.

Local Sources

- Business licenses, permits and fees amounted to \$17,997.
- Motor vehicle permit fees totaled \$418,116.
- Building permits amounted to \$43,394.
- Other licenses, permits and fees totaled \$3,128.

Miscellaneous Sources

- Sale of municipal property in the amount of \$32,745.
- Interest on investments amounted to \$82,087.
- Contributions and donations were \$19,846.
- Other miscellaneous and other financing sources totaled \$341,973.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Town of Bradford
Year Ended December 31, 2024

ANALYSIS OF BALANCES AND TRANSACTIONS OF THE TOWN'S INDIVIDUAL FUNDS

General Fund

The general fund balance increased \$278,841 during the year from a surplus balance of \$1,659,420 as of December 31, 2023, to a \$1,938,261 fund balance as of December 31, 2024. December 31, 2024, fund balance consisted of \$1,302,689 committed for capital reserves, \$17,745 committed at town meeting and an unassigned fund balance in the amount of \$617,827.

The restricted expendable capital and maintenance reserve funds (established by voters at an annual Town meeting as trust funds in accordance with statutory requirements) were \$1,302,689 as of December 31, 2024. In accordance with statutory requirements, they are held by the Trustees of Trust Funds and are only released for the restricted specific purposes of the individual funds.

Major Funds

Common Trust Funds

The common trust funds are classified as permanent funds and are reported as a major fund in the basic financial statements. The common trust funds balance of \$626,392 as of December 31, 2024, was comprised of \$554,316 of non-spendable endowments and \$72,076 of restricted fund balance.

Nonmajor Governmental Funds

Library Fund

The library fund is classified as a special revenue fund and is aggregated in the category nonmajor governmental funds in the basic financial statements. The library fund balance was \$99,852 as of December 31, 2024.

Conservation Fund

The conservation fund is classified as a special revenue fund and is aggregated in the category nonmajor governmental funds in the basic financial statements. The conservation fund receives ½ of the Land Use Change Taxes collected each year. The conservation fund balance as of December 31, 2024, was \$91,878.

Recreation Revolving Fund

The recreation revolving fund is classified as a special revenue fund and is aggregated in the category nonmajor governmental funds in the basic financial statements. The recreation revolving fund balance as of December 31, 2024, was \$18,621.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Town of Bradford
Year Ended December 31, 2024

Recycling Revolving Fund

The recycling revolving fund is classified as a special revenue fund and is aggregated in the category nonmajor governmental funds in the basic financial statements. The recycling fund was established at the 2007 annual meeting and restricts 30% of the revenues collected from recycling efforts to be used for equipment and programs related to recycling. The recycling revolving fund balance was \$25,000 as of December 31, 2024.

Ambulance Fund

The ambulance fund is classified as a special revenue fund and is aggregated in the category nonmajor governmental funds in the basic financial statements. It is used to account for ambulance billings. The ambulance fund balance was \$59,487 as of December 31, 2024.

Police Detail Fund

The police detail fund is classified as a special revenue fund and is aggregated in the category nonmajor governmental funds in the basic financial statements. It is used to account for revenue from police special details billed to vendors. The police detail fund balance was \$2,312 as of December 31, 2024.

Town Hall Renovation Fund

The town hall renovation fund is classified as a capital project fund and is reported as a major fund in the basic financial statements. It was used to account for the renovation of the town hall and was complete as of December 31, 2024.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Town of Bradford
Year Ended December 31, 2024

GENERAL FUND BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

For the year ended December 31, 2024, the Town did not revise its statutory budgetary line items; rather, the Town's budgetary control was managed on an aggregate total budget-to-actual basis; total estimated revenues and appropriations versus actual revenues and expenditures.

Final Versus Original Budget Comparison

The original and final budget amounts were the same.

Actual Versus Final Budget Comparison

The amounts of actual inflows (resources) and outflows (charges to appropriations) varied from the final budget for the following significant items:

- Actual inflows (resources) were more than the budgetary revenue estimates by \$70,342.
- Actual total outflows (expenditures or charges to appropriations) were less than the budgeted total appropriation by \$12,839.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Town of Bradford
Year Ended December 31, 2024

CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital Assets

As of December 31, 2024, the Town had invested \$10,845,423 (\$29,685,277 at cost or estimated cost less accumulated depreciation of \$18,839,854), in a broad range of capital assets, including infrastructure, buildings, vehicles and machinery and equipment as summarized in Exhibit C-1.

This amount represents a net decrease of 1.26% from the prior year. This year's major additions are also summarized in Exhibit C-1.

Exhibit C-1 NET CAPITAL ASSETS AND MAJOR ADDITIONS

Net Capital Assets	Governmental Activities		
	2023	2024	Change
Land and improvements	\$ -	\$ -	100.00%
Infrastructure	\$ 20,695,868	\$ 20,695,868	0.00%
Buildings	4,211,228	4,388,872	4.22%
Vehicles	2,945,620	3,034,383	3.01%
Machinery and equipment	1,509,262	1,566,154	3.77%
Capital assets, at cost	<u>29,361,978</u>	<u>29,685,277</u>	1.10%
Accumulated depreciation	(18,378,111)	(18,839,854)	-2.51%
Capital assets, net	<u>\$ 10,983,867</u>	<u>\$ 10,845,423</u>	<u>-1.26%</u>
Increase in Capital Assets, Net		<u>\$ (138,444)</u>	
Changes			
Building additions		\$ 177,644	
Vehicle additions		88,763	
Machinery and equipment additions		56,892	
Depreciation expense		(461,743)	
		<u>\$ (138,444)</u>	

More detailed information about the Town's capital assets is presented in the notes to the basic financial statements.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Town of Bradford
Year Ended December 31, 2024

Debt

As of December 31, 2024, the Town had \$3,388,489 of net long-term obligations as summarized in Exhibit C-2.

This amount represents a net decrease of 4.98% from the prior year.

Exhibit C-2 LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

Long-Term Liabilities	Governmental Activities		
	2023	2024	Change
General obligation debt	\$ 2,413,000	\$ 2,312,059	-4.18%
Unamortized bond premium	243,581	229,918	5.61%
OPEB obligations	177,402	174,143	1.84%
Net pension liability	846,795	791,606	6.52%
	3,680,778	3,507,726	-4.70%
Less current portion	(114,604)	(119,237)	4.04%
	\$ 3,566,174	\$ 3,388,489	-4.98%
Net Change		\$ (177,685)	
Changes			
Principal payment on long term debt		\$ (100,941)	
Amortization of bond premium		(13,663)	
OPEB obligation change		(3,259)	
Net pension liability change		(55,189)	
Change in current portion		(4,633)	
		\$ (177,685)	

State law (RSA 195:6II) limits the amount of general obligation debt that the Town may incur at any one time to 1.75% of the locally assessed valuation as equalized by the Commissioner of the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration. As of December 31, 2024, the Town was below its general obligation legal debt limit of approximately \$8,021,835.

More detailed information about the Town's long-term liabilities is presented in the notes to the basic financial statements.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Town of Bradford
Year Ended December 31, 2024

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND RATES

Town management and the Selectmen considered many factors when submitting the 2025 budget to the Municipal Budget Committee and the Town voters.

The Selectboard remains challenged in its approach to meeting the Town's financial needs and the needs of the different departments that make up the majority of the budget increases. Keeping town services in mind, the Board opted to increase the overall budget and decrease the Capital Improvement Planned expenses by a nominal amount.

School District costs continue to rise with little ability to rein in spending. A majority of our spending is for the school system.

The pursuit of regionalized services has been set aside temporarily, but the need to maintain and acquire new equipment remains challenging. New equipment is more and more costly every year.

Our Town departments remain well-managed through hard work and planning. There are four culverts of concern. We must keep these in mind as we plan our 2026 budget. Road improvements are being made and continue to be financial hurdles. The ten year road plan continues with changes each year. We have bridges that require repair or replacement. These bridges remain in our line of sight as we proceed.

CONTACTING THE TOWN'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the Town's finances and to show the Town's accountability for the money it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Selectmen.

Town of Bradford
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2025
Preliminary Figures

Assets

Account Number / Description	Balance
01-1013-0000 Petty Cash	200.00
01-1013-0001 BHB Savings Account	1,495.93
01-1013-0002 BHB Money Market CD	5,000.00
01-1014-0000 Bar Harbor Operating Acct	2,476,881.40
01-1081-0000 Property Tax Receivable/Credits	410,697.38
01-1081-0015 Property Taxes Overpayment	(54,633.02)
01-1082-0000 Land Use Change Tax Receivable	10,097.96
01-1083-0000 Yield Tax Receivable	(4,377.49)
01-1111-0000 Tax Liens Receivable	61,692.18
01-1311-0000 Due from Other Funds	4,653.67
01-1311-0011 Transfer Station Revolving Fund	(25,000.00)
Total Assets	2,886,708.01

Liabilities, Net Assets and Current Activity

Liabilities

Account Number / Description	Balance
01-2020-0000 Accounts Payable	48,858.90
01-2042-0000 Accrued Payroll-Health FSA	(1,124.64)
01-2043-0000 Accrued Payroll-Dependent Care	1,472.00
01-2075-0000 Due KRSD	1,443,753.16
01-2078-0000 State of NH - DMV	35.80
01-2082-0000 Cleaning Deposit/Escrow	200.00
01-2431-0000 Encumbrance Control	67,008.59
01-2441-0000 Reserve for Encumbrances	(67,008.59)
Total Liabilities	1,493,195.22

Net Assets

Account Number / Description	Balance
01-2531-0000 Unreserved Fund Balance	925,513.67
Total Net Assets	925,513.67

Current Activity

Net Revenue / (Expense)	\$467,999.12
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Total Liabilities, Net Assets and Current Activity	2,886,708.01
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Town of Bradford
Comparative Statement of Appropriations and Expenditures
January 1, 2025 thru December 31, 2025

Preliminary Figures

Acct Number / Description	Additional Appropriations	Adopted Budget	Available	Actual Expenditures	Encumber	Surplus (overdraft)
4130 Executive		\$243,610.00	\$243,610.00	\$225,631.69		\$17,978.31
4140 Elec, Reg & Vital Stat		\$4,600.00	\$4,600.00	\$2,131.68		\$2,468.32
4150 Financial Admin		\$105,368.00	\$105,368.00	\$104,842.63		\$525.37
4152 Reval of Property		\$47,500.00	\$47,500.00	\$49,822.00		(\$2,322.00)
4153 Legal		\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$24,636.71		\$20,363.29
4155 Employee Benefits		\$1.00	\$1.00	\$0.00		\$1.00
4191 Planning & Zoning		\$13,138.00	\$13,138.00	\$12,919.60		\$218.40
4194 Gen Govt Bldgs		\$136,501.00	\$136,501.00	\$121,202.69		\$15,298.31
4195 Cemetery		\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$24,271.66		\$728.34
4196 Insurances		\$113,560.00	\$113,560.00	\$113,538.00		\$22.00
4199 Other Gen Govt		\$9,500.00	\$9,500.00	\$8,410.80		\$1,089.20
4210 Police Dept		\$647,134.00	\$647,134.00	\$612,832.03		\$34,301.97
4220 Fire Dept		\$159,000.00	\$159,000.00	\$143,589.44		\$15,410.56
4225 Rescue Squad - FAST		\$9,700.00	\$9,700.00	\$7,193.22		\$2,506.78
4226 Rescue Services - Henniker		\$80,000.00	\$80,000.00	\$121,969.74		(\$41,969.74)
4240 Building Dept		\$26,780.00	\$26,780.00	\$34,780.87		(\$8,000.87)
4290 Emergency Management		\$1.00	\$1.00	\$0.00		\$1.00
4312 Highway Dept		\$737,630.00	\$737,630.00	\$718,005.52	\$19,674.00	(\$49.52)
4313 Bridges		\$1.00	\$1.00	\$0.00		\$1.00
4316 Street Lighting		\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00	\$2,320.18		\$79.82
4323 Solid Waste Collection		\$100,910.00	\$100,910.00	\$96,959.78		\$3,950.22
4324 Solid Waste Disposal		\$31,100.00	\$31,100.00	\$33,586.80		(\$2,486.80)
4415 Innoculations		\$1.00	\$1.00	\$0.00		\$1.00
4441 Welfare		\$7,468.00	\$7,468.00	\$7,423.92		\$44.08
4445 Welfare Payments		\$30,177.00	\$30,177.00	\$20,099.10		\$10,077.90
4520 Parks & Recreation		\$22,759.00	\$22,759.00	\$24,044.42		(\$1,285.42)
4550 Library		\$95,479.00	\$95,479.00	\$95,479.00		\$0.00
4583 Patriotic Purposes		\$5,450.00	\$5,450.00	\$3,848.31		\$1,601.69
4589 Community Center		\$38,550.00	\$38,550.00	\$55,494.89		(\$16,944.89)
4619 Other Conservation		\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00		\$0.00
4652 Economic Development		\$1.00	\$1.00	\$0.00		\$1.00
4711 Long Term Notes		\$209,000.00	\$209,000.00	\$208,392.61		\$607.39
4723 Interest on Tan Notes		\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00		\$1,000.00
Operating Budget		\$2,949,519.00	\$2,949,519.00	\$2,874,627.29	\$19,674.00	\$55,217.71

**REPORT OF THE TREASURER
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025**

Balance as of 12/31/2024		\$ 1,630,801.65
Town Clerk	\$ 443,060.66	
Tax Collector	\$7,286,784.13	
Selectmen's Office	\$ 738,583.27	
Invoice Cloud	<u>\$1,118,472.51</u>	
 Total Remitted		 \$9,586,900.57
 Bar Harbor Bank Interest	 <u>\$ 132.90</u>	
	\$ 132.90	\$132.90
 Returned Checks	 \$(3372.00)	
Void Checks	\$14291.18	
Miscellaneous	<u>\$9,155.14</u>	
	\$20,074.32	\$20,074.32
 TAN to General Fund	 \$	 \$
Bond	\$(185,625.35)	\$(185,625.35)
Fund Transfer-from 9053		
Fund Transfer-from 2180	\$	\$
 Disbursements		
Direct Deposit	\$(666,761.31)	
Payroll (check)	\$(314,831.64)	
Accounts Payable	\$(7,197,952.58)	
ACH Fleet Debit WEX	\$ (595.34)	
941 Tax Payments	\$(219,755.85)	
Transfers to State MV	<u>\$(164,260.52)</u>	
	\$(8,564,157.24)	<u>\$(8,564,157.24)</u>
 Ending Balance 12/31/2025		 \$ 2,488,126.85

CONSERVATION FUND

Balance 12/31/24	\$ 5,023.88
Deposits	32,291.00
Withdrawals	(0.00)
Interest Earned	14.67

Balance 12/31/25	\$ 37,329.55
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CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Balance 12/31/24	\$ 1,240.07
Deposits	0.00
Withdrawals	(0.00)
Interest Earned	.31

Balance 12/31/25	\$ 1,240.38
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CONSERVATION COMMISSION (CD)

Opened 6/26/24	Balance	\$5,844.79
Rate: 4.41% APR Due 3/18/25		
Renew 3/18/25	Balance	\$6,020.06
Rate: 4.0% APR Due 12/18/25		
Renew 12/18/25	Balance	\$6,221.56
Rate: 3.75% APR Due 6/18/26		

CONSERVATION COMMISSION (CD)

Opened 6/26/24	Balance	\$52,667.76
Rate: 4.41% APR Due 3/18/25		
Renew 3/18/25	Balance	\$54,247.14
Rate: 4.0 APR Due 12/18/25		
Renew 12/18/25	Balance	\$56,062.86
Rate: 3.75 APR Due 6/18/26		

CONSERVATION COMMISSION SCHOLARSHIP FUND (new)

Opened 6/5/2024	Balance	\$ 870.03	SAVINGS ACCT.
Deposits		1,009.00	
Withdrawals		(1,008.00)	
Interest		.08	

Balance as of 12/31/25	\$ 871.11
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TIMBER ESCROW	(Road Bond)	
Open 5/12/25		\$2,165.00
Deposits		0.00
Withdrawals		(0.00)
Interest		.12
Balance 12/31/25		\$2,154.12

PARKS & RECREATION

Balance 12/31/24		\$ 26,557.47
Deposits		400.00
Withdrawals		(0.0)
Interest		2.67
Balance 12/31/25		\$ 26,960.14

PLANNING BOARD

Balance 12/31/24		\$ 1,256.51
Deposits		3,062.50
Withdrawals		(2,587.50)
Balance 12/31/25		\$ 1,731.51

AMBULANCE BILLING

Balance 12/31/24		\$ 61,110.02
Deposits		0.00
Withdrawals		(0.00)
Interest		30.56
Balance 12/31/25		\$ 61,140.58

TOWN OF BRADFORD/MONEY MARKET SAVINGS

Balance 12/31/24		\$ 1,464.68
Deposits		5,273.10
Withdrawals		(0.00)
Interest		31 .25
Balance 12/31/25		\$ 6,769.07

TOWN OF BRADFORD/MONEY MARKET CD (new)

Opened 8/29/24 \$ 5,000.00
4.45% APR Due: 5/29/25
Renew 5/29/25 Balance 5,167.36
Rate: 4.1% APR Due 11/29/25
Close 11/29/25 Balance \$ 5,273.10

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST FUNDS

For the Year 2025

	BOY FMV	Additions	Income	Withdrawals	Change in Value	EOY FMV
Cemetery Trustees						
1905 Cemetery Perpetual Care Trust Funds	512,179.23	0.00	13,871.35	5,895.00	39,838.54	559,994.12
1994 Cemetery Maintenance Trust Fund	81,395.98	500.00	1,978.85	4,550.00	8,865.53	88,190.37
2002 Gravestone Repair	705.10	0.00	18.07	0.00	0.00	723.17
Bradford Scholarship Committee						
1964 Bradford School Scholarship Trust Fund	12,989.51	0.00	443.15	0.00	681.00	14,113.65
2023 Bradford Town Scholarship Expendable Trust Fund	637.22	3,275.00	37.90	3,000.00	0.00	950.12
Trust Fund						
1929 French's Park Trust Fund	6,505.99	0.00	179.76	0.00	688.71	7,374.46
Library Trustees						
1907 Library Trust Fund	17,610.17	0.00	653.85	322.86	1,255.07	19,196.23
Selectmen						
1991 Repair Town Buildings	21,845.80	0.00	393.17	4,260.00	474.08	18,453.05
1997 Town Facilities & Buildings	33,406.21	0.00	628.74	0.00	711.12	34,746.07
2002 Police Facility	77,570.62	0.00	1,381.56	0.00	1,896.32	80,848.50
2003 Fire Dept Repair, Maintenance, & Improvement	11,140.17	0.00	285.53	0.00	0.00	11,425.70
2004 Parks and Rec Building Fund	18,845.49	0.00	483.02	0.00	0.00	19,328.51
2006 Fire Department Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve	342,291.49	20,000.00	6,498.31	0.00	7,111.20	375,901.00
2006 Main Street Improvements	134,178.76	0.00	2,301.67	0.00	3,555.60	140,036.03
2008 Revaluation	7,595.74	1,000.00	194.70	0.00	0.00	8,790.44
2009 Salt and Fuel	12,920.92	0.00	331.17	0.00	0.00	13,252.09
2010 Communication Equipment	24,583.08	0.00	606.60	2,950.00	0.00	22,239.68
2013 Independence Day Celebration	7,197.94	0.00	184.48	0.00	0.00	7,382.42
2013 Town Hall Restoration	9,570.59	230.00	248.73	0.00	0.00	10,049.32
2015 Town Equipment Repair Expendable Trust	65,765.93	41,500.00	1,685.62	0.00	0.00	108,951.55
2019 Road and Bridge Expendable Trust	86,855.98	20,000.00	2,226.17	0.00	0.00	109,082.15
2019 Town Hall Repair and Renovation	823.47	325.00	27.25	15.00	0.00	1,160.72
2020 Fire Equipment Expendable Trust	38,259.34	10,000.00	980.62	0.00	0.00	49,239.96
2020 Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Trust	218,422.64	7,900.00	2,136.91	223,900.00	0.00	4,559.55
2021 Police Vehicle Capital Reserve	12,041.73	43,490.00	521.64	0.00	0.00	56,053.37
2022 Emergency Road and Bridge Expendable Trust	33,763.50	0.00	865.37	0.00	0.00	34,628.87
2022 Long Term Planning Expendable Trust	10,621.11	0.00	272.22	0.00	0.00	10,893.33
2022 Matching Funds for Grants	10,621.11	0.00	272.22	0.00	0.00	10,893.33
2024 Police Department Equipment Expendable Trust Fund	7,670.37	8,500.00	196.62	0.00	0.00	16,366.99
2024 Ambulance Service Expense Overage Expendable Trust Fur	15,340.73	0.00	393.21	0.00	0.00	15,733.94
2024 Bridge and Culvert Expendable Trust Fund	100,014.25	0.00	1,805.27	0.00	2,370.40	104,189.92
Total of all Trust Funds	1,933,370.17	156,720.00	42,103.73	244,892.86	67,447.56	1,954,748.60



Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Actual Expenditures for period ending 12/31/2025	Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2025	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2026 (Recommended)	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2026 (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2026 (Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2026 (Not Recommended)
General Government								
4130	Executive	04	\$225,662	\$243,610	\$223,000	\$0	\$223,000	\$0
4140	Election, Registration, and Vital Statistics	04	\$2,132	\$4,600	\$9,100	\$0	\$9,100	\$0
4150	Financial Administration	04	\$104,912	\$105,368	\$107,451	\$0	\$107,451	\$0
4152	Property Assessment	04	\$49,822	\$47,500	\$47,700	\$0	\$47,700	\$0
4153	Legal Expense	04	\$24,637	\$45,000	\$31,000	\$0	\$20,000	\$0
4155	Personnel Administration	04	\$1	\$1	\$1	\$0	\$1	\$0
4191	Planning and Zoning	04	\$12,920	\$13,138	\$14,500	\$0	\$14,500	\$0
4194	General Government Buildings	04	\$121,219	\$136,501	\$153,800	\$0	\$148,800	\$0
4195	Cemeteries	04	\$24,272	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000	\$0
4196	Insurance Not Otherwise Allocated	04	\$113,538	\$113,560	\$116,842	\$0	\$116,842	\$0
4197	Advertising and Regional Associations		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4198	Contingency		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4199	Other General Government	04	\$8,411	\$9,500	\$9,500	\$0	\$9,500	\$0
	General Government Subtotal		\$687,526	\$743,778	\$737,894	\$0	\$721,894	\$0
Public Safety								
4210	Police	04	\$613,376	\$647,134	\$665,820	\$0	\$665,820	\$0
4215	Ambulances		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4220	Fire	04	\$272,595	\$248,700	\$164,500	\$0	\$164,500	\$0
4240	Building Inspection	04	\$35,047	\$26,780	\$36,830	\$0	\$36,830	\$0
4290	Emergency Management	04	\$0	\$1	\$1	\$0	\$1	\$0
4299	Other Public Safety	04	\$0	\$0	\$143,700	\$0	\$143,700	\$0
	Public Safety Subtotal		\$921,018	\$922,615	\$1,010,851	\$0	\$1,010,851	\$0



Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Actual Expenditures for period ending 12/31/2025	Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2025	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2026 (Recommended)	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2026 (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2026 (Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2026 (Not Recommended)
Airport/Aviation Center								
4301	Airport Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4302	Airport Operations		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4309	Other Airport		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Airport/Aviation Center Subtotal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Highways and Streets								
4311	Highway Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4312	Highways and Streets	04	\$1,036,276	\$1,112,630	\$748,506	\$748,506	\$748,506	\$0
4313	Bridges	04	\$0	\$1	\$1	\$1	\$1	\$0
4316	Street Lighting	04	\$2,320	\$2,400	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0
4319	Other Highway, Streets, and Bridges		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Highways and Streets Subtotal		\$1,038,596	\$1,115,031	\$751,007	\$751,007	\$751,007	\$0
Sanitation								
4321	Sanitation Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4323	Solid Waste Collection	04	\$96,960	\$100,910	\$104,944	\$104,944	\$104,944	\$0
4324	Solid Waste Disposal	04	\$33,587	\$31,100	\$33,320	\$33,320	\$33,320	\$0
4325	Solid Waste Facilities Clean-Up		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4326	Sewage Collection and Disposal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4329	Other Sanitation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Sanitation Subtotal		\$130,547	\$132,010	\$138,264	\$138,264	\$138,264	\$0



Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Actual Expenditures for period ending 12/31/2025	Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2025	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2026 (Recommended)	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2026 (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2026 (Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2026 (Not Recommended)
Water Distribution and Treatment								
4331	Water Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4332	Water Services		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4335	Water Treatment		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4338	Water Conservation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4339	Other Water		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Water Distribution and Treatment Subtotal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Electric								
4351	Electric Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4352	Generation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4353	Purchase Costs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4354	Electric Equipment Maintenance		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4359	Other Electric Costs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Electric Subtotal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Health								
4411	Health Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4414	Pest Control		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4415	Health Agencies and Hospitals	04	\$0	\$1	\$1	\$0	\$1	\$0
4419	Other Health		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Health Subtotal		\$0	\$1	\$1	\$0	\$1	\$0



Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Actual Expenditures for period ending 12/31/2025	Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2025	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2026 (Recommended)	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2026 (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2026 (Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2026 (Not Recommended)
Welfare								
4441	Welfare Administration	04	\$7,424	\$7,468	\$7,685	\$0	\$7,685	\$0
4442	Direct Assistance		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Payments		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4445	Vendor Payments	04	\$19,099	\$30,177	\$30,427	\$0	\$30,427	\$0
4449	Other Welfare		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
			\$26,523	\$37,645	\$38,112	\$0	\$38,112	\$0
Culture and Recreation								
4520	Parks and Recreation	04	\$24,044	\$22,759	\$23,670	\$0	\$23,670	\$0
4550	Library	04	\$95,549	\$95,479	\$95,549	\$0	\$95,549	\$0
4583	Patriotic Purposes	04	\$3,838	\$5,450	\$22,350	\$0	\$22,350	\$0
4589	Other Culture and Recreation	04	\$55,495	\$38,550	\$28,300	\$0	\$28,300	\$0
			\$178,926	\$162,238	\$169,869	\$0	\$169,869	\$0
Conservation and Development								
4611	Conservation Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4612	Purchase of Natural Resources		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4619	Other Conservation	04	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$0	\$1,200	\$0
4631	Redevelopment and Housing Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4632	Other Redevelopment and Housing		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4651	Economic Development Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4652	Economic Development	04	\$0	\$1	\$1	\$0	\$1	\$0
4659	Other Economic Development		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
			\$1,200	\$1,201	\$1,201	\$0	\$1,201	\$0



Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Actual Expenditures for period ending 12/31/2025	Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2025	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2026 (Recommended)	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2026 (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2026 (Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2026 (Not Recommended)
Debt Service								
4711	Principal - Long Term Bonds, Notes, and Other Debt	04	\$105,831	\$106,181	\$110,622	\$0	\$110,622	\$0
4721	Interest - Long Term Bonds, Notes, and Other Debt	04	\$102,562	\$102,819	\$98,500	\$0	\$98,500	\$0
4723	Interest on Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes	04	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$0
4790	Other Debt Service Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Debt Service Subtotal		\$208,393	\$210,000	\$210,122	\$0	\$210,122	\$0
Capital Outlay								
4901	Land		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment		\$411,000	\$414,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4903	Buildings		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings		\$43,850	\$97,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Capital Outlay Subtotal		\$454,850	\$511,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Operating Transfers Out								
4911	To Revolving Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4912	To Special Revenue Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4913	To Capital Projects Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914A	To Airport Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914E	To Electric Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914O	To Other Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914S	To Sewer Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914W	To Water Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4918	To Non-Expendable Trust Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4919	To Agency Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Operating Transfers Out Subtotal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Total Operating Budget Appropriations			\$3,057,321	\$0	\$0	\$3,041,321	\$0



Special Warrant Articles

Account	Purpose	Article	Selectmen's Appropriations for Appropriations for 12/31/2026 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)	Selectmen's Appropriations for Appropriations for 12/31/2026 (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for Appropriations for 12/31/2026 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for Appropriations for 12/31/2026 (Not Recommended)
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4916	To Expendable Trust Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4917	To Health Maintenance Trust Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4312	Highways and Streets	11	\$350,000	\$0	\$350,000	\$0
	<i>Purpose: Fund Road Maintenance, Preservation and Paving</i>					
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment	24	\$60,000	\$0	\$60,000	\$0
	<i>Purpose: Purchase new Police SUV</i>					
4903	Buildings	28	\$39,415	\$0	\$39,415	\$0
	<i>Purpose: Paving and improvements to Town Hall parking area</i>					
4903	Buildings	29	\$48,150	\$0	\$48,150	\$0
	<i>Purpose: Paving and improvements to Fire Station parking area</i>					
4903	Buildings	31	\$12,000	\$0	\$12,000	\$0
	<i>Purpose: Structural analysis of Fire Station and Highway Garage</i>					
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	08	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000	\$0
	<i>Purpose: Police Vehicle Capital Reserve Trust Fund (2021)</i>					
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	09	\$80,000	\$0	\$80,000	\$0
	<i>Purpose: Fire Department Heavy Equip Capital Reserve (2006)</i>					
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	12	\$45,000	\$0	\$45,000	\$0
	<i>Purpose: Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund (2020)</i>					
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	16	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$0
	<i>Purpose: Revaluation Capital Reserve (2008)</i>					
4916	To Expendable Trusts	07	\$8,500	\$0	\$8,500	\$0
	<i>Purpose: Police Department Equipment Expendable Trust Fund (2024)</i>					
4916	To Expendable Trusts	10	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$0
	<i>Purpose: Fire Equipment Expendable Trust Fund (2020)</i>					
4916	To Expendable Trusts	13	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000	\$0
	<i>Purpose: Road and Bridge Expendable Trust Fund (2019)</i>					
4916	To Expendable Trusts	15	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000	\$0
	<i>Purpose: Town Equipment Repair and Purchase Expendable Trust Fund (2015)</i>					



Special Warrant Articles

4916	To Expendable Trusts	17	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$0
<i>Purpose: Fund Emergency Road & Bridge Expendable Trust Fund</i>						
4916	To Expendable Trusts	18	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,000
<i>Purpose: 2022 Long-Term Planning Expendable Trust</i>						
4916	To Expendable Trusts	19	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$0
<i>Purpose: 2022 Matching Funds for Grants Expendable Trust</i>						
Total Proposed Special Articles			\$717,065	\$0	\$716,065	\$1,000



Individual Warrant Articles

Account	Purpose	Article	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2026 (Not Recommended)	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2026 (Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2026 (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2026 (Recommended)
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment	14	\$0	\$38,500	\$0	\$38,500
				<i>Purpose: Lease/Purchase payment for Backhoe</i>		
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment	23	\$0	\$30,000	\$0	\$30,000
				<i>Purpose: Portable radios and repeaters for Fire Department</i>		
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment	21	\$0	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
				<i>Purpose: Fire suppression equipment</i>		
4903	Buildings	22	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000
				<i>Purpose: Fire Station building repairs</i>		
4903	Buildings	20	\$0	\$30,000	\$0	\$30,000
				<i>Purpose: Replace Fire Station furnace</i>		
Total Proposed Individual Articles			\$0	\$123,500	\$0	\$123,500



New Hampshire
 Department of
 Revenue Administration

2026
MS-737

Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Actual Revenues for period ending 12/31/2025	Selectmen's Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2026	Budget Committee's Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2026
Taxes					
3120	Land Use Change Taxes for General Fund	04	\$10,300	\$3,000	\$3,000
3180	Resident Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
3185	Yield Taxes	04	\$13,979	\$15,000	\$15,000
3186	Payment in Lieu of Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
3187	Excavation Tax		\$0	\$0	\$0
3189	Other Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
3190	Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	04	\$9,764	\$30,000	\$30,000
			\$34,043	\$48,000	\$48,000
			Taxes Subtotal		
Licenses, Permits, and Fees					
3210	Business Licenses and Permits	04	\$0	\$17,000	\$17,000
3220	Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	04	\$451,725	\$410,000	\$410,000
3230	Building Permits	04	\$41,283	\$30,000	\$30,000
3290	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	04	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000
			\$493,008	\$460,000	\$460,000
			Licenses, Permits, and Fees Subtotal		
From Federal Government					
3311	Housing and Urban Development		\$0	\$0	\$0
3312	Environmental Protection		\$0	\$0	\$0
3313	Federal Emergency		\$0	\$0	\$0
3314	Federal Drug Enforcement		\$0	\$0	\$0
3319	Other Federal Grants and Reimbursements		\$0	\$0	\$0
			\$0	\$0	\$0
			From Federal Government Subtotal		
State Sources					
3351	Shared Revenues - Block Grant		\$0	\$0	\$0
3352	Meals and Rooms Tax Distribution	04	\$169,060	\$160,000	\$160,000
3353	Highway Block Grant	04	\$93,854	\$90,000	\$90,000
3354	Water Pollution Grant		\$0	\$0	\$0
3355	Housing and Community Development		\$0	\$0	\$0
3356	State and Federal Forest Land Reimbursement	04	\$497	\$560	\$560



New Hampshire
 Department of
 Revenue Administration

2026
MS-737

Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Actual Revenues for period ending 12/31/2025	Selectmen's Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2026	Budget Committee's Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2026
State Sources					
3357	Flood Control Reimbursement		\$0	\$0	\$0
3359	Railroad Tax Distribution		\$0	\$0	\$0
3360	Water Filtration Grants		\$0	\$0	\$0
3361	Landfill Closure Grants		\$0	\$0	\$0
3369	Other Intergovernmental Revenue from State of NH		\$0	\$0	\$0
3379	Intergovernmental Revenues - Other	04	\$8,200	\$8,200	\$8,200
	State Sources Subtotal		\$271,611	\$258,760	\$258,760
Charges for Services					
3401	Income from Departments	04	\$34,425	\$17,000	\$17,000
3402	Water Supply System Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
3403	Sewer User Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
3404	Garbage-Refuse Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
3405	Electric User Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
3406	Airport Fees		\$0	\$0	\$0
3409	Other Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
	Charges for Services Subtotal		\$34,425	\$17,000	\$17,000
Miscellaneous Revenues					
3500	Special Assessments		\$0	\$0	\$0
3501	Sale of Municipal Property		\$0	\$0	\$0
3502	Interest on Investments		\$0	\$0	\$0
3503	Rents of Property	04	\$15,885	\$13,500	\$13,500
3504	Fines and Forfeits		\$0	\$0	\$0
3506	Insurance Dividends and Reimbursements		\$0	\$0	\$0
3508	Contributions and Donations		\$0	\$0	\$0
3509	Revenue from Misc Sources Not Otherwise Classified	04	\$39,154	\$10,000	\$10,000
	Miscellaneous Revenues Subtotal		\$55,039	\$23,500	\$23,500
Interfund Operating Transfers In					
3911	From Revolving Funds	24	\$0	\$52,000	\$52,000



Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Actual Revenues for period ending 12/31/2025	Selectmen's Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2026	Budget Committee's Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2026
Interfund Operating Transfers In					
3912	From Special Revenue Funds	24	\$0	\$8,000	\$8,000
3913	From Capital Projects Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914A	From Airport Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914E	From Electric Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914O	From Other Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914S	From Sewer Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914W	From Water Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0
3915	From Capital Reserve Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
3916	From Trust and Fiduciary Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
3917	From Conservation Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
	Interfund Operating Transfers In Subtotal		\$0	\$60,000	\$60,000
Other Financing Sources					
3934	Proceeds from Long-Term Notes/Bonds/Other Sources		\$0	\$0	\$0
9998	Amount Voted from Fund Balance		\$17,745	\$0	\$0
9999	Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
	Other Financing Sources Subtotal		\$17,745	\$0	\$0
	Total Estimated Revenues and Credits		\$905,871	\$867,260	\$867,260



Budget Summary

Item	Selectmen's Period ending 12/31/2026 (Recommended)	Budget Committee's Period ending 12/31/2026 (Recommended)
Operating Budget Appropriations	\$3,057,321	\$3,041,321
Special Warrant Articles	\$717,065	\$716,065
Individual Warrant Articles	\$123,500	\$123,500
Total Appropriations	\$3,897,886	\$3,880,886
Less Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits	\$867,260	\$867,260
Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised	\$3,030,626	\$3,013,626



Supplemental Schedule

1. Total Recommended by Budget Committee	\$3,880,886
Less Exclusions:	
2. Principal: Long-Term Bonds & Notes	\$110,622
3. Interest: Long-Term Bonds & Notes	\$98,500
4. Capital outlays funded from Long-Term Bonds & Notes	\$0
5. Mandatory Assessments	\$0
6. Total Exclusions (<i>Sum of Lines 2 through 5 above</i>)	\$209,122
7. Amount Recommended, Less Exclusions (Line 1 less Line 6)	\$3,671,764
8. 10% of Amount Recommended, Less Exclusions (<i>Line 7 x 10%</i>)	\$367,176
Collective Bargaining Cost Items:	
9. Recommended Cost Items (Prior to Meeting)	\$0
10. Voted Cost Items (Voted at Meeting)	\$0
11. Amount voted over recommended amount (Difference of Lines 9 and 10)	\$0
12. Bond Override (RSA 32:18-a), Amount Voted	\$0
Maximum Allowable Appropriations Voted at Meeting: (Line 1 + Line 8 + Line 11 + Line 12)	
	\$4,248,062

Town of Bradford
State of New Hampshire

Town Warrant of Annual Town Meeting March 10th, 2026

To the inhabitants of the Town of Bradford in the County of Merrimack in the said State qualified to vote in town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Bradford Town Hall at 75 West Main Street in said Bradford, N.H. on **Tuesday the tenth (10th) day of March** next, at eight o'clock in the morning (8:00 a.m.) for the First Session of the Annual Meeting (Official Ballot Voting) to act on Articles 1-3 set forth below. The Polls will open at 8:00 a.m. and not close earlier than 7:00 p.m. on March 10th.

You are hereby notified to re-convene at the Kearsarge Regional Elementary School at 163 Old Warner Road in said Bradford, NH on **Wednesday the eleventh (11th) day of March** next, at seven o'clock in the evening (7:00 p.m.) for the Second Session of the Annual Meeting (Transaction of All Other Business) to act on Articles 4-30 set forth below.

Article One: To choose all necessary town officers for the ensuing year.

Article Two: Zoning Amendment - To see what action the Town will take with respect to the following proposed amendment to the Bradford Zoning Ordinance by ballot vote upon the following question:

Are you in favor of the adoption of the amendment to the existing Bradford Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the planning board, as follows:

Amend certain sections of the Zoning Ordinance as listed below to require frontage on a Class V or better road as a prerequisite for new construction.

1. Amend Article II, Definitions:
 - a. Revise the existing definition of Frontage as follows:
Frontage: ~~The length of a lot bordering on an accepted public road or on a proposed street on a subdivision plat approved by the Planning Board.~~ The width of a lot measured along its common boundary with a public right of way.
 - b. Add a new definition, as follows:
Public way: A public right of way which the Town or State has the duty to maintain.

Article Three: Zoning Amendment - To see what action the Town will take with respect to the following proposed amendment to the Bradford Zoning Ordinance by ballot vote upon the following question:

Are you in favor of the adoption of the amendment to the existing Bradford Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the planning board, as follows:

Amend certain sections of the Zoning Ordinance as listed below as follows:

Add a new Section Q to Article III as follows: Any alterations or improvements made to a Town road, must first receive design approval by the Road Agent and Select Board.

Article Four: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Million Forty-One Thousand Three Hundred Twenty-One Dollars (\$3,041,321.00) for general municipal operations. This article does not include amounts appropriated by other warrant articles. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends \$3,057,321.00. Budget Committee recommends \$3,041,321.00.

	<u>Select Board</u>	<u>Budget Committee</u>
1. Executive	223,000.00	223,000.00
2. Elections & Vital Statistics	9,100.00	9,100.00
3. Financial Administration	107,451.00	107,451.00
4. Revaluations	47,700.00	47,700.00
5. Legal	31,000.00	20,000.00
6. Employee Benefits	1.00	1.00
7. Planning & Zoning	14,500.00	14,500.00
8. General Gov	153,800.00	148,800.00
9. Cemetery	25,000.00	25,000.00
10. Insurances	116,842.00	116,842.00
11. Other General Gov	9,500.00	9,500.00
12. Police Department	665,820.00	665,820.00
13. Fire Department	164,500.00	164,500.00
14. Rescue Services - FAST	8,700.00	8,700.00
15. Rescue Services – Contract	135,000.00	135,000.00
16. Building Code Department	36,830.00	36,830.00
17. Emergency Management	1.00	1.00
18. Highway Department	748,506.00	748,506.00
19. Bridges	1.00	1.00
20. Street Lighting	2,500.00	2,500.00
21. Solid Waste Collection	104,944.00	104,944.00
22. Solid Waste Disposal	33,320.00	33,320.00
23. Inoculations	1.00	1.00
24. Welfare Administration	7,685.00	7,685.00
25. Welfare Payments	30,427.00	30,427.00
26. Parks and Recreation	23,670.00	23,670.00

27. Library	95,549.00	95,549.00
28. Patriotic Purposes	22,350.00	22,350.00
29. Community Center	28,300.00	28,300.00
30. Other Conservation	1,200.00	1,200.00
31. Economic Development	1.00	1.00
32. Long Term Notes	209,122.00	209,122.00
33. <u>Interest on TAN notes</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>
Total	\$ 3,057,321.00	\$ 3,041,321.00

Article Five: Shall the Town vote in accordance with RSA 72:27-a to modify the provisions of RSA 72:35, previously adopted, for an optional tax credit of \$1,900 for a Service-Connected Total and Permanent Disability? If approved, this article shall take effect for the final property tax bill of the 2026 property tax year. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends 3-0. Budget Committee recommends 6-0.

Article Six: Shall the Town vote to modify the Veteran’s Tax Credit in accordance with RSA 72:28, II from its current tax credit of \$500.00 per year to \$750.00 per year? (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends 3-0. Budget Committee recommends 6-0.

Article Seven: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$8,500.00) to be placed in the 2024 Police Department Equipment Expendable Trust Fund. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends 3-0. Budget Committee recommends 6-0.

Article Eight: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) to be placed in the 2021 Police Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends 3-0. Budget Committee recommends 5-1.

Article Nine: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$80,000.00) to be placed in the 2006 Fire Department Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends 3-0. Budget Committee recommends 6-0.

Article Ten: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) to be placed in the 2020 Fire Equipment Expendable Trust Fund. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends 3-0. Budget Committee recommends 6-0.

Article Eleven: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$350,000.00) to fund road maintenance, preservation and paving. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will continue until the money is spent or December 31, 2031. (Majority vote required). Select Board recommends 3-0. Budget Committee recommends 6-0.

Article Twelve: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$45,000.00) to be placed in the 2020 Highway Heavy Equipment Capital

Reserve Fund. (Majority vote required). Select Board recommends 3-0. Budget Committee recommends 6-0.

Article Thirteen: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) to be placed in the 2019 Road and Bridge Expendable Trust Fund. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends 3-0. Budget Committee recommends 6-0.

Article Fourteen: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$38,500.00) to fund the 2026 lease-purchase payment on the Caterpillar backhoe acquired by the Highway Department last year. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends 3-0. Budget Committee recommends 6-0.

Article Fifteen: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) to be placed in the 2015 Town Equipment Repair and Purchase Expendable Trust Fund. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends 3-0. Budget Committee recommends 6-0.

Article Sixteen: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) to be placed in the 2008 Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends 3-0. Budget Committee recommends 6-0.

Article Seventeen: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) to be placed in the 2022 Emergency Road and Bridge Repair Expendable Trust Fund. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends 3-0. Budget Committee recommends 5-1.

Article Eighteen: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) to be placed in the 2022 Long Term Planning Expendable Trust Fund. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends 3-0. Budget Committee does not recommend 1-5.

Article Nineteen: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) to be placed in the 2022 Matching Funds for Grants Expendable Trust Fund. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends 3-0. Budget Committee recommends 4-2.

Article Twenty: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00) to replace the furnace and associated equipment at the Fire Station building. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends 3-0. Budget Committee recommends 5-1.

Article Twenty-One: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) for fire suppression equipment and associated items for replacement. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends 3-0. Budget Committee recommends 6-0.

Article Twenty-Two: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) for repairs to the Fire Station building. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends 3-0. Budget Committee recommends 5-1.

Article Twenty-Three: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00) for portable radios and repeaters for the Fire Department. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends 3-0. Budget Committee recommends 4-2.

Article Twenty-Four: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000.00) to purchase and outfit with equipment a new Police Sports Utility Vehicle (SUV). This appropriation will come from the 2021 Police Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of Fifty-Two Thousand Dollars (\$52,000.00), and from the Police Detail account in the amount of Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000.00). This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will continue until the money is spent or December 31, 2031. (Majority vote required.) Select Board recommends 3-0. Budget Committee recommends 5-1.

Article Twenty-Five: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to offer for sale the following parcels of Town-owned land on such terms and conditions as the Select Board determine are in the best interest of the Town. Such authority to transfer or sell shall continue to be in effect indefinitely, until rescinded. (Majority vote required). Select Board recommends 3-0.

- A Map 5 Lot 81 95 West Road (2.0 acres and buildings)
- B Map 5 Lot 99 West Meadow Road (5.0 acres – land only)
- C Map 6 Lot 17 Center Road (151.8 acres – land only)
- D Map 6 Lot 31 West Road (4.5 acres – land only)
- E Map 6 Lot 48 West Road (6.4 acres – land only)
- F Map 6 Lot 94 Cheney Hill Road (7.0 acres – land only)
- G Map 9 Lot 5-1 225 E. Washington Road (3.41 acres – land only)

Article Twenty-Six: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to sell town-owned property, identified as “Map 06, Lot 48, located at Center Road, consisting of approximately 6.4 acres (landlocked)”, to Nathaniel and Pamela Bruss, of 367 County Rd, Bradford NH, at fair market value, and to authorize the Select Board to take any and all actions necessary to carry out this sale. Subject to terms, easements and deed restrictions as the Selectboard deems to be in the best interest of the town. To further authorize the Selectboard to make a finding that such conveyance is in the public interest, taking into consideration the return of the property to productive use, return to tax rolls, and continued agriculture use in harmony with the Master Plan. **By Petition.** (Majority vote required). Select Board does not recommend 3-0.

Article Twenty-Seven: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to sell town-owned property, identified as “Map 06, Lot 17, located at Center Road, consisting of approximately 151.8 acres”, to Nathaniel and Pamela Bruss, of 367 County Rd, Bradford NH, at

fair market value, and to authorize the Select Board to take any and all actions necessary to carry out this sale. Subject to terms, easements and deed restrictions as the Selectboard deems to be in the best interest of the town. To further authorize the Selectboard to make a finding that such conveyance is in the public interest, taking into consideration the return of the property to productive use, return to tax rolls, and continued agriculture use in harmony with the Master Plan. **By Petition.** (Majority vote required). Select Board does not recommend 3-0.

Article Twenty-Eight: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-Nine Thousand Four Hundred Fifteen Dollars (\$39,415.00) for paving and improvements to the Town Hall parking area. Said funds to come from Fund Balance, representing the revenue from the sale of land in 2024. No amount to be raised from taxation. This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the project is completed or by December 31, 2031, whichever is sooner. (Majority vote required). Select Board recommends 3-0. Budget Committee recommends 6-0.

Article Twenty-Nine: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Forty-Eight Thousand One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$48,150.00) for grounds restoration and paving the adjacent parking area at the site of the now-demolished Masonic Lodge within the Town-owned Fire Department lot. Said funds to come from Fund Balance, representing the leftover amounts appropriated under Article 27 at the 2025 town Meeting, which lapsed to Fund Balance following the completion of the Masonic Lodge demolition project. No amount to be raised by taxation. This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the project is completed or by December 31, 2031, whichever is sooner. (Majority vote required). Select Board recommends 3-0. Budget Committee recommends 5-1.

Article Thirty: To see if the Town will vote to change the term of supervisors of the checklist from 6 years to 3 years, electing one supervisor each year over a 3-year cycle. If the Town votes to adopt a 3-year term for supervisors of the checklist, the change in term length will apply beginning with the supervisor elected at the annual town election in 2028. The supervisors elected in 2022, 2024 and 2026 shall still serve 6-year terms ending in 2028, 2030 and 2032, respectively. One supervisor shall be elected in 2028 to a 3-year term ending in 2031. One supervisor shall be elected in 2030 to a 3-year term ending in 2033. Beginning in 2031 and continuing each year thereafter, one supervisor of the checklist shall be elected to a 3-year term at the annual town election each year. (Majority vote required). Select Board recommends 3-0.

Article Thirty-One: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twelve Thousand Dollars (\$12,000.00) for the purpose of conducting a structural and HVAC assessment of the Highway Department garage and the Fire Station with said funds to come from Fund Balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the assessment is completed or by December 31, 2031, whichever is sooner. (Majority vote required). Select Board recommends 3-0. Budget Committee recommends 5-1.

Article Thirty-Two: To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of the Town Offices. To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Bradford Select Board,

Marlene Freyler,
Chairman

Charles F. Meaney III,
Selectman

Beth Downs,
Selectman

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Serving on Bradford's 2025 Budget Committee were Jennifer Richardson (chair), Kim Firth (vice chair), Justin Dohrn, Tim McKenna, Bliss Dayton, Karen Hambleton, and Beth Downs as Selectboard Rep.

We started this budget season by reviewing the Rules of Procedure for the Budget Committee and The Municipal Budget Committee: Roles and Responsibilities. From this review we were able to make sure we are following the proper procedure for our meetings and understand our role as the Budget Committee. According to the NH Municipal Association (NHMA) "The purpose of the budget committee is to assist voters in the prudent appropriation of public funds." We do this by preparing the budget, making recommendations, and reviewing (not controlling) expenditures. All Budget Committee meetings are public, livestreamed, and recorded - they are available through the town's website for anyone to view.

Each Budget Committee member has a department they meet with directly. From there, department heads attend budget meetings to review their requests and answer questions. Some of the driving factors of budget increases include salaries, postage, software support, computer repairs, and increases in rental expenses. Contract services among several departments have increased the budget requests, as well as planned maintenance and updates on BCC and Town Hall. There are more elections in the upcoming year and the Selectboard added a part time maintenance person. At the time of this report the budget committee has not voted on the operating budget or warrant articles.

As a Budget Committee we would love to encourage more participation from the public in the budgeting process. Please come and voice your opinions.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Richardson, Chair

BRADFORD'S AFFORDABLE TOMORROW COMMITTEE

A warrant article by petition was approved at the 2025 Town Meeting and focused on identifying strategies to reduce our unsustainable property tax burden while maintaining quality services. Based on voter feedback at the meeting, the proposed committee was renamed Bradford's Affordable Tomorrow Committee.

An open call for membership was publicized in the Bradford Bridge with the premise that engagement and involvement of town residents will allow us to make greater progress. It worked! Eleven brave residents from different age groups, political ideology, and socio-economic status showed up, rolled up their sleeves and committed their time and talents.

At our kick-off meeting in May 2025, we brainstormed numerous creative, strategic ideas to balance property tax increases with operating demands. During future meetings, we organized those ideas into three categories, which became working subcommittees led by various members of the Committee. These initial areas of inquiry are operational efficiencies; Department performance, value and cost; and shared services. We established group norms, which when followed, allowed us to have respectful conversations across difference. We drafted a mission statement. *To minimize Bradford's property tax increases by exploring and presenting data-driven strategic opportunities to Town residents and the Selectboard.* In July, we sought permission from the Selectboard to become an official Town Committee. Our request was approved.

The Committee dug into data following trends in the town municipal budget, which increased 55% since 2018. We identified comparison towns with similar populations, median ages, median household incomes and per capita incomes.

The operational efficiency subcommittee led by Dawn Gezelman decided to focus first on transparency of the financial audits. Their recommendations focus on inclusion of balance sheets, municipal auditor reports, findings, and recommendations in the Annual Town Report as required by law. Additionally, it was recommended that the town prioritize utilization of an asset management system.

The Department performance, value and cost subcommittee led by Susan Friedenberg decided to focus on one Department at a time, starting with the Police Department. The 2025 Town budget survey ranked the Police Department as the lowest priority (Highway, Fire, Police) and the majority of respondents believed the amount of money spent was high. The Police Department is also one of our largest Departments, increasing 34% in 6 years. The Committee looked for opportunities to reduce costs without reducing levels of service. This is challenging because 87% of the budget is personnel related. The subcommittee recommended reductions in dues and subscriptions, elimination of costs associated with the Special Operations Unit, elimination of one of the three cruisers and a reconsideration of the policy allowing officers to take home cars. The subcommittee also made recommendations focused on strategies for ongoing taxpayer input and praised Bradford's Recycling Center which operates \$150,000 lower than contiguous towns!

Finally, the Shared Services Subcommittee led by Bruce Gezelman and Steve Pierce assessed the New Hampshire landscape to learn from other municipalities. Antrim and Bennington, and Temple and Greenville merged Police Departments. Their experiences provide important lessons learned for Bradford to consider. Subcommittee recommendations focus on Selectboard leadership, creating opportunities for shared learning with contiguous towns, and exploration of shared assets and needs.

Bradford's Affordable Tomorrow Committee will continue as an official town committee. Please join us!

Submitted by: Susan Friedenber, Dawn Gezelman and Kim Firth

BRADFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Bradford established a conservation commission in 1970. The purpose of a conservation commission, as defined by state law, is to compile an inventory of the Town's watersheds and other natural resources, to become familiar with the ever-changing State and Federal regulations concerning them, and to advise the Selectboard, Planning Board, and other local committees and boards on environmental issues. A conservation commission is a valuable source of information for the other municipal organizations, all of which have other primary responsibilities.

The highlights of the Commission in 2025:

- After a ten-year effort involving the conservation commissions from both towns, the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust (ASLPT), and numerous volunteers, The Society for the Protection of NH Forests was able to purchase 1,328 acres in Bradford and Hillsborough. The Rydstrom Family Forest secures critical wildlife habitat, wetlands, and forest corridors while linking more than 3,500 acres of nearby conserved lands;
- A major land conservation project is forming around 'Sherman' or 'Webb' field on Pleasant View Road. The Commission is working with the landowners and other organizations towards a purchase by ASLPT to restore the riparian buffer of West Branch Brook, remove invasives, and retain the roadside field for agriculture;
- The BCC worked with the Planning Board and Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission on the Surface Water Overlay District which passed this year's zoning vote by a wide margin;
- UNH grad students under the direction of Dr. Heidi Asbjornsen have continued their studies on Atlantic White Cedar regeneration and historical use of the area incorporating native knowledge and perspective;
- The BCC coordinated volunteers for the eighth year of the Adopt-a-Road Program to monitor all sixteen Class VI Roads. The Commission is working with Fire and Rescue and Road Agent to assess conditions and potential problems. A presentation was given to the Selectboard;
- Members of the Commission served on the Hazard Mitigation Plan committee, Ausbon Sargent's Outreach committee, and attended the NH Association of Conservation Commissions annual meeting;
- After two successful fundraising events during the Independence Day celebrations, two Elementary school kids were able to attend the NH Audubon summer camp. Thanks especially to Lois Kilnap;
- After two years of application work towards replacement of two failing culverts, the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities grant opportunity was canceled by the incoming federal administration;
- Members and volunteers are pursuing long term water quality information on Hoyt Brook and West Branch Brook. The Commission continues to be involved with the Volunteer River Assessment project and the Warner River Local Advisory Committee sampling 14 locations monthly for four months;
- The Commission will be working with the Energy Committee on reducing barriers to solar power;
- Our Trail Master George Beaton continues to keep the trails in order with assistance of volunteers. The ailing Bradford Bog observation platform was dismantled to make way for the third version to come.

The Commission has a Facebook page: look for 'Bradford Conservation Commission'. It includes all sorts of information on upcoming programs in the area, wildlife sightings, and other topics of outdoor interest.

The Bradford Trail Map can be found at the Library, Sweet Beet Market, town offices, and on the town website;

The Natural Resource Inventory is a resource for town planners and public alike. It is available on the town's website www.bradfordnh.org and at Brown Memorial Library. We welcome comments and corrections.

Conservation Commission meetings are open to the public and are held at 7 pm on the third Tuesday of every month, usually at Brown Memorial Library. If you have questions or concerns about wetlands, wildlife, plants, pollution or lake front issues, contact a commission member or email to: BCC@bradfordnh.org.

Members: J. Ann Eldridge – Chair
Meg Fearnley – Treasurer
Patty Furness – Secretary
Rett Weber
George Beaton
Nathanial Bruss
Doug Southard

Alternates: Scott MacLean
Seth Benowitz
Becca Herman
Brooks McCandlish

BRADFORD PLANNING BOARD

The Bradford Planning Board meets once a month, on the 4th Tuesday of each month, and holds subcommittee meetings on different topics of responsibility, as needed. All meetings are posted and open to the public. During 2025 the Planning Board engaged in the following:

- Fisherfield Townhouses Condominium Conversion. Map 16, Lots 73, 77 & 82, 64 West Main Street.
- Conditional Use Permit, Wetlands Permit, 493 Center Road. Map 6, Lot 26.
- Subdivision Application: Hill & Dale LLC, Pleasant Valley Road, Map 7 Lot 26.
- Lot Line Adjustment and Subdivision Application: Map 4, Lots 4 & 5; Map 5, Lot 2, West Road and Fairgrounds Road.
- Driveway Permit Application Revised.
- Annexation/Boundary Line Adjustment, Map 17, Lots 44 & 47, 161 E. Main Street and 5 Greenhouse Lane.
- Application for Subdivision/Lot Line Adjustment for Little Projects Investment Realty, Map 3, Lot 35. 2552 Route 103.
- Application for minor subdivision map 2 lot 20, 41 Fairgrounds Road.
- Consultation for home business Blaisdell Lake Road.
- Town of Bradford merger of lots map 16 lots 88 and 87, West Main Street.
- Energy committee consultation for development of solar ordinance.
- Consultation for cluster subdivision map 3 lots 95-01 and 96, Old Warner Road.
- Review of planning board budget.
- Two new planning board members signed in.
- Public hearing for Capital Improvement Program.
- Review of proposed zoning changes for Class VI roads and temporary housing.

Also of note, the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission provides planner office hours the day after Planning Board meetings, from 2:00 to 4:00 PM at the Town Offices, to assist residents with Planning questions.

We hope that all members of our community will support and be active members in the discussions as projects continue to move forward.

We need more involvement, please consider your role and support by getting involved.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Meise, Chair



CENTRAL NEW HAMPSHIRE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

28 Commercial Street, Suite 3, Concord, NH 03301
(603) 226-6020 www.cnhrpc.org

Established in accordance with state law, the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission (CNHRPC) is a voluntary association of 20 communities in Merrimack and Hillsborough Counties. Jim Bibbo and Harry Wright served as the Town's representative to the Commission in 2025.

CNHRPC's mission is to comply with State statute (RSA 36:47) by preparing and adopting regional land use and transportation plans and a regional housing needs assessment. CNHRPC evaluates developments of regional impact (RSA 36:54-58) and provides data, information, training, and high-quality, cost-effective services to our member communities. CNHRPC also provides technical assistance services, including zoning ordinance development, grant writing assistance, circuit rider assistance, plan review services, local master plan development, capital improvements program development and guidance, hazard mitigation planning guidance, and Planning Board process training. CNHRPC advocates for member communities and assists and encourages them in both municipal and regional endeavors.

In 2025, CNHRPC undertook the following activities in Bradford and throughout the Central NH Region:

- Provided circuit rider planning support to the Planning Board, including as-needed meeting participation, zoning assistance, and plan review support.
- Began the development of the CNHRPC Regional Plan 2026, an update to the 2015 Regional Plan.
- Coordinated the development of updated Hazard Mitigation Plans in nine communities under the federal Building Infrastructure and Resilient Communities (BRIC) 2021, BRIC 2023 and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) 4516 programs. The Bradford Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025 was approved by FEMA on July 21, 2025.
- Provided assistance related to the Road Surface Management System (RSMS) program for four communities. In Bradford, staff updated the ongoing RSMS plan and developed a road budget funding scenario analysis.
- Provided coordination assistance to the CommuteSmart NH program that works to support transportation demand management services and rideshare coordination across the state utilizing Agile Mile Transportation demand management (TDM) software. In 2025 the CommuteSmart NH program saved commuters almost \$350,000 as a result of over 36,000 reduced trips.
- Conducted roughly 240 state and local traffic counts throughout the region.
- Worked in coordination with Lakes Region Planning Commission to update the Mid-State Region Coordinated Transportation Plan.
- Participated in a range of regional and statewide bicycle and pedestrian planning activities related to trails, sidewalks, bike lanes and bike shoulders, roadway surfacing, and safety. Staff assisted the Concord to Lake Sunapee Rail Trail in trail building efforts in Bradford and neighboring communities.
- Staff assisted in the development of a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant application for new sidewalks on West Main Street, including updated cost estimates and a plan to address a failed culvert. This grant application was recommended for funding.
- Coordinated the activities of the CNHRPC Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC). In 2025, CNHRPC held five TAC meetings. The CNHRPC TAC finalized the projects recommended for inclusion in the NHDOT 2027-

2036 Ten-Year Plan.

- Provided ongoing GIS and mapping assistance to all 20 CNHRPC communities. This includes maintaining a catalog various GIS datasets and providing a range of GIS and mapping services to towns, boards, committees, and various other entities.
- Continued to work with communities on Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) development. Tasks include the identification and mapping of natural resources and the development of methods to overlay and quantify the relative value of natural resources in the community. Interactive online StoryMaps were developed to communicate results.
- Provided Development of Regional Impact (DRI) review services for communities.
- Assisted the Community Action Program Belknap-Merrimack Counties in support of volunteer and on-demand transit services throughout the region.

For additional information, please contact the CNHRPC staff or visit us at www.cnhrpc.org. CNHRPC Commission meetings are open to the public and those interested are encouraged to attend.

2025 BRADFORD ZONING BOARD of ADJUSTMENT

The Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) is an appeals board, intended to provide flexibility to the Town's Zoning Ordinance, in compliance with the New Hampshire Constitution. Since each situation is unique, no set of rules set down in a zoning ordinance can fairly cover all circumstances.

In accordance with State law, the ZBA may:

- Grant *Variances* to allow a use of a property which would otherwise be *prohibited* by the Zoning Ordinance if the Board determines that five statutory criteria are met;
- Grant *Special Exceptions* for activities *permitted* by the Zoning Ordinance if specific conditions spelled out in the Zoning Ordinance are met;
- Grant *Equitable Waivers of Dimensional Requirements* when, after the fact, a lot or structure is found to be in violation of the zoning ordinance due to a measurement error made in good faith, or to an error in ordinance interpretation made by a municipal official;
- Hear and decide *Appeals* to decisions relating to the Zoning Ordinance made by the Planning Board, the Select Board, and/or other Town boards and officers.

In 2025, the ZBA determined that a subdivision plan for Map 7 Lot 26 on Pleasant Valley Road was in compliance with the current zoning ordinance, and no variance was needed for it to proceed to the Planning Board.

Also in 2025, after site visits, public hearings, and consideration of the evidence, the ZBA approved three variances and one special exception.

- An application for a variance for Map 3 Lot 35-1 at 2552 State Route 103 was granted, allowing a new lot line to be created less than 30 feet from an existing building.
- An application for a variance for Map 2 Lot 20 at 41 Fairgrounds Road was granted, allowing a two-lot subdivision to be created, with one lot having more than 169' of frontage on the Town road.
- An application for a variance on Map 7 Lot 16 at 144 Breezy Hill Road was granted, allowing a replacement garage set back 21 feet from the roadway to be built 21 feet or more from the roadway.
- A special exception was granted on Map 23 Lot 23 at 36 Massasecum Lake Road allowing a 6'x8' closet addition to be added to an existing non-conforming building.

Copies of Bradford's Zoning Ordinance, the application forms for variances and other appeals, ZBA Rules of Procedure, meeting minutes, agendas, and notices of decision are all available at

<https://bradfordnh.gov/>, as well as at the Town Office. Anyone with questions about the ZBA or the appeal process is encouraged to contact a member or alternate, or to come to a regularly scheduled meeting.

The ZBA consists of five elected members and up to five appointed alternates. Alternates and prospective members are needed; please contact current or past members, or let the Town Office know if you might be interested.

The ZBA holds regular meetings at 7 PM, on the first Wednesday of each month.

2025 Zoning Board of Adjustment:

Brooks McCandlish - Chair,
James Varney - Vice Chair,
William Duffy,
Laura Beaton,
Nathanial Bruss

CEMETERY COMMISSION

The Cemetery Trustees would like to thank Jane Lucas and her helpers for placing flags at the Veteran's graves for Memorial Day in conjunction with commander Charels Trowbridge of the American Legion from Warner. Commander Trowbridge also places Christmas wreaths under the Sunny Plains Cemetery during the holidays.

Sunny Plains is the only cemetery that has water available. Earlier this Spring we had a new water pump installed and all of the old water faucets removed. The cost of this was paid for out of a special Trust Fund for water usage at Sunny Plains.

Thank you to the landscapers for maintaining our 17 cemeteries. This year was a difficult year for the maintenance because of the excessive rain at the start of the season then excessive drought. The cemeteries are open from April 15th to November 15th.

Repair work for broken headstones will continue with Corner Stone Repair and there is tree limbing and removal that also has to be done.

Our Rules and Regulations have been posted on the Town website (www.bradfordnh.gov).

Please remember – Our cemeteries are the history for our town. We thank you for honoring and respecting our cemeteries.

Respectfully submitted:

Cemetery Trustees
Marlene Fryler
Sheila Denoncourt
Linda Cansler

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Economic Development Committee has continued the search for opportunities to make Bradford a unique and desirable place to live and work.

There have been disappointments. A proposal to get a Bradford route added to the Currier & Ives Scenic Byway has stalled. Another effort to provide an alternative to the signboards at the intersection of Main Street and Route 103 did not gain approval by the Department of Transportation.

But there have been successes. Our repeated applications for grants under the EDA's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, and our in-person participation at the NHDOT's GACIT hearings, have resulted in a project to reconstruct the sidewalks along West Main Street being included in the DOT's ten-year development plan. Preliminary engineering is anticipated to start in 2029, and the project should be completed by 2034.

The Facilities Use Committee was merged into the Economic Development Committee in April. One of the tasks we were given was to get the Bradford Area Community Center up and running, and to organize a governance board. Currently the Committee itself is serving as the governance board, and Jim Bibbo volunteered to act as Director for the Center. He has been organizing needed repairs and improvements to get the Center ready for use. Bruce Gezelman has taken steps needed to have the Center become a FEMA-compliant emergency shelter. Scott has been looking into what would be needed to re-activate the dormant Friends of the BACC organization.

Another task the Committee was given was to establish or organize a Friends organization for the theater on the second floor of the Town Hall. In this case, the Committee encouraged the creation of an outside non-profit organization, and the Friends of the Bradford Town Hall Theater was formed in August.

In November the Committee began working with the Concord/Lake-Sunapee Rail Trail initiative on possible ways to route the trail through Bradford. The main obstacle is that the former rail bed is now occupied in large part by State Route 103, so other ways must be found. We also continue to pursue funding opportunities. Merrimack County has now been added to the Northern Borders Regional Commission area, making additional possibilities available.

The Committee meets once a month, meetings are open to the public, and we welcome community participation. We could also use a few additional members. Check the calendar on the town's web site for meeting times.

ENERGY COMMITTEE

The Bradford Energy Committee (BEC) continues to help the Town of Bradford to reach its community-wide goal of transitioning to 100 percent reliance on renewable sources of electricity by 2030 and renewable sources of fuel for heating and transportation by 2050.

These efforts have included the following actions:

- Leading the efforts to make our Municipal Buildings more energy efficient;
- Joining the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH) and thereby creating Bradford Community Power;
- Working with Clean Energy of NH and SolSmart, as well as the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission, the Bradford Planning Board and other departments in evaluating the need to establish smart solar zoning and permitting regulations on a local level;
- Evaluating non-fossil alternatives to replace aging oil burning equipment including air and ground source (geothermal) heat pumps, in conjunction with the Highway and Fire Departments;
- Investigating other electrification opportunities for municipal operations and residents such as switching to electric vehicles, heat pumps, generators and tools, etc.
- Facilitating the purchase of discounted solar electricity for Bradford's Municipal electricity accounts from the Poverty Plains Solar facility in Warner, NH which is expected to go on-line in 2026.

The BEC hosted several public hearings and communicated to residents and others about a wide variety of energy related topics through The Bradford Bridge, attendance at various Municipal Department meetings and events, and in person. Topics included:

- the growth of solar electricity, information on the Poverty Plans solar facility,
- operation of ground source heat pumps also known as geothermal;
- using federal clean energy tax credits before they expire;
- taking the Plastics Free July Challenge;
- updates on Community Power rate changes;
- reminding residents the energy saving home improvements help save at tax time ;
- encouraging residents to minimize the use of single-use plastic bags

Members of the BEC will continue to raise awareness of energy issues and initiatives and to look for additional opportunities to bring renewable energy to our community. Let us hear from you with your concerns and suggestions for moving forward in 2026. Thank you!

Committee Members: Sandra Bravo (Chair), Sue Moss, Laura Ryder and Rett Weber

BRADFORD FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

Bradford Fire Rescue has been very busy during 2025. We completed the year with 236 incident responses; 2024 we had 249 responses. The past two years we have experienced about a 25% increase over our five-year average. We responded mutual aid 21 times to help out our neighboring towns, 16 calls were to assist at building fires, 3 were for forest fires and 1 for a motor vehicle accident. Of our in town calls we requested mutual aid 3 times for building fires, 2 times for forest fires. I have spent time analyzing our calls for service. We experience the same number of calls per day of the week with the majority of our calls happening between 9:00AM and 9:00PM. This statistic is concerning where the majority of our call firefighter and EMS providers work out of town. Thankful we have members who work for other providers and have days off and are around to come back on calls. Who is your Bradford Fire Department? The members are made up of residents and nearby residents who respond back to calls via a pager or through our dispatching app.

Who are the members of Bradford Fire Rescue?

1. Fire Chief Bryan Nowell 2022
2. Lieutenant Steve Hansen 1976
3. Captain Carl Goldberg 1980
4. Lieutenant Robert Green 2015
5. Felicia Starr EMT 1995
6. Brooks McCandlish EMT 2011
7. Matt Gerald FF 2019
8. Emily Roy AEMT 2021
9. Neil Donnenfeld EMR 2022
10. John Hill FF/EMT 2023
11. Brian Rondeau FF/AEMT 2023
12. John McDonald FF 2024
13. Kathleen Payne AEMT 2024
14. Robert Naughton FF 2024
15. Ian McLoughlin FF/AEMT 2025
16. Anthony Fry FF/EMT 2025

I would like to commend the members of the Bradford Fire Rescue Department for their continue commitment to the Department and to the Residents of the town. As you can see, we have some long term members, but we have also been able to recruit some very well-trained members over the past several years too. Three of our members received their Stork pin for a successful baby delivery in May.

Accomplishment for 2025. We applied to FEMA again this year for a grant to replace our aging portable radios and mobile radios. We made it to the end of the process but due to the Federal Government being shut down we didn't get any award. The plan is to apply again this year. We are very hopeful where we made it to the final stages of the grant process that maybe we will have better luck this year. We applied and was awarded a 50-50 cost share grant from State Forestry. We were able to upgrade our forestry pump on our forestry truck. We received a \$2000 grant from the State/Federal Government to make this purchase happen.

With the help of the CIP committee and the voters, we were able to upgrade our hose/nozzles and appliance for our two primary attack pieces, Engine 2 and Engine 3. This upgrade has proved very beneficial for all of our in town and mutual aid fires we have responded too. We also were able to replace a new base station radio at the station to have reliable communications to be able to communicate on our fire and rescue calls. We also received funding to purchase needed gear and gear that is PFAS free to protect health and safety of our members. We have started getting members compliant gear.

The Fire Department has been able to increase our level of staffing, certification, equipment compliance all while keeping our budget fairly flat. (2021- \$169,580, 2022-\$192,309, 2023-\$177,150, 2024- \$169,890, 2025-168,700). This year our request is \$176,120 which is about a 4% increase. Some of the increase was for radio repairs as we need to reprogram all of our radios due to a change in dispatching frequencies, repairs to the building and equipment purchases.

Our Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for 2026 is as follows. We have requested money for paving the Fire Department driveway. This has been a request for a number of years and has not been funded. With the removal of the former Masonic building and the increase in parking capacity this funding is needed to complete the planned renovation of the Fire Department area. The money will be coming from the remaining funds that was raised for the demolition of the building but wasn't required in full for the demolition.

Our other request was for repairs to our building by upgrading the material for siding our station that needs to be replaced, replacing our furnace that is the original furnace from 1980s when the station was built, and funding to start replacing our radios as we haven't been able to get awarded our FEMA grant requests.

We have always appreciated the support the voters give the Fire Department and we are again looking for your support for our budget and our CIP requests.

We have been actively participating with community events:

- January - Polar Plunge
- February - Winter Carnival
- March - Red Cross Blood Drive
- March - Free Pancake Breakfast before the candidate forum
- May - Red Cross Blood Drive
- May - Story time at the Brown Memorial Library
- June - Bradford Patriotic Event EMS Coverage Chicken BBQ, Firework Fire detail
- Appleseed meal deliveries to residents at Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas
- September - Red Cross Blood Drive
- October - Fire Prevention KRES and FD
- October - Warner Fall Foliage Festival Parade
- October - Bike to School KRES
- October - Truck or Treat and Trick or Treat at FD
- November - Red Cross Blood Drive
- December - Cookie walk and Food drive for the Bradford Food pantry

New for 2026, we have worked with 911 to start a system that will notify residents about emergency and/or non-emergency events. The system is Genasys, this is a notification system that residents can opt in or out to receive notifications/alerts.

The Fire Rescue Association's Street numbering program has been very active. Since the start of this initiative there has been around 100 signs requested. I would still like all residents to consider making sure the street address is visible from the road in all seasons. It is very tough to help you if we can't find you. Every bridge article has the form to request an address number. I would like to close out the report and the year by urging all homes to have both Carbon Monoxide and Smoke Detectors on all floors. There have been numerous deaths around the state from both CO and fires and it was determined that many didn't have detectors or working detectors. The Fire Department has detectors available for free at the station if you need assistance with obtaining a detector. You can always contact the Fire Department with any questions about fire safety at the number below.

The Fire Department is here to serve you. If there is anything we can help with please feel free to reach out to us at the department. Our dedicated fire and EMS providers are your family, friends, neighbors and they are here 24 hours to respond to any call no matter what time. Any questions please feel free to stop by the station, call or email the Chief.

Bryan Nowell
Fire Chief/EMD/Health Officer
firechief@bradfordnh.gov
603-938-2231

2025 ANNUAL REPORT TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The 2025 annual report is prepared for the Board of Directors of the Capital Area Mutual Aid Fire Compact as a summary of general activities and events occurring through December 31, 2025. It is also provided to the Town offices of the Compact's member communities for information and distribution as desired.

The Compact serves twenty-four communities in four counties. The Compact's operational area is 852 square miles with a resident population of 149,254. The Equalized Property Valuation in the area we protect is over 31.3 billion dollars. We also conduct mutual aid responses with communities beyond our member area.

The Compact provides 24/7 emergency dispatch service to member communities. The Compact's Communications Center is staffed and housed through an agreement with the City of Concord's Fire Department.

The 2025 Compact operating budget was \$ 1,728,752. Funding for all Compact operations is provided by the member communities.

During 2024 we were fortunate to secure ARPA funding to update our aging radio system. In 2025 we reviewed vendor submissions and selected a vendor for our system improvements. Equipment was ordered and began arriving during the last quarter of 2025. We look forward to completing this project during 2026 and we continue to plan and seek funding for future stages of this ongoing project. The Compact and Hazmat Team have received over 5.2 million dollars in grant funding since 1999. These funds have been used for communications improvements, training, and equipment. We continue to apply for State and Federal Grant Funds when possible. During 2025 we worked with the State to attempt to secure Federal funding through 119-21 (the One Big Beautiful Bill). If we are successful, this will fund continued communications improvements. The direct benefit that your community has realized from these grants is made possible by your participation in the regional service that we provide.

Our dispatch center is the primary contact for the NH Statewide Mobilization Plan. If a large incident occurs in the State, we organize task force and strike team level responses to the affected area. During 2025 we worked with other dispatch centers in NH on multiple activations for large brush fires due to the summer's drought conditions.

Under the leadership of Deputy Chief Newbery, the Compact continues to provide training offerings to our member communities. Programs presented during 2025 included: Assisting at a live burn in Loudon, DEA training for all Compact members, carbon monoxide class in Hillsboro, multi-agency forestry drill in Pembroke, class B foam overview and foam trailer demo at the Central NH Forest Fire Wardens Association meeting, Class B foam training in Pembroke, Loudon and Henniker, mayday training and officer development training in Bow

The Central New Hampshire Hazmat Team represents 59 Capital Area and Lakes Region communities and is ready to assist or respond to hazardous materials incidents in our combined areas. The Team responded to fourteen hazmat incidents during 2025.

Compact officers serving during 2025 were:

President, Chief Jim Morse, Henniker
Vice President, Chief Ed Raymond, Warner
Secretary, Deputy Chief Guy Newbery, Canterbury/CAMAFC
Treasurer Chief Jeff Yale, Hopkinton

All departments are encouraged to send a representative to all Compact meetings. Your input is needed. The Compact was created for the mutual benefit of member communities and active participation is necessary to ensure your needs are met.

Please visit the Compact web site at <https://capareafire.nh.gov/> for incident photos, news, scheduled events, training info, SOGs and department profiles.

A detailed activity report by town/agency is attached. I invite anyone with questions or comments to contact me. I thank all departments for their cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,
Keith Gilbert, Chief Coordinator
CAPITAL AREA FIRE COMPACT

Capital Area Mutual Aid Fire Compact 2024 vs. 2025 Incidents

Department:	Calendar 2024	Calendar 2025	% change
Allenstown Fire Department	966	1153	19%
Boscawen Fire Department	332	340	2%
Bow Fire Rescue Department	1046	1156	11%
Bradford Fire Rescue Department	249	236	-5%
Canterbury Fire Department	386	351	-9%
Chichester Fire-Rescue Department	610	557	-9%
Concord Fire Department	10282	10297	0%
Deering Fire Rescue Department	321	313	-2%
Dunbarton Fire Department	288	295	2%
Epsom Fire Rescue Department	1098	1139	4%
Henniker Fire Department	1238	1255	1%
Hillsboro Fire Department	1287	1367	6%
Hooksett Fire Department	2625	2684	2%
Hopkinton Fire Department	1380	1369	-1%
Loudon Fire Department	1026	1168	14%
Northwood Fire & Rescue Department	843	874	4%
Pembroke EMS	1154	841	-27%
Pembroke Fire Department	425	353	-17%
Penacook Rescue	1223	1243	2%
Pittsfield Fire Department	953	903	-5%
Salisbury Fire & Rescue Department	198	177	-11%
Warner Fire & Rescue Department	530	494	-7%
Washington Fire & Rescue Department	186	224	20%
Weare Fire Rescue Department	931	1055	13%
Webster Fire Department	227	214	-6%
Windsor (Covered by Hillsboro Fire Dept*)	44	40	-9%
Grand Total:	29804	30058	0.008522

*The town of Windsor is covered by Hillsboro Fire. Incident totals are included in Hillsboro's totals and are **not** included in grand total. *

Department:	Calendar 2024	Calendar 2025	% change
Capital Area Mutual Aid Fire Compact	189	211	12%
Central NH Hazmat Team	21	14	-33%

BRADFORD HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Not sure where to begin with all the updates so here goes. 2025 Town Meeting found the Highway Department in a bit of a situation with two pieces of equipment requiring costly repairs or to replace them. Long story short, at town meeting after my presentation, the voters decided to replace both pieces of equipment.

The 2026 Freightliner with an all-purpose body, plow and wing set up was ordered on March 14 and it arrived in April, which is an unheard of turn around. Reason for this was the truck and all the components were in stock at HP Fairfield in Contoocook, NH where the truck was put together. The old 2007 truck was sold and the new truck is working great.

The New CAT Backhoe which replaced the 2011 John Deere backhoe came in May and was put into service and is working out great as well. Thanks to the voters who made this possible, very much appreciated.

In 2025, the Highway Department did a road improvement project on Fairgrounds Rd continuing from Joyce Teele's up to Box Corner, approximately 3800'. We approached the land owner and explained our thoughts and a mutual agreement allowed us to move forward with this project. In the end, the road would be moved inward to get away from the drop off towards the brook and also make visibility a lot better while allowing the sun to help with melting snow / ice cover on the road. The Highway crew performed the work with our equipment while we did rent an excavator to help with tasks larger than what we were equipped to handle. We ended up cutting trees, stumping and removing pretty big rocks and a section of the bank approx. 1000' then replacing four culverts in this section. Moving onto the next section, we replaced three more culverts while pulling rocks from the road all through the full section of rework. After adding material, placing under drain where needed, getting the road prepped for Pike, our low bidder, to come in and grind, (reclaim), layout, compact and prep for paving. Pike arrived in October to do the paving which included 1.5" of overlay (top coat) on the 2024 paving done on Fairgrounds Rd with 2.5" of base on the new reworked section of Fairgrounds Rd, approx. 3800' up to Box Corner bridge. Included in the overlay was West Rd about a mile along. With all of the area I just mentioned, we rented a shoulder machine to place material on the edge of the road at all these locations.

At the transfer pit we hired a company to come in and break up the big rocks we had accumulated. We incorporated into the crushing to get the 1.5" crushed gravel while using material from the transfer pit, ending up with approx. 3000 yards of gravel for our dirt roads and projects. The plan is to add to the pile again this year to keep ahead of the curve. We had the roads swept and some of the roadsides mowed which will be a yearly event doing approx. a third of the town each year. We sprayed (washed) the bridges cleaning the dirt off then hired a contractor in town to help us with mowing and trimming brush around all the bridges and then sprayed the concrete with a preservative to help protect from deterioration the town's 18 bridges. We replaced posts and guard rail on Rowe Mtn Rd at two locations. Ditched County Rd, Fairgrounds Rd, Old Fairgrounds Rd, and West Rd.

Culverts were replaced on Fortune Rd, Cheney Hill Rd, East Washington Rd, and Dunfield Rd. Added gravel to Johnson Hill Rd, Woodview Heights, Old Fairgrounds Rd, County Rd and part of Fortune Rd. We of course plowed and treated the roads as needed, did our normal road grading, added calcium in the spring to the dry roads, hoping to help keep the moisture in for dust control and helps with compaction.

I'm sure I have forgotten something but this will help you know what we have been up to over the past year.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bradford Highway Department

BRADFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

In 2025, the Bradford Police Department covered 4,936 calls for service, up from 4,275 in 2024. Outside of the various calls officers are dispatched to, calls for service include, but are not limited to, office walk ins/citizen assists, mutual aid request, after hours business checks, house check requests, motor vehicle stops, community policing events, etc.

Grants:

This year Bradford PD was awarded a grant for \$8,200 from the New Hampshire Office of Highway Safety. The grant was approved by the State of New Hampshire at the tail end of 2024, making the funds anticipated revenue and therefore having to be included in the 2025 department budget. This budgeted amount was offset by matching revenue in a separate account. The grant allowed us to increase our presence on the roads in town to enforce laws regarding speed, hands free driving and driving under the influence. We were also able to monitor school and business parking lots at busy times to educate motorists about child safety belt laws. While we do not receive any portion of ticket/citation money when issued to violations, we do benefit in the fact that by being visible and enforcing the laws of the road thru warnings and citations, we can make our roads safer for those who live in or travel thru our town.

We applied for and received a \$750 Level III+ Rifle Shield by RTS Tactical thru the US Deputy Sheriff's Association.

We applied for and received a scholarship in the amount of \$795 to cover the cost of the tuition for Sgt. Drewniak to attend the FBI – LEEDA Command Level Institute training.

Training:

Sgt. Drewniak attended the second of a trilogy of leadership classes put on by the FBI – Law Enforcement Executive Development Association.

Sgt. Drewniak and Officer Hubbard attended the REID School of Interview and Interrogation. This class is instrumental in not only conducting interviews during criminal investigations that comply with the guidelines established by the courts but also to assess the credibility of the information provided by a victim, witness, or subject during the investigative interview.

The entire department was enrolled in a new online training platform called “Path of the Guardian” designed by Attorney Eric Daigle who is an expert in police misconduct litigation. The trainings are released weekly in 10-minute videos that are focused on practical, real-world issues. This online platform allows officers to complete their annual in service training requirements set by the academy while on duty and remaining in town. This is an effective way to reduce wear and tear on our vehicles and maximize our time and training while being fiscally responsible.

Community Policing:

The Bradford Police Department once again worked alongside The Appleseed Restaurant to provide over 400 meals around Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas to local families to enjoy on

the holiday. Thank you to the Fenton Family, Appleseed Staff and all private donors that enable this act of generosity to continue.

We also continued to call the elderly, those living alone, those with special needs/medical conditions, etc., in times of inclement weather. If you would like to sign up to be on the list, or want to recommend someone be added, please just call the station, and provide the officer on duty with a name, address, and phone number, as well as any pertinent information about the home or person.

Officer Hubbard once again took part in the New Years Day polar plunge put on by Bradford Parks & Recreation. He completed another year of teaching D.A.R.E. at the Bradford Elementary School and attended a multi-day environmental camp at Camp Coniston with the 5th grade students from the Kearsarge District.

Sgt. Drewniak organized and facilitated the “Stuff a Cruiser” Thanksgiving food drive to benefit the Bradford food pantry. In total, over 216 lbs. of food and hygiene products were delivered to the good pantry.

Commendations:

Officer Jacob Hubbard was the recipient of the McDonald’s Community Policing Award. The McDonald’s Community Policing Award is a recognition presented to officers who have made outstanding contributions to their communities. The formal award presentation was held on October 21st at the Warner location.

Officer Jacob Hubbard, Sgt. Glen Drewniak and Chief Edward Shaughnessy were the recipients of the Medal of Honor presented by the 100 Club of New Hampshire. The Medal of Honor is the State’s highest law enforcement award and is presented to a law enforcement officer who has performed an act or acts of conspicuous bravery or heroism that is life-threatening and requires action above and beyond the normal demands of police service while in actual confrontation with an armed and/or dangerous adversary.

As always, please reach out if we can be of assistance to you in any way. I encourage all to please share with me any positive or negative dealings you have with one of our officers. I am always open to discussing any interactions so that we can talk it through and make changes if need be.

Lastly, I want to thank all the residents of Bradford for your continued support. It was loud and clear from all in attendance at the 2025 town meeting the level of service you wanted and expected from our department and I am pleased to again say that every hour of every day was covered by an officer from our department. This allows us to always know what is happening in town, enables you to always see a familiar face that is invested in this town and lastly, allows us to be out and about and proactive in deterring crime or quick to respond for any emergency.

Respectively Submitted,

Chief Edward Shaughnessy

2025 Department Roster

Edward Shaughnessy – Chief of Police

Neil Flanagan – Sergeant

Glen Drewniak – Sergeant

Jacob Hubbard – Officer

Carolyn Valiquet – PT Officer and Administrative Assistant

Kevin Faria – PT Officer

Henry Thomas – PT Officer

William Graham – PT Officer

BRADFORD TRANSFER AND RECYCLING CENTER

Thank you to all Bradford residents that faithfully bring their recyclables in and place them in the clearly marked container. It enables us to continue our ever-expanding recycling program! It also makes the transfer station run efficiently. Our goal this year is to continue to do more landscaping and to maintain the buildings. We appreciate the positive comments from towns people regarding the way that Ken and I manage the transfer station. Thankyou in advance to our community for its growing enthusiasm and contributions that will make 2026 the transfer stations most successful year yet!

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Kilnapp, Manager



Northeast Resource Recovery Association

"Partnering to make recycling strong through economic and environmentally sound solutions"

BRADFORD, NH

CONGRATULATIONS FOR BEING SUCH ACTIVE RECYCLERS!

Recycling isn't just good for your wallet, it's great for the environment, saving energy and resources. From October 2023 through September 2024, the Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA) helped your community move the recyclable materials listed below to market to be processed into raw materials, ready to be remanufactured into new products! NRRA – **your recycling nonprofit** – partners with communities like yours to make recycling strong through economic and environmentally sound solutions.

RECYCLABLE MATERIAL	2024 RECYCLED AMOUNTS	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT! Here is just one benefit of recycling materials, rather than manufacturing new products from virgin resources.
ALUMINUM	9,140 LBS.	You saved enough energy to run a TV for 530,120 hours!
PLASTICS	6,246 LBS.	You saved 328 gallons of gasoline!
GLASS	92,400 LBS.	You saved about 553 trash bags from ending up in a landfill!
SCRAP METAL	115,375 LBS.	You saved 171,909 pounds of iron ore!

AVOIDED EMISSIONS



Recycling uses much less energy than making products from virgin resources, and using less energy means fewer greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere.

By recycling the materials above, you avoided about **684,870** lbs. of carbon dioxide emissions. This is equivalent to removing **69** passenger cars from the road for an entire year!

**The above data was calculated using the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Waste Reduction Model (WARM).
2101 Dover Road, Epsom, NH 03234 | 603.736.4401 | info@nrrarecycles.org | www.nrrarecycles.org | [f /NRRARecycles](https://www.facebook.com/NRRARecycles)

Thank you for your NH Recycles membership. We appreciate your partnership and your support of our mission to make recycling strong through economically and environmentally sound solutions.

NH Recycles is one of only a handful of nonprofits in the country that enables communities to manage their own recycling programs through cooperative marketing and purchasing programs, technical assistance, and education.

Thanks to the continued dedication of members like you, NH Recycles helped communities manage and recycle more than 76.9 million pounds of material last year!

Attached is your Environmental Impact Report, highlighting the positive impacts generated from your community's recycling efforts over the past year. This report is based on the NH Recycles fiscal year (October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025), which allows us to share it with you as early as possible – often in time for your annual Town Report. Many municipal members also share this report with residents, at Town Meeting, and with Select Boards or City Councils. We may highlight your success on our website or social media; if you prefer that we do not share your report publicly, please email us at: info@nhrecycles.org.

We also invite you to join us at upcoming programs and events, including our **2026 Recycling Conference & Expo**, which will be held as a one-day event on **Monday, May 18th** at the Grappone Conference Center in Concord, NH. The conference features timely topics, best practices, and networking to help municipalities operate environmentally and financially sustainable recycling programs. **We hope to see you there!**

You can learn more about the conference, upcoming events, and NH Recycles' full Environmental Impact Report at www.nhrecycles.org.

From all of us at NH Recycles, thank you for your continued membership and dedication to strong recycling programs!



DENISE LUSSIER

Office Assistant

Phone: (603) 736-4401 x110

Email: dlussier@nhrecycles.org

NH Recycles

2101 Dover Road

Epsom, NH 03234

www.NHrecycles.org



Our name has changed!

Previously known as Northeast

Resource Recovery Association (NRRRA)

BUILDING INSPECTOR

This past year has been incredibly busy very similar to the previous year. There were 94 permits issued in 2024 for a total of \$5,246,079.00 in construction value and \$39,009.83 in fees compared to 83 permits issued in 2025 for a construction value of \$6,028,432.00 and fees of \$46,448.80.

Totals:

83 Permits

- 5 Homes
- 15 Barns/sheds/garages
- 5 Additions
- 5 Remodel/Reno
- 9 Heat, elec./gas
- 27 Electrical, incl. Generators and Solar Arrays
- 8 Porches/decks
- 9 misc. Repairs
- 10 Renewals for 7 projects (not included in new permit numbers)

Walter Royal
Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer

BROWN MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The Brown Memorial Library (BML) offers Bradford residents a range of benefits, including access to resources, computers and the internet, as well as various programs and services. The library isn't just a place that circulates books, it's a place to gather, connect, and socialize. Our knowledgeable staff members are here to help the patrons in many ways. Assisting with computer issues, accessing our online catalog, recommending books/movies, helping with programs, and providing resources and referrals. We hope our staff help make the library a warm and inviting place to come!

Town funding and generous donations enabled us to add 826 new books and 46 DVD's to our collection. Hard media such as audio CD's and DVD's are harder to find as most media like music, movies, television are available for streaming. I have considered adding services such as Kanopy or Hoopla for patrons but our budget would need to be increased to afford this streaming service. The idea will be discussed further in 2026. We provided access this year to digital audio-books and E books through the NH Downloadable Book Consortium known as Overdrive/Libby. This year, those who used this service checked out 2,621 audio-books and 822 E books, both areas are up considerably since last year. The Overdrive/Libby service is a valuable service to our patrons. Funding for this service is helped through ILMS (Institute of Library and Museum Sciences), which was defunded in March 2025. A federal court ruling halted the ILMS dismantling in April 2025, but it remains excluded from the Federal FY2026 budget. We don't know the future of this service, but we do know it's important for small, rural libraries!

This year the library offered 37 programs. Programming is incredibly important to a community in that it allows people to learn, be entertained, and to gather in one communal location. The Librarians, with the help of Friends of the Brown Memorial Library, and many volunteers offered a variety of programming this year to our rural library. Here are some of the programs we offered this year: True Crime in NH, Movie Mavericks, Fiber Arts Circle, Chess Club, crafts with Michelle Fournier, Frostianna with Garry Kalajian, Wildlife Encounters, C3Brix (legos), Snow Ball dance, and Murder Mystery in the Library. For more information on the types of programs our library offers, please check out our website or Facebook page. Our annual programs include: Easter Egg hunt (with help from the fourth graders at KRES Bradford who help stuff all the eggs), Trick or Treat at Halloween (where kids get to pick out a free book and get to come show off their costumes), Summer Reading Program (which offers prize incentives, programs, and fun), and of course, we can't forget a visit from Santa (Santa Tom, returned with no issues with traffic, and incredibly great responses for "I want a puppy" or "a new IPAD"—not in Santa's bailiwick).

We continue to provide weekly story time to the children of Bradford. Laurie Buchar, Children's Librarian, who is patient and enthusiastic, provides an environment that is gentle, accommodating, and fun. Storytime is a benefit for both kids and adults as it allows for personal connection and a place to gather in the cozy atmosphere of the children's room.

Groups that meet regularly are the Adult Book Group that meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month. The books range in topic and style. We always welcome new members! Fiber Arts Circle meets once a month from Fall through end of Spring. A laid back environment provides space for people to work on individual projects and socialize together. Chess Club meets monthly. I'm honestly surprised how many kids are learning or know how to play chess. It's a fun, lively bunch, ages K-5 are welcome.

Our annual Plant & Book Sales for Memorial Day and the Independence Day Celebration continue to be our biggest fund raiser. Donations from these sales provide additional funding to help have money for programming or other library needs. A huge thank you to the volunteers that helped with these sales; Janet Sillars, Brooks McCandlish, Patty Furness, Friends of BML, and the BML Trustees.

Our Friends of BML (FOBML) group are full of new faces and energy! They put on a Murder Mystery event which proved to be so much fun for both actors and observers. People came dressed in costume and ready to solve a murder in the library. FOBML raised a little over a thousand dollars at this event. Our community can look forward to another Murder Mystery event in the fall of 2026. FOBML also provided activities and games at the fourth of July celebration and Sweet Beets' Community Fair. A Snow Ball dance was held in the upstairs of the Town Hall where there was dancing, a photobooth, and teen merriment! A big thank you to this group and all their volunteer efforts.

We encourage patrons to use our library passes (Mt Kearsarge Indian Museum, NH Telephone Museum, NH Park passes, and The Fells). This year we offered a new program which allows for families or individuals to go to any museum or art event and be reimbursed up to forty dollars. After attending your chosen museum, return to the library with your receipt, and be reimbursed up to forty dollars for their expenditure. We hope to see more patrons use this service next year.

This year the Trustees have decided to buy new carpeting for the library. Laura Beaton received four quotes and various carpet samples from local flooring companies. We picked a nice dark blue, and the project will take place mid-spring of 2026, which will close the library for time frame of project which looks to be about two weeks. Our Library of Things has been a fun new addition with the most popular item being the metal detector. For those of you unfamiliar with this concept, this library allows people to check out items they might not want to purchase for a one time use such as a bread maker, ukulele, outdoor Connect Four, baking supplies, laminator, etc.

Our overall goal at BML is to provide the community with an atmosphere of acceptance and welcome, learning, connection, and community for the people of Bradford. Our staff all offer different perspectives, personalities, and skills. We all love reading and hope this enthusiasm bleeds over to our patrons. The library is a great place to work not only because I enjoy the staff, but the patrons who bring their own stories, perspectives, suggestions, and life into this library. Thank you for sharing and making this library a wonderful community spot.

Library Staff

Joy Baker / Custodian
Ellen Barselle / Library Director
Ellie Brown / Assistant Librarian
Laurie Buchar / Children's Librarian
Patty Furness / Page
Deb Gregory / Page
Melissa Mitchell / Page

Trustees

Caitlin Banaszak
Laura Beaton
Jason Grey / Treasurer
Jesse Griffin
Mary Keegan-Dayton / Secretary
Devin Pendleton / President
Maria Storm

Friends of BML

Laurie Buchar
Chelsea Juric
Colleen Murphy / Treasurer
Anna Phelan
Kaily Roukey / Secretary
Andrea Stocker / President

THE BRADFORD COMMUNITY GARDENERS 2025

The Bradford Community Gardeners is a group of town residents dedicated to enhancing the beauty of our town by working on planters and gardens in the downtown area. From the first May daffodils blooming in the traffic triangles and along the Lake Todd Rail Trail, to the greens in planters for the holidays, we hope that the beauty of flowers contributes to town pride, positive spirit, and the health of the environment. We are always looking for others who might want to join us in this labor of love. If you are a beginning gardener, it is a great way to learn!

Donations of plants and other needed materials come from our group, town residents, and local businesses. There is no cost to the town budget. We thank the generous folks who donated Five Acres gift cards for our use around town. We are so grateful for this support. And as always, we are open to your suggestions! - Reach out to Susan Moss, Kim Lowe and Lois Kilnapp.

The severe drought in the summer of 2025 was a challenge. But we forged through it:

- **Filled planters around town with colorful flowers and watered:** At the rail trail benches at Lake Todd, Town Hall, BHS, BACC, and West Main St. Bridge near the fire department. (Susan, Maria, Kim)
- **The 103/114 traffic triangles:** Lois continued this huge task of planting and watering colorful perennials and annuals to make this a bright spot along the highway.
- **Tall Pines parking area on 103:** Kim transformed this forlorn strip with many new plants and LOTS of watering from the portable rain barrel in her truck.
- **Clear overgrown invasives from the west side property line at Town Hall:** Two volunteer workdays held in the spring to clear brush and put down cardboard and woodchips as a barrier to regrowth. Many thanks to the Highway Dept too! We are ready to plant new bushes and small trees in 2026. Stay tuned on this.
- **Daily watering the of newly planted grass seed at town hall July-September:** This was a major effort, because of the drought, taken on by Susan, Kim, Patty & Laurie. The highway and fire departments kept a portable water tank filled, and a portable pump was offered by a neighbor. Grass still struggled. Better in 2026 we hope!
- **Assisted the Bradford Historical Society** with planning to beautify their streetside landscape. Kim and Susan led a volunteer workday in October that accomplished many tasks.
- **Started a new perennial bed at the Fire House.** To be continued in 2026.

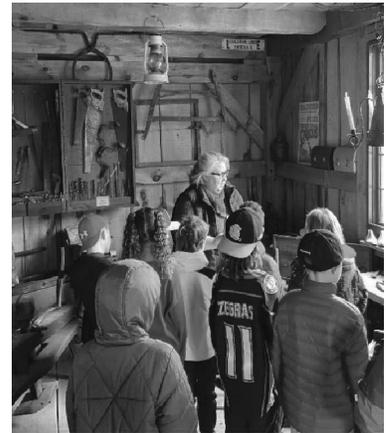


Volunteers in 2025: Buddy Allen, George Beaton, Laura Beaton, Bindy, Sandra and Steve Bravo, Laurie Buchar, Linda Cansler, Patty Furness, Matt Gerald, Claire James, Mary Keegan-Dayton, Lois Kilnapp, Kim Lowe, Susan Moss, Don Moss, Felicia Starr, Maria Storm, Libby Curtis Webb, Tracey Quigley. **Special thanks to:** Maureen Brandon at Town Hall, Steve Hall and the Highway Department, Bryan Nowell and the Fire Department, and neighbor Andrew Bickford for a whole range of willing assistance.

BRADFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2025

Bradford Historical Society (BHS) was officially formed in 1978. Growing from the original History Committee appointed by the Board of Selectmen in 1961. Their purpose was to gather and preserve pictures and memorabilia of the town. BHS continues that mission, seeking to collect, preserve, and display information and artifacts from Bradford's past and present, continually adding to the historical record of Bradford for future generations. The Society strives to promote a better understanding of our town's history through research, preservation, and education. BHS is a (501)(c)(3) nonprofit all-volunteer organization supported with donations, memberships, and grants. BHS owns and maintains the Old Post Office building, Blacksmith's Forge & woodshop, Corn Crib, and the Tin Shop, all located on East Main St.

2025 was a good year for the Bradford Historical Society. We started in April with a visit from the 2nd graders at Kearsarge Elementary School. Students learned about local history in both Bradford and Newbury and experienced hands-on work using vintage tools. We also provided some homeschool tours throughout the year.



On June 27th we celebrated the 200th anniversary of The Marquis de Lafayette's visit to Bradford in 1825 during the final months of his farewell tour of the 24 States. Organized by Dorethea Jensen from the American Friends of Lafayette, Lafayette and his entourage arrived at the original location of his farewell speech across the street from the Tin Shop in Lafayette Square. The large crowd listened to speeches followed by refreshments and tours of the buildings provided by BHS.

The annual July 4th fireworks celebration, organized by Parks and Rec, took place on the Historical Society grounds on East Main Street on June 28th. There were food trucks and a lot of dancing with Nick's Other Band playing old rock n roll hits. The old post office was open to visitors, which elicited a lot of interest. The fireworks were spectacular and everyone had a great time celebrating.



On August 16th we organized and hosted the 3rd annual classic/vintage car show fund raiser. It was a spectacular success as we doubled the number of entrants and more than doubled our fundraising efforts from our first year. The Bradford Fire Department volunteers set up to grill hamburgers and hot dogs and we had a vintage functioning 1960s ice cream truck with vintage prices, both for the first time. The money raised went toward the repairs and painting of the Tin Shop. Matt Gerald worked on the grounds, improving the water drainage around the Tin Shop and put in a crushed gravel walking path connecting all of the buildings on the property. This made access much better and really improved our site. In early October, Susan Moss and Kim Lowe volunteered to use their gardening skills to improve the exterior landscaping along the front of the Tin Shop. Old invasive plants were removed, some were transplanted and new plants were put in. By the time April and May arrive, we should see the fruits of the hard work that was put into this project. Once again, thank you Susan and Kim and all of the volunteers who put in the time to make BHS look its best!

In the summer of 2025, we had the blacksmith shop repainted and stained by John Belanger. He also painted the old Post Office finishing it in late 2024. The last building needing not only painting but repairs, was the Tin Shop and it needed a lot of attention. We hired William Tohill for this job. It ended up being more work than expected but he stayed with it and finished it in late October. Thank you to John and William for your dedication, hard work and attention to detail. The buildings look great and well maintained now.



Our President, Harry Wright decided to step down in mid-year and trustee Buddy Allen volunteered to be interim co-president along with Secretary Linda Cansler until October board elections. Buddy Allen was voted in as our new president in October for the next 2 years beginning January 1st 2026.

BRADFORD HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION 2025

Bradford Center is where your hometown's history began in 1787. As was customary at the time, meetinghouses were constructed at the geographical center of each town so that all folks had equal access. It wasn't until the 1850s that most commerce in Bradford moved down to the valley to be near to the new railroad line.

Bradford Center has so many stories to tell and preserve. The Bradford Historic Commission was formed to protect this unique collection of landmarks located at Map 6, Lot 117, commonly known as Bradford Center and located at 24 Rowe Mountain Road. This tract includes the Burying Ground, Town Green, Town Pound, Center Schoolhouse, and Center Meetinghouse. The Meetinghouse is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and there is a NH historical marker on premises. The Commission is comprised of a board of members from many organizations in town. It serves to field any changes that are proposed and to uphold the following mission:

- *To preserve a district in the Town of Bradford that reflects elements of its cultural, social, economic, political and architectural history.
- *To conserve aesthetic values in the District
- *To foster civic pride
- *To strengthen local economy through tourism
- *To promote the education, pleasure, and welfare of Bradford's citizens.

The town maintains the grounds but the buildings at Bradford Center are under the auspices of the Friends of the Bradford Center Meetinghouse, a volunteer group that fundraises through concerts, rentals, and events to keep the buildings in good repair. Visit their website at www.bradford.center for more information.

Representatives for 2025:

Select Board – Marlene Freyler

Cemetery Commission- Sheila Denancourt

Bradford Historical Society – George Cilley

Conservation Commission – Seth Benowitz

Bradford Center Meetinghouse – Laurie Buchar

**FRIENDS OF THE BRADFORD CENTER MEETINGHOUSE
AND CENTER SCHOOL
2025**

The FBCM is a group of volunteers dedicated to preserving the vital landmark of Bradford Center and retaining its historic integrity while keeping the buildings accessible to the public for entertainment, enlightenment, and education.

The Meetinghouse is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and has been used for religious, political, social and cultural events for almost 200 years. It is now a non-denominational space open to all. The adjacent Center School is the oldest and longest-running school in town, authentically restored to its historic purpose. Both buildings are flanked by the original stone Town Pound and Center Burying Ground. All of this is situated on the only official Town Green in Bradford, a lovely place to picnic and absorb the past. This year's event schedule included the annual music series, school field trips and the ever-popular Christmas Eve pageant.

The 2025 music series featured the Kearsarge Community Band performing patriotic and show tunes for the Annual Ice Cream Social. Local favorites, The DoBros, drew a lively crowd for an evening of rock and roll on the Green. Popular cover songs were performed by the talented North River Band. And our classical evening featured astonishing vocals provided by the 4th Wall Ensemble through Avaloch Music Institute. You can expect a similarly varied line-up in 2026. Watch for updates in the spring and join the fun.

The Friends of the Bradford Center Meetinghouse are completely committed to preserving not only the history but also the aesthetic of the Center District. Thanks to LeBlanc Painters for our crisply painted Schoolhouse and to Sugar River Painting our newly appointed steeple. Thanks again to Merrimack County Customs for the sturdy railings that help all gain access to these buildings. Thanks to Rockborn Electric for keeping us current! And special thanks to Wet Basement Solutions for their generous ongoing maintenance.

Neither the Meetinghouse nor the Center School are supported by tax dollars. All repairs, operating costs and events are funded by volunteer effort and generous donations. We honestly couldn't protect these buildings without your help. Both the Meetinghouse and Schoolhouse are now welcome sites for private rentals. See our website for details.

Thanks to all the loyal sponsors who made our summer music series possible, as well as the generous patrons who donate to our general and board-designated funds each year. Perhaps, most of all, thanks to all of you who come out to attend our events. There is no greater reward for our efforts than to see townspeople enjoying this iconic area.

We are always looking for new people to share ideas and join in. Feel free to contact us and follow us on Face Book. And if you are interested in your town's history, check out our website. Bradford Center is where it all began.



Website: Bradford.Center
Face Book: Bradford Center Meetinghouse
Postal: PO Box 194, Bradford, NH 03221
Location: 24 Rowe Mountain Road, Bradford, NH
Email: 603bcm@gmail.com
Phone/text: 603-748-5145

Board members:
Laurie Buchar, chair
Stephen Bravo, treasurer
Susan Moss, secretary
Laura Beaton
Leah Cummings
Christian Kirsch
Carey Rodd

BRADFORD SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

The Bradford Town Scholarship Committee is pleased to congratulate three KRHS graduates as 2025 Bradford Town Scholarship recipients.

Braden Hurley is attending Keene State College and studies Construction Management. He has given back to his community by coaching local children in lacrosse, swimming, and skiing. Braden hopes to apply what he learns in college and one day design and build his own home on family land in Bradford. “I hope to continue to make my contribution to our land in a way my grandfather would have been proud of.”

Carter DeCurtis is attending the College of Coastal Georgia and studies Biology, Anatomy/Physiology, or Health Sciences. He enjoys living in the town of Bradford with such a welcoming and relaxed natural environment. Carter has been part of the Student Council and National Honor Society at KRHS. His Classics teacher at KRHS admires Carter for his intellectual curiosity and his commitment to the success of his whole class.

Noah Whipple attends the University of New England. Noah attended Bradford Elementary and is grateful to have participated in youth sports here. He has mentored fifth graders, volunteered at Track Meets and coached youth sports. A teacher in Bradford taught him that giving was more important than receiving. “I could not be more thankful to the Bradford community for supporting me throughout all these years and I hope I can give back to them as much as possible.”

The Town of Bradford Scholarship Fund has provided support for Bradford students for over six decades. The Town of Bradford Scholarship Committee continues to seek contributions to support scholarships to Bradford residents seeking higher education or professional training. Thank you to all individual donors and local businesses who support higher education and professional training. Please show your support by contributing to the Scholarship Fund. Contributions made payable to: Bradford Town Scholarship Expendable Trust Fund, P.O. Box 436, Bradford, NH 03221.

Bradford Town Scholarship Committee

Devin Pendleton, Mary Chris Duncan, and Mary Keegan-Dayton



BRADFORD NEWBURY SUTTON YOUTH SPORTS

Bradford Newbury Sutton Youth Sports (BNSYS) had another successful year thanks to the continued support from the Towns of Bradford, Newbury, and Sutton. BNSYS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to provide quality sports opportunities to area youths while reinforcing the concepts of sportsmanship and team participation.

BNSYS owns and maintains the structures and facilities at Warren Brook Park, located at 164 Old Warner Road in Bradford. Our revenue is derived from program registration fees, individual and local business donations, fundraising events, and appropriations from the three towns that we serve. Our annual expenses include, but are not limited to, utility bills, liability insurance, athlete medical insurance, team sports equipment, league fees, uniforms, field/building maintenance, toilet rentals, and providing need-based scholarships for athletes.

FACILITIES

If you attended any events at Warren Brook Park or just drove by, you probably noticed the fantastic condition of our fields, the new dugouts constructed on Mayo Field and Raymond Field, and the two electronic scoreboards. Landscape maintenance was done this year by Willette's Forest and Property Maintenance as well as volunteer efforts by several Board Members and volunteers. Purchase of the scoreboards was funded by a generous donation by Legacy Mechanical as well as the proceeds of the fall raffle. Under the guidance of our fundraising director Betsy Ahearn, the annual golf tournament was again a booming success and our biggest fundraiser of the year. Spring and fall raffles were held during baseball/softball season and soccer season, and the proceeds were put towards field improvements, sports equipment, and the scoreboard purchase. Warren Brook Park hosted several league tournaments and jamborees in 2025, including the Kearsarge Valley Cal Ripken Majors Playoff Tournament and the CAS soccer camp in June.

REGISTRATIONS

2025 was a record-setting year for BNSYS athlete registrations, with a total of 501 registrations for the various sports that were offered in 2025. The year started off with the 2nd year of the BNSYS Ski and Ride program at Pats Peak in February and March with 32 participants, Softball/Baseball/T-Ball in the spring with 162 participants, CAS soccer camp in June with 127 participants, a free summer drop-in softball program in July and August with 19 participants, and soccer season in August to October with 161 participants. Of those 501 registrations, 248 athletes (50%) were from Bradford, 132 athletes (26%) were from Newbury, 49 athletes (10%) were from Sutton, and 72 athletes (14%) were from other towns.

Registrations for spring softball/baseball/t-ball and fall soccer were again record-setting in 2025, with more athletes participating in these BNS sports programs than any prior year. CAS Soccer Camp was a success again this year, also with record number of registrations. The CAS soccer coaches are a group of young collegiate athletes from the US and Europe who came to BNSYS for a week in June and put on a full schedule of drills and scrimmages to help develop our athletes.

On October 8th BNSYS held our 25th Annual Golf Tournament at the Country Club of New Hampshire. We had 27 foursomes participate in the tournament and raised a large amount of money to support our facilities, scholarships, and athletes. Thank you to everyone that participated and a huge thank you to all of our sponsors and donors. Special thanks to our Albatross sponsors: Colby Insurance, Crown Point

Cabinetry, Legacy Mechanical, Lumber Barn, and Naughton and Son Recycling; and to our Eagle sponsors: Innovative Timber Harvesting LLC, Hilb Group, Old Hampshire Designs, and Flying Goose Brew Pub.

SCHOLARSHIPS

BNSYS awarded \$5,665 in scholarships to cover the cost of athletes registrations in 2025. Of this total, \$1,500 in scholarships were awarded for the Ski and Ride Program, \$2,150 in scholarships were awarded for spring softball/baseball/t-ball, and \$2,005 in scholarships were awarded for fall soccer. All scholarships are need-based without any documentation of need required and used to cover the cost of participant registration for BNSYS programs. Funding for these scholarships is provided by sponsorships from local businesses and anonymous donations to BNSYS.

VOLUNTEERS

The success of our program would not be possible without the help of countless volunteers. Thank you to everyone who continues to volunteer and support BNSYS. From the Board to the Directors to the volunteers who coach the sports teams, run the snack shack, line the fields, and maintain our buildings and facilities, we are able to offer high-quality sports for our kids because of all of you.

If you would like to get involved with BNSYS, look at what we have to offer, or think you can help in other ways, please visit our website at bnsyouthsports.org or contact one of the members of the BNSYS Board of Directors. We appreciate parents getting involved to help make BNSYS the best youth sports program possible.

There were a few changes to the BNSYS Board in 2025, including Melissa Carter joining as Softball Director to replace Stephanie Perkins who departed after serving as Fundraising Director and then Softball Director, and Alycia DiMuccio who departed after serving as Soccer Co-Director. Mike Howley continued to serve as President, Betsy Ahearn as Vice-President, Michelle Marzelli as Secretary, Christine Parsils as Treasurer, Mike Ahearn as Equipment Director, Jason Carter as Field Director, John Dean as Baseball Director, Vinny Marzelli as Soccer Co-Director, and Kayle Lambert as Merchandising Director. Mike Howley also served as Ski Program director and Betsy Ahearn also served as Fundraising Director. BNSYS appreciates the enormous amounts of time and efforts that all current and past Board of Directors volunteers have committed to furthering BNSYS' mission to provide quality sports to our children.

December 2025

Executive Board

President: Mike Howley
Vice President: Betsy Ahearn
Treasurer: Christine Parsils
Secretary: Michelle Marzelli

Board of Directors

Field Director: Jason Carter
Merchandising Director: Kayle Lambert
Equipment Director: Mike Ahearn
Baseball Director: John Dean
Softball Director: Melissa Carter
Soccer Co-Directors: Vinny Marzelli & Vacant
Fundraising Director: Betsy Ahearn
Ski Program Director: Mike Howley

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Howley
BNSYS Board President
Bradford Newbury Sutton Youth Sports
PO Box 291
Bradford, NH 03221

bnsyouthsports.org



BNSYS 12U Softball, photo by Mike Howley



BNSYS Minors Baseball, photo by Mike Howley



BNSYS Summer Soccer Camp, photo by Betsy Ahearn



BNSYS Fall Soccer Coaches, photo by Mike Howley



BNSYS Pre-K Soccer, photo by Mike Howley

LAKE MASSASECUM IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION, INC. (LMIA)

As 2025 comes to a close, I am pleased to report that the overall health of Lake Massasecum remains strong, and the lake continues to be a vibrant and valued resource for the Town of Bradford. The Lake Massasecum Improvement Association remains diligent in monitoring and protecting the health of this important natural asset.

The Lake Host Program—funded primarily by the Town of Bradford—continues to serve as the frontline defense against aquatic invasive species, helping prevent new invasives from entering Lake Massasecum and reducing the risk of spreading variable milfoil to other waterways. During the 2025 season, three full-time Lake Hosts conducted 1,698 courtesy inspections of boats entering and leaving the lake.

The lake community experienced the loss of two long-time Bradford residents and dedicated advocates for Lake Massasecum in 2025. Richard Keller is credited with first identifying variable milfoil in the lake in 1996 and was an early champion for its mitigation. Tom Marshall served in numerous leadership roles within LMIA and received the Chief Massasecum Award multiple times in recognition of his dedication to lake stewardship.

Under the leadership of veteran milfoil team leader Mike Davidson, LMIA's weed watching team surveyed all previously known sites, many multiple times throughout the summer. Unfortunately, more than 150 gallons of variable milfoil were found and removed, including one significant newly identified site—this is the largest annual harvest since herbicide treatments were completed in 2014. We believe this reflects setbacks from the high-water years of 2021 and 2023, when harvesting was largely not possible. Further assessment in June & July of 2026 will help determine whether this represents a longer-term trend. To support continued milfoil management, LMIA has requested funding from the Town of Bradford and applied for a grant from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services to engage professional divers.

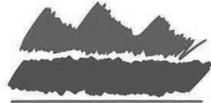
The health of Lake Massasecum supports diverse wildlife and provides valued recreational opportunities for residents and visitors. Fishing, swimming, boating, and appreciation of the surrounding natural beauty underscore the shared responsibility we all have to protect and preserve the lake.

LMIA's mission—to promote the responsible and sustainable enjoyment of the lake by all users and to educate the public on issues affecting lake health—remained central to our work in 2025 and will continue to guide our efforts in the years ahead. LMIA extends its sincere thanks to the Town of Bradford, NH LAKES, the Lake Host staff, the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, campground staff, and our dedicated volunteers for their continued partnership and support.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Dexter

President, Lake Massasecum Improvement Association Inc.



Lake Sunapee Region VNA & Hospice

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the entire team at Lake Sunapee Region VNA & Hospice (LSRVNA), thank you for the opportunity and privilege to provide home health, hospice, palliative care, personal care, clinics, support groups and more. On any given day in 2025, we cared for an average of 400 clients living in 25+ local towns. We remain proud of our ability to impact our community and so many lives!

Over the past year our management team has continued to set measurable goals and track key performance indicators in all core programs and has seen tangible, positive progress. I am especially proud to report that we were recently recognized by Strategic Healthcare Programs (SHP) as a “Superior Performer” for achieving overall patient experience scores that ranked in the top 20% of more than 3,200 home health providers and 1,800 hospice providers that use SHP for benchmarking. Our exceptional staff enjoys an organizational culture of respect and inclusion which we work every day to sustain and which helps us enjoy a strong employee retention rate. Innovative benefits like our Employee Car Care Fund, established in 2023 to help keep staff safe and reliable as they drive hundreds of thousands of miles annually in all weather conditions, continued to offset costs for staff to maintain their personal vehicles. This fund has dispersed more than \$26,000 and fulfilled 165+ individual requests from employees. Our traditional Hospice Celebration Dinner returned after a hiatus of several years, honoring the hospice team and engaging hospice families. The expertise of our Palliative Nurse Practitioner and Palliative RN (LSRVNA is the only home care agency in our region with these dedicated positions) helped 149 patients and their families better understand and navigate the complexities of advanced illness. Members of our clinical team dedicated more than 500 hours mentoring future nurses. Hosting impactful learning experiences such as Colby-Sawyer College Senior Capstone Projects or offering shadowing opportunities to several groups of nursing students provided valuable insights into the holistic approach of caring for patients in the home. The beloved Women Who Make A Difference Luncheon, which celebrated its 26th anniversary, was again a sold-out and joyful occasion honoring local women and supporting our work and mission. This occasion is just one example of the community collaborations that have been a hallmark of the agency since its founding in 1970. I am proud to report that for the 12-month period ending September 30, 2025 we provided:

- Skilled nursing, therapy, hospice, palliative care and supportive care to 50 residents
- Free/reduced cost nursing, therapy and social work visits including under various Medicaid programs (NH Medicaid reimburses at less than 65% of cost)
- End-of-life care to a total of 182 hospice patients and their families
- 14 months of bereavement programming offered to hospice families after the death of their loved one at no cost to the family, as well as support groups to anyone in need through the grieving process
- Foot Care Clinics in 6 area towns to address the need for greater access to this vital care

With complex challenges in health care including regulatory burdens and rising costs of nearly everything, we remain grateful to those who help sustain LSRVNA as an enduring presence in service to Bradford and the wider community. As much as at any time I can recall, your funds and ours must be thoughtfully deployed for the wellness and quality of life of the region we love. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or if there are other ways we may be of service to you.

With respect,

Jim Culhane, President & CEO
603-526-4077
jculhane@lakesunapeevna.org

KEARSARGE LAKE SUNAPEE COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

The KLS Food Pantry continues to be the beneficiary of so much community support and goodwill. Local businesses as well as countless individuals have helped immeasurably with monetary donations and donations of food. In recent months, our donation cart in the front hall of the First Baptist Church has literally been overflowing, and we have been so moved by the members of our community who have offered to join our current volunteers in their dedicated efforts to help their neighbors in need.

In 2008, a group of concerned individuals from local churches decided they wanted to create a community food pantry in order to address food insecurity in our area. The KLSCFP is a 501(c) (3) tax exempt non-profit which was formed in 2009. It serves 11 towns: Andover, Bradford, Danbury, New London, Newbury, Salisbury, Springfield, Sunapee (including Georges Mills), Sutton, Warner, and Wilmot. We rely solely on donations, and we do not receive town funding. We work with a variety of people such as town welfare officers, and with other local organizations whose shared goal is to help our residents who might be experiencing financial hardships. Kearsarge Neighborhood Partners (KNP) and Kearsarge Ecumenical Ministries (KREM) are invaluable in these efforts.

We have roughly 75 volunteers, and the pantry could not operate without this incredible team. They shop for food and household items, stock shelves, pick up food donations from local groceries and farms, distribute food during open hours, and deliver to Bittersweet residents. Many of our volunteers wear a variety of hats, taking on several duties within the pantry. We also have volunteers who work with KNP to make emergency food deliveries. This year we bid a fond farewell to our previous manager, JoAnn Lyon, who moved to be closer to family. We were lucky enough to have longtime volunteer Pamela Smith step up and take on the daily operations as our new manager. We are in capable hands! Our volunteers put in endless hours and do it with empathy and enthusiasm, and we are more grateful than we can say.

The First Baptist Church in New London does more than house us; they really provide us with a home. Church staff Steph Barton, Kit Ross, and Steven Hunt are invaluable in so many ways; we count ourselves incredibly lucky to have them. We are open twice each week, Wednesdays from 4:30- 6:00 pm and Saturdays from 10:00 am - 11:30. We provide groceries but also household items like detergent, toilet paper, diapers, and toiletries. The church is also home to the Boys and Girls Club which donated backpacks in late summer for children as they started school. This fall they also enthusiastically raised money to make snack packs for our clients' children.

There are several reasons why our clients come to the pantry. The cost of living in our area is high; rental rates are expensive and sometimes our families have had to move into temporary housing. Rising food costs, utility bills, and sometimes a job loss might mean that our neighbors need some extra help. Some of our clients come regularly and some just come on occasion, if things get tight. We are glad to welcome them weekly and hope we can provide them with some relief in an environment that makes them feel comfortable.

We offer a wide variety of foods, far beyond canned goods. We have tried to support our local farms, and in turn, they have been so very generous to us with donations. We acquired a new industrial refrigerator this year, and that has allowed us to keep more produce on hand. Spring Ledge Farm donated countless cases of amazing produce all summer and fall. The Kearsarge Food Hub enables us to provide fresh produce throughout the year. We work with the NH Food Bank and the UDSA which provide us with lower cost and free food items. Our local Hannaford and the Shaw's store in Newport generously donate

meat, produce, and bakery items. Blue Loon brings us their delicious breads twice a week, and that is always a treat. To all of these businesses, we want to express our heartfelt thanks.

We are also incredibly grateful to local businesses that organize events to provide us with generous donations. The O'Halloran Group continues to be an amazing partner with their Ultra 1K, donating not only to our pantry, but also to the pantries in Warner and Newport. Hannaford partners each July with the New London Police Department with their "Stuff the Cruiser" event. We are given enormous amounts of food products as well as cash donations. Similarly, Benjamin Edwards holds their shredding event each August, and we are given truckloads of canned goods as well as monetary donations. Soonipi Hollow Farm donated so many beautiful blueberries to the pantry this past summer. Gifted woodworker Peter Gunn continues to be a true friend of the pantry by donating so generously through his "Breadboard Fundraiser." This year Artisan's hosted an event with Peter, and we thank them as well. The New London Inn included us in their new Main Street Music Festivals for which we are grateful. Spring Ledge and Kearsarge Neighborhood Partners continue to offer a wonderful program called "Tray it Forward" which allows our families to start their own vegetable gardens each spring.

Our younger community members also contribute a great deal. Scout Troop 71 runs "Scouting for Food" in November and again, we are one of the lucky recipients of their hard work. Our smallest, cutest neighbors at Windy Hill School bring us food donations, as do the wonderful students at Kearsarge Schools.

We are humbled each year by the kindness and generosity of countless businesses and individuals who donate throughout the year. It is such a gift to know we are part of such a caring community, one that has empathy and can truly see their neighbors who might be experiencing challenging times. Together, we will continue to try to grow and improve in order to serve.

Respectfully submitted,

Frannie Terwilliger,

Chair, KLS Community Board of Directors

MOUNTAIN VIEW SENIOR CENTER

The Mt. View Senior Center, located in the Bradford Area Community Center at 134 East Main Street, is a hub of activity and opportunity for area seniors who want to stay healthy, active and engaged with others. We welcome the chance to explain our purpose and mission, and all that we offer in opportunities and services to seniors.

With the passage of the Older Americans Act of 1965 Congress voted to provide support and services to seniors that would go beyond Social Security and Medicare benefits, to allow seniors to age in place and stay in their own homes as long as possible. For Merrimack County those additional services are, under contract, provided by the Elder Services Department of Community Action Program of Belknap/ Merrimack Counties Inc. In total, the Agency operates eight senior centers (of which Mt. View is one) and provides services and facilities to all communities in each of those areas. Mt. View's area includes the following towns: Bradford, Contoocook, Henniker, Hopkinton, Newbury, New London, Sutton, Warner, Webster, and Wilmot.

Although a few of these communities have their own senior centers, ours is the only one which provides the Meals on Wheels program in our ten-town area. From our center, meals are delivered throughout the week with a health and wellness check to over a hundred elderly or disabled clients throughout our area. Our current delivery schedule is Monday, Wednesday and Friday with Tuesday and Thursday as wellness calls to our participants in all 10 towns. In addition, Mt. View is the only 12-passenger bus providing door-to-door transportation to seniors throughout the week in all of the ten towns. We also serve a healthy and delicious chef inspired noontime meal to seniors in our community center dining room various times throughout the month. Our congregate mealtime at 12:00 pm consist of every Tuesday and Thursday with Brunch on the first and third Fridays of the month, served at 10 am. We are always looking for ways to increase our dining options with the help of more volunteers. Each of these meals is offered for a very reasonable \$3 donation for Seniors. For more information on these meals or to volunteer please refer to our monthly newsletter or call the center with questions. Since we continue to be level funded in our contract, these donations are vital in helping to offset the rising costs to sustain our program.

While the Meals on Wheels program, the rural transportation bus and the community dining service are our most important services, we, with pride, offer other programs and activities each of which helps to keep our seniors healthy, active and engaged. These include currently: a Fitness Group, a Quilting Group, Therapeutic Yoga, Cribbage, Domino's, and a Mahjong Group. Movie days have also been implemented, upon request. Future activities will include the following: Card Games, Bingo, Art Class, and field trips during warm weather months.

During 2025, we were able to make several improvements to the Senior Center, due to the generosity of several local donors! We added a commercial dishwash to the kitchen, paid for by the local Quilting Group's Fundraising efforts! We also took in donations of a large screen television and computer, to improve programming – like movie days! We continue to appreciate all of the local support we receive—we wouldn't be as successful without it.

We invite all area seniors to join one of our groups, volunteer, come for a meal, ride our bus, or come on an excursion with us. We guarantee a warm welcome! To receive our monthly newsletters electronically please email your request to Dave Palmer: dpalmer@capbm.org. To have your questions answered please call the center at 603-938-2104.

AUSBON SARGENT LAND PRESERVATION TRUST

2025 Annual Report for the Town of Bradford

Quality of life is a central feature of life in New Hampshire, and the state consistently ranks in the top ten best places to live in the United States. Contributing to this ranking are our clean water, scenic places, and opportunities for outdoor recreation. Open spaces also contribute significantly to the economic well-being of the State and our communities.

Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust (Ausbon Sargent) contributes to all this through its mission to protect the rural character of the twelve towns of the Mt. Kearsarge/Ragged/Lake Sunapee region. We do this through land conservation, stewardship, and community engagement in the towns of Andover, Bradford, Danbury, Goshen, Grantham, New London, Newbury, Springfield, Sunapee, Sutton, Warner, and Wilmot. Since our founding in 1987, Ausbon Sargent has completed 172 projects and protected 14,335 acres – including sixteen working farms and over eight miles of lake frontage. All these conservation lands provide public benefits in the form of forest, farm, wetland, or open space conservation and two-thirds of these properties offer public access.

Ausbon Sargent has had a busy year. We completed three land projects, totaling 179 acres of land, now protected in the towns of Sutton, Wilmot, and Springfield. This year, the organization promoted Jamie Wilson to Stewardship Manager and welcomed a new Stewardship and Program Coordinator, Sarah Burtnick.

2025 was full of interesting and educational hikes and other events, which are free and open to all. We collaborated with LSPA, local Conservation Commissions, UNH Cooperative Extension, NH Fish & Game, The Forest Society, and local libraries to showcase and connect people with the wonderful properties we protect. We held hikes or snowshoes in Danbury, Grantham, New London, Sunapee, Warner, and Wilmot. We had presentations on climate change in the polar regions, black bears in our region, owls and their calls, and the Emerald Ash Borer and the Spotted Lanternfly. Special outings included a bio-blitz with Colby-Sawyer College students, a community pollinator garden day at the Ausbon Sargent office, a sky-watch with the NH Astronomical Society, and walks to identify mushrooms, wildflowers, and dragonflies. We held volunteer training workshops for people who wished to become conservation easement monitors, and additional trainings using an app called “Gaia” that enables the use of smart devices while monitoring. Our Annual Meeting was held at the Newbury Town Office building on a beautiful October day, and we held our Volunteer Appreciation party at Lake Sunapee Protective Association’s Center for Lake Studies in Sunapee Harbor to thank our wonderful volunteers who give so much of themselves to forwarding our mission. Our “members-only” fundraisers this year consisted of our ever-popular and always sold-out Progressive Dinner, and our Holiday Party fundraiser which was held for the third year in a row, at the beautiful and historic Livery in Sunapee Harbor.

Ausbon Sargent is thankful for the assistance of the over 200 volunteers who help with easement monitoring, committee support, and clerical work. Your friends and neighbors help to protect the special places in our region in many ways. Whether they are members, conservation easement donors, volunteer easement monitors, or participate in various committees at the Land Trust, each hour provided is important. Some volunteers also work with their town officials, throughout our 12-town region, to conserve our rural character by encouraging land conservation. If you would like to join our team of volunteers, please let us know!

Our website (www.ausbonsargent.org) shows which of the land trust’s protected properties have trails open to the public for hiking, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing, and includes trail maps, printable hiking and snowshoe series, and driving directions. Our calendar of events for the upcoming seasons is available on our website, too, so take a look and join us! In addition to finding information on all of Ausbon Sargent’s protected properties on our website, you can join our monthly email list. Find us on Instagram and be sure to “Like” us on Facebook!

It has always been a pleasure to work with the Town of Bradford Conservation Commission. We look forward to future events, collaborations, and land projects with you!

Respectfully submitted,

Hans Carlson
Executive Director

Board of Trustees

<i>Robin Albing</i>	<i>Deborah Lang</i>
<i>Lisa Andrews</i>	<i>Russ Moore</i>
<i>Aimee Ayers</i>	<i>Jim Owers</i>
<i>Susan Ellison</i>	<i>Mike Quinn</i>
<i>Lexi Garcia</i>	<i>Diane Robbins</i>
<i>Neal Harris</i>	<i>Steve Root</i>
<i>Dave Hollinger</i>	<i>Cathy Weber</i>
	<i>Bob Zeller</i>

Staff

Executive Director	<i>Hans Carlson</i>
Land Protection Specialist	<i>Andy Deegan</i>
Stewardship Manager	<i>Jamie Wilson</i>
Operations Manager	<i>Jen Deasy</i>
Development and Communications Coordinator	<i>Kristy Heath</i>
Stewardship and Programs Coordinator	<i>Sarah Burtnick</i>
Staff Support	<i>Sue Andrews</i>
Bookkeeper	<i>Susie Moore</i>

THE BRADFORD BRIDGE NEWSPAPER

“In a changing world, the Bradford Bridge brings details of our time honored elections, and town meetings, where you can make a difference.”

Kathleen Bigford, Editor

Our mission has never been more important: to support and encourage open and fair government in the Town of Bradford, to promote communication and dialogue between residents and officials, and to encourage greater participation in town, school and volunteer projects.

For 34 years, The Bridge has brought news of Committees and Boards, Candidate Survey results, Letters to the Editor, Police, Fire and Highway Department Updates, Elections, Transfer Station and Library News. As well as local natural history, energy efficiency news, reporting on local events, and many other topics of interest.

The newspaper is published at the beginning of each month in a black and white paper format and in color online at bradfordbridge.org.

The Bradford Bridge is a collaboration of volunteers who write, design, and distribute the paper. During 2025 the list of contributors has grown substantially to include a wide variety of news and entertainment. We are grateful to our dream team: Kathleen Bigford, Editor, Leah Cummings, Graphic Design, and Jeni Lauder, Treasurer for their dedication.

We are investing in our community. Our reporters were on the ground covering the reenactment of General Lafayette’s visit to Porter Square, Seniors and First Graders getting together as Pen Pals, the Bike Bus featuring elementary students on bikes, assisted by teachers, Bradford PD and FD alongside town volunteers. We reported on Concerts in Bradford Center, Frenches Park Cleanup, Swim Lessons at the lake and Meals on Wheels from the Senior Center.

We have immense gratitude for the loyalty of our advertisers who make it possible to bring the paper to our community for free. New and current advertisers are encouraged to contact our design team for help with an ad.

We encourage shopping locally whenever possible to take advantage of the goods and services provided by talented local businesses.

The Bridge is ending the year on strong financial footing, with a growing readership and an increase in digital engagement. Thanks to our Distribution Volunteers The Bridge is distributed to 12 locations in Bradford and in five neighboring towns.

The Board and Editor continue to seek and discover new material for the newspaper. Would you like to report local news, write an article, submit a photograph, short story, photograph, poem, or illustration? We welcome your ideas. Please write to bradfordbridge345@gmail.com or PO Box 463, Bradford, NH 03221.



UNH COOPERATIVE EXTENSION MERRIMACK COUNTY

UNH Cooperative Extension (UNHCE), the public outreach arm of the University of New Hampshire, operates in all 10 counties through partnerships with county governments. Staffed by specialists, educators, support personnel, and volunteers, Extension delivers programming in five key areas: Community and Economic Development, 4-H Youth Development and Education, Food and Agriculture, Health and Well-Being, and Natural Resources. In collaboration with county, state, and federal partners, Extension strengthens industries, supports vibrant communities, fosters healthy families, and sustains New Hampshire's natural resources. In Merrimack County, Extension serves all 25 towns and two cities with programs tailored to local needs and interests.

Food & Agriculture: We support the county's agricultural industries, including producers of fruits, vegetables, ornamental plants, and livestock, through workshops, trainings, diagnostic services, applied research, and one-on-one consultations. In 2025, a multitude of educational workshops were conducted with Extension at the helm, focused on topics including food safety, pruning fruiting plants and ornamentals, grafting fruit trees, pasture management and livestock husbandry best-practices. Hundreds of individuals received one-on-one consultation through email and phone conversations, over 200 farm visits were conducted to fruit, vegetable, and dairy farms, during which recommendations were tailored towards the individual educational needs of the client. Hundreds of soil tests were reviewed and approved, optimizing soil fertility practices, and maximizing production on sites throughout the county. Extension provides direct technical assistance to producers both within Merrimack County and beyond, helping clients find answers and solutions to complex agricultural challenges. Likewise, our statewide network of field and state specialists often come into Merrimack County to deliver programming or technical expertise.

Natural Resources: Our natural resources team provides research, education, and stewardship throughout the state with a "boots on the ground" approach, extending state-wide programs in forestry and wildlife, natural resource development, land and water conservation, and marine fisheries. This year, 978 Merrimack County residents received one-on-one education from woodlot visits, educational events, telephone calls, and email correspondence. At least 459 County residents participated in educational events: Tree Id Walks, Invasive Plant Control workshops, Wildlife Habitat field tours, Forest Health workshops, NH Forest Career Field Day, and Forest Ecology Field Tours for Middle School Science Classes. To find out more about our programs and events check out the UNH Forestry and Wildlife Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/nhwoods.org>. This year, there were over 400 Volunteers who worked with UNHCE in Merrimack County helping to conserve and manage its natural resources. The Volunteers participated in the Natural Resource Stewards program, the Coverts Project, Nature Groupie, the NH Big Tree Program, and the Lakes Lay Monitoring Program. Please visit our website to find out how to Volunteer with UNH Extension: <https://extension.unh.edu/about/volunteering>.

Community & Economic Development (CED): The CED team provides programming and technical assistance to communities, businesses, and nonprofit organizations around New Hampshire to strengthen communities and the economy. Areas of focus include revitalizing main streets, retaining and growing local businesses, supporting entrepreneurs and innovators, and leveraging tourism and outdoor recreation to help grow the economy. Central to the CED team's work is engaging communities in developing a collective vision, designing an approach to achieve that vision, and organizing community leaders and volunteers to implement effective strategies.

In 2025, the CED team welcomed a new Field Specialist serving Merrimack County. During his first year, he connected with towns and cities throughout the county to gather information and deepen his understanding of regional development opportunities. Follow-up visits with municipal boards and staff were conducted in twelve communities to gain additional insights. The CED team also partnered with local volunteers in Penacook to organize and launch a Community Business Engagement program, with implementation efforts expected to continue throughout 2026. Working across the state, CED staff delivered their Housing Academy to municipalities participating in the latest round of New Hampshire's Housing Opportunity Planning (HOP) Grant program. The Academy trained volunteers from five Merrimack County communities and offered additional direct assistance to several HOP Grant recipients.

4-H Youth Development & Education: 4-H is the youth development program of UNHCE and is offered in partnership with the USDA NIFA. The mission of 4-H is to provide hands-on learning opportunities, through positive youth-adult partnerships and peer-reviewed curriculum, to create tomorrow's leaders. 4-H programming helps youth find their spark, or their passion, so that in their adult life they find meaningful ways to contribute to their communities. A timeless tradition is Merrimack County 4-H members participating in events at the Hopkinton Fair. The 2025 fair hosted 103 4-H animal exhibitors and 63 youth exhibitors in the Ruth Kimball 4-H Exhibit Hall. All these opportunities serve as a capstone experience for a 4-H project, for youth to demonstrate their learning from the past program year. To close out the 2024-2025 program year, Merrimack County involved 291 youth in the program with the help of 100 volunteers.

Health & Well-Being: Provides information, programs and training grounded in research to help individuals and their families succeed and thrive, such as Youth and Adult Mental Health First Aid Training, Chronic Disease, Diabetes, and Chronic Pain Self-Management Programs. We are collaborating with schools, community, and public health partners to increase prevention and early intervention for mental health and wellness and substance misuse in communities.

Through Nutrition Connections programming, limited-income youth, adults, and families are reached with resources and evidence-based education around healthy eating and physical activity. In Merrimack County, Nutrition Connections partnered with local agencies – including libraries, family resource centers, and a family emergency shelter – to offer engaging adult programs such as Food Smarts and Boost Your Brain and Memory. Nutrition Connections also teamed up with area food pantries to roll out the Nutrition Pantry Program, a national initiative designed to promote healthier food environments. Building on the pantries' strong commitment to serving their neighbors, Nutrition Connections enhanced their efforts by providing recipes and a variety of supportive materials that make healthier choices easier and more accessible for everyone. For youth in Franklin, Pittsfield, and Concord, Nutrition Connections partnered with schools, afterschool programs, summer initiatives, and Head Start to deliver hands-on learning experiences. These included taste-testing healthy foods, participating in fun physical activities, exploring gardening, and gaining knowledge about healthy food choices.

Advisory Council Appreciation: We extend our sincere thanks to the Merrimack County Advisory Council, which includes local citizens, a representative from the County Commissioners office, and a member of the County Delegation. Their guidance helps Extension staff assess current programs, identify community needs, and explore new opportunities.

2024–2025 Council Members:

Janine Condi, Chip Donnelly, Ken Koerber, Billy Kunelius, Josh Marshall, Jill McCullough, Tim Meeh, Page Poole, Scott Reynolds, Dee Treybig, Anya Twarog, Commissioner David Lovlien, and Representative Thomas Schamberg.

Learn more:

- Connect with us: <https://extension.unh.edu/facility/merrimack-county-office>
- 2024 County Highlights | Extension: <https://extension.unh.edu/resource/2024-county-highlights>
- Extension – UNH Cooperative Extension's Annual Magazine: <https://extension.unh.edu/about/magazine>

WARNER RIVER LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE



The Warner River Local Advisory Committee (WRLAC) is pleased to report on its work in 2025. This Committee has statutory authority (RSA 483:8-a) to advise state and local governments on federal, state, and local permit applications and other environmental issues within the Designated Warner River Corridor, which extends for one-quarter mile outward from each river bank as the main stem of the river flows through our five riverfront towns: Bradford, Sutton, Warner, Webster, and Hopkinton. With guidance from the NH Rivers Management and Protection Program (NHRMPP), Committee members work with residents, landowners, and state and local officials to promote thoughtful stewardship of this treasured element of our natural and cultural landscape.

One of the main tasks of the Committee is to provide its perspective on town permits within the corridor as described above. This year, the Committee provided comments on permits/proposals in Warner, including comments on proposals for the construction of a solar array, a workforce housing project, two 4-unit apartments, and a proposal for a subdivision. There were no permits for our review within the designated river corridor in the other four towns.

The WRLAC also partnered with several organizations whose work is related to ours. With NH Fish & Game, the Basil Woods chapter of Trout Unlimited, and the Warner Conservation Commission we measured and documented environmental data from seven tributaries to the Warner River. In addition, the Committee continued to support NH DES's Volunteer River Assessment Program which assesses the river's water quality by measuring elements such as dissolved oxygen and pH levels. We also joined the aforementioned organizations and the Merrimack River Watershed Council in a tree planting project along an upgraded culvert on Ballard Brook in Warner. Annually, we partner with Trout Unlimited at a booth during the Warner Fall Foliage Festival. We greatly appreciate the generosity of TU and MainStreet Bookends of Warner for providing the space for us to do this.

One Committee member attended a regional gathering sponsored by the Lake Sunapee Protection Association to better coordinate ideas for protecting the Warner River watershed. Three Committee members attended an informative workshop sponsored by NHRMPP and the NH Rivers Council. While we learned that our precious Warner River does not face as many environmental pressures that some of the 18 other designated rivers wrestle with, we were reminded that increased pressure from human development and changes in weather patterns can significantly disrupt the river and its ecosystem. Although resilient in many ways, our river's health ultimately depends on a delicate balance that must be maintained over time.

We invite interested members of the community to join us in our work. For more information about the WRLAC, please visit www.wrlac.com.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Russell, WRLAC Secretary

Warner River Local Advisory Committee Members

Bradford: Marlene Freyler, Rebecca Herman

Sutton: Peter Savickas, Treasurer

Warner: Laura Russell, Secretary; Mickey Benson, Vice Chair

Webster: Bob MacGowan

Hopkinton: Daniel Morrissey, Chair

