

TOWN OF SUNDERLAND



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

DEDICATION

Each year we have an opportunity to recognize an individual or group who has contributed their expertise, talents and or passion to the betterment of our community. Many groups or individuals have been recognized over the years, having served our town in ways that make Sunderland great.

This year, our Annual Report is dedicated to:



TOM FYDENKEVEZ

As you conclude your long and dedicated service since 1999 on the Selectboard, we want to take a moment to honor your remarkable contributions to our community. Your tenure has been marked by unwavering dedication and tireless efforts in various capacities, starting from your service on the Conservation Commission, the Planning Board and beyond.

Your involvement in numerous committees and boards, as well as Sewer Commissioner and Local Licensing Authority, exemplifies your commitment to the well-being of Sunderland. Your participation in critical initiatives such as the development of Sanderson Place and the establishment of South County EMS underscores your impact on enhancing our town's infrastructure and services.

Beyond your professional expertise as an engineer, your genuine passion for Sunderland is recognized. Your selfless dedication to making our community the best it can be, has left a mark on all who have had the privilege of working alongside you.

On behalf of Sunderland and its residents, we extend our gratitude for your years of service, leadership, and unwavering commitment.

Thank you, Tom, for everything you have done to enrich our Sunderland community.

IN MEMORIAM



JAMES BIELUNIS
1949 – 2023

Jim served on the Sunderland Fire Department and as an EMT for many years.



SANDRA BIELUNIS
1950 – 2023

Sandy was a dedicated member of the Sunderland Library as a LIBRARY TRUSTEE for several years. Sandy spent her teaching career in 1972 at Sunderland Elementary School until her retirement.



DANIEL FLEMING
1932 – 2023

Dan served Election Officer, Zoning Board Of Appeals, Sunderland Firemen's Association, Constable at Town Elections, Vol. III Town History Steering Committee, 250th Anniversary Committee.



Albion Koblinski
1929-2023

Albin served as Selectmen and was on the Conservation Commission for many years.



PETER MURPHY
1950 – 2023

Starting in 2002, Pete served as Assistant Electric Inspector for many years before becoming the Town's WIRING Inspector in 2015 until.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- DEDICATION
- IN MEMORIAM

- Appointed and Elected Officials
- Board of Assessors
- Board of Health
- Building Commissioner
- Community Communications: CodeRED and Website Email Notifications
- Community Preservation Committee
- Conservation Commission
- Emergency Preparedness Emergency Home & Emergency Car Tips
- Energy Committee
- Fire Department
- Franklin County Solid Waste District - (FCSWD)
- Franklin Regional Council of Governments - (FRCOG)
- Frontier Cable Access Television (FCAT)
- GENERAL INFORMATION-includes: Town & Legislative Information
- Glossary of Financial Terms
- History of Sunderland
- Highway Department
- Historical Commission at the Graves Memorial Library Building
- Mosquito Control District Report
- Planning Board
- Police Department
- Recreation Committee
- Riverside Cemetery Trustees
- Schools:
 - Franklin County Technical School
 - Frontier Regional High School
 - Sunderland Elementary School
- Selectboard
- South County Emergency Medical Services (SCEMS)
- South County Senior Center (SCSC)
- Sunderland Public Library
- Town Accountant
- Town Clerk
- Town Meeting Motions – 2022 Annual
- Town Park
- Treasurer/Collector
- Tree Warden
- Upper Pioneer Valley Veterans' Services District
- Village Center Committee
- Zoning Board of Appeals

GENERAL TOWN INFORMATION

SUNDERLAND TOWN OFFICES: 12 School Street, Sunderland, MA 01375

TOWN WEBSITE: www.TownOfSunderland.us

Town Office Phone: 413-665-1441

Town Office Bldg Fax: 413-665-1446

Building Hours: Mon. 8AM-6PM * Tues.-Wed. 8am-4pm * Thurs. 8am-12pm * Fri: Closed

SUNDERLAND FACTS

- Town Incorporated: November 12, 1718
- Population from the Federal Census - 2020: 3,658
- Elevation above Sea Level is 137.121 feet
- Sunderland is 14.78 Square Miles

IMPORTANT DATES and INFORMATION

- **AMENDMENTS TO ZONING BY-LAWS:** Amendments to the zoning by-laws of the Town are taken by vote at an annual or special town meeting as provided in MGL Chapter 40A, §6. (For more details, consult the Planning Board.)
- **ANNUAL TOWN ELECTIONS:** The Annual Town Election is held the first Saturday of May, pursuant to town by-law.
- **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING** is held the **LAST FRIDAY OF APRIL, pursuant to Town By-law.**
- **NOMINATION PAPERS:** Voters' signatures and addresses are necessary on nomination papers secured from the Town Clerk in order to place a name on the ballot for election to a town office. Deadline for filing of nomination papers is set by the Town Clerk-SEE **VOTING INFORMATION** on the **Town Website** for complete information.
- **PERMITS:** Applicants must secure permits from the appropriate department for Board of Health services; the Building Commissioner for all construction work, Plumbing and Gas Inspector for plumbing and gas services and the Electrical Inspector for wiring permits for all electrical work. ONLINE applications are required through PERMITLINK on the . for Building and Electrical Inspector services.
- **REGISTRATION OF VOTERS:** Residents may register as voters by the Town Clerk at any time during office hours and at special voter registration sessions posted by the Town Clerk before primaries, elections and all Town Meetings.
- **REPORTS & ARTICLES FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING:** Reports shall be submitted to the Selectboard by all boards and officials for insertion in the Annual Town Report. All Articles for Annual Town Warrant shall be presented to the Selectboard in writing no later than forty-five (45) days prior to the Annual Town Meeting, or upon approval of the Selectboard. The signatures of 10 certified voters and their addresses are needed to put an Article on the Warrant.

TOWN OF SUNDERLAND - A BRIEF HISTORY

Sunderland, Massachusetts, is one of the southernmost towns in Franklin County. The community is situated in the eastern portion of the Connecticut River Valley in western Massachusetts.

Sunderland was incorporated as a town in 1718. Before being incorporated, Sunderland was known as Swampfield, so named by its first settlers because of the swampland within the town. Settlement of the town originated on what is now North and South Main Streets, with forty designed house lots. Settlers were also assigned an equal percentage of swampland, pasture land, and wood lots. North and South main Streets are scenic, broad avenues that appeal to our sensory of what a small New England town should be. In the late 1820's, maple trees were planted on each side of the street, which has added to Sunderland's beauty, especially as leaves change color, or after a snowfall. The houses are a pleasing mix of sizes and styles; in fact, Sunderland's main street has examples of most of the architectural styles of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries.

Mount Toby range is another source of beauty and historic background. A watchtower is at the peak along with a commanding view of the river valley. The north part of Mt. Toby is the home of the "Sunderland Cave." It is not technically a cave, but huge slabs of tipped conglomerate rock. Caves are rare in this part of New England, which has made this one more widely known. Sunderland's first Irish immigrants located their homes on Mt. Toby in the mid-nineteenth century, which were known as "paddy farms." Trails are still evident, along with old stone walls marking boundary lines.

Sunderland, still then known as Swampfield, was set off from neighboring Hadley in 1673, with the Connecticut River as the western boundary with Deerfield. Settlement was abandoned during King Philip's War (1675) and re-established as the town of Swampfield in 1714, extending north to Hunting Hills (Montague), and east to Long Plain (Leverett). Montague was set off from Sunderland in 1754 and Leverett in 1774.

Farming developed as the primary industry, particularly crop production in the excellent soils of the river valley. Agriculture prospered, helping to add villages in North Sunderland and Plumtrees (the eastern side of Sunderland) in the early 19th century. Introduction of commercial tobacco expanded settlement to the Meadows (southern side of Sunderland) in the early 19th century. Although farming was the main occupation, there were supporting industries throughout Sunderland's history, such as tobacco shops and farm machinery supplies, as well as sawmills, stores, gravel operations, and blacksmiths. Today there is a large gravel operation, a rest home, garages and convenience stores, insurance and real estate operations, as well as vegetable farming.

With the Connecticut River as one of Sunderland's boundaries, ferries were used at the river for crossing until 1812, when the first bridge was constructed. Sunderland has had a total of 10 bridges. The main causes of our fallen bridges were high water, ice, and piers not high enough to clear rising water levels, especially in the spring. The tenth bridge is 47 feet above normal water level and has stood since 1938.

Sunderland was also home to "The Amherst to Sunderland Street Railway." Although the trolley car only lasted from 1890-1926, it marked progress for Sunderland. In that period, high school students from Sunderland could ride the trolley to school in Amherst.

Natural disasters are not unknown to Sunderland. Residents have endured floods (1927 and 1936) and a hurricane (1938). Damage had been great in some parts of town, but over time one would never know of the mishaps.

The small town of Sunderland has grown in population over the past 30 years, with a current population of about 3,400. More houses and apartment complexes have been built, and the town has gone from a farming community to a bedroom community, giving easy access to out-of-town jobs, especially at the nearby University of Massachusetts and other local colleges (Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mt. Holyoke College, and Smith College).

**Compiled by Wendy Houle
Sunderland Historical Commission/Town Clerk**

Sources: History of Sunderland, 1899; History of Sunderland, Vol. II., 1954; Beers Atlas of Franklin County, 1873-4; Massachusetts Historical Commission Reconnaissance Survey Report, 1982; Sunderland's Main Street Walking Tour, 1993; My Sunderland – Quarter millennial souvenir of Sunderland, 1968; A Gazetteer of Massachusetts, p. 282; History of the Connecticut Valley, Vol. II; Centennial Gazette, 1792-1892, pp. 101-103.

COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM – CodeRED

The Town has been using the [CodeRED](#) for several years. It allows greater communication abilities to our residents and visitors in emergencies or for important community announcements. Only authorized officials have access to the CodeRED system to make communications with our community. We have the ability to send voice communications, emails and/or texts. YOU get to choose how you would like to receive these messages when you register! To learn more and register, visit our website at (www.townofsunderland.us), click on **CodeRed** located at the bottom of the homepage and follow the instructions. If you need assistance with registering or any other CodeRED matter, please call the Administrative Assistant in the Selectboard's Office at 413-665-1441 x1.

COMMUNITY EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS FROM THE TOWN WEBSITE

Community members may also sign up for [EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS](#) which generate when notable information is posted on the town's website at www.townofsunderland.us. This is an EMAIL ONLY notification. You will receive an email for new or updated [NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS](#) which is located on the home page. You will also receive URGENT ALERTS, as well as AGENDA and MINUTES posted for groups such as the Selectboard and Board of Health. Individuals may "SUBSCRIBE ME" or "UNSUBSCRIBE" as they choose. This information is usually not a duplication of the CodeRED notifications. If you need assistance contact the Selectboard's office at 413-665-1441 x1

DEPARTMENT PHONE NUMBERS

DEPARTMENT	EMAIL	PHONE
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR: Geoff Kravitz	townadmin@townofsunderland.us	413-665-1441 x9
BOARD OF ASSESSORS: Dave Zagorski	assessors@townofsunderland.us	413-665-1445
BOARD OF HEALTH: ADMIN ASST Cindy Bennett	boardofhealth@townofsunderland.us	413-665-1441 x6
BUILDING COMMISSIONER: Tom Quinlan	tjrbuild@aol.com	413-364-7782
ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR: Bill Erman	Erman2@comcast.net	413-695-5651
FAX: Town Office Building	<i>Not a public fax</i>	413-665-1446
FIRE DEPARTMENT: NON EMERGENCY	fire@townofsunderland.us	413-665-2465
FIRE & AMBULANCE : EMERGENCY		9-1-1
HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT: George Emery	Highway@townofsunderland.us	413-665-1460
LIBRARY: DIRECTOR: KATHERINE UMSTOT	Director@SunderlandPublicLibrary.org	413-665-2642
PLUMBING/GAS INSPECTOR: Anthony Loughne	Loughran.981@aol.com	617-631-2688
POLICE DEPARTMENT: NON-EMERGENCY	police@townofsunderland.us	413-665-7036
POLICE DEPARTMENT: EMERGENCY		9-1-1
RECREATION COORDINATOR: JIM EWEN	Jaewen13@aol.com	413-665-1439
RESOURCE ADMIN - SELECTBOARD OFFICE: Maureen Nichols	resourceadmin@townofsunderland.us	413-665-1074
SELECTBOARD OFFICE ADMIN. ASST: Cindy Bennett	selectboard@townofsunderlan.us	413-665-1071 or 413-665-1441 x1
SEWER COMMISSIONERS: SELECTBOARD	selectboard@townofsunderland.us	413-665-1441 x1
TOWN CLERK: Wendy Houle	townclerk@townofsunderland.us	413-665-1442
TREASURER/COLLECTOR: Heather Davis	treascollector@townofsunderland.us	413-665-1444
Wastewater Treatment Plant		413-665-1447



LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION

GOVERNOR MAURA HEALEY

LT GOV KIM DRISCOLL

Western Mass Office:

State Office Building
436 Dwight St., Suite 300
Springfield, MA 01103
413-784-1200 / TTY: 617-727-3666

Boston Office:

Constituent Svcs: 617-725-4005
Toll free: 888-870-7770 /
TTY: 617-727-3666
Massachusetts State House
24 Beacon St.
Office of the Governor, Rm 280
Boston, MA 02133

Washington DC Office:

Office of the Governor
444 N. Capitol St., Ste 315
Washington, DC 20001
202-624-3616

Senator Joanne Comerford

District Office

(413) 367-4656

State House Office

(617) 722-1532
State House
Room 413-C
24 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02133

Representative Natalie Blais

District Office

PO Box 450
Sunderland, MA 01375
413-362-9453

State House Office

24 Beacon Street, Rm 44
Boston, MA 02133
Telephone: 617-722-2460

[U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren](#), Democrat; 1550 Main Street, Suite 406, Springfield, MA 01103; phone: 202-224-4543, 2400 JFK Federal Bldg, 15 New Sudbury St, Boston, MA 02203 Phone: 617-565-3170 ; 309 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510 phone: 202-224-4543
<https://www.warren.senate.gov>

[U.S. Senator Edward J. Markey](#), Democrat;

- 1550 Main Street, 4th Flr. Springfield, MA 01101, phone: 413-785-4610
- 222 Milliken Blvd., Suite 312, Fall River, MA 02721 Phone: 508-677-0523
- 975 JFK Federal Bldg, 15 New Sudbury Street, Boston MA 02203, phone: 617-565-8519
- 255 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510, phone: 202-224-2742
- <https://www.markey.senate.gov/>

[Jim McGovern](#), Congressman for the 2nd District of Massachusetts

- 94 Pleasant Street, Northampton, MA 01060, Phone: 413-341-8700
- 24 Church Street, Rm. 27, Leominster, A 01453, Phone: 978-466-3973
- 12 East Worcester Street, Ste. 1, Worcester, MA 01604, Phone: (508) 831-7356;
- 370 Cannon House Office Bldg, Washington, DC 20515, Phone: 202-225-6101

APPOINTMENTS

Accountant - Contracted	APONTE &	Aponte	2024
Administrative Assistant	Cynthia	Bennett	2024
Assessors Office- Admin. Asst.	David	Zagorski**	2024
Board of Health Agent	Stephen	Ball	2024
Housing Health Agent/Contract Appd by BOH	Regina	McNeely	2024
Board of Health/Clerk -Appd by BOH	Cynthia	Bennett	2024
Building Commissioner	Thomas	Quinlan Jr.	2024
Asst. Bldg. Inspector	Mark	Snow	2024
Asst. Bldg. Inspector	Ronald	Laurin	2024
Collector/Treasurer	Heather	Davis	2024
Asst. Collector/Treasurer	Geoffrey	Kravitz	2024
Town Administrator/Contracted	Geoffrey	Kravitz	contract
Chief Procurement Officer	Geoffrey	Kravitz	2024

FIRE DEPT.-OFFICERS- APPT. BY FIRE CHIEF

Fire Chief	Steven	Benjamin	2024
Deputy Chief	Mike	Zeoli	
Captain	Scott	Smith	
Lieutenant	Cody	Jones	
Lieutenant	John	Sullivan	
Lieutenant	Ricky	Fadus	
Firefighter	Keith	McFarland	
Firefighter	Laurie	Smith	
Firefighter	Ben	Snyder	
Firefighter	Mason	Jenkins	
Firefighter	Timothy	Gochinski	
Firefighter	Joshua	Manheim	
Firefighter	Matthew	Morin	
Firefighter	Milton	Rock	
Firefighter-resgn 9.2023	Heidi	Olmstead	
Firefighter	Joshua	Orrell	
Fire Prevention Officer (Inspections)	Cody	Jones	
Fire Prevention Officer (Inspections)	Timothy	Gochinski	
Fire Prevention Officer (Inspections)-Alt.	Marc	D'Urso	
Fire Prevention Officer (Inspections)-Alt.	Timothy	Gochinski	
Fire Prevention (Education)	Timothy	Gochinski	
Fire Prevention (Education)	Matthew	Morin	
Department Chaplin	Fr. Jonathan	Reardon	

Highway Department Supt.	George	Emery	2024
Highway Dept. Laborer	Mathew	Martin	2024

Highway Dept. Laborer	John	Skribiski	2024
Highway Dept. Temp. Laborer	Duane	Jenks	2024
Highway Dept. Temp. Laborer	Hanson	David	2024
Highway Dept. Temp. Laborer	Fred	Laurenitis	2024
Highway Dept. Temp Laborer	Connor	Waitkus	2024
Highway Dept. Temp Laborer	Emery	Payton	2024
Highway Dept. Temp Laborer	Adam	Coffin	2024
Highway Dept. Secretary	April	Griffin	2024
Plumbing & Gas Inspector	Anthony	Loughran	2024
Plumbing & Gas Inspector-Alt.-eff 7.1.23	Luke	Felten	2024
Police Chief/Contracted	Erik	Demetropoulos*	contract
Police Department-Clerk	April	Griffin	2024
Police Dept.-FT Officer	Benjamin	Peters	2024
Police Dept.-FT Officer	Peter	Scoble	2024
Police Dept.-FT Officer	Brenda	Tozloski	2024
Police Dept.-FT Sergeant	Brendan	Lyons	2024
Police Dept-FT Officer	Jeff	Belanger	2024
Police Dept.-PT Officer	Zoe	Smith	2024
Police Dept.-PT Officer	Vincent	Fabi	2024
Police Dept.-PT Officer	Dale	Brown	2024
Police Dept.-PT Officer	Jordan	Zukowski	2024
Police Dept-PT Officer	Taylor	Beaudry	2024
Police Dept.-Animal Control Officer	Emmie	Martin	2024
Police Dept-Animal Inspector	Emmie	Martin	2024
Alcohol Enforcement Agent	Erik	Demetropoulos*	2024
Alcohol Enforcement Agent	Benjamin	Peters	2024
Alcohol Enforcement Agent	Peter	Scoble	2024
Alcohol Enforcement Agent	Brenda	Tozloski	2024
Alcohol Enforcement Agent	Brendan	Lyons	2024
Alcohol Enforcement Agent	Jeff	Belanger	2024
Alcohol Enforcement Agent	Zachary	Smith	2024
Alcohol Enforcement Agent	Vincent	Fabi	2024
Alcohol Enforcement Agent	Dale	Brown	2024
Alcohol Enforcement Agent	Jordan	Zukowski	2024
Alcohol Enforcement Agent	Taylor	Beaudry	2024
Poll Worker	Erik	Demetropoulos*	2024
Poll Worker	Benjamin	Peters	2024
Poll Worker	Peter	Scoble	2024
Poll Worker	Brenda	Tozloski	2024
Poll Worker	Brendan	Lyons	2024
Poll Worker	Jeff	Belanger	2024
Poll Worker	Zachary	Smith	2024
Poll Worker	Vincent	Fabi	2024

Poll Worker	Dale	Brown	2024
Poll Worker	Jordan	Zukowski	2024
Poll Worker	Taylor	Beaudry	2024
Payroll Clerk	Joanne	Beagel	2024
Recreation Coordinator	James	Ewen	2024
Wiring Inspector	Bill	Erman	2024
Wiring Inspector-Alt.	Paul	Miller	2024
Agricultural Commission-Conservation Rep.	Jennifer	Unkles	2024
Agricultural Commission	Robert	Williams	2024
Agricultural Commission	Megan	Arquin	2024
Anti-Harrassment Officer	Elizabeth	Sillin	2024
<u>Burial Agent-Appointment by Board of Health</u>			
Burial Agent	Wendy	Houle	2024
<u>Capital Improvement Planning Committee</u>			
Capital Improvement Planning Com	Nathaniel	Waring	2024
Capital Improvement Planning Com	Mike	Skibiski	2024
Capital Improvement Planning Com	Peter	Gagarin	2024
Capital Improvement Planning Com	Dana	Roscoe	2024
Capital Improvement Planning Com	Rock	Warner	2024
Capital Improvement Planning Committee	Lorin	Starr	2024
Civil Defense-EMD	Laurie	Smith	2024
Community Preservation Com-Recreation Rep.Meagan	Megan	Arquin	2024
Community Preservation Com-Housing Rep.	Stuart	Beckley	2024
Community Preservation Com-Planning Board Rep.	Ellie	Kurth	2024
Community Preservation Com-Con. Com. Rep	Jennifer	Unkles	2024
Community Preservation Com-Citizen Rep		VACANT	2024
Community Preservation Com-Historical	Helen	Clark	2024
Community Preservation Com- Citizen Rep	Mike	Wisseman	2024
<u>3-yr Appointments</u>			
Conservation Commission- 3yr apptmt	Mark	Zinan	2025
Conservation Commission- 3yr apptmt	Gabrielle	Kurth	2025
Conservation Commission - 3 yr apptmt	Jennifer	Unkles	2026
Conservation Commission- 3yr apptmt	Nancy	Pick	2026
Conservation Commission- 3yr apptmt	Dan	Murphy	2024
Constable	Fred	Laurenitis	2024

Constable	Allan	Richards	2024
Constable	Michael	Wozniakewicz	2024
Council On Aging	LaDonna	Olanyk	2024
Council On Aging	Maryann	Kowaleck	2024
Council On Aging	VACANT		
Cultural Council	Mary	Gorman	
Cultural Council	Barbara	Howey	
Cultural Council	Julie	Jacque	
Cultural Council	Peter	Lacey	
Cultural Council	Kat	Power	
Cultural Council	Debbie	Russell	
Cultural Council	Tammy	Thompson	
Cultural Council	Beth	Roberge Friedrichs	
Cultural Council	Vrishali	Javeri	
Cultural Council	Jessica	Fydenkevez	
Economic Development Committee	Jim	Berontas	2024
Economic Development Committee-Fin Com rep			2024
Economic Development Committee	Fred	Laurenitis	2024
Economic Development Committee	Nahaniel	Waring	2024
Economic Development Committee	Rock	Warner, Jr.	2024
Election Officers/Democrats	Debra	Bennett	2024
Election Officers/Democrats	Christine	Drake	2024
Election Officers/Democrats	Mary Ann	Gundersen	2024
Election Officers/Democrats	Barbara	Howey	2024
Election Officers/Republicans	Ronald	Howey	2024
Election Officers/Republicans	Donna	McKemmie	2024
Election Officers/Democrats	Pam	Parsons	2024
Election Officers/Democrats	Allan	Richards	2024
Election Officers/Republicans	Stana	Wheeler	2024
Election Officers/Democrats	William	Sillin	2024
Election Officers/Democrats	Stana	Wheeler	2024
Election Officers/Unenrolled	Carol	Ahearn	2024
Election Officers/Unenrolled	Carol	Kushi	2024
Election Officers/Unenrolled	Jean	McEnaney	2024
Emergency Management Director	Laurie	Smith	2024
Energy Committee	Aaron	Falbel	2024
Energy Committee	David	Goodwin	2024
Energy Committee	Laura	Williams	2024
Energy Committeee	Gabriella	Fox	2024

Finance Committee-Appointment by Moderator

Finance Committee	Sara	Smiarowski	2024
Finance Committee	Linda	Forget	2024
Finance Committee	Joseph	Elias	2024
Finance Committee - eff 4.10.2023	Voorheis	Valerie	2025
Finance Committee	VACANT		
Franklin County Solid Waste Rep	vacant		2024
Franklin County Regional Planning Board	Dana	Roscoe	2024
Franklin Tech. School Rep-Moderator Appt	James	Bernotas	2024
Hazardous Waste Coordinator	vacant		
Historical Commission-resg 6.1.23	Wendy	Houle	2024
Historical Commission	Helen	Clark	2024
Historical Commission	Stephen	Schneider	2024
Historical Commission	Jessica	Skibiski	2024
Historical Commission	Craig	Felton	2024
Historical Commission	Maryann	Gunderson	2024
Historical Commission	Margaret	Orelup	2024
Housing Committee	Stuart	Beckley	2024
		Drake-	
Housing Committee	Christyl	Tremblay	2024
Housing Committee	VACANT		
Housing Committee	VACANT		2024
Parking Clerk	Heather	Davis	2024
Personnel Committee-Employee Rep.	George	Emery	2024
Personnel Committee-Fin. Com. Rep	Valerie	Voorheis	2024
		Drake-	
Personnel Committee-Selectmen Rep.	Christyl	Tremblay	2024
Personnel Committee-Citizen Rep.	Michael	Wozniakiewicz	2024
Personnel Committee=Citizen Rep			
Public Weighers appointed April 1st-March 31st			
Public Weighers-All States Asphalt	Dean	Cloninger	2024
Public Weighers-All States Asphalt	Thomas	Kelly	2024
Public Weighers-All States Asphalt	Jason	Massey	2024
Public Weighers-All States Asphalt	Andrew	Pepyne	2024
		Homquist-	
Public Weighers-All States Asphalt	Aleigh	Parker	2024
		Homquist-	
Public Weighers-All States Asphalt	Andrea	Parker	2024
		Homquist-	
Public Weighers-All States Asphalt	Tim	Parker	2024

Public Weighers-All States Asphalt	Peter	Homquist-Parker	2024
Registrars	Edward	Kelley	2024
Registrars	Donald	Patterson	2024
Registrars	Al	Richards	2024
<u>Selectboard Committees</u>			
Community Preservation Committee	Christyl	Drake-Tremblay	2024
Housing Committee	Christyl	Drake-Tremblay	2024
Personnel Committee	Christyl	Drake-Tremblay	2024
SEPT	Christyl	Drake-Tremblay	2024
South County EMS Brd of Oversight	Christyl	Drake-Tremblay	2024
Ditch Committee	Dan	Murphy	2024
FRCOG Rep. (Selectboard Designee)	Dan	Murphy	2024
South County Senior Center	Dan	Murphy	2024
SEPT	Dan	Murphy	2024
Village Center Committee	Dan	Murphy	2024
Economic Development Committee	Nathaniel	Waring	2024
Capital Improvement Planning Committee	Nathaniel	Waring	2024
Teacher Union 38 & Instructional Asst. Rep.	Nathaniel	Waring	2024
SEPT	Nathaniel	Waring	2024
SouthCoEMS - Brd of Oversight-Community Rep eff 6.5.23	Tom	Fydenkevez	2024
Sunderland Ditch Committee	Dewitt	Thompson	2024
Sunderland Ditch Committee	Gerald	Bak	2024
Sunderland Ditch Committee	James	Perot	2024
Sunderland Ditch Committee	Mark	Benjamin	2024
Sunderland Ditch Committee	Dan	Murphy	2024
Sunderland Ditch Committee	Mark	Zinan	2024
Sunderland Emergency Preparedness Team	Stephen	Ball	2024
Sunderland Emergency Preparedness Team	Ben	Barshefsky	2024
Sunderland Emergency Preparedness Team	Christyl	Drake-Tremblay	2024
Sunderland Emergency Preparedness Team	George	Emery	2024
Sunderland Emergency Preparedness Team	Dan	Murphy	2024
Sunderland Emergency Preparedness Team	Fred	Laurenitis	2024
Sunderland Emergency Preparedness Team	Geoff	Kravitz	2024
Sunderland Emergency Preparedness Team	Nathaniel	Waring	2024
Sunderland Emergency Preparedness Team	Erik	Demetropoulos	2024
Sunderland Emergency Preparedness Team	Steve	Benjamin	2024

Town Administrator Committees-Advisory/Non-Voting

Network & Electronic Resources Agent	Geoff	Kravitz	2024
Procurement Officer	Geoff	Kravitz	2024
ADA Coordinator	Geoff	Kravitz	2024
PVTA Representative	Geoff	Kravitz	2024
Ethics Municipal Liaison	Geoff	Kravitz	2024
Community Econ Development Strategy (CEDS)	Geoff	Kravitz	2024
Super RAO	Geoff	Kravitz***	2024

Town Counsel	KP Law		2024
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Veterans Agent-Upper Pioneer Valley Dist Rep	VACANT		
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Veterans Graves Officer	VACANT		
Veterans Memorial Oversight Committee	Michael	Ahearn	2024
Veterans Memorial Oversight Committee	VACANT		
Veterans Memorial Oversight Committee	VACANT		

Village Center Committee (Business Rep)	Kyle	Snow	2024
Village Center Committee (Selectboard Rep)	Christyl	Drake-Tremblay	2024
Village Center Committee (Community Pathways Rep)	Rock	Warner	2024
Village Center Committee (Planning Brd Rep)	Douglas	Fulton	2024
Village Center Committee (Historical Commission)	Jessica	Skibiski	2024
Village Center Committee (At Large Rep)	Lorin	Starr	2024
Village Center Committee (At Large Rep)	Elizabeth	Sillin	2024

ZBA Chair	Steven	Krol*	2025
ZBA member	Stuart	Beckley	2025
ZBA member	James	Bernotas	2026
ZBA member	James	Williams, Jr.	2026
ZBA member	Hollis	Graves	2026

ZBA-Associate Member

ZBA-Associate Member-PB Rep.	Amanda	Hanley	2024
ZBA-Associate Member	Rock	Warner	2024

ELECTED OFFICIALS

ELECTED OFFICIALS	FIRST	LAST	TERM
BOARD OF ASSESSORS	James	Kowaleck*	2025
BOARD OF ASSESSORS	Michael	Skibiski	2024
BOARD OF ASSESSORS	Mary Ann	Kowaleck	2026
BOARD OF HEALTH	Milonda	Williams	2025
BOARD OF HEALTH	Kenneth	Kushi	2024
BOARD OF HEALTH	Bruce	Bennett	2026
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMITTEE	Jessica	Corwin	2025
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMITTEE	Megan	Arquin	2024
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMITTEE	Peter	Gagarin	2024

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMITTEE	Joseph	Elias	2026
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMITTEE	Amanda	Wygant	2026
FRONTIER REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE	Christopher	White	2025
FRONTIER REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE (SES Rep)	Joseph	Elias	2025
FRONTIER REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE	Keith	McFarland	2026
LIBRARY TRUSTEES	Kristyn	Korpita	2026
LIBRARY TRUSTEES	Justine	Rosewarne	2025
LIBRARY TRUSTEES	David	Wissemann	2025
LIBRARY TRUSTEES	Hollis	Graves	2024
LIBRARY TRUSTEES	Emily	Petit	2024
LIBRARY TRUSTEES	Lorin	Starr	2024
LIBRARY TRUSTEES	Heidi	Bauer-Clapp	2025
LIBRARY TRUSTEES	Molly	Gowa	2026
LIBRARY TRUSTEES	Valerie	Voorheis	2026
MODERATOR	David	Pierce	2024
PLANNING BOARD	Douglas	Fulton	2024
PLANNING BOARD	Amanda	Hanley	2028
PLANNING BOARD	David Paul	Dean	2027
PLANNING BOARD	Gabrielle	Kurth	2026
PLANNING BOARD	Dana	Roscoe*	2025
RIVERSIDE CEMETERY TRUSTEES	Michael	Wissemann	2025
RIVERSIDE CEMETERY TRUSTEES	Scott	Bergeron*	2024
RIVERSIDE CEMETERY TRUSTEES	Janet	Bergeron	2026
SELECTBOARD	Nathaniel	Waring	2025
SELECTBOARD	Christyl	Drake-Tremblay	2024
SELECTBOARD	Daniel	Murphy	2026
SEWER COMMISSIONERS	Nathanial	Waring	2025
SEWER COMMISSIONERS	Christyl	Drake-Tremblay	2024
SEWER COMMISSIONERS	Daniel	Murphy	2026
TOWN CLERK	Wendy	Houle**	2025
ASST. TOWN CLERK-APPOINTED BY TOWN CLERK	Geoff	Kravitz	2023
TOWN PARK TRUSTEES	Ben	Barshefsky	Will Dictates
TOWN PARK TRUSTEES	Kenneth	Kushi	2025
TOWN PARK TRUSTEES	School Com Rep		2024

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Assessors@townofsunderland.us / 413-665-1445 or 413-665-1441 x5

The Assessors Office continues to work hard to provide more online information to residents than ever before. The Assessors page on the Town of Sunderland Web Page provides residents, prospective residents, realtors and appraisers links to many FAQ. The Administrative Assistant in the office has provided forms and information about everything assessing, including a link to get onto our (Geological Information Systems) GIS, a mapping technology that allows the user to interact with maps and data sources.

The Town continued their association with Bishop and Associates, Agawam Ma as our Valuation Vendor, who recently completed a town wide review of all properties. We are confident that Roy Bishop will provide us with accurate and up to date values for all properties in town.

The GIS link – hosted by Cartographic Associates of Littleton NH is an online tool that can provide information about every property in town. Properties can be searched by owner's name, address or map and lot. There is a guide to help navigate this on the Assessors page. Once a property is found it can be viewed on the map with lot dimensions. A property card with detailed information, photo, and building sketch can be shown. We have begun adding deeds, plot plans and agricultural liens as they come into our office. Information is updated monthly to provide the most current data. There are other tools or layers available on the GIS link include zoning and abutters lists.

Online Permitting allows the public 24-hour access to apply for a building and electrical permit.

Our mission has been and will continue to be:

- to assess properties at fair market value
- to treat each property owner in a fair and equitable manner
- to provide comprehensive customer service to all
- to make information readily accessible to all

Submitted by The Sunderland Board of Assessors

James Kowaleck – Co- Chairmen (2025)

Michael Skibiski- Co-Chairmen (2024)

MaryAnn Kowaleck Board Member (2026)

Prepared by W David Zagorski

Assessors Administrative Assistant

BOARD OF ASSESSORS
Tax Recapitulation of Tax Levy

	<u>Fiscal 2024</u>	<u>Fiscal 2023</u>
Total Amount to be Raised	12,604,543.71	10,929,442
Total Estimated Receipts from Non-Tax Sources	4,852,076.21	4,229,812
Tax Levy	7,752,467.50	6,699,630

Value of Real Estate by Class

Real Estate Property Valuation		
Residential	532,934,697.00	470,772,500
Commercial	29,396,033.00	27,872,833
Industrial	7,835,900.00	7,215,000
Personal Property Valuation	19,823,286.00	17,548,252
Total Property Valuation	589,989,916.00	523,408,585
Tax Rate (Levy/Valuation*1000)	\$13.14	\$12.80

Local Expenditures

Appropriations	11,625,164.21	10,137,963
Other Amounts to be Raised	979,379.50	791,479
Total Amount to be Raised	12,604,543.71	10,929,442

Estimated Receipts and Available Funds

Estimated Receipts - State	2,028,023	2,191,624
Estimated Receipts - Local	1,255,072	1,190,531
Free Cash	640,122	239,877
Other Available Funds	928,859	607,780
Total Estimated Receipts	4,852,076	4,229,812

Abatements & Exemptions Granted (FY2024 application period not yet closed when report was submitted)

Real Estate Abatements	0	429
Personal Property Abatements	0	0
Veteran's Exemptions	4200	8,645
Blind Exemptions	1312	0
Seniors' Exemptions	0	0
Senior Work-Off Program	1817	1615
Total	\$7,329.00	\$10,689.00

Respectfully submitted,
James Kowaleck, Co-Chair, Michael Skibiski, Co-Chair, Mary Ann Kowaleck, member
Prepared by W. David Zagorski, Assessors Administrative Assistant

BOARD OF HEALTH

Email: boardofhealth@townofsunderland.us / Phone: 413-665-1441 x6

The Board of Health is comprised of three (3) elected members. In addition to the elected board, the Town has two part-time appointed Health and Housing Health Agents for a variety of services. We also are in a grant-funded collaborative providing Public Health Nursing (PHN) service for public health ma Our Public Health Nurse collaborations may participate in regional vaccination sites for flu or COVID. The Board of Health does not provide general vaccinations, medical examinations, or other medical related services and those requiring these services should contact their health provider for further assistance.

The Board of Health team is an integral part of our community-wide Emergency Preparedness Team and participates in Emergency Management meetings and activities for Sunderland and Franklin County.

All Board of Health functions are by appointment only, except for food inspections which are conducted at-will for town restaurants, elementary school, town sponsored or other public events such as including food trucks and vendors for special events for the safety of our community and guests. Call 413-665-1441 x6 or email boardofhealth@townofsunderland.us for appointments or other related matters. [Board of Health forms and fees](#) are also on the town's website. The Board of Health's Administrative Assistant's office hours are Monday through Wednesday 8am-4:00pm and Thursdays 8am-12pm, town offices are closed on Fridays and holidays, however, phone messages and emails are monitored.

The Board of Health meets once per month on Monday evenings; occasionally meetings may be held on other days as warranted. Check the Town's [website calendar](#) for the Board of Health webpage where agendas are also posted for meeting postings each month and /or sign up for [email notifications](#) when information is posted.

Health Agents are responsible for a variety of inspection services such as for state mandated Title 5 testing, perc tests, repair and new septic system plan reviews, soil evaluations, final inspections for septic systems and housing related issues. Health Agents conduct inspections of semi-public pools at the town's apartment complexes. Well permits and inspections for drinking or irrigation purposes are permitted and conducted by health agents. [Well Regulations are available on the town's website.](#) All food inspections for the town's restaurants including seasonal businesses, one-day special events with food trucks or food vendors, catering services, and elementary school cafeteria are conducted on a regular basis.

Housing Services include matters related to sanitary conditions and other condition violations at rental properties, hoarding concerns, building condemnations, fire or disaster inspections, trash complaints, and other matters.

Some of the challenges for the Board of Health is addressing needs with part-time staffing. We are able to offer Public Health Nursing services collaboratively for communicable disease outreach on state reported cases which we cannot provide in-house. Due to the town's diverse population and our proximity to many educational institutions, predicting these needs are difficult at times. We may experience several cases in one year or none, and therefore it is not cost effective to employ a public health nurse on our staff full or part-time. The Board of Health does not provide housing inspection services to private residences including Radon

Testing, Lead Testing, Mold Testing, etc. State agencies are available for guidance through these concerns as well as market products available for personal testing that can be conducted by the homeowner.

The Board is committed to health and safety with tobacco regulations and enforcement especially for our youth. With regulations in place, the Board of Health has been able to limit the types of tobacco products available, regulate packaging and pricing as well as raising the legal age to purchase tobacco products to 21-years-old. The [Board of Health "Tobacco Regulation Restricting Sale of Tobacco Products"](#) and ["Board of Health Regulation: Prohibiting Smoking in Workplaces and Public"](#) are available on the [town's website](#). Education and monitoring inspections are key to this program which has been successful in our local businesses to remain compliant with our regulations.

BOARD OF HEALTH SERVICES & INSPECTIONS PROVIDED BY AGENTS for 2023

- Camp Permits/Inspections: 1
- Disposal Works Permits/Soil Evals & Inspections: 1
- Food Catering Permits: 3
- Food Establishment Inspections-includes public complaints): 23
- Food (Temporary) Permits – Permits & Inspections for temporary events: 7
- Food Permits - year-round: 19
- Housing Complaints & Inspections: 117 hrs. / 35 inspections
- Housing Hoarding: 0 property / 0 hrs. with inspections & court appearances
- Installer's Permits: 4
- Perc Tests: 0
- Pool (semi-public) Permits/Inspections & Re-inspections: 3
- Roadside Property (Bulk) Trash Complaints: 2
- Septage Hauler Permits: 6
- Title 5 Inspections: 4
- Tobacco Sales Permits: 5
- Tobacco Violations: 0
- Well Permits: 1

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce Bennett - Chair, Ken Kushi – Vice Chair, Mel Williams – Clerk

BUILDING COMMISSIONER

Email: tjrbuild@aol.com Phone: 413-364-7782

- Number of Permits for Calendar Year 2023
 - Building Permits - 179
 - Yearly Inspections - 14
 - **TOTAL PERMITS = 193**
- Revenue for Calendar Year 2023
 - All Building permits = \$59,955.50
 - Yearly Inspections = \$1,400.00
 - **TOTAL REVENUE = \$61,395.50**

A building permit is required by the State Building Code to construct, alter, repair, remove, or demolish a building or structure, or to change the occupancy of a building or structure. If you are not sure whether your project will require a building permit, please call before you begin construction.

Permit applications are found on the Town's website:
(<https://www.building@townofsunderland.us>) and completed online.

The Building Commissioner's office can be available at your convenience. If you have a zoning, building, or permitting question, please call my cell 413-364-7782. I can also make myself available to come to your home or business if you needed.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas F. Quinlan Jr.
Sunderland Building Commissioner/Zoning Enforcement Officer

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

conservation@townofsunderland.us Phone: 413-665-1441 x1

The Conservation Commission ("ConCom") is Sunderland's local environmental agency, responsible for protecting its land, water, biodiversity, and other natural resources. The Commission enforces both the state Wetlands Protection Act and the Town of Sunderland's own Wetlands Bylaw.

Why are wetlands so important? They hold and filter water. They also help keep buildings from flooding, prevent pollution, protect groundwater, and support healthy populations of fish and wildlife. The Commission reviews all proposed construction projects located near water bodies and wetlands, in order to protect these important resources.

Another major responsibility of the Commission is to protect open space. Preserving farmland, forest, and other undeveloped land helps Sunderland maintain its "rural, small-town feeling." Through the combined efforts of town residents, town boards, and our town's farmers, we can create a balanced land-use base that preserves open space while maintaining stable taxes.

This has been another busy year for the Conservation Commission, in our efforts to protect wetlands and farmlands and to expand outdoor recreational opportunities for town residents. Highlights of our activities during 2023 include:

- **Wetland Site Reviews.** The Conservation Commission provided oversight of several construction projects in town located near water resources. In addition, members performed numerous Site Reviews, as Sunderland continues to be a desirable place to farm, work and live.
- **Bordering Land Subject to Flooding.** The Commission devoted many meetings to discussing activities in the state wetlands resource area called Bordering Land Subject to Flooding. The challenge was to understand the boundaries of this resource area, given antiquated flood maps. Along the way, we learned about additional elevation data that is available to us. Likely, all the land that flooded in town during the wet summer of 2023 was located in Bordering Land Subject to Flooding or Isolated Land Subject to Flooding, and should not be built on. With climate change bringing more intense rainstorms, the Commission will need to be more vigilant about discouraging construction in floodplain resource areas. Property owners may be required to do elevation surveys more often.
- **Mt. Toby: Robert Frost Trail Revival Project.** Kestrel Land Trust has upgraded the Robert Frost Trail on Mt. Toby, with input and oversight from the Commission. The trail now features improved hiking routes, stream crossings and drainage.
- **Adding Conservation Land.** The Conservation Commission has identified two parcels for possible conservation land, one off of Middle Mountain Road and one off of South Plain Road. Both sites are adjacent to existing conservation land and provide valuable wildlife habitat. If the properties are purchased, the Commission would need to find an organization willing to hold the Conservation Restrictions.

We are truly blessed to have so many outstanding natural resources in town. We enjoy the purest water from our aquifers under Mt. Toby, the most productive farmland in New England, abundant fish and wildlife resources, and some of the most beautiful views in the valley. Please join us in helping to conserve these natural wonders we call home.

The Conservation Commission meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month, beginning at 6:30 pm. We welcome your input and questions regarding our role in protecting Sunderland's water and wetlands resources.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Unkles (chair), Gabrielle Kurth, Dan Murphy, Nancy Pick, Mark Zinan

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Email: cpc@townofsunderland.us

In 2023 the CPC recommended, and the Annual Town Meeting approved, the following proposals:

- \$23,500 for the Frontier Tennis Courts Renovation;
- \$115,000 for the new Pickleball Courts at Riverside Park;
- \$60,000 for the Sunderland Congregational Steeple Restoration

With the match from the Commonwealth, the Town's CPA contribution was just 50% of the total for these projects! Sunderland was one of only 8 towns in Massachusetts to receive a 100% match on our collections in 2023, with a distribution of \$152,894 from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the year. Our CPA fund is in excellent condition, with over \$850,000 available for new projects.

Special thanks to Helen Clark and Tom Fydenkevez for serving on the CPC since its inception in 2011. They both brought valuable insight and perspectives to the history of the town, how precious our resources are and their true community spirit.

Welcome to Margaret Orelup from the Historical Commission and Christyl Drake-Tremblay as a Selectboard appointment.

We look forward to another year of projects that make our town an even better place to live and visit. CPA funds can be used for historical preservation, open space protection, community housing and new recreation projects. The full database of projects across the state, along with a wealth of other CPA information, can be found at: www.communitypreservation.org



Sanderson Place was featured in the Community Preservation Coalition news! See article here: <https://www.communitypreservation.org/cpa-success-stories/news/how-small-town-dreamed-big-cpa-address-affordable-housing-needs-sunderlands>

Respectfully submitted, Meghan Arquin, Chair; Jennifer Unkles, Treasurer; Ellie Kurth, Clerk; Stuart Beckley; Helen Clark; Christyl Drake-Tremblay; Tom Fydenkevez; Margaret Orelup; Mike Wisseman

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Are you prepared for when a natural or other type of disaster affects your home and family? Being aware of your surroundings such as the normal level of brooks, streams and rivers near your property or a lack of electricity in your neighborhood is important. Remember – All emergencies are identified by someone noticing that things are not normal! Don't be afraid to call 911 if something looks out of place or different. Be sure to look out for the most vulnerable in our community – the elderly or those with disabilities. These are our neighbors who are often affected the most severely when disaster strikes. Planning for emergencies is a practical way to have peace of mind and help protect your family and home. The items below are a good review of the things that can help you through unexpected situations.

HOME EMERGENCY KIT

- First Aid Supplies
- Basic Tools, portable radio/flashlight, battery powered, additional batteries
- Bottled water- 1 gal/day/per person
- Non-perishable foods
- Can Opener: non-electric
 - Plastic bags-zipper/re-sealable type, trash bags
- Blankets/hats/gloves/warm clothing
- Prescription drugs & Medical Info
- Writing instruments & paper
- Cell phone & cord/adapters (fully charged before a storm)
- Household bleach
- Toilet paper & waterless hand cleaner/sanitizer
- Disposable Personal Protection, ie, masks/gloves

Additional Items you may want:

- Pre-moistened towelettes
- Eye wear & supplies
- Playing Cards / books
- Pet supplies-leash, collar, food, ID, pet inoculations info, carrier

Car Emergency Kit

- Booster cables
- Maps, shovels, road flares
- Tire repair kit & pump, spare tire, Fix-A-Flat
- Fire Extinguisher (ABC type-#5 All Purpose)
- Blankets/hats/gloves/warm clothing
- Non-perishable food
- First aid kit with manual
- Flashlight
- Carbon Monoxide detector
- Empty gas can
- White cloth to signal distress
- Vehicle Registration & Insurance Info

ENERGY COMMITTEE

In 2023, the Energy Committee continued its investigation into several projects aimed at saving energy for the Town and its residents while also promoting renewable energy opportunities.

Investigating the Establishment of a Transfer Station in Town — Building on our explorations from last year, we continued researching the possibility of creating a Transfer Station in Sunderland, originally spearheaded by Committee member Laura Williams. As there is a direct correlation between trash volume and energy usage, anything we can do to reduce trash and promote reuse and recycling will save energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

At the beginning of the year, we met with all parties surrounding the parcel of land behind the Public Safety Complex as a potential Transfer Station site. This location had many things going for it: it is centrally located; it has good street access; and it already has a three-phase electrical connection with which to power trash compactors and other equipment. However, the meeting identified several potential drawbacks with this site: The parcel has competing uses: a helicopter landing site for the police & fire departments, and use of a “burn house” for training fire personnel around the county. Additionally, the two abutters to the north and south of this site had concerns about siting a Transfer Station there. There were also potential issues with a high water table, and paving the site for a Transfer Station and parking area would only exacerbate this problem. The site definitely has long-standing drainage problems, and the parcel is wet for much of the spring. Additionally, we would need to provide a 100 ft setback on both sides of the field, reducing the area we could use for a Transfer Station. The farmers using the adjacent fields were also concerned about attracting pests to the area due to trash collection and possible leachate from trash compaction. Finally, Jim Scheffler of the Department of Environmental Protection mentioned that the USDA has designated that parcel as “prime farmland,” meaning that we would need to get a waiver from DEP in order to build anything on the site. It was not clear that we could obtain such a waiver. At the very end of the meeting, Mr. Scheffler mentioned two other potential sites: a capped landfill off of Reservation Rd, and a privately owned parcel near the intersection of Rte 47 and Falls Rd, which used to be used as the Town Dump. We investigated both options later in the year. The Reservation Rd site does not have sufficient access, and, after meeting with members of the Sunderland Conservation Commission at the end of the year, the Falls Rd site might have issues with wetland restrictions and rare habitat designations.

Before proceeding further, we decided to conduct a Town-wide survey to determine whether or not there would be sufficient interest in using a Transfer Station if one were to be established. We distributed the survey at Town Meeting in April, and had copies available on the Town website, the Town Offices Building, and the Sunderland Public Library. A link to the survey was also sent to parents of children attending Sunderland Elementary School. All told, we received more than 150 responses. The vast majority of respondents said that a Transfer Station was a good idea and that they would like to use it not only for ordinary trash and recycling but for other uses as well: bulky wastes, scrap metal, reuse of materials, etc. A very positive response.

We still feel that a Transfer Station would be a good thing for Sunderland, would be much cheaper than paying private trash haulers, would provide more opportunities for reuse and recycling, and would function as a social meeting place at the same time. However, we have yet to identify the ideal location for such a facility. This proved to be a lot harder than we originally anticipated. It will take some time to work this out.

Community Choice Aggregation — At the end of 2023, we concluded our third and final year of Community Choice Aggregation contract with Colonial Power Group, together with 13 other towns in Franklin County. CCA entails bulk electricity purchases that afford participants cheaper energy prices and a greater degree of renewable energy in the electricity they purchase. During these three years, for those who did not opt out of this program, Sunderland's electricity rate was locked in at \$0.10292 per kWh. Eversource's Basic Service rate eventually climbed to a peak of \$0.21864 per kWh — more than twice Sunderland's rate. This meant that *all* of our aggregation products, including the 100% MA Class I renewable energy product, were now much less expensive than Eversource's Basic Service and, of course, they contained significantly more renewable energy.

In March of 2023, Colonial Power Group went out to bid to establish rates for a new Community Choice Aggregation contract. As was anticipated, we would not get the same low rates we achieved last time, which were artificially depressed in 2020 due to the pandemic and its economic shutdown. We strived to choose the product that would provide the most renewable energy content while still being cheaper than Eversource's Basic Service rate, which is what Sunderland residents told us they wanted. Since we don't know in advance what Eversource's rates will be, we just have to guess (informed by Colonial Power Group's expertise in these matters). We just made it. Our default product for the next two years will be 100% renewable energy with 38% MA Class I RECs above the mandated amount, which came to \$0.15643 per kWh. Eversource's rate came in just a fraction higher than this, at \$0.15845, but, of course, with much less renewable energy content. We also offered two optional products for residents who wish to purchase even more MA Class I RECs (50% and 100%), though the rates for these products are somewhat more expensive.

Sunderland residents may opt out of this program at any time without a fee by contacting Colonial Power Group. However, we feel that our Community Choice Aggregation plan offers a very good deal for both Sunderland residents and the planet.

Public Programs — On April 11, in conjunction with the Sunderland Public Library, we presented a documentary film titled *The Seeds of Vandana Shiva*, the famed Indian activist who champions sustainable agriculture, food sovereignty, biodiversity, and control of our seed stock from genetic modification. It was attended by 14 people and generated a very interesting discussion. At the end of the year, we were in the midst of planning yet another Window Insert Workshop, which we have offered over the years as an inexpensive way to upgrade the R-value of existing windows by building interior, double-glazed storm windows out of very cheap materials. Thanks goes to Committee member Laura Williams for spearheading this program and for doing much of the work.

Cooler Communities Program — Over several years now, we have been working with the Cooler Communities Program, funded by the Grinspoon Foundation. Committee member David Goodwin has been meeting with Sunderland Elementary School Principal Ben

Barshefsky and School Librarian Rachel Kidder to put on a STEAM event (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics) at the school, funded by this organization. We are pleased to announce that Sunderland Elementary School's \$5,000 grant was accepted, and that the event will be held in the spring of 2024. We applaud Mr. Barshefsky and Ms. Kidder for running with this idea and taking advantage of this opportunity.

Other Business — In June, at the invitation of Representative Natalie Blais, our committee joined her in picking up trash at the side of the road along Falls Rd and Rte. 47. Our committee enjoyed the experience and agreed that we would do this again of our own accord.

We have been in touch with the towns of Deerfield, Whately, and Conway to engage in long-range energy planning for Frontier Regional School. Plans are to perform a "deep energy assessment" to identify potential projects to increase the energy efficiency of that facility.

Respectfully submitted,
David Goodwin (chair), Aaron Falbel (clerk), Meg Fisher-Krugman, and Laura Williams

FCAT - FOR THE TOWN OF SUNDERLAND

Email: mail@fcats.tv or visit: [FCAT online](https://www.fcats.tv)

2023 was a productive and exciting year for Frontier Community Access Television. Along with its usual duties, the station was involved with documenting Deerfield's 350th celebration and also focused on turning the station and studio into a community space.

The usual duties of FCAT for the town of Sunderland consisted of covering Sunderland Selectboard meetings, recording Sunderland's Annual Town meeting, archiving the town's Selectboard meetings on FCAT's YouTube page, and also recording Frontier Regional School events. Along with this, FCAT also managed two cable channels for Sunderland consisting of channel 12 and channel 23, that all featured local programming and a number of community bulletin board postings. It is worth noting also that FCAT also managed the 24 hour bulletin board on Sunderland's channel 15. The coverage of the Selectboard meetings consisted of running a camera documenting the meetings, and also live broadcasting them to Sunderland's channel 15. These were then produced by FCAT and archived on FCAT's YouTube channel and also broadcasted on Channel 23. Sunderland's 2023 Annual Town Meeting was live streamed to FCAT's YouTube channel and also broadcasted to channel 12.

The coverage of school functions for 2023 was overseen by Youth Outreach Coordinator Kevin Murphy, and consisted of sporting events, concerts, and graduation exercises. Coverage of these events utilized at least one Frontier student, thus giving students hands-on experience working on a video set. Kevin also offered several educational programs to Frontier Students consisting of "Crowdsourcing Cinema" and also a three evening workshop series that covered video production and video editing. The Crowdsourcing Cinema project (which is hosted by Northampton Open Media) is a workshop in which Frontier Students recreate a scene from a popular narrative movie. This project gives students experience working on a narrative video set and introduces them into what is involved in producing a feature film.

Along with its usual duties FCAT was also involved with several other projects consisting of documenting Deerfield's 350th celebration and also working to upgrade FCAT's studio and station. The 350th events consisted of numerous historical lectures, the Deerfield 350th parade, a fireworks display, chicken barbecue, a special 350th softball game against the town of Northfield, dances, performances, and open houses. Along with this celebration, FCAT was also focused on upgrading the station and studio. The studio now has two different sets which can be used for recording talk shows, and also has the capability of now hosting podcasts. The Community/Editing Room has also been extensively upgraded to where FCAT can now hold editing and video production classes, which will help grow FCAT's volunteer base in 2024.

Overall 2023 was a productive year, and this coming year will be an even more exciting year for FCAT. Along with covering events and using our channels to serve Sunderland, and our other three communities, FCAT will be focused on recruiting more volunteers and media producers.



Jonathan A. Boschen
FCAT General Manager



FRANKLIN COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Website: <https://franklincountywastedistrict.org/> Phone: 413-772-2438

To the Residents of the Solid Waste District:

The Solid Waste District was formed in 1989 to help Franklin County towns manage all aspects of their solid waste – recyclables, organics, hazardous waste, wastewater treatment sludge, and trash. We continue to provide assistance to twenty-one member towns through administrative support, professional consultation, trainings, and outreach to residents and businesses.

A review of recycling tonnage for 2023 shows that it was almost identical to 2022 recycling tonnage. District residents recycled just over 2,500 tons of paper and containers through their town programs. The recyclables were processed at the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility and sold, primarily to domestic companies, to be recycled.

We held a May and October Clean Sweep bulky waste collection in 2023. Events were held at Mohawk Trail Regional High School, Northfield highway garage, and Whately transfer station. Combined, the events served 500 households and collected over 45 tons of bulky waste, scrap metal, appliances, electronics, propane tanks, tires, and other items.

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If you have questions about District programs, call us at 413-772-2438 (MA Relay for the hearing impaired: 711 or 1-800-439-2370 TTY/TDD), visit our website at www.franklincountywastedistrict.org or visit us at 117 Main St. in Greenfield.

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FIRE DEPARTMENT

Email: fire@townofsunderland.us Website: <http://www.sunderlandfire.com/index.html>
Phone: 413-665-2465 Fax: (413) 665-7599

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The Sunderland Fire and Police Departments helped to organize the Fall Public Safety Festival which was held on the grounds of the Sunderland Elementary School on October 28, 2023. This event was a huge success and drew close to a 1,000 attendees who visited with over 50 public safety agencies from around the Commonwealth.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS TO CITIZENS

- Display house numbers prominently so they can be seen from the street by first responders. We continue to sponsor a house number program. Senior Citizens can order house numbers free of charge from the Fire Department. Numbers are available to all others at a nominal fee.
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- Please check your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors on a regular basis. Early detection of smoke and carbon monoxide is critical to survival. **If your smoke detectors are over 10 years old or your carbon monoxide detectors are more than 7 years old they should be replaced with new units. It's not that new units work 'better', these devices have finite lifespans and old units may not work at all.**

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Please visit our department website at www.sunderlandfire.com for current information on your local Fire Department and upcoming events.

Respectfully submitted,
Steven J. Benjamin, Fire Chief

FRANKLIN COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Website: <https://franklincountywastedistrict.org/> Phone: 413-772-2438

To the Residents of the Solid Waste District:

The Solid Waste District was formed in 1989 to help Franklin County towns manage all aspects of their solid waste – recyclables, organics, hazardous waste, wastewater treatment sludge, and trash. We continue to provide assistance to twenty-one member towns through administrative support, professional consultation, trainings, and outreach to residents and businesses.

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<https://www.townofsunderland.us/fire-department> / Phone: 413-665-2465 EMERGENCY: 911

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Respectfully submitted,
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Franklin Regional Council of Governments Services to Sunderland in 2023

The FRCOG provides planning services, programming, and advocacy to all Franklin County municipalities. Our municipal service programs – Collective Purchasing, the Cooperative Public Health District, Cooperative Building, Plumbing, and Electrical Inspection, and Town Accounting – are available to any municipality. The Community Health Department gathers data and works to improve the factors that impact health in the region; the Planning Department assists with local planning and larger regional projects; and the Emergency Preparedness and Homeland Security Programs prepare and train first responders and local officials.

The following pages list services specific to Sunderland.

Climate Resilience, Land Use, and Housing

- Helped the town administrator with completion of the FY23 MA Green Communities Annual Report.
- Assisted the planning board with preparation of a zoning bylaw and the public hearing process to address accessory and stand-alone battery-energy storage facilities.
- Prepared a memo summarizing known short-term rental numbers in Franklin County, revenues for towns that have opted in to the lodging tax, and existing bylaws across the state related to short-term rentals. Towns can use that info to develop policies and bylaws, if desired.
- Organized and facilitated the Small-Town Housing Working Group, which met 6 times in 2023. Representatives from Sunderland attended at least one meeting, along with

representatives from 15 other Franklin County towns, 3 other municipalities, and several organizations.

Community Health

- Conducted the annual student health survey to assess teen attitudes and behavior among middle and high school students. Staff reported to Frontier Regional School administrators on results from 223 Frontier students, representing 76% of the 8th, 10th, and 12th grade classes. Survey data meets federal requirements for the school and is valuable for grant writing and program planning.
- Worked with Frontier Regional School District (FRSD) administration and staff to implement Restorative Practices school climate improvements.
- Provided resources and direct technical assistance to student groups for advancing racial justice in schools to the FRSD.
- Provided training and stipends to parent leaders (“PEER Ambassadors”) to provide outreach to other parents on topics such as positive parenting, youth substance-use prevention, and mental health resources.
- Supported the South County Senior Center and community members on Mass in Motion age- and dementia-friendly municipal planning initiative. Mass in Motion funded additional staff time for the South County Senior Center Director and Outreach Coordinator to hold focus groups on issues of transportation and food security; to fund a senior center postcard marketing effort aimed at residents over 55 and resulting in 48 new members; and to hold info/input sessions with the Franklin County and the Pioneer Valley Transit Authorities. Senior center staff leveraged this planning to apply for and receive digital literacy and transportation grants.
- Provided 4 Sunderland children with summer camp scholarships through a Community Health Improvement Plan Foundation for Community Justice mini grant to improve youth health.
- Supported town officials with information and technical assistance on spending opioid settlement funds.
- Worked with town officials to recruit residents to fill out the Massachusetts Community Health Survey, to better understand local needs and encourage state investment in improving health outcomes.

Shared Municipal Services

- Sunderland contracted with the FRCOG to receive collective bid pricing for highway products and services, including rental equipment. Staff assisted the town with a bid for the replacement of an underground storage tank at Sunderland Elementary. Staff also conducted a Collective 5-year bid for Student Transportation encompassing 9 Franklin County School Districts, including the Franklin County Technical School.
- FRCOG staff organized and facilitated educational meetings for members of town energy committees, including presenting information on various topics and conducting follow-up communication.
- The FRCOG Town Accounting program produced biweekly vendor warrants, and provided monthly budget reports to all officials and departments through the end of March.

Training and Education

The following list represents the FRCOG workshops, roundtables and training sessions that Sunderland public officials, staff, and residents attended, and the number in attendance:



Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Emergency Prep & Homeland Security

Child Emergency Assessment &
Stabilization — 1

Assault and Battery Response — 3

Municipal Officials' Continuing Education

Selectboard 101 — 1

Planning, Conservation, & Development

Short Term Residential Rentals — 1

Transportation

- Met with the South County Senior Center about public transit needs and issues.
- Participated in preliminary visioning meeting regarding the intersection of Route 116 and Route 47.
- Engaged in contract to install Franklin County Bikeway wayfinding signs in spring 2024.
- Conducted truck survey and reporting at the rest area in Sunderland for truck drivers.
- Provided technical assistance in preliminary discussion of Route 116 corridor improvements to better accommodate bicycles and pedestrians.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

EMAIL: highway@townofsunderland.us Phone: 413-665-1460

The Highway Department is responsible for approximately 40 miles of roads here in the Town of Sunderland. Maintenance of our roadways is continuous, due to the ever-changing conditions, and requires frequent monitoring. Our goal is to be proactive and take in a full view of our environment to foresee possible issues and resolve them. This approach helps us compile a running itemization of projects based on priority and allows us to utilize our budget in the most cost-efficient way.

In 2023 the following maintenance for the town of Sunderland was performed:

- Street sweeping and line painting were done throughout the town.
- Dirt roads were graded and dust control was applied and trouble spots were addressed.
- Speed radar signs are periodically moved around the town to help control speeding.
- American Flags were put up from May Holiday to after 4th of July.
- Paving was done on Rt 47 South 1.5 miles and all catch basins were repaired or replaced before paving.
- Plumtree Road was crack sealed along with oiled and stoned.
- A new backhoe was purchased thanks to town approval.
- Drain storms have been needing to be cleaned and repaired more often due to increased weather conditions.

Along with these projects we continue our normal daily tasks which include but are not limited to mowing, brush mowing, patching, and repairing roadways, plowing, salting, and sanding. We continue to interact with surrounding towns for different recourses as needed.

Our current crew and seasonal staff have done a great job to keep things running smoothly. Our staff participates in ongoing training and certification courses to keep up to date on the most current information and trends.

Our staff handles maintenance and repairs that our equipment and trucks require. We do our best to do most of our maintenance and repairs in-house, but some work must be done off-site with outside vendors.

Our goal is to keep the public informed and updated with current projects, road conditions or closures, storm and weather conditions as well as information and tips. Please visit our web site <http://www.townofsunderland.us>.

I would like to thank the Highway Department crew and the part-time seasonal and winter employees for their hard work and dedication to the Town. Finally, I would like to thank the residents for their continued support.

As always if you have any questions or concerns, please contact George Emery at 413-665-1460.

Respectfully,
George Emery
Highway Superintendent

HISTORICAL COMMISSION / SWAMPFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

<https://www.townofsunderland.us/historical-commission>

Highlights of Sunderland Historical Commission activities during 2023:

We welcomed two new members, Mary Ann Gundersen and Craig Felton, to the commission this year. We want to thank Carl Fiocchi and Wendy Houle, who stepped down after years of service and continue to provide valuable help to the commission when called upon.

During the year, the commission received inquiries about several buildings in the historic district. Advice was sought about ways to preserve a historic family home, and the commission discussed ideas with the family's representative such as a preservation restriction. We also reviewed and supported a preservation restriction agreement for CPA-supported work to preserve and rehabilitate the Congregational Church.

The Graves Library ad hoc committee met to review work that is needed to maintain the building using CPA funds that were previously allocated, and the needs for additional work. The commission participated in a joint meeting to review ideas for improving pedestrian access in the village center, which is challenging because of the heavy traffic crossing through it.

The commission began discussion of how to best deal with concerns about the trees lining North and South Main Street, and the use of the Hubbard Tree Fund. The commission also wrote in support of additional funding for the Sunderland Library's local history series.

Submitted by: Steve Schneider (Chair), Mary Ann Gundersen (Clerk), Craig Felton (Treasurer/Tree Fund Representative), Margaret Orelup (Representative to CPC), Jessica Skibiski (Representative to Village Center Committee), and Helen Clark

Highlights of Swampfield Historical Society activities during 2023:

2023 was an active year for the society with much focus being on the digitizing and uploading of many early Sunderland-related documents. In March town records from 1678 to 1800 were digitized by society volunteers as were the Sunderland church records. These include Indian deeds and original Swampfield Plantation proprietor records, incorporation records and Selectmen minutes. These documents have been helpful for researchers studying Sunderland's early history.

Society volunteers have been working with the town of Leverett historians in their efforts to preserve the Historic Sparrow Saw Mill as a Museum and small park. This mill and surrounding North Everett village was a part of Sunderland until Leveret's setting off in 1774.

The society's collection continues to grow rapidly and much of it can be viewed at Swampfieldhistorical.org. Our Museum is now open most Wednesdays from 1 to 3 pm. We also hold an open house coinciding with the Library plant sale.



PIONEER VALLEY MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT

TOWN OF SUNDERLAND

Quick Summary Page

Targeted Primary Vector Species:

- *Culiseta melanura*, the primary vector for EEE, amplifies the virus within the bird population.
- *Culex pipiens* amplify WNV within the bird population and will feed on humans, creating a "bridge" for the virus.

Surveillance Data:

- 23 traps were strategically deployed across 10 sites in Sunderland.
- Two types of traps utilized: CDC Trap (attracts mammal-biting mosquitoes) and Gravid Trap (attracts primary WNV vector species).
- 35 pools submitted for testing, focusing on WNV and EEE detection. Majority of mosquito species submitted for testing: *Culex pipiens/restuans* and *Culex salinarius*.

- A total of 751 pools submitted for arbovirus testing district wide.
- *Culex pipiens/restuans*, *Coquilleltidia perturbans*, and *Culex salinarius* identified as the most abundant species across the entire District.
- Over 40,000 mosquitoes were collected and sorted by PVMCD staff.

Arbovirus Detections Throughout the Pioneer Valley Region:

- Neither EEE nor WNV were found in Sunderland during the 2023 surveillance season.
- 17 WNV-positive pools detected in the Pioneer Valley Region, impacting many communities.
- 6 pools tested positive for EEE, mainly in Hampden County.
- Confirmation of 2 human cases of WNV in Hampden County.

Arbovirus Detections Throughout the Commonwealth:

- State Laboratory identified 128 WNV-positive mosquito pools across multiple counties. Counties affected: Berkshire, Hampshire, Hampden, Worcester, Bristol, Plymouth, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Middlesex.
- 28 EEE-positive pools found in Hampden, Worcester, Bristol, and Plymouth Counties. High-risk level in Hampden and Worcester Counties, suggesting likely human transmission.
- 2 new positives: *Psorophora ferox* and *Aedes cinereus* showed EEE positives for the first time based on historical data.
- 6 human cases of WNV reported throughout the state. No reported cases in humans or animals.

Weather Impacts and 2024 Outlook:

- Impact of weather conditions on *Culiseta melanura* populations: Wet weather throughout the year will likely contribute to greater numbers of this species.
- Prediction of a warm and wet winter by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.
- PVMCD's focus will be on early detection of EEE in *Culiseta melanura* mosquitoes during the upcoming season.
- Recommended that horse owners time the encephalitis vaccine to provide protection through October of 2024.

A comprehensive FAQ and detailed information about vector species can be found at the end of this report.

Introduction

The Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District (PVMCD) surveillance summary provides an overview of arbovirus testing and mosquito surveillance efforts conducted in the Town of Sunderland. The surveillance testing period spanned from June 12 to October 12, focusing on the identification and monitoring of potential disease vectors, particularly those carrying West Nile Virus (WNV) and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE).

The comprehensive surveillance program not only involved the collection of mosquitoes but also emphasized the testing of targeted mosquito species to identify potential vectors of WNV and EEE. This proactive and targeted strategy contributes to public health efforts by providing valuable data for the early detection and monitoring of mosquito-borne diseases in the Pioneer Valley Region.

Primary Vector Species

Culiseta melanura feed primarily on avian species and are responsible for amplifying both EEE and WNV among the wild bird population. *Culiseta melanura* are multivoltine, meaning they have multiple generations throughout the warmer months. Climate plays a major role in how many generations *melanura* can produce each year. For instance, in southern states, *melanura* can produce three or more generations, whereas in Massachusetts, it can reach only two generations. However, this number may

increase due to warming temperatures and the extended growing season. Adult *melanura* will die off with the first hard frost, and the larvae will overwinter in what is referred to as “crypts”, found in red maple and white cedar swamps.

Culex pipiens play a significant role in the transmission cycle of WNV by amplifying the virus within the wild bird population. Similar to *melanura* mosquitoes, *pipiens* prefer avian hosts; however, they will also feed on mammals around dusk. *Culex pipiens* have multiple generations throughout the warm season, and an extended growth season with warmer temperatures in September will result in more generations. Once temperatures begin to cool, adult female *pipiens* will typically seek out man-made structures such as houses, sheds, and discarded tire piles. Regarding habitat, *pipiens* prefer very stagnant water that can be found in catch basins, discarded tires, and “green” swimming pools.

Please see the Targeted Mosquito Species table on the last page of the report for more information regarding medical importance, habitat, and phenology.

Surveillance Data

A total of 23 traps were strategically deployed across 10 trap sites to capture targeted mosquito species in Sunderland. Two distinct types of traps were utilized:

1. **CDC Trap:** This trap is baited with carbon dioxide (CO₂) and designed to attract a variety of mammal-biting mosquitoes. The use of CO₂ mimics the exhalation of potential hosts, making it an effective tool for capturing mosquitoes seeking blood meals from mammals.
2. **Gravid Trap:** Characterized by its unappealing aroma, the gravid trap is baited with hay-infused water. This unpleasant scent is specifically attractive to *Culex pipiens* mosquitoes, which are drawn to the trap for egg deposition. This targeted approach aids in the surveillance of a specific mosquito species known for its potential to transmit WNV.

A total of 35 pools (5-50 mosquitoes placed in a PCR tube), consisting of various mosquito species, were submitted for testing, focusing on the detection of WNV and EEE (see table 1). The species making up the majority of submitted pools included *Culex pipiens/restuans* (10 pools), followed by *Aedes vexans* (7 pools), and *Coquillettidia perturbans* (4 pools).

District-wide, there were 751 pools of mosquitoes submitted for arbovirus testing through PVMCD. Of those pools, the most abundant species were *Culex pipiens/restuans* with 245 pools, followed by *Coquillettidia perturbans* (172) and *Culex salinarius* (74). Over 40,000 mosquitoes were collected and sorted for testing by PVMCD staff.

Table 1: Submitted pools for testing. Note, trapping began the week of 6/5/23 and ended the week of 10/4/23 (testing ended the following week). Both CDC and Gravid traps were set up each week throughout the season. Not every trap produced enough targeted species to submit for testing each week. These traps are labeled NCR for no collection recorded or TF for trap failure. These data are not included in the table below but are available upon request.

Trap Set Date	Collection Date	Trap Type	Pool Size	Species	Result
6/13/2023	6/14/2023	Gravid Trap	6	<i>Culex pipiens/restuans</i>	Negative
6/30/2023	7/1/2023	Gravid Trap	6	<i>Coquillettidia perturbans</i>	Negative
6/30/2023	7/1/2023	CDC Trap	50	<i>Coquillettidia perturbans</i>	Negative

6/30/2023	7/1/2023	CDC Trap	50	Coquillettidia perturbans	Negative
6/30/2023	7/1/2023	Gravid Trap	5	Culex pipiens/restuans	Negative
6/30/2023	7/1/2023	CDC Trap	12	Ochlerotatus canadensis	Negative
7/11/2023	7/12/2023	Gravid Trap	34	Culex pipiens/restuans	Negative
7/25/2023	7/26/2023	Gravid Trap	12	Culex pipiens/restuans	Negative
7/25/2023	7/26/2023	Gravid Trap	17	Ochlerotatus japonicus	Negative
8/1/2023	8/2/2023	Gravid Trap	11	Culex pipiens/restuans	Negative
8/1/2023	8/2/2023	Gravid Trap	12	Ochlerotatus japonicus	Negative
8/1/2023	8/2/2023	Gravid Trap	27	Ochlerotatus japonicus	Negative
8/8/2023	8/9/2023	Gravid Trap	8	Culex pipiens/restuans	Negative
8/14/2023	8/15/2023	Gravid Trap	14	Culex pipiens/restuans	Negative
8/14/2023	8/15/2023	Gravid Trap	5	Culex pipiens/restuans	Negative
8/22/2023	8/23/2023	Gravid Trap	5	Ochlerotatus japonicus	Negative
8/28/2023	8/29/2023	CDC Trap	37	Aedes vexans	Negative
8/28/2023	8/29/2023	CDC Trap	9	Coquillettidia perturbans	Negative
8/28/2023	8/29/2023	CDC Trap	21	Culex salinarius	Negative
9/6/2023	9/7/2023	Gravid Trap	7	Culex pipiens/restuans	Negative
9/13/2023	9/14/2023	CDC Trap	6	Aedes vexans	Negative
9/13/2023	9/14/2023	CDC Trap	17	Anopheles punctipennis	Negative
9/13/2023	9/14/2023	CDC Trap	27	Culex salinarius	Negative
9/13/2023	9/14/2023	CDC Trap	45	Psorophora ferox	Negative
9/20/2023	9/21/2023	CDC Trap	44	Aedes vexans	Negative
9/20/2023	9/21/2023	CDC Trap	17	Anopheles punctipennis	Negative
9/27/2023	9/28/2023	Gravid Trap	50	Aedes vexans	Negative
9/27/2023	9/28/2023	Gravid Trap	50	Aedes vexans	Negative
9/27/2023	9/28/2023	Gravid Trap	23	Aedes vexans	Negative
9/27/2023	9/28/2023	Gravid Trap	9	Culex pipiens/restuans	Negative
9/27/2023	9/28/2023	Gravid Trap	1	Culiseta melanura	Negative
9/27/2023	9/28/2023	Gravid Trap	50	Ochlerotatus trivittatus	Negative
9/27/2023	9/28/2023	Gravid Trap	21	Psorophora ferox	Negative
10/4/2023	10/5/2023	CDC Trap	7	Aedes vexans	Negative
10/4/2023	10/5/2023	CDC Trap	5	Psorophora ferox	Negative

Arbovirus Detections Throughout the Pioneer Valley Region

Neither EEE nor WNV were detected in the Town of Sunderland during the 2023 surveillance season. A total of 17 WNV positive pools were detected in the Pioneer Valley Region (see figure 1 for general locations). Impacted communities included Amherst, Deerfield, East Longmeadow, Granby, Hadley, Holyoke, Northampton, Palmer, South Hadley, Springfield, and West Springfield (see figure 2). Additionally, 6 pools tested positive for EEE positive pools detected in the Pioneer Valley Region, mainly in Hampden County. The affected communities included Brimfield, Chicopee, East Longmeadow, and Wilbraham. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health confirmed 2 human cases of WNV in Hampden County.

Figure 1: General locations where WNV was detected in Pioneer Valley.

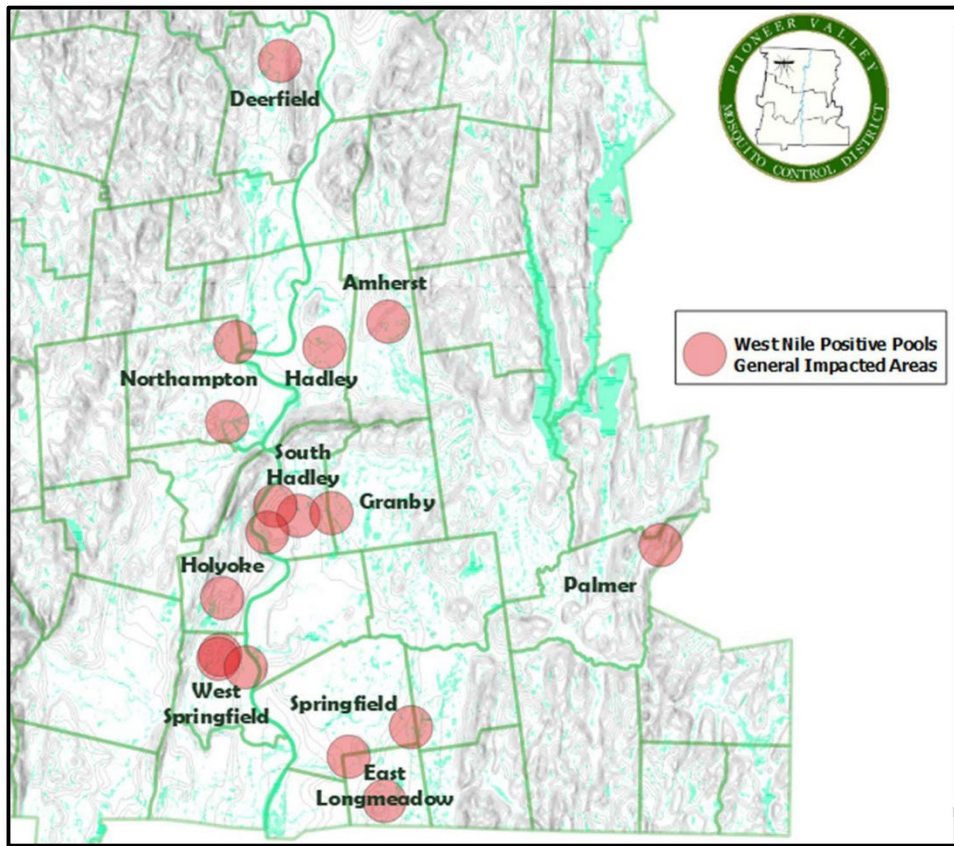
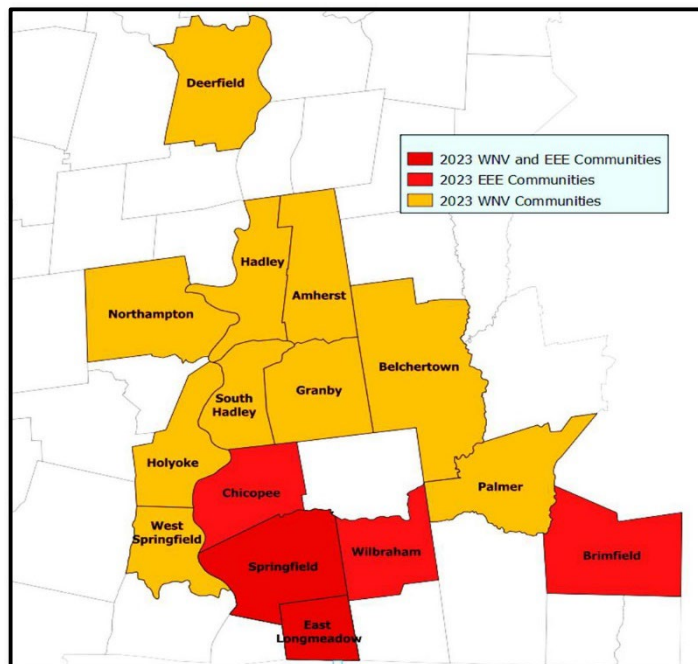


Figure 2: Communities impacted by WNV and EEE in the Pioneer Valley Region during 2023.



Arbovirus Detections Throughout the Commonwealth

The State Laboratory detected a total of 128 WNV-positive pools of mosquitoes throughout the state in the following counties: Berkshire, Hampshire, Hampden, Worcester, Bristol, Plymouth, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Middlesex (see figure 3). The communities affected by WNV had a moderate risk level, indicating that WNV infection had either occurred or was highly probable. For EEE, 28 pools tested positive across Hampden, Worcester, Bristol, and Plymouth Counties (see figure 4). Communities in Hampden and Worcester Counties had a high-risk level, meaning that human transmission was likely. Mosquitoes that tested positive for EEE consisted of *Culiseta melanura* (19), *Aedes cinereus* (3), *Coquillettidia perturbans* (2), *Culex salinarius* (1), *Aedes canadensis* (1), *Psorophora ferox* (1), *Uranotaenia sapphirina* (1). Based on historical arbovirus data, this year produced EEE positives for the first time in *Psorophora ferox* and *Aedes cinereus*. In total, there were 6 human cases of WNV throughout the state, with no cases of EEE reported in either humans or animals.

Figure 3: 2023 Arbovirus Risk Map. (Image credit: The Massachusetts Department of Public Health)

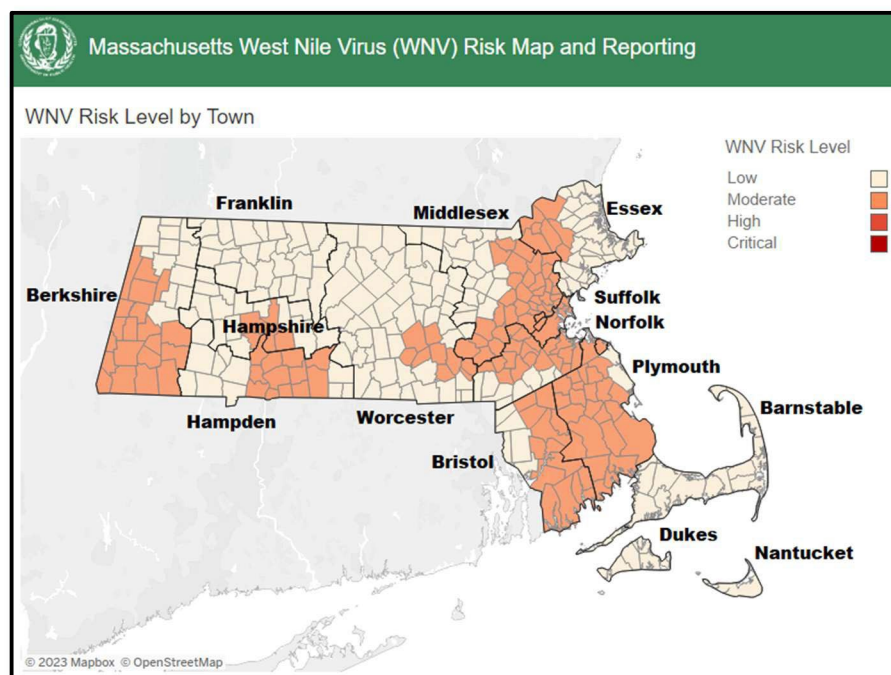
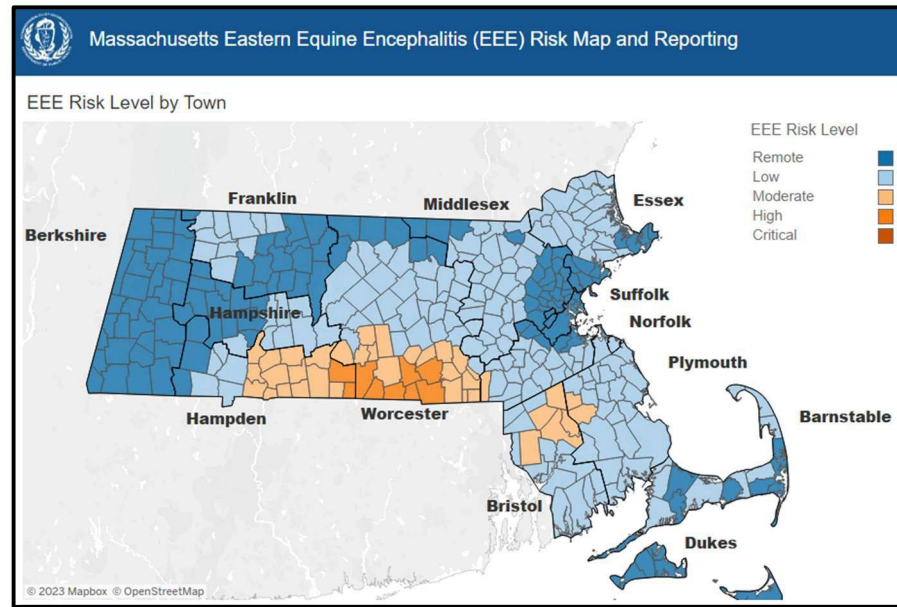


Figure 4: 2023 EEE Risk Map. (Image credit: The Massachusetts Department of Public Health)



Weather Impacts and 2024 Outlook

As mentioned earlier in the report, *Culiseta melanura* mosquitoes are the primary vector for EEE. *Melanura* rely on a permanent water source to breed during the summer and overwinter in the larval phase. The significant rainfall experienced this past season triggered a resurgence in *melanura* populations throughout the entire state. It was not until EPI week 35 that PVMCD started to detect larger numbers of *melanura* throughout the district (see figure 5). The delay in their appearance in surveillance traps can be attributed to the previous year's extreme drought which had reduced *melanura* numbers considerably.

A wet summer, winter, and spring will likely lead to higher populations of *melanura* next season. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is predicting a warm and wet winter from December to February (see figures 6 and 7). If EEE is present in the bird population, then it will likely be amplified earlier in the season by the 1st generation of *melanura* mosquitoes.

Due to weather impacts affecting next season's EEE outlook, PVMCD will be heavily focusing on establishing vector habitat during the early spring for the purpose of early detection of EEE in *Culiseta melanura* mosquitoes. Moreover, *Melanura* population data and any incidence of virus will be promptly communicated with local Boards of Health, and public outreach/education materials will be available for distribution. Lastly, it is highly recommended that horse owners speak to their veterinarians about the encephalitis vaccine and establishing an appropriate vaccine schedule that ensures protection through October of 2024.

Figure 5

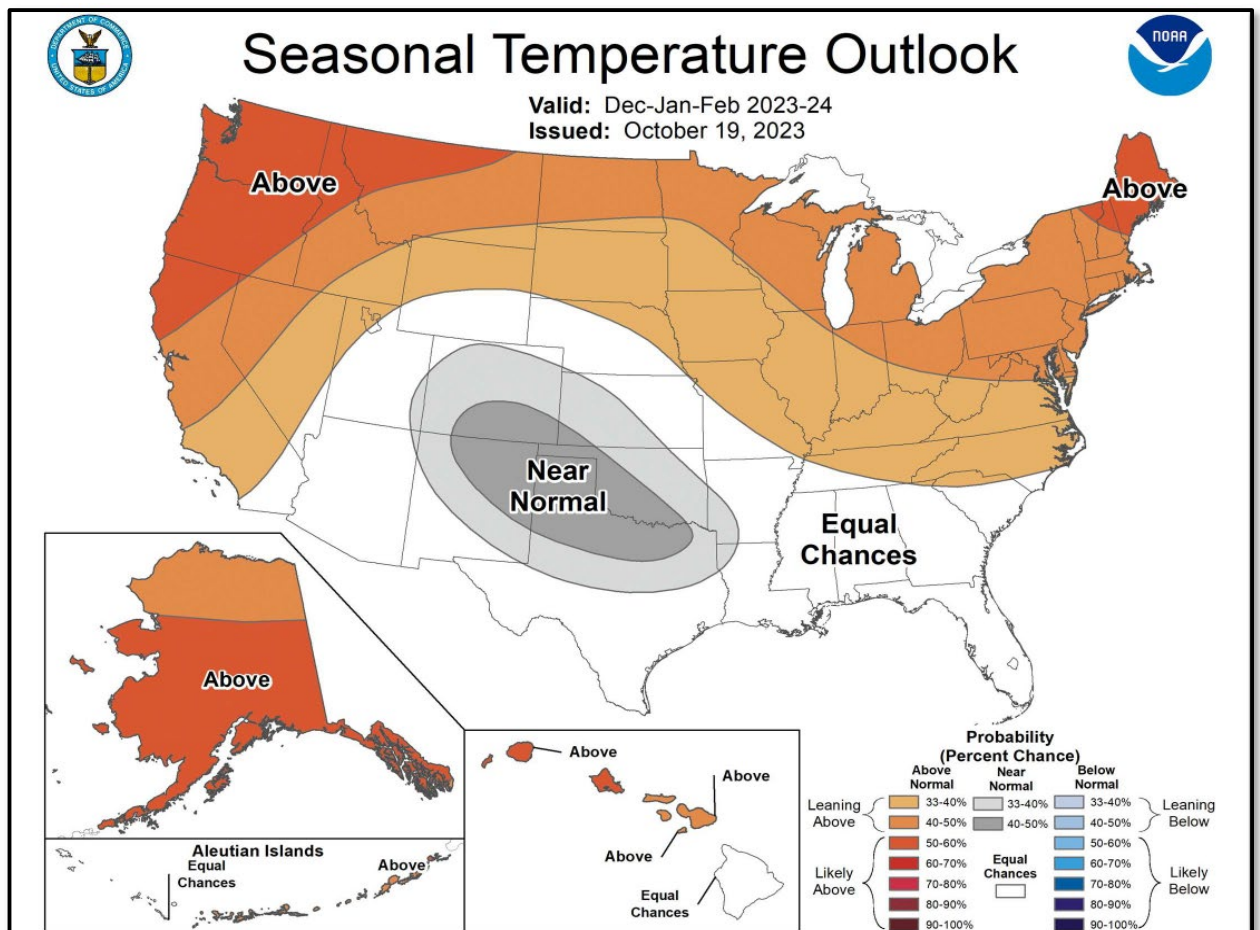
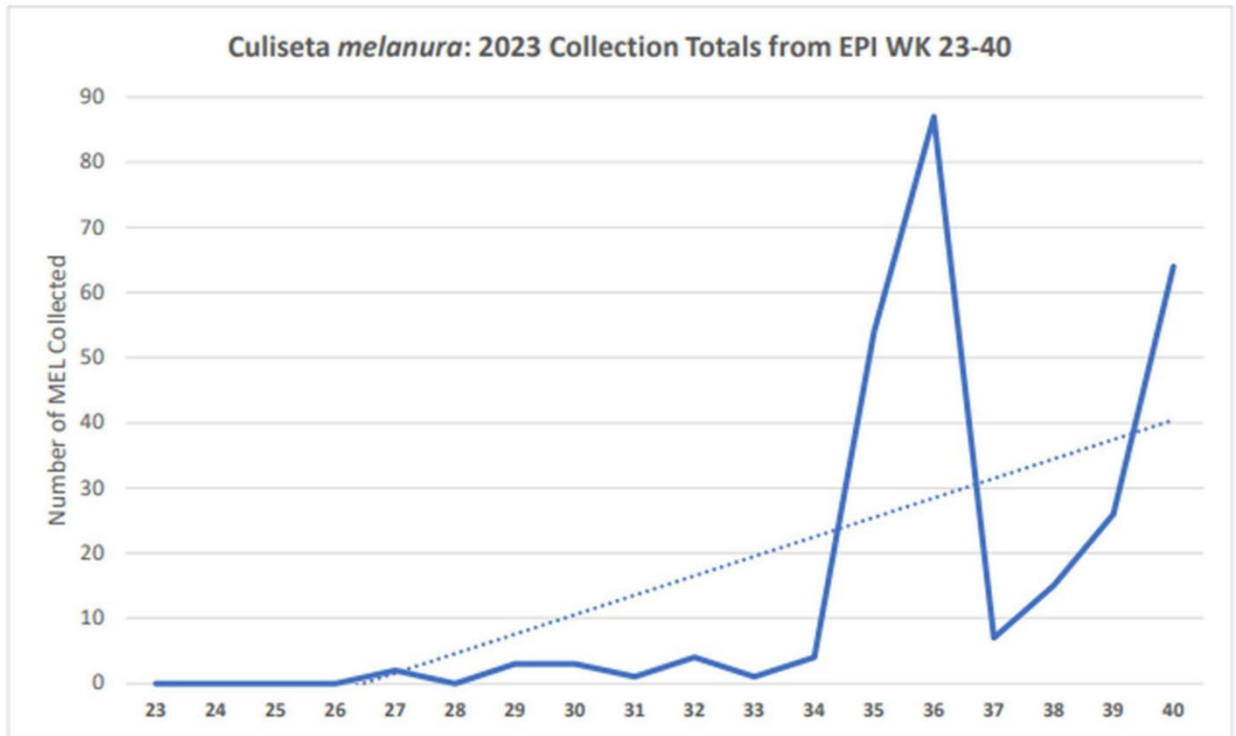


Figure 6: 2023-2024 Winter Temperature Outlook map. (Image credit: NOAA)

What is an instar phase?	Mosquito larvae go through 4 instar phases where they molt. The 4 th instar phase is when larvae stop eating and molt into pupae. It is important to understand these phases when applying larvicide products that have one mode of action via ingestion.
How long does it take mosquitoes to develop?	This period of development will vary in the spring depending on environmental conditions. In the summer, however, it typically takes a week for mosquitoes to develop from egg to adult.
What are mosquito pools?	A pool consists of 5-50 mosquitoes placed into a PCR tube for arbovirus testing.
What is a Gravid trap?	A gravid trap is one of the two main traps used by PVMCD. The trap primarily targets “gravid” Culex mosquitoes (WNV vector) seeking out suitable habitat to lay their eggs. Culex species look for bacteria rich (foul smelling and stagnant) water to lay their eggs. The Gravid trap essentially replicates an artificial container habitat.
What is a CDC trap?	A CDC trap is the second main trap used by the PVMCD. It is used to target mosquitos that feed on mammals and are capable of transmitting EEEV or WNV to humans. The CDC trap utilizes CO2, which mimics the breath of a potential blood meal.
Why are there pools submitted from one trap but not the other?	Not every trap yields enough targeted vector species to submit for testing. Factors influencing this are weather, habitat, and equipment failures.
What is a “trap failure” (TF)?	Sometimes faulty parts or wear from regular use result in trap failures. Trap failures are inevitable but do not occur that often.
What does “no collection recorded” (NCR) mean?	A “no collection recorded” or “NCR” means no mosquitoes were collected from a trap deployed in the field. This will occur throughout the season but tends to be more frequent during the earlier and later parts of the season.
Does PVMCD offer control services?	PVMCD will have a facility in early 2024 and will likely implement control services in the coming years at a practical level of capacity. Control services will consist of targeting vector species habitat via larvicide granule formulations primarily in the spring to mitigate arbovirus.
What is Bti?	Bti stands for <i>Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis</i> and is naturally occurring soil bacteria that is used to control larval mosquito populations. Bti is safe for humans, animals, and the environment when used as directed. It is effective in reducing mosquito larvae that are feeding during the first 3 instar phases. The timing of application is imperative to Bti’s effectiveness in controlling mosquito populations.

Targeted Mosquito Species

Species Name	Description	Habitat	Months Active
<i>Culiseta melanura</i>	<i>Melanura</i> mosquitoes are a primary vector for EEE. <i>Melanura</i> feed mainly on avian species and are responsible for amplifying the virus to the point that it spills over into bridge vectors	Tree root cavities or “crypts” covered by peat moss in red maple and cedar swamps.	May-December Peak: July-August and mid-September

<i>Culex pipiens</i> and <i>restuans</i>	These two mosquito species are also very abundant in Massachusetts and are capable of amplifying WNV in the wild bird population and infecting humans. While <i>pipiens</i> have been implicated more so in WNV transmission, both <i>pipiens</i> and <i>restuans</i> are grouped together because there is no way to differentiate between the species with 100% reliability.	Artificial containers such as “green” swimming pools, catch basins, discarded tires, buckets, etc.	May-October Peak: July-August
<i>Coquillettidia perturbans</i>	<i>Cq. perturbans</i> are one of the most abundant species of mosquito in Massachusetts and are implicated as a bridge vector for both EEE and WNV. <i>Pertubans</i> will feed on both birds (reservoir for EEE) and mammals, which is why it is considered a bridge vector.	Permanent bodies of water with emergent vegetation such as cattails.	May-September Peak: July
<i>Ochlerotatus</i> (Aedes) <i>canadensis</i>	Another common species in Massachusetts, <i>canadensis</i> can transmit both EEE and WNV to humans.	Woodland/vernal pools.	May-October Peak: June
<i>Culex salinarius</i>	<i>Salinarius</i> are considered bridge vectors for both EEE and WNV, readily feeding on mammals.	Brackish and freshwater swamps.	May-November Peak: August
Other species	There are many other species that we send into the Arbovirus Surveillance Laboratory at DPH for testing. These species are considered potential vectors or “suspects” in transmitting arboviruses. All other non-vector species are not submitted for testing.		

Report Prepared by: John Briggs, PVMCD

Director john.c.briggs@mass.gov

401-580-6397

PLANNING BOARD

<https://www.townofsunderland.us/planning-board> Phone: 413-665-1442

In 2023, the Planning Board members included Dana Roscoe, David Dean, Stephen Gowa/Douglas Fulton, Gabrielle Kurth, and Amanda Hanley. Prior to the 2023 Caucus, Stephen Gowa stepped down from the board. The Board wishes to thank Stephen for his dedication and service.

The vacant seat was filled by Douglas Fulton at the 2023 town election. The Board continued meeting in a hybrid model with in-person and remote via Zoom options throughout the year.

Over the past year, the Board reviewed and signed two requests for Approval Not Required (ANR) parcel division, and considered additional updates to our Zoning Bylaws. The Zoning Bylaw edits include updates to the Solar Battery and the Structure Conversion Bylaws. The suggested edits to the Solar Battery Bylaw were drafted in partnership with the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG). The Planning Board held a Public Hearing on November 14, 2023 and a subsequent Public Hearing on February 13, 2024 to present additional proposed Zoning Bylaw changes which will be on the agenda of the Annual Town Meeting in 2024.

Respectfully Submitted Dana Roscoe, Chair; David Dean; Stephen Gowa/Douglas Fulton; Gabrielle Kurth; and Amanda Hanley, Clerk.

SELECTBOARD

413-665-1441 x1 Administrative Assistant / 413-665-1441 x9 Town Administrator
Email: selectboard@townofsunderland.us or townadmin@townofsunderland.us

The Sunderland Selectboard and its members would like to once again thank every employee, elected official, and volunteer who work tirelessly to keep our small slice of paradise running smoothly, efficiently, and compassionately. 2023 saw with it the retirement of long time selectboard member and often chair, Tom Fydenkevez. The board wants to thank Tom for his eight terms and 24 years of service to the town, and for all the advice and experience he shared with the newer members of the board. Tom's seat was filled by our newest member and clerk, Dan Murphy, who has hit the ground running and has brought with him decades of experience in municipal planning and civil engineering, and a passion for making Sunderland's roads work for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists alike. He joins Nathaniel Waring, who has served as the board's Chair this year, and Christy Drake-Tremblay the board's Vice Chair.

Last year's town meeting, and subsequent town election, saw the passing of a Capital Stabilization override that brought the town's capital budget in line with our capital needs. The resulting increase in the capital budget, combined with the previous amounts, made it possible for the town to fund all the critical projects that had been identified by the various department heads. These capital improvements included replacement of a truck and a new loader for the highway department, carpet replacement and HVAC work for the library, preliminary funding for HVAC work at the public safety complex, front step work and floor

refinishing for the town office building, exterior rim band replacement and mini splits in the library for the elementary school, and Sunderland's share in a replacement ambulance for the South Country EMS. Many of these projects have been completed, and some are still ongoing.

The town of Sunderland entered into a contract with a new accounting firm, Aponte and Aponte, who have worked with our Treasurer/Collector Heather Davis to get the town's accounting up to date and transitioned to new accounting software. This has been a very successful endeavor and the town received certification of free cash earlier than we have in years past, which helped the Board with the upcoming year's budget process. They have been incredibly professional, receptive, and the town appreciates all Heather and Aponte and Aponte have done to make this transition smooth and successful.

The 2023 budget approved last year at town meeting included the addition of a Resource Administrator, a position which has been filled by Maureen Nichols who has settled into her new role. We also added a Permit Coordinator, Dede Dibrindisi to help support the permitting process in town.

Towards the end of 2023 the selectboard was made aware of the availability of the property at 23 Plumtree Road, most recently occupied by the Oxford University Press. Owing to the need for a permanent home for the South Country Senior Center, the board investigated the possibility of acquiring the property on the Senior Center's behalf. That process, and the due diligence it commands, is ongoing. The board coordinated with the Senior Center's leadership to host an open house at the property at which members of the community were able to see the building and hear about how the Senior Center would utilize the space.

Following the success of the Riverwalk project and kayak kiosk, the Board oversaw the completion of the renovations of the outdoor bathrooms used by the various sports programs that utilize our town fields. Additionally, at last year's town meeting the town voted to add a pickleball court to the fields behind the town offices by the volleyball courts, the design and implementation of which is ongoing under the oversight of the Board.

The Board participated in the Village Center visioning process, which endeavors to come up with a plan for the future of our village center. We met with representatives from Stantec, and discussed options to improve the functionality, look, and safety of the center of town – specifically the intersection of routes 116 and 47. We want to thank everyone on the Village Center Committee for their hard work to get us to where we are, and their work with Stantec to put on the public presentations.

The Board took part, by way of membership in the South County EMS Board of Oversight, in the South County EMS's search for a new director following the departure of Zoe Smith. The Board would like to thank Zoe for their decades of service to Sunderland and all they did to build it up to where it is today, and welcome Joshua Sparks as the new director. We are excited for you to bring your vision, experience, and leadership to our unique and wonderful regional EMS organization.

The Board wants to thank South County EMS, the Sunderland Fire Department, and the Sunderland Police Department for everything they do to keep our citizens safe and healthy

throughout the year, day and night. And to all the wonderful teachers, staff, and administrators at Sunderland Elementary, Frontier Regional and Franklin Tech we offer a huge thank you for all you do for our children, and our community's future. Thank you to the staff of the Sunderland Library for having such depth of resource and creativity to nurture the minds and bodies of residents of all ages. And none of us could do any of what we do without the tireless work or the highway department keeping our roads some of the best maintained in the region. And a final thank you to Wendy Houle, Cindy Bennett, Heather Davis, Geoff Kravitz and the rest of the town employees, committee members, and volunteers from the community who keep this town running. We cannot express our thanks enough for all you do.

Sincerely,
Nathaniel Waring, Chair
Christyl Drake-Tremblay, Vice Chair
Dan Murphy, Clerk



SUNDERLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

105 River Road Sunderland, MA 01375

<https://www.townofsunderland.us/police-department> email: police@townofsunderland.us

(413)-665-7036 EMERGENCY: 9-1-1

The Sunderland Police Department is dedicated to serving the community at the highest level. We will continue to foster communication and build strong relationships with our residents, schools, and businesses. The Town of Sunderland is an exceptional place to be, and we are dedicated to being an exceptional Police Department.

Currently our staff consists of Chief Erik J. Demetropoulos, one Sergeant, four full-time officers, six part-time officers and one Administrative Clerk. Our department is dedicated to coverage of the town 24 hours a day 7 days a week. Our Officers participate in numerous hours of training and seek out additional training specific to the needs of the community. On any given shift Officers will conduct traffic/speed enforcement, check in with our local businesses, visit the school, work with school staff to implement safety plans along with area Police Departments and the State Police, patrol problem areas, respond to motor vehicle accidents, conduct investigations, attend court for hearings, respond to medical emergencies and patrol our residential neighborhoods. We have successfully obtained numerous grants to help our community. The most recent was the JDP (Jail Diversion Program) Grant where we were able to partner with CSO (Clinical & Support Options) of Greenfield and the Hatfield & Whately Police Departments. This grant allows for a Clinician 3 days/week, but we are always striving to offer more to our residents in the hopes of increasing the grant to 5 days/week. Due to our partnership, you may see a Sunderland Cruiser in those Towns and their Cruisers in our Town.

Social media plays a huge part in information sharing and public relations. We have a Facebook & Twitter account. Both are a great source of information for the public as we post information on traffic advisories, road closures, safety tips, current events and much more. We urge you to follow us on Twitter and like us on Facebook! Another great resource to have is our Emergency Notification system known as **CODE RED**. You can enroll yourself into CODE RED or enroll someone in your family. You would be able to get alerts for major emergencies, road closures, crime waves, and community notifications. These notifications would come to you as phone calls, text messages and/or emails. You can sign up right from the Town's website.

When applying or renewing your firearms license to carry, please contact Officer Brenda Tozloski at 413-665-7036 extension 3 to set up an appointment. We have the required forms in our lobby or you can go to our website, <https://www.townofsunderland.us/police-department>, then [Firearms Licensing](#) to find everything you need.

If you stop by the station just know that our Officers are usually out on patrol, checking businesses, conducting RADAR & Motor Vehicle stops, or responding to calls. If you need to help at the station, please use the call box outside or call our Regional 24x7 Dispatch Center at 413-625-8200. They will get us on the radio and notify us of your needs.

We want to remind everyone that we cannot do our job without your help! Your concerns, tips and observations help us tremendously in solving crimes and catching criminals. We ask that if you see something out of the ordinary, please do not be afraid to call us right away. **“If you see something, Say something.”** Your timely notification of information will allow for a quicker response and could make the difference between a crime committed or a criminal being caught in the act. As always, if you have an emergency, please call 911.

If you would like to contact an officer immediately regarding any concerns or anything out of the ordinary, please call our 24-hour Dispatch Center at 413-625-8200. If you would like to speak to an officer or the clerk for a non-emergency question or concern, please call our station at 413-665-7036 extension 9.

As always, the Sunderland Police Department would like to thank the community for their continued support, and we look forward to another wonderful year.

I THANK YOU

Erik J. Demetropoulos
Chief of Police

Statistics – Calendar Year 2023
Sources: Dispatch Center & Department Records
Total calls as logged by Shelburne Control Dispatch Center:

Total number of calls and type of calls do not reflect the numerous calls handled through this department and only reflect the Computer Activated Dispatch with Shelburne Control Dispatch Center. In **2022** Dispatch received/generated **8,587** calls vs **2023** receiving **7,230** calls for Sunderland. We are extremely grateful for our continued cooperation with our Regional Dispatch Center!

209A	17	FIRE, OTHER NON-SPECIFIC	7
209A VIOLATION	5	FIREARMS LICENSING	81
911 CALL	80	FOLLOW UP INVESTIGATION	104
911 HANG UP	24	FRAUD / SCAM	26
911 MIS DIAL	32	GAS LEAK	1
ABANDONED 911 CALL	16	GENERAL INFO	87
ABANDONED MV	4	HARASSMENT	7
ADMINISTRATIVE	91	HIT AND RUN	5
ALARM BURG OR HOLDUP	62	ILLEGAL BURN	3
ANIMAL COMPLAINT	60	ILLEGAL DUMPING	5
ANNOYING PHONE CALLS	3	INVESTIGATION	11
ARTICLES LOST	1	KEEP THE PEACE	8
ARTICLES RECOVERED	9	LARCENY	10
ASSAULT	4	LINE DOWN – Power/Phone/Cable	16
ASSIST CITIZEN	76	LOCKOUT	15
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY	38	MEDICAL EMERGENCY	195
BE ON THE LOOK OUT	11	MISCELLANEOUS	22
BREAKING & ENTERING AUTO	4	MISSING PERSON	1
B & E PAST	1	MOTOR VEHICLE AC w/ injury	4
BRUSH FIRE	2	MOTOR VEHICLE AC w/ no injury	44
BUILDING/LOCATION CHECK	2391	MOTOR VEHICLE COMPLAINT	64
CAR vs. DEER	7	MOTOR VEHICLE RECOVERED	0
CARBON MONOXIDE HAZARD	6	MOTOR VEHICLE – STOLEN	1
CHECK WELFARE	89	MOTOR VEHICLE VIOLATION	784
CHIMNEY FIRE	2	NOISE COMPLAINT	55
CIVIL ISSUE	9	NOTIFICATION	18
COMMUNITY POLICING	184	ODOR INVESTIGATION	3
COMPLAINT	12	OFFICER WANTED	101
COURT	10	OPEN DOOR	2
CRUISER MAINTENANCE	61	PAPERWORK SERVICE	18
CSO FOLLOW UP	4	PARKING COMPLAINT	13
CSO OUTREACH	1	PATROL AREA	324
CUSTODY ISSUE	1	RADAR/TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT	132
DEATH	2	SAFETY HAZARD	29
DETAIL REQUEST	10	SECTION 12	3
DISABLED MV	35	SERVE WARRANT	4
DISTURBANCE	29	SERVICE CALL	5
EMS ALARM-LIFE LINE ACTIV	11	SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION	16
ESCORT / TRANSPORT	4	SHOTS FIRED	6
FIGHT	2	SMOKE INVESTIGATION	6
FIRE ALARM	64	SOLICITING	6
FIRE WORKS	4	SPILL OR LEAK	2

STUCTION FIRE	1	THREAT	10
SUICIDE THREAT	8	TRAFFIC CONTROL	52
SUMMONS SERVICE	4	TRAFFIC HAZARD	52
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY	14	TRESPASS	2
SUSPICIOUS PACKAGE	2	UNWANTED PERSON	9
SUSPICIOUS PERSON	17	VANDALISM	8
SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	21		

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

<https://www.townofsunderland.us/recreation> (413) 665-1441v x8

Things seem to be getting back to “near normal” after three years of somewhat decreased participation due to COVID. This past year the Recreation Department provided more than 35 different programs and events to Sunderland residents. In all, more than 145 youth and more than 80 adults took part in the various programs as participants and/or volunteers. Listed below are just some of these programs:

Last Winter, Youth Basketball took place and we had teams for Intro Basketball (grades 1&2), and two teams each at the grade 3/4, 5/6 & 7-9 levels. We held Basketball Clinics for Coaches and for players before the start of the season. A Referee Clinic was also held. In addition, we were able to once again host the 31st annual Sunderland Basketball Tournament at the end of the season. A total of 22 teams from the Frontier Rec Basketball League took part in the five-day event. Sunderland Days were held at a UMass Women's and UMass Men's Basketball games; as well as at a UMass Men's Hockey game. 61 folks took part in our 6-week Berkshire East Ski Program for youth and families with lessons and skiing on Wednesday afternoon/evenings in January and February; our annual Sunderland Family Ice Skating Day took place at the Greenfield rink during winter school vacation. Once again, we were unable to offer our usual X-Country Ski & Snow Shoe Fun Days due to equipment storage issues (and more to the point, a lack of snow). We were, however, able to “loan” x-country ski equipment and snow shoes to several families who enjoyed some outdoor winter fun while the snow lasted. Due to a change in instructors and minimal interest, we only held two 6-week Yoga Classes on Tuesday evenings in the Community Room at the Sunderland Public Library.

In the Spring, for Girls Softball we were able to field two teams for grades 2-4, two teams for 5th and 6th grade girls and a Middle School team for 7th-9th graders. We once again played in the Quabbin Valley League for a third year in a row. All of our teams managed to win at least half their games, with one grade 5/6 team winning the upper division playoff championship, while the other team lost in a one-run game in the lower division championship game. We held three Softball Pitching Clinics and two Softball Skills Clinics before the start of the season. A Softball/Baseball Umpires Clinic was also held. In addition, the Frontier Varsity Softball team led by their coach, Gary Dean, provided a clinic for our softball players at the beginning of the season. Our Middle School Rec Softball Team also played in the Quabbin Valley League and posted a 3rd place finish with a 8-4 record – and won two playoff games before losing the eventual champion Belchertown in a semi-final game. We also sponsored T-Ball for PK & K-age youth. And were involved in the youth baseball program with the Sunderland Youth

Baseball League, providing organizational assistance as needed. We held a Sunderland Day at a UMass Softball game.

In the Fall, we had our usual Soccer Programs: Intro Soccer (Pre-K thru K) and teams at each of the grades 1&2, grades 3&4 and grades 5&6 levels. A Soccer Clinic was held for coaches and referees. We also facilitated Youth Girls Volleyball for the four Frontier towns with sessions at both the grade 3&4 and grades 5&6 levels. And, for the first time, we also provided Youth Volleyball for boys in grades 4 thru 6, due to the fact that it is now a varsity sport at Frontier. We also co-sponsored with the South County Senior Center, their annual "Cruise Night" in Riverside Park in August. We also provided Adult pick-up Basketball in the Sunderland Elem School gym on Sunday afternoons beginning in November.

Several Sunderland residents participated in the following programs offered through our cooperative efforts with other towns: Adult pick-up Basketball in Whately; Adult Volleyball in Conway; the Sunderland Adult Volleyball Club, and Pilates and Youth Field Hockey in Deerfield. Several Sunderland Youth were on the Frontier Rec Field Hockey team that participated in the Pioneer Valley League in the Fall.

We continue to work with the Sunderland & Frontier Youth Baseball League (grades 2-6), the Frontier Suburban Football program (grades 4-8), Frontier Suburban Basketball program (grades 5-8), the Franklin County Babe Ruth Baseball League (grades 7-12), the Frontier United Soccer program (grades 1-6), and the Franklin County and Amherst Youth Hockey Associations – coordinating participation and registrations for Sunderland youth. We also provide information and assistance with registration for summer programs in cooperation with the Deerfield and Northampton Rec Departments and Amherst Leisure Services.

Fortunately, we were again able to hold the usual Memorial Day Parade and Ceremonies at Riverside Cemetery in-person. We were able to have a larger representation of the Frontier Marching Band under the leadership of their director, Max Sherrill provided marching music during the parade, the National Anthem at the cemetery, and Taps at the Veterans Memorial and at the cemetery.

The Recreation Committee continues to be represented on the town's Community Preservation Committee and on the Parklands Acquisition and Renovations for Communities (PARC) Committee. Phase 3 of the Riverside Park development saw renovations to the existing bathrooms to provide for handicap accessibility. A Pickle Ball court will become a reality this Spring. We hope that replacement of the Rec Shed down at the fields will also take place in this coming year. In addition, we plan to make improvements and reseed the main Soccer Field at Riverside Park behind the Town Office Building this year. The Merritt Field softball facility at the Elementary School continues to see a lot of activity. We are thankful to Town Meeting for voting Field Maintenance funding which will allow us to better maintain our town Rec fields going forward.

We would also like to say a huge "thank you" to the more than 60 volunteer coaches, scorekeepers, referees and umpires, and others who have helped with recreation programs in this past year. We would like to also thank Jim Ewen, Rec Coordinator, for his special efforts and extra time put in this past year on behalf of our kids and families.

We were glad to get back to some semblance of “normal” during the past year. We hope to get back to some of our other regular activities and some new ones as well, in the coming year. If you are interested in assisting or have an idea for a new program, please contact us.

Respectfully submitted,
Sunderland Recreation Committee

RIVERSIDE CEMETERY TRUSTEES

<https://www.townofsunderland.us/riverside-cemetery-trustees>

This past year of 2023 continued with facilitating the work needed at Sunderland’s Town cemetery with our local contractors who maintain the trees and overall landscape, and participate in our annual tree survey.

We hosted a public presentation at the Town offices by the landscape architect, Martha Lyons on November 2nd. This was recorded by FCAT to explain her design proposals – a master plan for future growth at the cemetery. This plan includes:

- planting of a mix of trees along the outer edge of cemetery
- possible cremation garden in place of unused roads
- discussion of the use of the trafficked center road
- 5-year window to repair certain monuments by contractor
- possible removal of the shed to add road to outer Southern section
- possible scattering garden

We look forward to comments and/or questions regarding this presentation

These are the fees for plot sales instituted in 2021:

- Resident fee: \$1,000 per 2 vault plot (or 6 cremations), and
- Non-resident fee: \$1,500 per 2 vault plot (or 6 cremations)

There were 6 plot sales in 2023 and 6 internments over the year.

Trustees sent out a request for proposal to several local companies to replace the cemetery’s entrance sign at corner of Rt. 47/Cemetery Road. The quotes are being updated and we hope to have a refurbished sign in 2024.

The Trustees want to thank Snows Landscaping for their excavator services over the year and also to Ahearn Landscaping for the mowing and Spring & Fall clean ups in 2023.

Our continuing battle with invasive vegetation and with trash removal is hopefully improving areas along the riverbanks.

We hope to keep the area clean and improve the view of the river.

Best to all

Respectfully Submitted,
Scott Bergeron, Janet Sawyer-Bergeron, Mike Wissemann

Riverside Cemetery Trustees

SCHOOLS

FRANKLIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL

82 Industrial Boulevard
Turners Falls, Massachusetts 01376
TEL: 413-863-4239 FAX: 413-863-2816



Richard J Martin
Superintendent

FCTS Mission Statement

It is the mission of Franklin County Technical School to prepare all students to achieve a future of successful careers, technical and intellectual curiosity, healthy life choices and strength of character

FY25 Annual Report to Towns

We submit this annual report for 2023-24 school year on behalf of the Franklin County Technical School District and its administration, faculty, staff and students. As a reminder, the FY25 budget represents October 1, 2023 enrollment count, which is always a year behind the state budget process. FCTS has an enrollment of 568 students with town breakouts as follows:

Bernardston	30	Erving	27	Montague	74	Sunderland	9
Buckland	18	Gill	13	New Salem	14	Warwick	5
Colrain	23	Greenfield	132	Northfield	40	Wendell	8
Conway	7	Heath	11	Orange	90	Whately	18
Deerfield	35	Leyden	4	Shelburne	10		

Franklin County Technical School awarded 123 diplomas to our seniors in June of 2023. Massachusetts students are required to pass the MCAS in order to receive a high school diploma and once again our students were very successful in meeting this high academic standard. The state has adjusted their measures for evaluating district/school accountability and FCTS maintained the equivalent of a Level 2 accountability status out of a 5-point scale with 1 being the highest and 5 the lowest. Additionally, the district is meeting targets set by the Department of Education for passing rates of students of high risk with disabilities.

FCTS has the advantage of utilizing vocational students and licensed instructors from carpentry, electrical, plumbing, landscaping, and advanced precision machining to provide maintenance and repairs to our school grounds and facility saving member towns tens of thousands of dollars annually. These shop programs also saved member towns an estimated \$100,000 with the bond authorization projects.

Franklin County Technical School students are learning the value of paid work opportunities through a newly revamped Cooperative Education Program (Coop). In 2023 FCTS has approximately 38% of our seniors involved in paid Coop jobs related to their vocational field of study. FCTS also offers excellent academic offerings with increased courses in Advanced Placement, Honors, Foreign Language, credit recovery, and special education to provide all students with the opportunity to be prepared for college and career readiness.

Franklin County Technical School continues to experience increased enrollment and popularity within Franklin County, which has translated to new vocational technical programs in the fields of Veterinary Animal Science, Medical Assisting, and a new Aviation Technician program. These new vibrant programs are the first new vocational programs at FCTS in more than 40 years and bring the total number of Chapter 74 vocational-technical programs to 15. Unlike other school districts which may offer a 45-minute course in a trade, FCTS students must follow strict Chapter 74 guidelines where students are in their vocational shop program for 6.5 hours per day for a full week to meet industry competency guidelines.

FCTS is in the final process of completing a new 4800 sq. ft. Veterinary Science Learning Center and Clinic. The new building is located on Industrial Blvd next to FCTS. The facility is planning to open in the spring of 2024 and will be used for the FCTS Veterinary program and provide students with real world experiences in the veterinary field.

The new Aviation program is slated to start during the 2024-25 school year. This program will provide students with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) credentials to be certified as an Aviation Maintenance Technician (AMT). FCTS was fortunate to receive a 4.2 million-dollar competitive grant to build a new 12,000 sq. ft. aviation hangar with no additional assessment to towns. The FCTS hangar will be located along the boundary line between FCTS and the Turners Falls Airport. The facility will include; 1 twin engine airplane, 2 single engine airplanes, 1 glider, and 1 helicopter as well as FAA machines, equipment, engine simulators, and tools required by the FAA to start a new program. FCTS is planning to become one of the few high schools in the United States to offer a credentialed FAA program. Students graduating from the program will have the opportunity to obtain 1200 hours of FAA training to sit for the FAA license test and be on their way to a career in aviation.

FCTS is nearly 50 years old and is one of the few remaining regional vocational schools in Massachusetts without a Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) funded facility. In late 2022, FCTS was invited into the MSBA eligibility phase of the process, which will conclude in May of 2024. At this time, the MSBA will make a determination if FCTS will enter into the Feasibility Study phase of the program. The Feasibility Study will take several years to complete and will include a design phase which will determine anticipated costs of a potential project. FCTS has budgeted money over the last several years to fund a Feasibility Study without having to go out to bond with member towns. At the conclusion of the Feasibility Study, the MSBA and FCTS will determine if it is “feasible” to go out to our member towns to build a new facility, renovate, or seek other alternatives.

Franklin County Technical School’s technical programs continue to improve and evolve through the use of competitive Skills Capital Grants. FCTS has received more than 6.2 million dollars in grants over the last 6 years without using tax dollars from member communities. These funds have significantly enhanced our Welding, Medical Assisting, Veterinary Science, Machine Technology and Aviation vocational technical programs. FCTS also partners with the Franklin Hampshire Regional Employment Board and Greenfield Community College to offer an evening program for underemployed and displaced workers to obtain a certification in Advanced Precision Machining using our 21st Century modernized CNC machines. Through the highly competitive skills grant FCTS also received \$500,000 to build a mobile welding simulator lab to be used to develop technical skills towards certification. FCTS will partner with the Franklin County House of Corrections to utilize the new mobile welding simulator lab as an opportunity to help inmates acquire advanced technical skills which can lead to employment upon release.

In addition, FCTS applied for and received a total of 1.8 million-dollar multi-year grants over the last several years to implement new adult evening training programs through the Commonwealth’s Career Technical Initiative (CTI). Since 2022, FCTS initiated adult training courses in Welding, Auto Technology, and Carpentry through the CTI grant and plans to explore more programs for 2024. FCTS also started its own Electrical adult program and plans to add more in the near future. To accomplish these goals and to meet industry and community needs, FCTS has hired a full-time adult coordinator.

Franklin County Tech’s Carpentry, Electrical, Plumbing, and Landscaping programs established a foundation in collaboration with the Greenfield Savings Bank to build a new home for the community. The current construction continues on the house on Petty Plain Road in Greenfield. Beyond the Greenfield house project, the Carpentry program constructed a new storage shed for the Town of Charlemont Federated Church, is constructing a pavilion for the Town of Shelburne Falls, and built a related classroom for our Automotive Tech program.

The Landscaping and Horticulture department worked with the Town of Shelburne Falls in the consultation and design of a pocket park, Source to Sea annual cleanup, Franklin County Fairgrounds tree planting, beautification design projects and fence repair, made wreaths for the Conway covered bridge, worked at the Shelburne Hills Cemetery for fall cleanup, consulted and designed the Veteran’s Memorial in Pelham, the Peskeompskut Park signage in Turners Falls, and planted trees for the towns on South Deerfield and Turners Falls. In Montague LH is working with the Montague Planning Department on the Millers trail modification.

The Programming and Web Design students worked with the Montague Senior Center and will be providing Tech Support beginning in December of 2023. The program also helped to develop a website for the UCC Church in Conway and a senior student is working with the First Congregational Church in Ashfield and coordinates the video and audio for online services.

The Electrical department continues working with the Town of Heath, retro fitting new parking and office lights at the town hall. Additionally, there is ongoing work at the office of the Turners Falls Airport, the support of the wiring for the newly constructed Vet Science building on campus and the automotive technology related classroom, installation of securing cameras in the welding department, and supporting the FCTS NIS department.

The Advanced Manufacturing program collaborated with our welding and carpentry shop on the design and construction of the Towns of Deerfield and Northfield 350th time capsules. Currently the students are manufacturing rollers for the horticulture program for the striping of the athletic fields in addition to assisting with making replacement parts for the automotive and horticulture departments, and they have worked with carpentry to operate the CNC router with a MasterCam program.

The Culinary Arts program did a crepe presentation for the Northfield Senior Center, and will provided a holiday luncheon in December for the Montague Housing Authority. They will serve the Erving Lady's Red Hat Society for a Valentine's Day luncheon, have created ice carvings for the Annual Winter Festival in Greenfield, hosted the Annual Chamber of Commerce Breakfast, the School Resource Officer's Breakfast, the Superintendent's Award Dinner, the Light Up The Fairgrounds Breakfast, the Annual National Honor Society's luncheon, . Also provided food and baked items for the Annual FCTS Car Show and Little Drummer Craft Fair.

The Welding department repaired the Highland Cemetery Gate in Millers Falls, have created an air conditioner unit cover for the Town of Warwick, a bench to be located at the French King Bridge in Erving, engine stands for the Aviation program scheduled to open in the Fall of 2024, brackets for the Franklin County Land Trust for signage, worked on the recycling carts for the Franklin County Fair and they are in discussion with the High Street Cemetery in Greenfield to restore their gates.

The Health Technology program has run public blood pressure clinics, a nail clinic at the Erving Senior Center, volunteered at the Arbors and Regal Care in Greenfield, collected items for a Hygiene Drive, work with the Ja'Duke Preschool observing child development and the creation of activities, and helped to serve holiday meals at the Stone Soup Café in Greenfield.

The Cosmetology program continues to provide services for residents of the Poet Seat Nursing Home, Linda Manor, Quabbin Valley Nursing Home, and the Bernardston Senior Center.

The Veterinary Science program ran a pet food and toy drive for local shelters, and has volunteered at the Dakin Humane Society. Services will expand to the public once the program occupies the new building.

Franklin County Tech is forward thinking as it continues to review labor demand and market analysis to add new programs and skills to support students to obtain competencies and training to make them competitive in the workplace, college, and career. Our partnerships with our communities are important for our programs, and we thank those which allow our students the opportunity to practice their trades out in the field.

Respectfully,



Mr. Richard J. Kuklewicz
School Committee Chairman



Mr. Richard J. Martin
Superintendent-Director

FRONTIER REGIONAL SCHOOL

From the
Office of the Superintendent of Schools - Frontier Regional School
For 2022-2023

FRONTIER SCHOOL REPORT

Melissa Novak, Chair
Frontier Regional School District Committee
South Deerfield, MA 01373

Dear Melissa:

I respectfully submit the 2023 Frontier Regional School Annual Report.

FRONTIER REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
Melissa Novak, Chair, Deerfield	2026
Olivia Leone, V. Chair, Deerfield	2024
Christopher White, Secretary, Sunderland	2025
* Robert Halla, Member, Whately	2024
William Smith, Member, Whately	2025
* Philip Kantor, Member, Conway	2024
* Mary Ramon, Member, Deerfield	2024
Keith McFarland, Member, Sunderland	2026
* Joseph Elias, Member, Sunderland	2024
Damien Fosnot, Member, Deerfield	2025
Jared Campbell, Member, Conway	2025

*Representing the local Elementary School Committees for a one-year term.

ADMINISTRATION

<i>Superintendent of Schools</i>	<i>Darius Modestow</i>
<i>Director of Business Administration</i>	<i>Shelley Poreda</i>
Director of Student Services	Karen Ferrandino
Director of Secondary Education	Sarah Mitchell
<i>Director of School Facilities</i>	<i>William Hildreth</i>
Director of Instructional Technology	Scott Paul
Director of Food Services	Patrick McCarthy

SUPPORT STAFF

<i>Executive Assistant to Superintendent</i>	<i>Jennifer Shumway</i>
<i>Administrative Assistant (Student Services)</i>	<i>Penny Smiarowski</i>
<i>Administrative Assistant/Facilities</i>	<i>Mary Jane Whitcomb</i>
Receptionist/Substitute Coordinator	Sarah Butler
Payroll Specialist, FRS/Union #38	Brenda Antes
Accounts Payable/Bookkeeper, FRS	Donna Lloyd
Treasurer	Michael DeBarge
Grants Accountant	Stephan Shepherd
SIS Data Specialist	Megan Donovan
Network Administrator	Stuart Dusenberry
Information Technology Specialist	Keith VanBuren
Education Technologist	Maureen Beeltje

FRONTIER REGIONAL SCHOOL

George Lanides	Principal
Scott Dredge	Assistant Principal
Roberta Reiter	Principal's Secretary
Deb Mason	School Secretary
Kelly Blanchette	Special Education Secretary
Michelle Russell	Attendance Secretary
Mary Lapinski	Guidance Secretary

FRONTIER REGIONAL SCHOOL
ENROLLMENT - OCTOBER 1, 2023

Grade	Conway	Deerfield	Sunderland	Whately	School Choice	Tuitioned In	Total
7	11	44	20	13	30	1	119
8	14	34	27	5	33	0	113
9	13	24	9	8	19	1	74
10	10	30	24	6	29	1	100
11	14	34	13	10	29	0	100
12	12	28	15	6	38	0	99
SP	0	3	1	0	3	1	8
Total	74	197	109	48	181	4	613

FRONTIER REGIONAL
UNIT A SALARY SCHEDULE

Frontier Regional Teachers Association
Salary Schedule 2022 – 2023

Step	Bachelors	Masters	M+30	CAGS/Doc
0	\$46,244	\$48,472	\$51,203	\$53,764
1	\$48,627	\$50,579	\$53,141	\$55,797
2	\$50,645	\$52,740	\$55,145	\$57,903
3	\$51,892	\$54,976	\$57,221	\$60,081
4	\$53,709	\$56,735	\$59,321	\$62,288
5	\$55,115	\$58,595	\$61,549	\$64,626
6	\$57,488	\$60,465	\$63,581	\$66,758
7	\$59,004	\$62,384	\$65,630	\$68,909
8	\$60,566	\$63,957	\$68,592	\$72,021
9	\$63,580	\$67,591	\$71,641	\$75,223
10	\$66,914	\$71,506	\$74,784	\$78,525
11	\$68,023	\$74,143	\$78,236	\$82,148
12	\$70,667	\$76,883	\$81,041	\$85,093
13	\$72,429	\$78,800	\$83,063	\$87,215
*20L	\$73,429	\$79,800	\$84,063	\$88,215
**25L	\$74,429	\$80,800	\$85,063	\$89,215

Steps 0-12 COLA is 2%; Step 13 COLA is 3%

***Placement on Step 20L occurs when an individual has completed 19 years of service as a Frontier Regional School faculty member. **Placement on Step 25L occurs when an individual has completed 24 years of service as a Frontier Regional School faculty member.**

FRONTIER REGIONAL

UNIT C INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANTS SALARY SCHEDULE
2022-2023

Unit C Instructional Assistants

FY23	Instructional Assistants					
STEP	IA	IA with Bachelors	IA Special Programs	IA Special Programs with Bachelors	IA ALPS	IA ALPS with Bachelors
4	\$ 16.52	\$ 17.02	\$19.28	\$19.78	\$20.28	\$20.78
5	\$ 17.09	\$ 17.59	\$19.93	\$20.43	\$20.93	\$21.43
6	\$ 17.61	\$ 18.11	\$20.54	\$21.04	\$21.54	\$22.04
7	\$ 18.19	\$ 18.69	\$21.22	\$21.72	\$22.22	\$22.72
8	\$ 18.70	\$ 19.20	\$21.81	\$22.31	\$22.81	\$23.31
9	\$ 19.26	\$ 19.76	\$22.47	\$22.97	\$23.47	\$23.97
10	\$ 19.82	\$ 20.32	\$23.12	\$23.62	\$24.12	\$24.62
11	\$ 20.38	\$ 20.88	\$23.78	\$24.28	\$24.78	\$25.28
12	\$ 20.99	\$ 21.49	\$24.49	\$24.99	\$25.49	\$25.99

*Steps 2 & 3 on the previous salary schedule have been eliminated in the 2022-23 school year. IA's previously on step 2 or 3 will move to step 4. Step 12 has been added as a new step in the 2022-23 school year.

Unit C Educational Support Nurses

Educational Support Nurse			
STEP	FY23	FY24	FY25
1	\$ 24.91	\$ 25.35	\$ 25.79
2	\$ 25.98	\$ 26.44	\$ 26.90
3	\$ 27.04	\$ 27.52	\$ 28.00
4	\$ 28.10	\$ 28.59	\$ 29.10
5	\$ 29.16	\$ 29.67	\$ 30.19
6	\$ 30.23	\$ 30.75	\$ 31.29
7	\$ 31.30	\$ 31.84	\$ 32.40
8	\$ 32.37	\$ 32.94	\$ 33.51
9	\$ 33.44	\$ 34.03	\$ 34.62
10	\$ 34.48	\$ 35.08	\$ 35.70

FRONTIER REGIONAL SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

District Mission Statement

Building dynamic learning communities, one student, one teacher, one family at a time.

District Vision Statement

Vibrant, collaborative, engaging, and inclusive learning communities promoting the growth of every student.

Opening Statement:

I am pleased to present our annual town report; this serves as our "community report card" for our graduates and includes their post-graduation plans, as well as initiatives and changes in our schools.

Our school system continues to move towards pre-pandemic stability. The dedication of our faculty and staff, the leadership of our administrators and school committees, and support from our parents and caregivers are key components in our ongoing progress. Challenges persist in academic performance and the mental health of our students.

I am pleased with our progress in updates to our curriculum and teacher professional development initiatives. This year, we have a new equity plan that supports our guiding documents: Curriculum Management, Professional Development, and Assessment management. This ensures that our anti-racism and equity work is woven into future planning and ongoing initiatives.

Frontier Regional School made capital improvements to modernize our facilities. In September, the school finished the renovation of the tennis courts, which now have new asphalt surfacing, fencing, and lining for pickleball. The project was partially funded by \$100,000 from each of the four communities through the Community Preservation Act, with the remaining \$230,000 covered by the school. The school replaced two boilers, which were over 30 years old, with three high-efficiency condensing boilers. The total cost of the project was \$494,000, which was under budget. The school is currently seeking bids for the first phase of roof replacement, which will cost approximately \$400,000. Additionally, the school recently completed the replacement of the kitchen's walk-in cooler.

Conway Grammar School completed several capital improvements, including the final installation of 2 classroom heat pump mini splits. These two rooms are the last two classrooms to receive mini splits, providing all learning spaces air conditioning and electric heat. The elementary school also has capital improvements in the building, including the replacement of new stage curtains, bathroom stall partitions, and a new range for the kitchen.

Deerfield Elementary completed several capital improvements, including the installation of 11 heat pump mini splits to provide secondary heat and air conditioning in the classrooms. This project was split over three years, and we hope to complete installation in all classrooms by the end of this year. In cooperation with the state's Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP), the elementary school will undertake the reconstruction of the front entrance walkway and landscaping. The entryway's expected completion date is September 2024.

Sunderland Elementary completed several capital improvements, including the replacement of the underground oil tank. The oil tank installation was completed in February and was funded by the town's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. We were fortunate that there were no leaks found during the removal of the 33-year-old tank. The elementary school also received funding from ARPA to replace the windows on the south side of the building. The expected completion is September 2024.

Whately Elementary completed a number of capital improvements, including replacement of the cafeteria tables and installing new flooring in the employee and Pre-K bathrooms.

The continued improvement of our facilities can not be done without the support of our towns. Thank you for your continued support as we strive to provide our students with the best possible education.

Darius E. Modestow,
Superintendent of Schools

Overview: Frontier Regional School opened in 1954 in the town of South Deerfield, Massachusetts. The school includes students in grades 7 through 12 with an enrollment of 616 students. This is an increase of 6 students from the October 1, 2022 enrollment figures of 610 students.

The class of 2023 had 87 graduates; 62% planned to attend a four-year college, 14% a two-year college, 1% plan to attend vocational schools, 0% planned on a post-grad year, 5% will enter military service, 0% will take a gap year, 16% plan to enter the labor market, and 2% plans are unknown. This is different from previous years. There were 92 graduates in the class of 2022: 62% planned to attend a four-year college, 15% a two-year college, 1% vocational schools, 0% military, 4% will take a gap year, 9% planned to enter the labor market and 9% plans were unknown.

Curriculum and Professional Development

This year members of the Frontier Regional school community continue to be involved in initiatives and professional development experiences to expand the support and opportunities available to students. Programs and initiatives that began last year were expanded this year to include more students.

Innovation Pathways

Frontier was designated an Innovation Pathways School in the fall of 2022 by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Innovation Pathways are programs within Massachusetts high schools that are designed to connect students to industry sectors that are in demand in the regional and state economy. Grant funding support allowed for the implementation of the IP program, with funding available to purchase equipment for the hands on training components. In our second year of implementation students continue to enroll in classes to fulfill the requirements of the Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering and the Health Care and Social Assistance programs. Classes provide students with hands-on experiences in these career paths including work in our modern fabrication lab and certification to administer CPR & First Aid. At the conclusion of their coursework students participate in internship experiences at local businesses and health care facilities.

A student interest survey, administered in the spring of 2022 provided information about student interest in additional pathways. Planning is underway to add a Criminal Justice Pathway and Global Studies Pathway beginning in the fall of 2024. In the Fall of 2025 plans include the addition of a Business pathway and Computer Science Pathway.

My Career and Academic Plan (MYCAP)

Students began work on their MYCAP portfolio this year. *My Career and Academic Plan* prepares students for college, career and civic readiness. The MyCAP process engages students in authentic postsecondary planning through a continuum of learning focused on individual student's interests, skills and talents. Frontier students are collecting representative work samples in a portfolio from their courses at Frontier. The portfolio allows students to collect important information for later presentation to colleges or employers as they transition from Frontier to post graduation education or work environments. Beginning in the fall of 2024 students will include a goal component in their portfolio based on school-wide learning goals. During their senior year each student creates a website where they display their accomplishments.

Restorative Practices

Social emotional well being and academic success for all students continue to be a focus. Towards that end faculty and support staff participated in workshops and the implementation of a restorative practice model of student support. Restorative practices is a whole school teaching and learning approach that encourages positive relationships and repair to others and the community when an individual's actions cause harm. The model uses restorative circles to allow students to be seen and heard as a member of a classroom community.

In addition, faculty are learning about Micro- aggressions, categorized as insensitive statements, questions, or assumptions aimed at traditionally marginalized identity groups. As well as workshops on creating inclusive classroom environments.

Culturally responsive teaching and learning

Recognizing and valuing all learners in our school community continues to be a focus of professional development. Faculty participated in workshops focused on Universal Design for Learning described as a framework to improve and optimize teaching and learning by designing classroom learning activities in a way that increases the “on ramps” for student learning.

Professional learning

In addition to the district wide initiatives faculty participated in a number of relevant PD topics impacting education including: workshops on Artificial Intelligence writing tools such as Chat GPT; the new IEP process; and other technology advances.

Staff: **Resignation:** Cara Chandler, Nurse Leader

Retired Faculty: Steven Blinder, Mathematics Teacher; Laura Sojka, Reading Specialist; Janet Pompilli, Library Assistant

Faculty Resignations: Zachary Rom, Chemistry Teacher; Martha Pomputius, School Psychologist

New Faculty: Stephanie Stokes, Mathematics Teacher; Amanda Sharron, Mathematics Teacher; Raina Kittilstved, Chemistry Teacher

Special Thanks

We are pleased to acknowledge the dedication and hard work of Frontier Regional School Committee Members: Chair Melissa Novak, Vice Chair Olivia Leone, Secretary Christopher White, Members Bob Halla, Bill Smith, Mary Ramon, Joe Elias, Philip Kantor, Keith McFarland, Damien Fosnot, and Jared Campbell. I look forward to continuing our work together.

Thank you to the citizens of our four towns for being supportive of public education and our wonderful schools.

Respectfully submitted,

Darius E. Modestow
Superintendent of Schools

Alma Mater

In the hills of Old New England
Frontier's name is known
Loved by all her sons and daughters
Calling them her own
Frontier High School, Alma Mater
Shout it to the sky
Sing the praises of Old Frontier
Hail to Frontier High

Senior Class Officers

President	Nicholas Lorantos
Vice-President	Tenzin Kunsang
Secretary	Rebecca Wallace-West
Treasurer	Cheryl Moreau
Historian	Cadince Wells-Robinson

Ushers for 2023

Caroline Deane	Patrice Moriarty
Hannah Mackin	Aliana Pierce
Amory Maxey	Hashini Ratnatunge
Madison McCarthy	Jillian Worden

Class of 2023

Class of 2023 Advisor.....Stephanie Recore
Class of 2024 MarshalGabrielle Adams

Class of Two Thousand Twenty-Three



Sixty-Sixth Annual Commencement

FRIDAY, SEVEN P.M.
THE SECOND OF JUNE
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-THREE

FRONTIER REGIONAL SCHOOL
SOUTH DEERFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Program

Processional –	
Bagpiper	Eric Goodchild
Welcome.....	George Lanides Principal
“Pledge of Allegiance”	Cheryl Moreau, Rebecca Wallace-West, Class of 2023
Introduction of Poet Laureate	Cadince Wells-Robinson, Class of 2023
Commencement Poem	Elizabeth Tatro, Class of 2023
Introduction of Class President.....	Tenzin Kunsang, Class of 2023
Class President	Nicholas Lorantos, Class of 2023
National Honor Society Representative.....	Jesse Kurkulonis, Class of 2023
Introduction of Commencement Speaker	Cheryl Moreau, Class of 2023
Commencement Address	Katherine Blair, FRS Health/ESL/Science Instructor
Awarding of Diplomas.....	George Lanides, Principal Scott M. Dredge, Assistant Principal Darius E. Modestow, Superintendent of Schools Robert Halla, Chair, Frontier Regional School Committee
Alma Mater	Seniors, Class of 2023
Recessional –	

Members of Graduating Class

*Jillian Margaret Apanell	David Andrew Gray	Manthaw C. Perreault
James Ayotte	*Siomara Meybelyn Green	*Anna Marie Petrin
Kyle Robert Baker	*Renée Elizabeth Hait	David Salvatore Petinato
*Samantha Helen Baker	*Cordelia M. Hale	*Bianca Peura
Michaela Maureen Beelje	Coleman L. Hartner	*Madelene R. Powers
Kali J. Berthiaume	José Henriquez de Paz	Samuel Propp
*Erich T. Brown	Conner Hoffman	Madeline Nicole Reardon
Eathon Ryan Bryant	*Abigail Linnae Howard	*Lila Sarah Roche
*Brady A. Burch	Eva Rice Howard	Riley Michael Rowan
*Abigail Paige Burgess	Amier Hussien Ibrahim	Fernando Saravia
*Anieka Kathleen Carey	*Asa William Jackson	*Sydney Victoria Scanlon
Dylan McCullough Clemente	Carolena Marie Johnson	Matthew W. Sicard
Caroline C. Crocker	Miles Jacob Keefe	Ryan Skorb
Milo Andrew Cusano	Sean F. Kirkendall	*Liam Robert Skribiski-Banack
*Brooke Claire Davis	Andrew Kolakoski	Summer F. Sobieski
*Emily Day	*Tenzin Kunsang	Emma Fern St. Hilaire
Ngawang Deter	*Jesse Raymond Kurkulonis	Ayla Louise Starr
Gage Tomsho Dexter	*Kylie Mae LaFord	Matthew J. Stiles
*Eve Joule Dougan	Nikos J. Lanides	Ajoshua Christopher Sutton
Jesse Todd Dubreuil	Marcus Ray Larsson	Elizabeth M. Tatro
Angelina Celeste Egland	Sophia Leone	*Sydney Nicole Tor
Kirsten Marie Fabry	Indya Lewis	Rowan R. Viles
Daniel O. Fellows	Nicholas R. Lorantos	Rebecca Grace Wallace-West
Chloe Felton-Emrick	*Benjamin Makosiej	*Victoria Rose Weagle
Miles Burke Ferreira	Jake Mattson	Cadince Jasmine Wells-Robinson
*Ella Mapel Flanders	*Fiona Grace McFarland	Aiden Matthew West
David Garcia Frazier	Cheryl Ann Moreau	Chad Michael Wilkey
Alexander Stephen Gochinski	Olivia Noyes	Quinn A. Woods
*Abigail Florence Goff	Shelby Kathleen Ortoski	*Harrison Read Wright
Léonore Isabel Gogibu	Steven C. Otto	

- * National Honor Society (Recognized by Gold Stole)
Summa Cum Laude Honors (Recognized by Red Cord)
Magna Cum Laude Honors (Recognized by Blue Cord)

SUNDERLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

From the
Office of the Superintendent of Schools
Sunderland Elementary School

SUNDERLAND SCHOOL REPORT

Jessica Corwin, Chair
Sunderland School Committee
Sunderland, MA 01375

Dear Jessica:

I respectfully submit the 2023 Annual Report for the Sunderland Elementary School:

SUNDERLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE

	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
Jessica Corwin, Chair	2025
<i>Meghan Arquin, Vice Chair</i>	<i>2024</i>
Peter Gagarin, Secretary	2024
*Joseph Elias, Member	2026
<i>Amanda Wygant, Member</i>	<i>2026</i>

*Representative to Frontier Regional School Committee

ADMINISTRATION

Superintendent of Schools	Darius Modestow
Director of Business Administration	Shelley Poreda
Director of Student Services	Karen Ferrandino
Director of Education, Elementary Focus	Lara Ramsey
Director of Early Childhood	Kimberly McCarthy
Director of Instructional Technology	Scott Paul
Director of School Facilities	William Hildreth
Director of Food Services	Patrick McCarthy
Principal	Benjamin Barshefsky

SUPPORT STAFF

<i>Executive Assistant to Superintendent</i>	<i>Jennifer Shumway</i>
<i>Administrative Assistant (Student Services)</i>	<i>Penny Smiarowski</i>
<i>Administrative Assistant/Facilities</i>	<i>Mary Jane Whitcomb</i>
Receptionist/Early Childhood Assistant	Sarah Butler
Payroll Specialist, FRS/Union #38	Brenda Antes
Accounts Payable/Bookkeeper	Michelle Melnik
Accounting Specialist	Michael DeBarge
Grants Accountant	Stephan Shepherd
Secretary to Principal	Leila Rollins-Cohen

SUNDERLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

ENROLLMENT - OCTOBER 1, 2022

Grade	Resident Students	Tuition in	School Choice Students	Total
PreK	18	10	0	28
K	16	0	2	18
1	20	0	5	25
2	15	0	6	21
3	10	0	4	14
4	20	0	4	24
5	18	0	7	25
6	20	0	9	29
PreK-6 Total	137	10	37	184

Union #38 Teacher Salary Schedule

Union #38 Teachers

Effective July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023

	<u>STEP</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>B+15</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>M+15</u>	<u>M+30</u>	<u>M+45</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>\$47,348</u>	<u>\$48,826</u>	<u>\$50,351</u>	<u>\$51,927</u>	<u>\$53,550</u>	<u>\$55,141</u>	
<u>4</u>	<u>\$48,826</u>	<u>\$50,351</u>	<u>\$51,927</u>	<u>\$53,550</u>	<u>\$55,224</u>	<u>\$56,817</u>	
<u>5</u>	<u>\$50,351</u>	<u>\$51,927</u>	<u>\$53,550</u>	<u>\$55,224</u>	<u>\$56,950</u>	<u>\$58,542</u>	
<u>6</u>	<u>\$51,927</u>	<u>\$53,550</u>	<u>\$55,224</u>	<u>\$56,950</u>	<u>\$58,725</u>	<u>\$60,317</u>	
<u>7</u>	<u>\$53,550</u>	<u>\$55,224</u>	<u>\$56,950</u>	<u>\$58,725</u>	<u>\$60,560</u>	<u>\$62,151</u>	
<u>8</u>	<u>\$55,224</u>	<u>\$56,950</u>	<u>\$58,725</u>	<u>\$60,560</u>	<u>\$62,454</u>	<u>\$64,046</u>	
<u>9</u>	<u>\$56,950</u>	<u>\$58,725</u>	<u>\$60,560</u>	<u>\$62,454</u>	<u>\$64,405</u>	<u>\$65,997</u>	
<u>10</u>	<u>\$58,725</u>	<u>\$60,560</u>	<u>\$62,454</u>	<u>\$64,405</u>	<u>\$66,416</u>	<u>\$68,008</u>	
<u>11</u>	<u>\$60,560</u>	<u>\$62,454</u>	<u>\$64,405</u>	<u>\$66,416</u>	<u>\$68,491</u>	<u>\$70,083</u>	
<u>12</u>	<u>\$62,454</u>	<u>\$64,405</u>	<u>\$66,416</u>	<u>\$68,491</u>	<u>\$70,633</u>	<u>\$72,225</u>	
<u>13</u>	<u>\$64,405</u>	<u>\$66,416</u>	<u>\$68,491</u>	<u>\$70,633</u>	<u>\$72,845</u>	<u>\$74,437</u>	
<u>14</u>	<u>\$70,500</u>	<u>\$72,631</u>	<u>\$75,248</u>	<u>\$77,511</u>	<u>\$80,580</u>	<u>\$82,187</u>	
<u>20</u>	<u>\$72,689</u>	<u>\$74,860</u>	<u>\$77,530</u>	<u>\$79,839</u>	<u>\$82,971</u>	<u>\$84,579</u>	

Nature's Classroom Teacher: One hundred dollars (\$100) per day of attendance by a teacher. Workshop Presenters: \$30 per hour of presentation and reimbursement for reasonable expenses. Tutoring Rate: \$33.00 per hour. Head Teachers: \$1,500. Placement on Step 20 occurs when a teacher has completed 19 years as a teacher in Union #38. Mentors: \$500 per new teacher, \$250 for second-/third-year teacher, \$250 for each additional teacher being mentored, to a maximum of three (3) in any year. The Town of Sunderland currently pays 65% of the health insurance premium contribution, with the eligible employees who elect to participate in the Town offered health insurance paying the remaining 35% of the health insurance premium contribution.

INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANTS						
	2022-2023		2023-2024		2024-2025	
	IA	IAB	IA	IAB	IA	IAB
3	\$16.18	\$16.68				
4	\$16.72	\$17.22	\$17.05	\$17.55	\$17.40	\$17.90
5	\$17.23	\$17.73	\$17.58	\$18.08	\$17.93	\$18.43
6	\$17.76	\$18.26	\$18.12	\$18.62	\$18.48	\$18.98
7	\$18.30	\$18.80	\$18.66	\$19.16	\$19.04	\$19.54
8	\$18.82	\$19.32	\$19.20	\$19.70	\$19.58	\$20.08
9	\$19.35	\$19.85	\$19.73	\$20.23	\$20.13	\$20.63
10	\$19.91	\$20.41	\$20.31	\$20.81	\$20.71	\$21.21
11	\$20.51	\$21.01	\$20.92	\$21.42	\$21.33	\$21.83
12			\$21.54	\$22.04	\$21.97	\$22.47

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT NURSES, LPN, COTA, SLPA & PTA

STEP	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
1	\$24.91	\$25.41	\$25.92
2	\$25.98	\$26.50	\$27.03
3	\$27.04	\$27.58	\$28.13
4	\$28.10	\$28.67	\$29.24
5	\$29.16	\$29.75	\$30.34
6	\$30.23	\$30.83	\$31.45
7	\$31.30	\$31.92	\$32.56
8	\$32.37	\$33.02	\$33.68
9	\$33.44	\$34.11	\$34.79
10	\$34.48	\$35.17	\$35.87

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
SUNDERLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

District Mission Statement

Building dynamic learning communities, one student, one teacher, one family at a time.

District Vision Statement

Vibrant, collaborative, engaging, and inclusive learning communities promoting the growth of every student.

Opening Statement:

I am pleased to present our annual town report; this serves as our "community report card" for our graduates and includes their post-graduation plans, as well as initiatives and changes in our schools.

Our school system continues to move towards pre-pandemic stability. The dedication of our faculty and staff, the leadership of our administrators and school committees, and support from our parents and caregivers are key components in our ongoing progress. Challenges persist in academic performance and the mental health of our students.

I am pleased with our progress in updates to our curriculum and teacher professional development initiatives. This year, we have a new equity plan that supports our guiding documents: Curriculum Management, Professional Development, and Assessment management. This ensures that our anti-racism and equity work is woven into future planning and ongoing initiatives.

Sunderland Elementary completed several capital improvements, including the replacement of the underground oil tank. The oil tank installation was completed in February and was funded by the town's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. We were fortunate that there were no leaks found during the removal of the 33-year-old tank. The elementary school also received funding from ARPA to replace the windows on the south side of the building. The expected completion is September 2024.

The continued improvement of our facilities can not be done without the support of our towns. Thank you for your continued support as we strive to provide our students with the best possible education.

In Service,

Darius Modestow,
Superintendent of Schools

Enrollment & School Choice: The October 1, 2023 enrollment for Sunderland Elementary School totaled 184 (PreK-6) students. This is an increase of 4 students from the October 1, 2022 (PreK-6) enrollment figures of 180 students. Of those 184 (PreK-6) students, 37 were School Choice students. This is neither an increase or decrease of students from the October 2022 (PreK-6) School Choice enrollment figures of 37 students.

Curriculum and Professional Development:

Members of the Union 38 educational community have participated in professional development and committee work in order to align curriculum materials and classroom instruction with current educational research.

English Language Arts (ELA)

Teachers in all K-6 classrooms began implementing the EL Language Arts curriculum in September. In preparation for this implementation, all teachers received a two-hour training on the EL Language Arts digital platform, a 1-day training on the Foundations of EL Language Arts, and a 1-day training on Strategic Module Planning. A total of nine Early Release Fridays dedicated time to vertical and horizontal collaboration around ELA lesson planning. All teachers were offered the opportunity to work with an EL Language Arts coach.

The goals for year one, set out by the Implementation Committee, were

- 1) to use the curriculum's daily learning objectives
- 2) to use the texts provided by the curriculum
- 3) to use the anchor charts as outlined in the curriculum
- 4) to use the assessments provided by the curriculum.

By creating accountability for these four elements of the curriculum, we were able to ensure a basic level of consistency within and across schools. Year I implementation has been monitored and evaluated through student assessment, teacher observation, teacher survey, and standardized testing.

In addition to implementing EL Language Arts as the Language Comprehension strand of our ELA program, we implemented UFLI in all classrooms K-2 as the Foundational Skills strand. We monitored the effectiveness of UFLI through the interleaved progress monitoring that is part of the curriculum as well as DIBELS 8, our Early Literacy Screener (administered in all grades K-6 3x/year).

In response to research on the importance of implementing regular screenings for dyslexia and providing explicit, systematic instruction in foundational skills in grades K-3, we have adopted DIBELS 8 as our dyslexia screener and will make a final selection regarding a foundational reading skills program in April. Additionally, research tells us that students with more core knowledge have stronger reading comprehension, so we are in the final stages of selecting language arts curriculum materials that emphasize the acquisition of core knowledge. Ten teachers have participated in LETRS, a curriculum-agnostic training about the science of reading. We are setting up more LETRS training opportunities for the fall of 2023.

Math

The district is uniting around several projects. This fall, we began implementing a universal screener for number sense in grades K-2, which we will expand to all grades in 2023-24. The district purchased Bridges Intervention materials for K-6 mathematics in all schools. For 6th grade, to align with grades 7 and 8, the district purchased ALEKS, a digital platform for independent math practice that provides acceleration and enrichment at individualized levels and pacing. Finally, the district is in the process of selecting core curriculum materials that are updated and aligned with standards of math practice.

Health

With support from a grant for Comprehensive School Health Services, the district acquired up-to-date curriculum resources for 5th and 6th grade health classes. We are in the process of documenting the scope and sequence of health topics that are taught K-6 by a combination of classroom teachers, PE teachers, counselors, and nurses.

Social Studies

With support from a Civics grant, the district acquired curriculum resources from Cornerstones for Civic Education. This is an engaging curriculum that draws on primary sources and puts students in the position of “thinking like historians”. Teachers are working together to pilot lessons from this program and to create a scope and sequence of lessons for 3rd and 4th grade.

Nature’s Classroom

The district is sending all 6th graders to Nature’s Classroom in Ivoryton, CT for a three day/two night outdoor education experience. In addition to participating in hands-on science and social studies classes, students will explore ecosystems and work through team building challenges; a goal for the experience is to provide positive social and academic connections among members of the class of 2029.

Staff: Resignation: Cara Chandler, Nurse Leader;

Faculty Resignations: Melissa Kubacka, Grade 6 Teacher; Marijo Sherrill, Strings Teacher

New Faculty: Kali Freeman, Grade 6 Teacher; Mia Friedman, Strings Teacher

Special Thanks: We are pleased to acknowledge the dedication of Sunderland School Committee members Chair Jessica Corwin, Vice Chair Meghan Arquin, Secretary Peter Gagarin, and Members Joseph Elias and Amanda Wygant. The members of the Committee work tirelessly on behalf of the children in Sunderland. Together, I look forward to working with this group to continue to strive for the best educational experience for our students.

Respectfully submitted,

Darius E. Modestow
Superintendent of Schools

SOUTH COUNTY EMS (SoCEMS)

<https://www.deerfieldma.us/202/South-County-Emergency-Medical-Services>

(413) 665-8814

South County Emergency Medical Service's mission is to provide progressive prehospital emergency care with an emphasis on safety, advocacy, and commitment to our community. We are honored to serve the towns of Deerfield, Sunderland, and Whately. As one of the premier Advanced Life Support services in Western Massachusetts, we are proud of our ability to promote best practices and quality across the region.

In 2023 our crews responded to 1,361 calls for service, an almost 12% increase from the prior year. We took delivery of new cardiac monitors and other lifesaving equipment. We are pleased to have been awarded an AFG grant to help offset the cost. An order was placed for a new ambulance which is meant to replace our oldest vehicle, maintaining our ability to respond in the upcoming years.

Long-time director Smith departed our organization to take a role with the Department of Public Health. We are grateful for the dedication and commitment to service they exercised in helping our department grow. Because of director Smith's efforts, we are well positioned to face the growing challenges that all EMS organizations are facing across the country. We are thankful for director Smith's accomplishments and wish them continued success for the future.

Following director Smith's departure, paramedic Tim Drumgool was appointed as interim chief. Tim's efforts were highly appreciated by town officers and our own Board of Oversight.

Assisting Tim, paramedics Zach Battistoni, Laurie McComb, and Alicia Toia accepted additional administrative responsibilities to support department operations. The extraordinary efforts given by each of them speak volumes not only to their character, but to the commitment South County EMS offers our community. Collectively, we cannot express enough gratitude for their efforts.

2023 also saw the retirement of long-time provider David Zamojski. David spent a combined 23 years of service with South County EMS and its predecessor organization, Deerfield EMS. We appreciate his contributions over the years and wish him congratulations on his retirement.

CY2023 Call Volume

Total: 1,361	Mutual aid response: 231
Deerfield: 635	Advanced Life Support: 818
Sunderland: 320	Basic Life Support: 152
Whately: 175	Refusals, cancellations, and other: 160

Department Statistics

Command staff: 1
Full time employees: 10
Per diem employees: 8
EMTs: 4
Paramedics: 15

Board of Oversight

Deerfield	Tim Hilchey Matt Russo Carolyn Shores Ness (non-voting FinCom)
Sunderland	Tom Fydenkevez (chair) Crystal Drake Tremblay
Whately	Fred Baron Gary Stone

Medical Director

Matt Shapiro, DO

Over the last few years, providing emergency care has been difficult for many healthcare organizations. EMS agencies across the commonwealth and nation face staffing shortages, delayed response times and hospital turnaround times, and several communities face a reduction in accessible service. Many departments across the nation have shuttered, thus leaving populations vulnerable. In every state, longstanding public safety agreements between municipalities and privatized ambulance providers are being reevaluated, often leading to new public EMS models at exorbitant cost to their taxpayers.

However, South County EMS is in a good position due to the forward-thinking efforts brought by the developers of our unique, regional public model. This year, we enter the department's 10th year of operation with the enviable opportunity to grow the operation from within towards a more sustainable future. Our commitment is to add value and constantly find ways to improve care for our three towns. The EMTs and paramedics of South County EMS and I are proud to serve you.

Respectfully submitted,
Joshua Sparks
Chief of Department
South County EMS
www.SoCEMS.org

SOUTH COUNTY SENIOR CENTER

67 N Main St., South Deerfield, MA 01373

(413) 665-2141 • (413) 665-9508

Email: scsc@town.deerfield.ma.us Website: <https://www.deerfieldma.us/senior-center>

Jennifer M Remillard, Director

Susan Corey, Program Coordinator

Chris Goudreau, Outreach Coordinator

Tom Fydenkevez, Chair (through September 2023), Board of Oversight (Sunderland)

Joyce Palmer Fortune, Chair (September 2023), Board of Oversight (Whately)

Trevor McDaniel, Board of Oversight (Deerfield)

Daniel Murphy (September 2023), Board of Oversight (Sunderland)

The South County Senior Center provides services to older adults who reside in Deerfield, Sunderland, and Whately. We also welcome older adults from other communities who find

value in our programming. Programs are regularly offered on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

Programs are offered on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9 am-12 pm at Holy Family Parish, Pope John Paul II Hall, located at 29 Sugarloaf St., South Deerfield.

Programs are also offered at 22 Amherst Road, Sunderland, on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 2-4 pm, with scheduled programming on other days throughout the week. In addition to hosting programs, this space hosts our staff daily and provides meeting space; hosts our food pantry (open to anyone), a computer lab, a lending library, an arts center, a television area, and a sitting area.

Staffing and Board of Oversight

In October 2023, the South County Senior Center said goodbye to its longtime Program Coordinator, Susan Corey. We thank Sue for her many years of service. She will be missed. In September 2023, we said goodbye to longtime Sunderland Selectboard Board of Oversight Member, Tom Fydenkevez, and welcomed new Board of Oversight Member, Daniel Murphy. We thank Sue and Tom for their many years of dedication to the South County Senior Center.

Programs

During 2023, the SCSC membership increased by 151 members. This brings the total number of members who have attended events or received services from the SCSC to 407 individuals for more than 15,996 times in 2023. In addition to new members, 401 guests age 60+ and 98 guests under 60 have attended the SCSC during 2023.

During 2023, the South County Senior Center hosted more than 940 events. These events included Enhanced Fitness, Chair Yoga, Seated Dance, Tai Chi, African Drumming, Arts & Crafts programs, Cultural Events, Information Sharing programs, Recreation, Socialization, Congregant Meals, and Food Support.

Our average Daily Attendance for programs for 2023 was 68 members per day, per month. *This was an increase of 13%, up from 60 members, per day, per month during 2022 (Sept-Dec 2022).*

The highest daily average of individuals attending program, per day, per month for 2023 was 79 during the months of March and July, compared to 68 in November 2022. *This is an increase of 16%.* The lowest daily average of individuals attending program, per day, per month for 2023 was 57 individuals in the month of May; up from 26 in January 2022. *This is an increase of 113%.*

Through our partnership with LifePath, 49 seniors were able to regularly receive daily Grab n' Go meals (weekdays only), with more than 2,460 meals distributed amongst them.

Our food truck distribution program which occurs on the second Wednesday of each month is one of our most attended days at the Center. We average between 50-75 households who receive support. During 2023, we had more than 190 individuals receive support from our monthly pop-up food truck. This event is through our community partnership with the Franklin Area Survival Center.

In addition to our monthly food truck distribution program, the SCSC partners with The Food Bank of Western Mass to offer the Brown Bag program. This program has approximately 32 recipients each month. It offers a free bag of groceries to those who meet specific income guidelines.

We have also added a food pantry to our Sunderland space where we can store and offer items to our community daily.

During 2023, the South County Senior Center continues its partnership with the Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA) and UMass to become an application site for SNAP benefits. In doing so, we have been able to reach more individuals in our community experiencing food insecurity.

In August we hosted our second Informational Fair & Cruise night offering connection to more than 17 community partners. More than a 130 people were in attendance. This event will continue

During the holiday season in 2023, we offered a Friendsgiving in November. 90 individuals attended for the congregant meal. It is also on a date which LifePath has an administrative day where no meals are provided or delivered to the seniors.

With the success of Friendsgiving, we worked with the community to deliver more than 86 meals to seniors who otherwise may not have a meal for Christmas Day. We had a large volume of volunteers come together from the community to prepare, package, and deliver meals across South County.

Funding

Our funding comes from the three towns of Deerfield, Sunderland, and Whately. In addition to the funds the Towns provide, we receive additional funds during FY24 from the Commonwealth - Formula Fund Grant; the Fred G. Wells Trust; grants through LifePath; grants through MCOA & EOEA; and we received the following grants for FY24:

1. Formula Fund Grant (EOEA). This grant funded by the EOEA increased to \$42,380. This money is distributed through the State Budget based on the 2020 Census data. Each town receives \$14/per older adult age 60+ (up from \$12/per older adults for FY23).
2. \$1,000 Fred G. Wells Trust for Movement Classes.
3. Service Incentive Grants. We applied for and received two Service Incentive Grants (SIG):
 - a. Outreach: In the amount of \$13,135.05 to use towards the salary of the Outreach Coordinator (MCOA/EOEA).
 - b. Transportation: In the amount of \$16,612.96 to use towards fares and salary.
4. \$12,690 FRCOG Mass in Motion Grant (Non-Competitive) through FRCOG.
5. \$100,000 Digital Literacy Grant (EOEA). Funds were used to purchase and lottery 129 9th Generation iPads to those age 60+ who reside in Deerfield, Sunderland, and Whately. It also funds salary for administrative time of SCSC Staff, technology training for iPad recipients, stipends for up to 52 digital connectivity winners, marketing, and more.
6. \$6,000 LifePath (Title III) (Second Year for Enhanced Fitness Programming).
7. \$3,000 LifePath (Title III) (Second Year for Chair Yoga).
8. \$896 LifePath (Church Street Home Fund - Second Year for Bird Programming).
9. \$706 LifePath (Church Street Home Fund - Second Year for Memoir Programming).

The above grants total \$154,040.01.

In addition to the above funds, the Cultural Councils from Deerfield, Sunderland, and Whately provided funding in support of various activities, including dance programming and musical performances by a variety of local artists.

There are several areas of priority moving into 2024. They include continuing to expand and build new community partnerships; expand and create programs to attract current and new members; advocate for a permanent location; and create a 5-year plan for the South County Senior Center.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer M Remillard, MBA
Director, South County Senior Center



SUNDERLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

20 School Street, Sunderland, MA 01375

www.sunderlandpubliclibrary.org (413) 665-2642

Sunderland Public Library is a free public library serving the Town of Sunderland and surrounding communities. All are invited to visit the library and use its resources. The library provides free access to books, DVDs, audiobooks, magazines, newspapers, eBooks, streaming films, technology, and much more. Sunderland Public Library prides itself on offering thoughtful and engaging programs for people of all ages. The library is part of the CWMARS consortium, a network of more than 150 libraries in Central and Western Massachusetts. Anyone with a free CWMARS library card may borrow materials from Sunderland Public Library.

The Library in 2023:

- 67,279 items were borrowed from our library (4% increase from 2022)
 - 59% of the items our patrons borrowed were books
- 34,657 patrons visited the library (15% increase from 2022)
- 4,090 people attended library programs in-person or virtually (19% increase from 2022)
 - Our most popular programs were a lecture from a local professor entitled *Slavery's Footprint in the Connecticut River Valley* with 74 attendees, and a visit from Duckworld Ducks with 148 attendees.

Growing Collection

The library is pleased to continue to expand our patrons' access to a wide variety of materials. In 2023, we increased our streaming film offerings by adding Craftsy, free video crafting courses, and Qello and Classica streaming film concerts. We also greatly expanded our "Library of Things," adding Wifi Hotspots, binoculars, digital recorders, and many other useful items to our collection. We look forward to continuing to expand our collections and services in 2024.

Head of Youth Services Celebrates 25 Years at Sunderland Public Library

2023 marked 25 years of service at Sunderland Public Library for Head of Youth Services Kelly Daniels-Baker. For a quarter of a century, Kelly has been an integral part of our library and community. She has conducted hundreds of Story Times, selected thousands of high-quality children's books for our collection, and taught innumerable children to love to read. The Board of Library Trustees and Library Director wish to thank Kelly for her dedication, hard work, and passion. She is a large part of what makes our library so special.

Thank You to our Volunteers

We wish to thank our volunteers for all of their help this year: John Baltteim, Emma Burke, Nimisha Gudimella, Nahusha Gudimella, Beth Lukin, Jean Reese, Mary Reilly, Carol Ryan, Kathy Ryan, Faith White, Laura Williams, and Ben, Dove, Miles, Oscar, and their teachers from Frontier Regional High School. The work done by our volunteers is what keeps this library running, and we are extremely grateful for all of their hard work.

Thank You to the Friends of Sunderland Public Library, Inc. and our Donors

The Friends of Sunderland Public Library, Inc. is a 100% local, volunteer-driven, non-profit organization dedicated to supporting Sunderland Public Library. While the library is grateful for the financial support we receive from Sunderland's tax payers, the library still relies on the Friends of the Library to purchase library materials, sponsor our community programs, and provide our patrons with access to critical technology. Without the fundraising efforts of the Friends of Sunderland Public Library, and without the generous gifts of their supporters, Sunderland Public Library would not be able to provide many of the pivotal services we offer to our patrons. Thank you to the Friends of Sunderland Public Library, Inc., and all of our donors, for your support!

Library Hours

Mondays 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM
Tuesdays 1:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Wednesdays 1:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Fridays 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Saturdays 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Curbside Pickup and Home Delivery Services available upon request.

Library Staff

Katherine Umstot, Library Director, Kelly Daniels Baker, Head of Youth Services, Aaron Falbel, Head of Adult Services, Heather McGuirk, Head of Young Adult Services, Vanessa Ryder, Circulation Assistant

Board of Library Trustees

Justine Rosewarne, Chair; Heidi Bauer-Clapp, Vice Chair; Valerie Voorheis, Secretary; Molly Gowa; Hollis Graves; Kristyn Korpita; Emily Pettit; Lorin Starr; David Wissemann

TAX COLLECTOR / TREASURER

TAX COLLECTOR - JUNE 2023

		<u>BEGINNING</u>	<u>MINUS</u>	<u>MINUS</u>	<u>PLUS</u>	<u>MINUS</u>	<u>MINUS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Year of Tax	Type	Committed & Balanced	Tax Paid	Abate/ Exempt	Refunds	Tax Title	Sewer/ Water Liens	Balance Due
2014	Motor Vehicle	4,545.64	1,013.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,532.51
2014	Personal Prop	17.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	17.70
2015	Motor Vehicle	5,607.16	1,594.97	207.40	207.40	0.00	0.00	4,012.19
2015	Personal Prop	199.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	199.85
2016	Motor Vehicle	9,220.24	5,965.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,255.21
2016	Real Estate	14,320.61	7,883.96	0.00	0.00	6,436.65	0.00	0.00
2016	CPA	101.98	14.27	0.00	0.00	87.71	0.00	0.00
2016	Liens added to RE	1,368.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,368.94	0.00	0.00
2016	Personal Prop	309.62	271.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	38.20
2017	Motor Vehicle	81,953.63	77,868.53	3,252.08	3,147.91	0.00	0.00	3,980.93
2017	Personal Prop	522.70	212.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	310.24
2017	Real Estate	51,024.27	42,030.22	0.00	0.00	8,994.05	0.00	(0.00)
2017	CPA	747.66	648.42	0.00	0.00	111.28	0.00	(12.04)
2017	Sewer	12,047.28	10,519.02	0.00	2,487.50	0.00	4,015.76	0.00
2018	Motor Vehicle	406,679.41	399,695.05	4,924.33	3,396.78	0.00	0.00	5,456.81
2018	Personal Prop	119,859.91	119,564.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	295.49
2018	Real Estate	5,128,075.22	5,046,510.30	13,124.25	8,589.52	22,146.68	0.00	54,883.51
2018	CPA	107,632.52	105,810.95	459.75	0.00	254.44	0.00	1,107.38
2018	Sewer	369,404.00	356,247.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,156.66
2018	Sewer Liens	4,015.76	3,442.08	0.00	0.00	573.68	0.00	0.00
2019	Motor Vehicle	408,818.68	387,672.30	5,397.78	7,545.76	0.00	0.00	23,294.36
2019	Personal Prop	124,373.25	123,989.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	383.77
2019	Real Estate	5,456,867.18	5,362,696.57	16,398.78	557.62	0.00	0.00	78,329.45
2019	CPA	116,419.72	114,280.26	555.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,583.55
2019	Sewer	360,915.29	347,296.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,619.22
2019	Sewer Liens	12,319.87	6,381.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,938.23
2020	Motor Vehicle	418,814.13	370,504.93	5,795.50	2,081.46	0.00	0.00	44,595.16
2020	Personal Prop	160,484.23	159,344.88	39.54	39.54	0.00	0.00	1,099.81
2020	Real Estate	5,664,531.69	5,480,680.68	26,927.63	3,090.00	0.00	0.00	153,833.38
2020	CPA	122,095.79	119,068.79	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,027.00
2020	Sewer	388,503.04	359,903.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(359,903.16)
2020	Sewer Liens	10,812.81	7,419.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,002.96	3,393.33
2021	Motor Vehicle	441,346.07	346,459.53	1,799.38	3,367.30	0.00	0.00	96,454.46
2021	Personal Prop	177,620.09	176,799.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	821.06
2021	Real Estate	5,789,598.48	5,695,264.14	18,180.19	16,899.52	0.00	15,368.00	77,685.67
2021	CPA	125,532.33	123,540.36	440.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,551.31
2021	Sewer	394,545.98	290,291.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	104,254.76
2021	Sewer Liens	15,368.00	15,675.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(307.35)
2022	Motor Vehicle	450,710.32	333,181.67	3,803.68	1,672.00	0.00	0.00	115,396.97
2022	Personal Property	199,687.77	200,122.39	560.56	560.56	0.00	0.00	(434.62)
2022	Real Estate	6,249,462.27	6,167,490.81	22,671.27	16,259.77	0.00	0.00	75,559.96
2022	CPA	141,423.43	139,978.46	535.32	510.77	0.00	0.00	1,420.42
2022	Sewer	384,041.12	375,837.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,203.68
2022	Sewer Liens	10,725.12	9,544.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,180.92
2023	Motor Vehicle	468,477.90	369,443.78	3,407.55	2,199.19	0.00	0.00	97,825.76
2023	Personal Property	224,617.63	225,025.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(434.62)

2023	Real Estate	6,475,012.27	6,408,146.07	27,266.24	19,677.95	0.00	0.00	59,277.91
2023	CPA	153,747.77	155,158.94	177.14	228.29	0.00	0.00	(1,360.02)
2023	Sewer	400,853.58	388,188.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,665.20
2023	Sewer Liens	12,665.20	3,214.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,450.99
	TOTALS	41,678,045.11	40,441,891.67	155,924.94	92,518.84	39,973.43	23,386.72	718,641.20

TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT BANK ACCOUNTS

BANK	BALANCE 7/1/2022	BALANCE 6/30/2023
PEOPLE'S UNITED BANK - GENERAL		
VENDOR CHECKING	150,576.63	196,516.26
SCHOOL CHECKING	\$0.00	\$0.00
PAYROLL CHECKING	\$0.00	\$0.00
FLEX SPENDING	\$0.00	\$0.00
STUDENT ACTIVITY	38,769.19	51,458.98
PEOPLES BANK - GENERAL FUNDS		
VENDOR CHECKING	1,227,623.87	1,108,836.23
SCHOOL CHECKING	19,472.72	(80,716.06)
PAYROLL CHECKING	6,289.68	(157,437.55)
300TH ANNIVERSARY	2,016.90	2,021.95
ZBA COMP PERMIT	16,462.05	16,486.77
SCHOOL LUNCH	27,405.61	28,140.61
EASTHAMPTON SAVINGS BANK		
STABILIZATION	568,443.12	570,372.55
LIBRARY BUILDING TRUST	15,101.46	15,152.71
LIBRARY ENDOWMENT	37,885.64	38,014.45
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION	1,014,371.72	1,158,924.47
ARTS LOTTERY - CHECKING	7,174.79	7,193.79
RECREATION REVOLVING FUND	2,239.58	2,245.51
GREENFIELD CO-OPERATIVE BANK		
GENERAL FUND	394,231.83	267,344.09
GENERAL FUND	294,066.73	295,910.84
MMDT		
GENERAL FUND	30,789.45	32,038.79
CONSERVATION	52,973.40	55,122.83
CAPITAL STABILIZATION	52,973.40	139,575.77
CEMETERY	137,691.55	143,278.58
SUGARBUSH	15,416.88	16,042.33
MAIN STREET TREE	30,053.03	33,638.08
VETERANS MEMORIAL	15,201.70	16,127.06
LIBRARY	44,450.46	46,254.11
PEOPLES BANK		
CD	125,309.11	125,371.61
UNIBANK		
GENERAL FUNDS	433,993.09	437,406.77

ONLINE TAX COLLECTIONS	1,142,921.04	1,368,051.77
ONLINE TOWN CLERK	5,514.51	6,301.45
ONLINE SCHOOL	158,790.76	244,961.57
CREDIT/DEBIT	5,486.95	1,100.19
ONLINE INSPECTOR	90,120.80	162,178.10
LPL FINANCIAL - GENERAL FUND	\$73,725.62	\$77,361.93
DEPOSITS IN TRANSIT	3,335.32	894.00
CHECKS OUTSTANDING	(\$157,670.22)	(\$543,421.26)
ADJUSTMENTS/TRANFERS	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
BARTHOLOMEW - OPEB	198,056.10	248,350.39
TOTAL FUNDS	\$6,083,208.37	\$6,131,099.67

MATURING DEBT AND INTEREST - FY 2023

TYPE OF PROJECT	BEGINNING BAL. 07/01/22	PRINCIPAL PAID	INTEREST PAID	PRINCIPAL REMAINING
Affordable Housing	\$73,500.00	(\$24,500.00)	\$2,138.00	\$46,862.00
Parks Grant (Temp loan)	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
Fire Truck Loan	\$322,120.00	(\$107,374.00)	\$2,300.00	\$212,446.00
TOTALS	\$395,620.00	(\$131,874.00)	\$4,438.00	\$259,308.00

TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Sunderland								
Combined Balance Sheet - All Fund Types and Account Groups								
as of June 30, 2023								
(Unaudited)								
	Governmental Fund Types			Proprietary Fund Types		Fund Types	Groups	Totals
	Gen	Special	Capital		Internal	Trust &	Long-term	(Memorandum
		Revenue	Projects	Enterprise	Services	Agency	Debt	Only)
ASSETS								
Cash and cash equivalents	1,597,034.72	3,861,046.81	40,694.52			1,174,950.68		6,673,726.73
Investments								0.00
Receivables:								
Personal property taxes	645.57							645.57
Real estate taxes	107,827.02							107,827.02
Allowance for abatements and exemptions	(14,805.55)							(14,805.55)
Tax liens	41,800.70	87.85						41,888.55
Deferred taxes								0.00
Motor vehicle excise	116,494.37							116,494.37
Other excises								0.00
User fees		14,248.35						14,248.35
Utility liens added to taxes		(2,364.71)						(2,364.71)
Departmental								0.00
Special assessments								0.00
Due from other governments								0.00
Other receivables		(1,685.30)						(1,685.30)
Foreclosures/Possessions								0.00
Prepays								0.00

Due to/from other funds								0.00
Working deposit								0.00
Inventory								0.00
Fixed assets, net of accumulated depreciation								0.00
Amounts to be provided - payment of bonds			263,745.00					263,745.00
Amounts to be provided - vacation/sick leave								0.00
Total Assets	<u>1,848,996.83</u>	<u>3,871,333.00</u>	<u>304,439.52</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,174,950.68</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>7,199,720.03</u>

LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY

Liabilities:								
Warrants payable								0.00
Accounts payable								0.00
Accrued payroll								0.00
Withholdings	8,007.78							8,007.78
Accrued claims payable								0.00
Due to/from other funds								0.00
Due to other governments								0.00
Other liabilities								0.00
Deferred revenue:								
Real and personal property taxes	93,667.04							93,667.04
Tax liens	41,800.70	87.85						41,888.55
Deferred taxes								0.00
Foreclosures/Possessions								0.00
Motor vehicle excise	116,494.37							116,494.37
Other excises								0.00
User fees		14,248.35						14,248.35
Utility liens added to taxes		(2,364.71)						(2,364.71)
Departmental								0.00
Special assessments								0.00

	Due from other governments								0.00
	Other receivables		(1,685.30)						(1,685.30)
	Deposits receivable								0.00
	Prepaid taxes/fees								0.00
	Tailings	29,202.96							29,202.96
	IBNR								0.00
	Agency Funds						20,130.50		20,130.50
	Notes payable			263,745.00					263,745.00
	Bonds payable								0.00
	Vacation and sick leave liability								0.00
	Total Liabilities	<u>289,172.85</u>	<u>10,286.19</u>	<u>263,745.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>20,130.50</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>583,334.54</u>
Fund Equity:									
	Reserved for encumbrances	271,015.42							271,015.42
	Reserved for expenditures	640,122.36							640,122.36
	Reserved for continuing appropriations	113,098.94							113,098.94
	Reserved for petty cash	<u> </u>							0.00
	Reserved for appropriation deficit	<u> </u>							0.00
	Reserved for snow and ice deficit								0.00
	Reserved for COVID-19 deficit								0.00
	Reserved for debt service								0.00
	Reserved for premiums								0.00
	Reserved for working deposit								0.00
	Undesignated fund balance	535,587.26	3,861,046.81	40,694.52			1,154,820.18		5,592,148.77
	Unreserved retained earnings								0.00
	Investment in capital assets								0.00
	Total Fund Equity	<u>1,559,823.98</u>	<u>3,861,046.81</u>	<u>40,694.52</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,154,820.18</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>6,616,385.49</u>
	Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	<u><u>1,848,996.83</u></u>	<u><u>3,871,333.00</u></u>	<u><u>304,439.52</u></u>	<u><u>0.00</u></u>	<u><u>0.00</u></u>	<u><u>1,174,950.68</u></u>	<u><u>0.00</u></u>	<u><u>7,199,720.03</u></u>



PROOF BALANCE SHEET IS IN BALANCE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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PROOF FUND BALANCE DETAIL AGREES TO THE BALANCE SHEET	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(0.00)
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PROOF RECEIVABLES DETAIL AGREES TO THE BALANCE SHEET	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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General Fund Revenue

<u>Fund Code</u>	<u>Deptmt Title</u>	<u>Deptmt Code</u>	<u>Object Code</u>	<u>Object Title</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Object Short Title</u>
1	Balance Sheet	1	4110	Personal Property Taxes	261,240.60	Personal Proper
1	Balance Sheet	1	4120	Real Estate Taxes	6,194,749.00	Real Estate Tax
1	Balance Sheet	1	4150	Motor Vehicle Excise	490,597.24	Motor Vehicle E
1	Balance Sheet	1	4165	Meals Tax	60,886.21	Meals Tax
1	Balance Sheet	1	4167	Rooms Tax	5,892.77	Rooms Tax
1	Balance Sheet	1	4170	Pen & Int on Prop Taxes	21,179.47	Pen & Int on Pr
1	Balance Sheet	1	4171	Pen & Int on Excise Taxes	11,953.13	Pen & Int on Ex
1	Balance Sheet	1	4580	Medicare Reimbursement	47,439.46	Medicare Reimbu
1	Balance Sheet	1	4610	Reimb for Loss of Taxes	191,133.00	Reimb for Loss
1	Balance Sheet	1	4613	Veterans Abatements	14,599.00	Veterans Abatem
1	Balance Sheet	1	4620	School Aid Chapter 70	850,369.00	School Aid Chap
1	Balance Sheet	1	4623	Charter School Reimbrsmts	35,624.00	Charter School
1	Balance Sheet	1	4660	Unrestricted Gen Gov Aid	585,504.00	UGGA
1	Balance Sheet	1	4665	Veterans Benefits	5,552.00	Veterans Benefi
1	Balance Sheet	1	4682	PVTA Reimb	155,942.00	PVTA Reimb
1	Balance Sheet	1	4685	Fines - RMV	4,267.78	Fines - RMV
1	Balance Sheet	1	4771	Fines - District Court	380.00	Fines - Distric
1	Balance Sheet	1	4820	Earnings on Investments	14,291.64	Earnings on Inv
1	Balance Sheet	1	4840	Miscellaneous Revenue	40,519.05	Miscellaneous R
1	Balance Sheet	1	4971	Tr Fr Special Revenue	53,000.00	Tr Fr Special R
1	Balance Sheet	1	4975	Tr Fr Cap Stabilization	104,920.64	Tr Fr Cap Stab
1	Balance Sheet	1	4976	Txfr from CPA	24,792.21	Txfr from CPA
1	Selectboard	122	4320	Fees	22,615.01	Fees
1	Selectboard	122	4410	Alcohol Beverag Licenses	1,982.00	Alcohol Beverag
1	Selectboard	122	4415	Licenses - Dogs	390.00	Licenses - Dogs
1	Collector	146	4320	Fees	1,560.00	Fees
1	Other - Registry Marking	149	4320	Fees	2,880.00	Fees
1	Town Clerk	161	4320	Fees	6,984.00	Fees
1	Conservation	171	4320	Fees	175.00	Fees
1	Police	210	4320	Fees	3,233.40	Fees
1	Police	210	4450	Permits	1,187.50	Permits
1	Fire	220	4320	Fees	193.00	Fees
1	Fire	220	4450	Permits	3,454.00	Permits
1	Building Inspector	241	4450	Permits	70,430.40	Permits

1	Plumbing	242	4450	Permits	1,268.25	Permits
1	Wiring	245	4450	Permits	1,255.00	Permits
1	Highway	422	4450	Permits	25.00	Permits
1	Library	610	4320	Fees	<u>96.00</u>	Fees
					9,292,560.76	

General Fund Expense

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Dept</u>	<u>Object</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Balance</u>	
001	Moderator	114	5100	Salaries & Wages Elected	200.00	0.00	200.00	Salaries & Wage
	Total	114					200.00	
	Total	Total						
001	Selectboard	122	5100	Salaries & Wages Elected	8,975.00	9,723.01	(748.01)	Salaries & Wage
001	Selectboard	122	5130	Sal Dept Assist	38,498.40	37,655.23	843.17	Sal Dept Assist
001	Selectboard	122	5400	Gen Expns	94,655.00	67,097.82	27,557.18	Gen Exp
001	Selectboard	122	5499	Encumbered	596.80	14,096.80	(13,500.00)	Encumbered
	Total	122					14,152.34	
	Total	Total						
001	Town Adminis	123	5110	Salaries & Wages Dept Heads	94,099.00	94,099.60	(0.60)	Sal Dept Head
	Total	123					(0.60)	
	Total	Total						
001	Finance Committee	131	5400	Gen Expns	160.00	0.00	160.00	Gen Exp
	Total	131					160.00	
	Total	Total						
001	Reserve Fund	132	5400	Gen Expns	10,000.00	7,000.00	3,000.00	Gen Exp
	Total	132					3,000.00	
	Total	Total						
001	Town Accountant	135	5400	Gen Expns	14,034.00	133.98	13,900.02	Gen Exp
001	Town Accountant	135	5410	Contracted Srvc	58,203.00	58,203.00	0.00	Contract Serv
	Total	135					13,900.02	
	Total	Total						
001	Assessors	141	5100	Salaries & Wages Elected	8,983.00	7,994.25	988.75	Salaries & Wage
001	Assessors	141	5130	Sal Dept Assist	19,439.00	19,289.40	149.60	Sal Dept Assist
001	Assessors	141	5400	Gen Expns	1,060.00	100.99	959.01	Gen Exp
001	Assessors	141	5410	Contracted Srvc	8,740.00	8,740.00	0.00	Contract Serv
001	Assessors	141	5420	Update Tax Maps	2,100.00	1,575.00	525.00	Update Tax Map
	Total	141					2,622.36	
	Total	Total						
001	Revaluation	142	5400	Gen Expns	6,000.00	4,253.00	1,747.00	Gen Exp

	Total	142					1,747.00	
001	Collector	Total 146	5110	Salaries & Wages Dept Heads	55,917.50	54,593.25	1,324.25	Sal Dept Head
001	Collector	146	5120	TreasColl sec108P TC Sec 19K	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	Treas/Coll sec1
001	Collector	146	5130	Sal Dept Assist	7,636.50	7,636.50	0.00	Sal Dept Assist
001	Collector	146	5400	Gen Expns	45,826.00	36,539.69	9,286.31	Gen Exp
001	Collector	146	5499	Encumbered	0.00	6,374.84	(6,374.84)	Encumbered
	Total	146					4,235.72	
001	Telecom/Data Processing	Total 155	5400	Gen Expns	53,000.00	47,749.72	5,250.28	Gen Exp
	Total	155					5,250.28	
001	Tax Title/Foreclosure	158	5400	Gen Expns	120.00	120.00	0.00	Gen Exp
	Total	158					0.00	
001	Town Clerk	Total 161	5100	Salaries & Wages Elected	53,928.00	53,928.09	(0.09)	Salaries & Wage
001	Town Clerk	161	5120	TreasColl sec108P TC Sec 19K	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	Treas/Coll sec1
001	Town Clerk	161	5400	Gen Expns	5,890.00	2,529.28	3,360.72	Gen Exp
	Total	161					3,360.63	
001	Election Reg/Wages	Total 162	5130	Sal Dept Assist	6,680.24	6,680.24	0.00	Sal Dept Assist
001	Election Reg/Wages	162	5400	Gen Expns	12,495.76	12,237.37	258.39	Gen Exp
	Total	162					258.39	
001	Conservation	Total 171	5400	Gen Expns	1,250.00	699.17	550.83	Gen Exp
001	Conservation	171	5499	Encumbered	48.15	48.15	0.00	Encumbered
	Total	171					550.83	
001	Planning Board	Total 175	5100	Salaries & Wages Elected	3,650.00	3,466.66	183.34	Salaries & Wage
001	Planning Board	175	5400	Gen Expns	800.00	0.00	800.00	Gen Exp
	Total	175					983.34	
001	Zoning Board	Total 176	5400	Gen Expns	500.00	347.76	152.24	Gen Exp
	Total	176					152.24	
001	Public Safety Complex	Total 191	5400	Gen Expns	27,000.00	26,940.40	59.60	Gen Exp
	Total	191					59.60	
001	Town Office	Total 192	5400	Gen Expns	35,195.00	35,033.82	161.18	Gen Exp
001	Town Office	192	5405	Munic Bldg Energy/Solar	99,316.28	99,316.28	0.00	Muni Bld Enrgy

001	Town Office	192	5451	Recreation Field Maint	6,000.00	2,780.84	3,219.16	Rec Field Maint
001	Town Office	192	5499	Encumbered	5,205.75	5,627.08	(421.33)	Encumbered
	Total	192					2,959.01	
	Total	193						
001	Library Buildings	193	5400	Gen Expns	25,433.00	22,060.61	3,372.39	Gen Exp
001	Library Buildings	193	5413	Graves Library Bld	3,340.00	2,299.88	1,040.12	Graves Building
001	Library Buildings	193	5817	Library HVAC	14,500.00	11,676.48	2,823.52	Lib HVAC
	Total	193					7,236.03	
	Total	194						
001	Highway Garage	194	5400	Gen Expns	43,814.99	43,814.99	0.00	Gen Exp
	Total	194					0.00	
	Total	210						
001	Police	210	5110	Salaries & Wages Dept Heads	83,917.66	83,917.66	0.00	Sal Dept Head
001	Police	210	5125	Full Time Wages	310,463.76	310,770.56	(306.80)	FT Wages
001	Police	210	5140	Overtime	19,150.92	19,150.92	0.00	Overtime
001	Police	210	5150	Part time Wages	46,691.90	44,241.62	2,450.28	Part time Wages
001	Police	210	5160	Clerk Wages	32,147.00	31,999.10	147.90	Clerk Wa
001	Police	210	5400	Gen Expns	56,206.77	56,206.77	0.00	Gen Exp
001	Police	210	5499	Encumbered	916.84	516.22	400.62	Encumbered
001	Police	210	5818	Police Radio Eqp 217	16,560.93	6,545.37	10,015.56	PD Radios 217
001	Police	210	5896	Firearms Replcmt	7,000.00	7,000.00	0.00	Firearms Repl
	Total	210					12,707.56	
	Total	220						
001	Fire	220	5110	Salaries & Wages Dept Heads	18,922.00	18,922.00	0.00	Sal Dept Head
001	Fire	220	5145	Fire Dept Wages	35,000.00	27,208.33	7,791.67	Fire Wages
001	Fire	220	5150	Part time Wages	17,480.00	17,458.00	22.00	Part time Wages
001	Fire	220	5400	Gen Expns	27,167.78	25,998.65	1,169.13	Gen Exp
001	Fire	220	5499	Encumbered	14,696.14	14,110.14	586.00	Encumbered
	Total	220					9,568.80	
	Total	220						
001	Ambulance	231	5450	Regional Emergency Med Svc	210,221.00	210,221.00	0.00	Region EMS
	Total	231					0.00	
	Total	231						
001	EMT	232	5110	Salaries & Wages Dept Heads	0.60	0.00	0.60	Sal Dept Head
	Total	232					0.60	
	Total	241						
001	Building Inspector	241	5110	Salaries & Wages Dept Heads	30,940.00	30,940.00	0.00	Sal Dept Head
001	Building Inspector	241	5130	Sal Dept Assistant	228.00	0.00	228.00	Sal Dept Assist

001	Building Inspector	241	5400	Gen Expns	5,593.98	1,717.22	3,876.76	Gen Exp
	Total	241					4,104.76	
001	Animal Inspector	249	5400	Gen Expns	100.00	0.00	100.00	Gen Exp
	Total	249					100.00	
001	Civil Defense	291	5400	Gen Expns	5,336.25	5,336.25	0.00	Gen Exp
001	Civil Defense	291	5424	Radio Sys Svc Fee Police/Fire	8,592.18	8,592.18	0.00	Radio Fee PD/FD
	Total	291					0.00	
001	Animal Control	292	5400	Gen Expns	5,318.89	5,318.89	0.00	Gen Exp
	Total	292					0.00	
001	Tree Warden	294	5400	Gen Expns	8,189.70	8,189.70	0.00	Gen Exp
001	Tree Warden	294	5499	Encumbered	1,434.66	1,125.00	309.66	Encumbered
	Total	294					309.66	
001	Elementary School	300	5400	Gen Expns	3,008,527.00	2,726,241.83	282,285.17	Gen Exp
001	Elementary School	300	5414	School Tansportation	136,940.00	0.00	136,940.00	Transportation
001	Elementary School	300	5499	Encumbered	350,489.48	269,649.78	80,839.70	Encumbered
001	Elementary School	300	5832	Exterior Bldg Maint	9,600.00	4,000.00	5,600.00	Ext Build Maint
	Total	300					505,664.87	
001	Frontier Regional School	310	5400	Gen Expns	2,110,871.00	2,110,871.00	0.00	Gen Exp
001	Frontier Regional School	310	5426	Out of District Tuition Transp	786.87	0.00	786.87	OD Tuit Trans
001	Frontier Regional School	310	5499	Encumbered	17,414.16	0.00	17,414.16	Encumbered
	Total	310					18,201.03	
001	Franklin County Tech	320	5400	Gen Expns	113,323.13	113,323.13	0.00	Gen Exp
	Total	320					0.00	
001	Highway Admin	421	5110	Salaries & Wages Dept Heads	76,947.57	76,947.57	0.00	Sal Dept Head
001	Highway Admin	421	5160	Clerk Wages	4,286.00	4,203.14	82.86	Clerk Wa
	Total	421					82.86	
001	Highway	422	5115	Salaries Seasonal Highway	7,540.00	6,803.09	736.91	Sal Seas Hiway
001	Highway	422	5125	Full Time Wages	83,654.94	83,654.94	0.00	FT Wages
001	Highway	422	5140	Overtime	1,925.43	1,789.79	135.64	Overtime
001	Highway	422	5400	Gen Expns	85,004.00	84,246.08	757.92	Gen Exp

001	Highway	422	5499	Encumbered	5,222.03	328.29	4,893.74	Encumbered
001	Highway	422	5803	Truck Lease	27,206.48	27,206.48	0.00	Truck Lease
001	Highway	422	5816	Storage Container	750.00	0.00	750.00	Storage Contain
001	Highway	422	5823	Fuel Disp System	35.93	0.00	35.93	Fuel Disp Syste
001	Highway	422	5824	Small Dump Truck 214	364.00	0.00	364.00	Sm Dump Truc
001	Highway	422	5841	Plow Replace 217	500.00	0.00	500.00	Plow 217
001	Highway	422	5863	Milling Head ART 4	18,200.00	13,923.88	4,276.12	Milling Head AR
Total		422					12,450.26	
		Total						
001	Snow & Ice Removal	423	5140	Overtime	18,472.63	18,472.63	0.00	Overtime
001	Snow & Ice Removal	423	5400	Gen Expns	56,620.48	56,620.48	0.00	Gen Exp
Total		423					0.00	
		Total						
001	Solid waste	431	5400	Gen Expns	9,267.00	8,407.36	859.64	Gen Exp
Total		431					859.64	
		Total						
001	Cemetery	491	5400	Gen Expns	4,227.50	4,227.50	0.00	Gen Exp
001	Cemetery	491	5415	Care of Veteran's Graves	700.00	135.36	564.64	Vets Graves
Total		491					564.64	
		Total						
001	Board of Health	512	5160	Clerk Wages	16,904.00	16,303.71	600.29	Clerk Wa
001	Board of Health	512	5400	Gen Expns	550.00	74.39	475.61	Gen Exp
Total		512					1,075.90	
		Total						
001	Council on Aging	541	5400	Gen Expns	32,597.00	32,497.00	100.00	Gen Exp
Total		541					100.00	
		Total						
001	Veterans	543	5400	Gen Expns	40,429.12	33,699.89	6,729.23	GenExp
Total		543					6,729.23	
		Total						
001	Library	610	5110	Salaries & Wages Dept Heads	68,867.00	68,454.26	412.74	Sal Dept Head
001	Library	610	5135	Sal Library Support Staff	102,234.00	98,159.06	4,074.94	Sal Lib Support
001	Library	610	5400	Gen Expns	31,921.38	31,921.38	0.00	Gen Exp
001	Library	610	5846	Children's Rm Carpet Replmt Library ART 4	18,000.00	18,000.00	0.00	Children's Room
Total		610					4,487.68	
		Total						
001	Recreation	630	5110	Salaries & Wages Dept Heads	9,555.00	9,555.00	0.00	Sal Dept Head
Total		630					0.00	
		Total						

001	Town Park	650	5400	Gen Expns	1,000.00	939.42	60.58	Gen Exp
001	Town Park	650	5499	Encumbered	600.00	584.74	15.26	Encumbered
	Total	650					75.84	
	Total	Total						
001	Historical Commission	691	5400	Gen Expns	200.00	0.00	200.00	Gen Exp
	Total	691					200.00	
	Total	Total						
001	Memorial Day	692	5400	Gen Expns	960.00	444.95	515.05	Gen Exp
	Total	692					515.05	
	Total	Total						
001	Retirement of Debt	710	5910	BAN Pincipal	148,364.00	132,182.00	16,182.00	BAN Principal
	Total	710					16,182.00	
	Total	Total						
001	Interest	750	5901	Interest on Short Term Debt	879.31	879.31	0.00	Interest on Sho
001	Interest	750	5930	Fire Truck Debt 220	1,191.84	1,191.84	0.00	Fire Truck Debt
	Total	750					0.00	
	Total	Total						
001	State Assmts & Charges	820	5640	Air Pollut District	923.00	923.00	0.00	Air Pollution D
001	State Assmts & Charges	820	5646	RMV Marking Surchg	2,603.50	2,603.50	0.00	RMV Marking Sur
001	State Assmts & Charges	820	5663	Reg Transit Authority	146,160.00	146,160.00	0.00	Reg Transit Aut
001	State Assmts & Charges	820	5690	Charter School Assmt	7,000.00	7,000.00	0.00	Charter School
001	State Assmts & Charges	820	5691	School Choice Assmt	117,088.00	117,088.00	0.00	School Choice A
	Total	820					0.00	
	Total	Total						
001	County Assmts & Charges	830	5400	Gen Expns	23,978.00	21,159.00	2,819.00	Gen Exp
	Total	830					2,819.00	
	Total	Total						
001	Retirement Contributions	911	5400	Gen Expns	357,219.00	357,219.00	0.00	Gen Exp
	Total	911					0.00	
	Total	Total						
001	Unemployment Compens.	913	5400	Gen Expns	7,133.89	7,133.89	0.00	Gen Exp
	Total	913					0.00	
	Total	Total						
001	Health Insurance	914	5400	Gen Expns	457,221.30	457,221.30	0.00	Gen Exp
	Total	914					0.00	
	Total	Total						
001	Medicare	916	5400	Gen Expns	62,946.93	62,946.93	0.00	Gen Exp
	Total	916					0.00	
	Total	Total						
001	Town Insurance	945	5400	Gen Expns	103,724.40	101,922.00	1,802.40	Gen Exp

Total	945			1,802.40
	Total			

Special Revenue

210	Mass Highway	(297,409.23)	622,075.51	(221,076.33)	103,589.95
215	Complete Streets	(9,023.03)	0.00	0.00	(9,023.03)
231	Wetlands Protection Fund	11,616.45	0.00	0.00	11,616.45
235	Recreation Revolving	4,620.20	16,921.93	(13,105.24)	8,436.89
236	Library Rentals Revolving Fund	938.90	355.00	0.00	1,293.90
237	Plumbing Inspec Revolving Fund	2,140.20	5,636.75	(6,312.74)	1,464.21
238	Wiring Inspec Revolving Fund	12,108.92	13,625.00	(18,123.00)	7,610.92
239	Bd of Health Revolving Fund	3,144.32	13,990.46	(17,487.01)	(352.23)
240	Ambulance Reserve	(0.41)	0.00	0.00	(0.41)
241	ZBA-Sugarbush	3,287.38	625.45	0.00	3,912.83
242	Fire Inspection Revolving	1,403.50	6,813.00	(6,138.00)	2,078.50
243	Highway Shared Equip	2,946.52	1,000.00	(337.00)	3,609.52
244	ZBA 120 N Main Consultant	17,984.97	24.72	(12,000.00)	6,009.69
245	Transportation Infrastructure Fund	1,870.60	0.00	0.00	1,870.60
246	Sanderson Pl Bldg Inspector	23,283.00	0.00	(4,524.00)	18,759.00
251	Fire Dept Gift Fund	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
252	Infrastructure Gift Fund	0.00	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00
280	Insurance Recovery	33,998.26	0.00	0.00	33,998.26
301	Garage Rd Sidewalk Gift	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
302	Library Gift Fund	24,301.35	6,137.05	(5,208.74)	25,229.66
303	Historical Comm Match	126.88	0.00	0.00	126.88
304	Fence Donation Fund	55.00	0.00	0.00	55.00
305	Gift Fund	66.25	0.00	0.00	66.25
306	Memorial Fund	241.63	0.00	0.00	241.63
307	Anniversary Celebration Fund	55,655.56	0.00	0.00	55,655.56
308	Graves Sign Donations	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
309	Kestral Conservation Trust	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
310	Dare Gift	4.38	0.00	0.00	4.38
312	Telecommunications Gift Fund	17.55	0.00	0.00	17.55
313	Intersection Garden Repair	550.00	0.00	(200.00)	350.00
314	Agricultural Comm Fund	899.82	0.00	0.00	899.82
315	Fall Festival Fund	137.70	0.00	0.00	137.70
317	Matuszko Police Scholarship	1,065.00	0.00	0.00	1,065.00
318	PEG Access Fund	74,666.80	43,909.32	(53,000.00)	65,576.12
321	Library Antitrust Settlement	0.86	0.00	0.00	0.86
324	Town History Vol III Donations	419.44	0.00	0.00	419.44
325	Memorial Day Donations	534.97	0.00	0.00	534.97

326	Roadside Mower	4,068.61	0.00	(4,068.61)	0.00
328	NE Grassroots Environment Fund	2.24	0.00	0.00	2.24
329	Tree Donation Fund	285.50	0.00	0.00	285.50
331	300th Anniversary Gift Fund	20.00	0.00	0.00	20.00
332	Police Donation	5,906.21	0.00	(2,833.49)	3,072.72
333	300th Gift CrCard Transactions	0.00	8,168.34	0.00	8,168.34
336	Riverside Park Gift	2,162.83	0.00	0.00	2,162.83
337	Early Childhood Playground Gift	10,000.00	0.00	(5,495.73)	4,504.27
338	Technology and Civic Life Grant	723.73	0.00	0.00	723.73
380	Community Preservation Act	1,102,468.69	298,095.35	(389,039.26)	1,011,524.78
401	Bridge Academy Training	6,764.00	0.00	0.00	6,764.00
404	Comm Policing Grant	145.09	0.00	0.00	145.09
405	Bulletproof Vest Grant	(865.94)	1,750.00	(2,367.00)	(1,482.94)
406	DVIP Reimbursement	165.00	0.00	0.00	165.00
407	Gov Highway Safety Grant	461.96	0.00	0.00	461.96
408	JAG 2020 Grant	1,407.60	0.00	0.00	1,407.60
409	Drug Forfeiture Account	1,954.64	274.00	0.00	2,228.64
410	MSR21 Grant	(514.35)	5,968.82	(6,494.61)	(1,040.14)
411	AED PD	2,248.45	0.00	0.00	2,248.45
412	Council on Aging Grant	0.00	10,548.00	(10,548.00)	0.00
413	Library LSTA Access for All FY20	(277.77)	0.00	0.00	(277.77)
414	Library State Aid	32,669.72	13,338.86	(14,896.34)	31,112.24
415	Cultural Council	10,179.12	6,119.00	(6,785.00)	9,513.12
419	Title V	(91.32)	0.00	0.00	(91.32)
420	Fire Dept SAFE Grant	8,981.10	0.00	(4,042.51)	4,938.59
422	Fire Dept Safety Equip Grant	1,753.29	2,881.00	0.00	4,634.29
424	MA FSEGP F/F Safety Equip	(10,541.29)	12,463.00	(11,839.09)	(9,917.38)
429	Vol Fire Assistance Grant	(7,749.00)	10,743.00	(2,994.00)	0.00
430	Emerg Prepared Grant 2010	(271.64)	0.00	0.00	(271.64)
433	Election Extended Polling Hour	4,586.21	1,290.00	0.00	5,876.21
435	CDBG Old Housing Rehab	22,696.27	0.00	0.00	22,696.27
436	Sherriffs Drug Box Grant	4,016.94	1,300.00	(1,101.28)	4,215.66
437	Green Communities Grant	0.01	2,500.00	0.00	2,500.01
439	DEP Small Scale Initiative Gra	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
440	MAPC Streetlight Conversion	(222.47)	0.00	0.00	(222.47)
443	Comm Compact IT Grant 217	785.62	0.00	0.00	785.62
444	PARC Grant	15,013.80	0.00	0.00	15,013.80
446	CC ADA Evaluation/ Plan	(3,107.57)	0.00	0.00	(3,107.57)
448	FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plan Update	28.22	0.00	0.00	28.22
449	Housing Choice Initiative Grant 2019	26,181.00	0.00	0.00	26,181.00

450	Green Communities 220 Energy Conservation	29,012.49	0.00	(10,000.00)	19,012.49
451	Covid 19	119,192.59	0.00	0.00	119,192.59
452	Public Health Nursing Covid 19 Grant	(300.00)	0.00	0.00	(300.00)
453	Covid CARES	(116,308.72)	0.00	0.00	(116,308.72)
454	COVID FEMA	9,682.58	0.00	0.00	9,682.58
455	Covid Supp Funding PD	(837.31)	0.00	0.00	(837.31)
456	Covid Supp Funding FD	(577.10)	0.00	0.00	(577.10)
457	Comm Found Grant Fire Airpaks Etc	7,749.00	(7,749.00)	0.00	0.00
460	Fire Dept Senior SAFE Grant	3,427.44	1,777.00	0.00	5,204.44
461	ARPA Grant	429,410.06	542,366.43	(302,688.89)	669,087.60
462	Prks & Plygrnd FY22	82,403.81	0.00	(57,403.81)	25,000.00
463	VETERANS COLA	1,422.00	0.00	0.00	1,422.00
465	Green Comm PD	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
501	School Lunch Fund	114,679.03	128,866.40	(114,286.28)	129,259.15
502	School Choice	539,401.02	214,314.00	(464,317.47)	289,397.55
503	REAP Grant	(2,032.00)	13,901.45	(26,844.57)	(14,975.12)
505	SPED Assist	22,302.92	58,250.02	(87,211.07)	(6,658.13)
507	Grant Funded Teacher Stipends	(4,384.40)	13,367.00	(9,840.60)	(858.00)
508	Circuit Breaker Grant	(26,999.18)	31,733.00	(4,733.82)	0.00
509	Title I Grant	(0.04)	16,346.73	(17,731.31)	(1,384.62)
510	Afterschool Program	27,314.61	85,505.04	(72,112.93)	40,706.72
511	School Building Use Fund	2,068.01	0.00	0.00	2,068.01
513	Early Childhood Revolving	79,984.67	78,291.27	(92,674.24)	65,601.70
514	Elementary School Donation	4,138.18	0.00	(118.13)	4,020.05
515	Walmart School Grant	2,057.48	0.00	(2,057.48)	0.00
516	Student Activity Fund	17,860.21	12,689.79	(16,827.42)	13,722.58
521	ES Gift Fund	909.41	0.00	0.00	909.41
522	Rural Aid DESE	0.00	12,536.29	(2,171.16)	10,365.13
528	Horizons-School	598.82	0.00	0.00	598.82
530	Horizons Summer Program	3,058.72	0.00	0.00	3,058.72
531	Edwin C Demara Donation Fund	0.00	50,000.00	(3,883.72)	46,116.28
533	Daniella Zinn Memorial Award	620.00	0.00	(620.00)	0.00
534	SES Early Childhood Playgrnd Gift Fund	3,269.00	1,000.00	(3,269.00)	1,000.00
535	Comprehensive School Health Grant	0.00	1,025.00	(1,025.00)	0.00
537	ESSER II	(3,570.23)	3,920.25	(350.00)	0.02
538	ESSER III	(612.25)	612.25	0.00	0.00
539	Safe and Support Grant	0.00	2,000.00	(2,000.00)	0.00
610	WWTP	1,012,147.95	402,140.99	(377,887.55)	1,036,401.39
700	Riverside Park Phase 2	0.00	185,532.00	(185,532.00)	0.00

712	Fire Truck	(0.20)	0.00	0.00	(0.20)
713	School Addition	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.50
715	Sewer Reline Project	37,672.60	0.00	0.00	37,672.60
717	Siemens Energy Perf Project	1,907.00	0.00	0.00	1,907.00
718	Hadley Road Culvert	174.94	0.00	0.00	174.94
719	Capital Proj Land Acq 120 No M	939.68	0.00	0.00	939.68
810	Main Street Tree Fund	32,573.13	3,585.05	(1,842.66)	34,315.52
811	Cemetery Perp Care Fund	139,579.61	13,037.03	0.00	152,616.64
812	Veterans Mem Care	17,455.50	1,025.36	0.00	18,480.86
813	Conservation Trust	112,973.40	102,149.43	0.00	215,122.83
814	Library Trust	42,616.67	1,803.65	(4,384.24)	40,036.08
815	Library Building Trust	150.13	51.25	0.00	201.38
816	Graves Library Endowment	37,577.25	128.61	0.00	37,705.86
817	OPEB Trust Fund	231,001.31	50,294.29	0.00	281,295.60
821	Stabilization Fund	369,006.46	1,929.43	0.00	370,935.89
822	Capital Stabilization Fund	387.48	108,642.68	(104,920.64)	4,109.52
890	Due to Water District	(1,051.21)	218,084.11	(210,306.97)	6,725.93
891	Off Duty Police Detail	(10,592.40)	36,574.00	(39,446.81)	(13,465.21)
892	Firearm ID Cards	518.75	3,312.50	(2,862.50)	968.75
893	Due to Deputy Collector	3.29	6,394.00	(6,346.20)	51.09
894	Grybko Cross Rd Escrow	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	3,000.00
895	Brown Cross Rd Escrow	7,000.00	0.00	0.00	7,000.00
897	Point Online Insp Coll Fee	(1,327.00)	1,940.00	(180.00)	433.00
898	Ins Recovery	<u>15,416.94</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>15,416.94</u>
		4,608,560.84	3,514,430.86	(3,045,893.45)	5,077,098.25

TOWN CLERK

Email: townclerk@townofsunderland.us

Phone: 413-665-1442

2023 Vital Statistics

BIRTHS	
Females	5
Males	12
Total	17

Marriages	
Total	12

DEATHS		Name	Age
Date			
January	22	Helen V. Sidur	88
	30	Peter J. Murphy	73
February	15	Bobbie Jo Tuthill	26
March	1	Andrea Sullivan	75
	28	James Edward Chabot	38
April	29	Mary Theresa McNamee	92
May	25	James Bielunis	74
June	4	Lauri Skribiski	54
July	13	Thomas A. Schnapp	64
	18	Charles Chapman Brooks	78
August	7	William Joseph Marini Jr.	73
	8	Daniel J. Fleming, Jr.	91
September	21	Shirley Hubbard	91
	26	Marcia Smith Curtis	76
October	6	Marjorie Ruth Krems	78
	27	Sandra Zimnoski Bielunis	73
	29	Clifford Wood McLaughlin	82
November	6	Evelyn J. Grigonis	89
	28	Linda Carol Murphy	76
December	12	Douglas Grant Smith	78
	20	Alexander K. Lowry	58
	30	John Preston	30

Vitals	\$1,300.00
Dogs	\$3,725.00
Government Reg's	\$1,550.00
Total	\$6,575.00

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Houle, MMC/CMMC
Town Clerk

**2023 SUNDERLAND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MOTIONS
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
6:30PM AT THE SUNDERLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Registered Voters in Attendance: 78 Total Registered Voters: 2,383

Meeting called to order at 6:32pm by Moderator, David J. Pierce.

Pledge of Allegiance

Town Clerk, Wendy Houle read the Constables Return.

Town official introductions.

The Selectboard acknowledged the dedication recipient for the 2022 Annual report, Allan Richards. Mr. Richards has been actively giving of his time to the town of Sunderland since the 1960's. Natalie Blais gave Mr. Richards a Recognition of Appreciation from the House of Representatives for his decades worth of work given to the Town of Sunderland.

Spirit of Sunderland-Barre Tozloski-Our community mourned the passing of Barre in 2022. Barre had served 46 years of the Zoning Board of Appeals and on various committees throughout the years. Barre quietly donated to the town's betterment in many ways.

Memoriam- The Town would like to acknowledge Elizabeth Foster and Donald Storozuk who contributed to the Town's betterment to make Sunderland a better place.

Lorin Starr gave a heartfelt thank you to Tom Fydenkevez for serving 24 years on the Selectboard which involved many committees and hours of his time. Tom always looked after what was best for Sunderland. A big thank you to Tom's wife Mary Elle for sharing town with us.

Town officials were introduced.

Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED BY MAJORITY** to dispense of reading of the motions.

Wendy Houle, Town Clerk, swore in Meghan Arquin, James Bernotas, Caitlyn rock and William Sillin as Tellers.

Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED BY MAJORITY to allow school officials, town council and town employees permission to speak if the are not a registered voter in the Town of Sunderland.**

Motions were made and seconded by the Selectboard.

ARTICLE 1. Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED BY MAJORITY** to hear the reports of the Selectboard, the Sunderland School Committee and all other Town Officers, Boards, Committees and Commissions.

Majority Vote (no statutory reference)

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard

SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0

ARTICLE 2. Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY**, under the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 41, Section 108, to set the salaries and compensation of all its elected officials connected therewith for Fiscal Year 2024.

Assessors: Chair \$2,994.21 annually Clerk \$2,994.21 annually Member \$ 2,994.21 annually

Board of Health: Chair \$1,500. Member \$1,200. Member \$1,200.

Moderator: \$200.00 annually

Planning Board: Chair \$1,000.00 annually Clerk \$1,000.00 annually

Members each \$550.00 annually

Town Clerk: \$56,156.00 annually

Selectboard: Chair \$3,275.00 annually Vice Chair \$2,850.00 annually Clerk \$2,850.00 annually

Majority Vote - G.L. c.41, §108

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 4-0

ARTICLE 3. Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,535,722, appropriate from **Fund-Comcast PEG Access Fund the sum of \$53,000**, appropriate from **Fund 610-WWTP Sewer Fund the sum of \$424,165**, and appropriate from **Free Cash the sum of \$222,475** for the **sum total of \$10,240,791** for Town and general municipal purposes connected therewith for the Fiscal Year 2023, all as set forth in a document entitled "Town of Sunderland FY23 Town Meeting Budget" on file with the Town Clerk, and posted on the Town website at www.townofsunderland.us.

Majority Vote - G.L. c. 40, §5, and G.L. c.71, §16B

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard
 SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0
 FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 4-0

TOWN OF SUNDERLAND TOWN MEETING BUDGET	<i>FY 22 Budget ATM</i>	<i>FY 23 Budget ATM</i>	<i>FY 24 Budget ATM</i>	<i>Change from FY 23 FINAL</i>	
GENERAL GOVERNMENT					
Personnel Services	213,692	223,110	250,292		
Elected Officials	73,256	76,736	78,964		
Expenses	295,717	305,204	344,329		
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	582,665	605,050	673,585	68,535	11.3%
TOWN BUILDINGS					
Personnel Services	0	0	0		
Expenses	170,060	173,717	188,717		
TOTAL TOWN BUILDINGS	170,060	173,717	188,717	15,000	8.6%
POLICE DEPARTMENT					
Personnel Services	479,178	534,549	552,898		
Expenses	50,094	50,094	54,515		
TOTAL POLICE DEPARTMENT	529,272	584,643	607,413	22,770	3.9%
FIRE DEPARTMENT					
Personnel Services	62,500	64,401	73,108		
Expenses	33,000	34,000	38,000		
Regional EMS	188,056	210,221	210,953		
TOTAL FIRE DEPARTMENT	283,556	308,622	322,061	13,439	4.4%
INSPECTORS & OTHER PROTECTION					
Personnel Services	28,440	31,168	36,179		
Expenses	23,182	25,031	29,486		
TOTAL INSPECTORS & OTHER PROTECTION	51,622	56,199	65,665	9,466	16.8%
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT					
Personnel Services	197,396	205,839	209,642		
Expenses	144,854	129,854	138,025		
TOTAL HIGHWAY	342,250	335,693	347,667	11,974	3.6%
HEALTH & SANITATION					
Personnel Services	12,687	16,904	17,229		
Expenses	12,866	13,517	14,318		
TOTAL HEALTH & SANITATION	25,552	30,421	31,547	1,126	3.7%
LIBRARY					
Personnel Services	158,375	171,101	188,106		

	Expenses	30,000	30,000	39,215		
TOTAL LIBRARY		188,375	201,101	227,321	26,220	13.0%
TOTAL ELEMENTARY		3,036,322	3,145,467	3,353,955	208,488	6.6%
TOTAL FRANKLIN CTY TECH ASSESSMENT		153,939	113,323	177,256	63,932	56.4%
TOTAL FRONTIER ASSESSMENT		1,976,069	2,093,458	2,285,675	192,217	5.9%
OUT OF DISTRICT TUITION & TRANSPORT		36,400	18,200	38,076	19,876	109.2%
BENEFITS & INSURANCE						
Personnel Services	0	0	0			
Expenses	984,042	1,041,058	1,197,494			
TOTAL BENEFITS & INSURANCE	984,042	1,041,058	1,197,494	156,436	15.0%	
MISCELLANEOUS & RESERVE FUND						
Personnel Services	9,332	9,555	14,691			
Expenses	115,944	125,113	163,706			
TOTAL MISC. & RESERVE FUND	125,276	134,668	178,397	43,729	32.5%	
TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET	8,485,401	8,841,620	9,694,829	853,209	9.6%	
WWTP						
Personnel Services						
Expenses	384,047	400,859	424,165			
Sewer Debt Service	0	0	0			
TOTAL WWTP BUDGET	384,047	400,859	424,165	23,305	5.8%	
DEBT & INTEREST						
Personnel Services	0	0	0			
Expenses	142,291	148,364	116,368			
TOTAL DEBT & INTEREST	142,291	148,364	116,368	-31,996	-21.6%	
GRAND TOTAL	9,011,739	9,390,843	10,235,362	844,518	9.0%	

ARTICLE 4. Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED BY MAJORITY** to transfer the sum of **\$123,517.48 from the Capital Stabilization Fund** and **\$55,000.00 from the Sewer Reserve Fund** for the Fiscal Year 2024 Capital Budget, specifically for the capital equipment, buildings, facilities and other capital projects as shown on a document entitled, "FY24 CAPITAL BUDGET BY FUNDING SOURCE" on file with the Town Clerk, and posted on the Town website at www.townofsunderland.us, and as may be necessary in connection therewith, and to authorize one or more tax exempt lease purchase finance agreements pursuant to G.L. c. 44, §31C for capital equipment identified in the FY 24 Capital Budget for terms not to exceed the useful life of the equipment as determined by the Selectboard.

***REQUIRES 2/3 vote transfer from stabilization pursuant to G.L. 40, §5B**

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard
 SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0
 FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 4-0
 CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 4-0

Priority	Department	Purpose	Amount	CIC Vote	Source
VH	HIGHWAY	Truck Lease/Year 7	\$ 27,206.48	4-0	Cap Stab
<i>TOTAL HIGHWAY</i>			\$ 27,206.48		
VH	SCEMS	Ambulance Replacement	\$ 86,561.00	4-0	Cap Stab
<i>TOTAL S COUNTY EMS</i>			\$ 86,561.00		
VH	SES	Exterior Rim Band 4/5	\$ 9,750.00	4-0	Cap Stab
<i>TOTAL SCHOOL</i>			\$ 9,750.00		
H	WWTP	Wet Well Lighting Upgrade	\$ 40,000.00	36647	Sewer Res
H	WWTP	HVAC for control room & lab	\$ 15,000.00	5-0	Sewer Res
<i>TOTAL WWTP</i>			\$ 55,000.00		
<i>TOTAL RECOMMENDED FROM CAPITAL STABILIZATION</i>			\$ 123,517.48		
<i>TOTAL RECOMMENDED FROM SEWER RESERVE FUND</i>			\$ 55,000.00		
<i>TOTAL RECOMMENDED</i>			\$ 178,517.48		

FY 24 AVAILABLE FUNDS

CAPITAL STABILIZATION

\$ 124,886.00

SEWER RESERVE

\$ 1,100,631.05

ARTICLE 5. Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** to transfer the sum of **\$273,176.37 from the Capital Stabilization Fund** for the Contingent Fiscal Year 2024 Capital Budget, specifically for the capital equipment, buildings, facilities and other capital projects as shown on a document entitled, "CONTINGENT FY24 CAPITAL BUDGET BY FUNDING SOURCE" on file with the Town Clerk, and posted on the Town website at www.townofsunderland.us, and as may be necessary in connection therewith, and to authorize one or more tax exempt lease purchase finance agreements pursuant to G.L. c. 44, §31C for capital equipment identified in the FY 24 Capital Budget for terms not to exceed the useful life of the equipment as determined by the Selectboard, contingent upon passage of a Proposition 2½ ballot question under General Laws Chapter 59, § 21C.

***REQUIRES 2/3 vote transfer from stabilization pursuant to G.L. 40, §5B**

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard

SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 4-0

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 4-0

Priority	Department	Purpose	Amount	CIC Vote	Source
VH	HIGHWAY	Backhoe Loader	\$ 36,671.17	4-0	Cap Stab
VH	HIGHWAY	Truck Replacement	\$ 44,005.20	4-0	Cap Stab
<i>TOTAL HIGHWAY</i>			\$ 80,676.37		
VH	LIBRARY	HVAC	\$ 14,500.00	4-0	Cap Stab
M	LIBRARY	Carpet replacement	\$ 37,000.00	4-0	Cap Stab
<i>TOTAL LIBRARY</i>			\$ 51,500.00		
VH	FIRE	Public Safety Complex HVAC	\$ 40,000.00	4-0	Cap Stab
<i>TOTAL FIRE</i>			\$ 40,000.00		
VH	SELECTBOAR D	TOB Front Step Replacement	\$ 40,000.00	4-0	Cap Stab
VH	SELECTBOAR D	TOB floor refinishing	\$ 50,000.00	4-0	Cap Stab
<i>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION</i>			\$ 90,000.00		
	SES	Library minisplits	\$ 11,000.00	4-0	Cap Stab
<i>TOTAL SCHOOL</i>			\$ 11,000.00		
<i>TOTAL RECOMMENDED FROM CAPITAL STABILIZATION</i>			\$ 273,176.37		
<i>TOTAL RECOMMENDED FROM SEWER RESERVE FUND</i>			\$ -		
<i>TOTAL RECOMMENDED</i>			\$ 273,176.37		

FY 24 CAPITAL STABILIZATION OVERRIDE

CAPITAL STABILIZATION

\$ 275,000.00

ARTICLE 6. Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** to transfer from **Free Cash the sum of \$200,000** to the Capital Stabilization Fund.

Majority Vote - G.L. c. 40, §5

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard
 SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0
 FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 4-0

ARTICLE 7. Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** to transfer from **Free Cash the sum of \$200,000** to the General Stabilization Fund.

Majority Vote - G.L. c. 40, §5

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 4-0

ARTICLE 8. Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** to transfer **from Free Cash the amount of \$205.96** to pay a prior year heating bill from Sprague Operating Resources, LLC.

***REQUIRES 4/5ths VOTE MGL c.44, §64**

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 4-0

ARTICLE 9. Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** to create an Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Section 5B of Chapter 40, and to appropriate a sum of money to such fund; determine whether this appropriation shall be from free cash, other available funds or otherwise.

Majority Vote-G.L. c.40, §21; G.L. 41, §108C

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 4-0

ARTICLE 10. Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** to transfer **\$17,441.40 from Free Cash** to the Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund established at the April 28, 2023, Town Meeting.

Majority Vote Majority Vote - G.L. c. 40, §5

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 4-0

ARTICLE 11. Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED BY MAJORITY**, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws c. 71, §16 G ½ to establish a Capital Stabilization Fund for the Frontier Regional School District.

Majority Vote-G.L. c.16G1/2

SUBMITTED BY: Frontier Capital Improvement Committee
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 4-0

ARTICLE 12. Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED BY MAJORITY** to appropriate \$23,500 from the *CPA Undesignated Fund Balance*, as requested by Frontier Regional School. Monies will be used for the complete renovation of tennis courts at Frontier School. Said funds to be expended under the direction of Frontier Regional School Principal.

Majority Vote - G.L. c. 44B, §5

SUBMITTED BY: Community Preservation Committee
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 4-0
CPC RECOMMENDATION: 6-0

ARTICLE 13. Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED BY MAJORITY** to appropriate the amount of \$115,000 from the *CPA Budgeted Reserve* as requested by the Town of

Sunderland. Monies will be used for the creation of new pickleball courts at Riverside Park. Said funds to be expended under the direction of the Sunderland Town Administrator.

Majority Vote - G.L. c. 44B, §5

SUBMITTED BY: Community Preservation Committee
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 0-2-2
CPC RECOMMENDATION: 6-0

ARTICLE 14. Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED BY MAJORITY** to appropriate the amount of \$60,000 from the *CPA Historic Preservation Reserve* to fund the Sunderland Congregational Steeple Restoration Project, as requested by the Sunderland Congregational Church. Monies will be used to restore the spire, bell tower, roof and electrical work to code. Said funds to be expended under the direction of the Church Trustees and will be accompanied by a Preservation Restriction to be held by the Town of Sunderland.

Majority Vote - G.L. c. 44B, §5

SUBMITTED BY: Community Preservation Committee
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 2-0-1
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 3-0-1
CPC RECOMMENDATION: 6-0

ARTICLE 15. Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** to appropriate or reserve from the **Community Preservation Fund** annual revenues in the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for committee administrative expenses, community preservation projects and other expenses in fiscal year 2023.

Appropriations:

From FY 2023 estimated revenues* for Committee Administrative Expenses	\$ 6,000
Community Preservation Debt Service	\$ 26,210.24

Reserves:

FY 2022 estimated revenues for Historic Resources Reserve	\$ 28,569
FY 2022 estimated revenues for Community Housing Reserve	\$ 28,569
FY 2022 estimated revenues for Open Space Reserve	\$ 28,569
FY 2022 estimated revenues for CPA Undesignated Budgeted Reserve	\$ 29,043

Majority Vote - G.L. c. 44B, §5

SUBMITTED BY: Community Preservation Committee
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 4-0
CPC RECOMMENDATION: 6-0

* Estimated revenues are based on FY23 CPA Surcharge Estimate of \$145,000 and a 35% State Match (\$50,750), plus an adjustment for an additional 65% state match received in FY22 (\$89,998). Each reserve fund is allocated 10% of that total.

ARTICLE 16. Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY**, pursuant to the provisions of General Laws c.44, §53E½, as most recently amended, to establish FY2024 fiscal year spending limits for the revolving funds listed in Section 35-6 of the General Bylaws, and to authorize such expenditure limits to remain in

place from fiscal year to fiscal year unless revised by Town Meeting prior to July 1 for the ensuing fiscal year, as follows:

Authorized Revolving Funds	Fiscal Year Expenditure Limit
Wiring Inspector	\$ 9,000
Plumbing Inspector	\$ 3,000
Board of Health	\$16,500
Sunderland Public Library Community Room	\$ 5,000
Fire Inspector	\$ 7,000
Highway Shared Equipment	\$23,000

Majority vote - G.L. c.44, §53E 1/2.

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 3-0-1

ARTICLE 17. Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED BY MAJORITY** to authorize the Selectboard to petition the General Court for special legislation to allow Scott Smith, a Town of Sunderland call firefighter, notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary, to serve in such position until the age of 70, or until the date of his retirement or non-reappointment, whichever occurs first; provided, however that no deductions from the regular compensation of Scott Smith shall be made under chapter 32 of the General Laws subsequent to his reaching the age of 65 in connection with his service to the Town for retirement or pension purposes; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical and editorial changes of form only to the bill unless the Selectboard approves amendments to the bill prior to enactment by the General Court, and to authorize the Selectboard to approve such amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition.

Majority Vote – Mass. Constitution, amend. Art. 2§8

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 4-0

Articles 18 through 23, inclusive, are so called Consent Articles

SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION to Consent Articles: 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION to Consent Articles: 4-0

ARTICLE 18. Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** to authorize the Treasurer/Collector to enter into compensating balance agreements during Fiscal Year 2024, as permitted by G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53F.

Majority Vote-G.L. c.44, §53F

SUBMITTED BY: Treasurer/Collector
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0

ARTICLE 19. Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** to authorize the Selectboard to apply for, accept and expend any grants or donations from State or Federal governments or private agencies, individuals or institutions.

Majority Vote (no statutory reference; see G.L. c. 44, §§53, 53A)

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0

ARTICLE 20. Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept and expend any sum or sums of money which may be available from the State for Chapter 90 work for road improvement and equipment expense.

Majority Vote (no statutory reference; see G.L. c. 44, §53A and G.L. c.90, §34)

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard and Highway Superintendent
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0

ARTICLE 21. Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** under the provisions of G.L. Chapter 40, Section 4A to authorize the Selectboard to enter into inter-municipal agreements.

Majority Vote - G.L. c. 40, §4A

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0

ARTICLE 22. Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** to authorize the Selectboard to enter into contracts for goods and services with duration in excess of three years pursuant to the provisions of G.L. Chapter 30B, Section 12 (b).

Majority Vote - G.L. c. 30B, §12(b)

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0

ARTICLE 23. Upon a motion made and seconded it was **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the financial year beginning July 1, 2023 in accordance with the provisions of G.L. Chapter 44, Section 4 and to issue a note or notes therefor, payable within one year, and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with G.L. Chapter 44, Section 17.

Majority Vote - G.L. c.44, §§4 and 17

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard/Treasurer
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0

Town Clerk moved the meeting adjourn to meet in the polling place at the COMMUNITY ROOM at the SUNDERLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY, 20 School Street in Sunderland on

SATURDAY the 6TH day of May 2023, next at 8:00 o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to act on the following:

To choose all necessary TOWN OFFICERS, including:

<u>Office</u>	<u>Term</u>	
• MODERATOR	1 FOR	1 YEAR
• SELECTBOARD	1 FOR	3 YEAR
• ASSESSOR	1 FOR	3 YEAR
• BOARD OF HEALTH	1 FOR	3 YEAR
• RIVERSIDE CEMETERY TRUSTEE	1 FOR	3 YEAR
• PLANNING BOARD	1 FOR	5 YEAR
• LIBRARY TRUSTEES	3 FOR	3 YEAR
• LIBRARY TRUSTEES	1 FOR	1 YEAR
• ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMITTEE	1 FOR	3 YEAR
• FRONTIER REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE	1 FOR	3 YEAR
• TOWN CLERK	1 FOR	3 YEAR
• TOWN PARK TRUSTEE	1 FOR	3 YEAR

Question 1

Shall the Town of Sunderland be allowed to assess an additional \$275,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of funding the Town’s municipal capital stabilization fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023?

And upon closure of the polls to dissolve.

Motion Carried, so declared the Moderator.
Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Houle, MMC, CMMC
Sunderland Town Clerk

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Elections Division

Return of Votes -LOCAL ELECTION May 06, 2023

SUNDERLAND

Total Number of Persons Who Voted in the LOCAL
ELECTION 192

***** ATTENTION CLERK : SIGN AND RETURN AT ONCE *****

I certify that all ballots cast for candidates
in the LOCAL ELECTION held on May 06, 2023
have been counted and recorded in accordance with the law, and
that the following return of votes is correct

Clerk:

Nicholas Samie

Office Name: SCHOOL COMMITTEE
District Name: 0528 SUNDERLAND
Town Name: 289 SUNDERLAND

	Candidates	Votes	Party:
1	JOSEPH W. ELIAS	156	UNENROLLED
2	AMANDA E. WYGANT	151	DEMOCRAT

All Others Blanks 1
Total Votes Cast 76
384

Office Name: LIBRARY TRUSTEE
District Name: 0528 SUNDERLAND
Town Name: 289 SUNDERLAND

	Candidates	Votes	Party:
1	MOLLY HB GOWA	151	DEMOCRAT
2	KRISTYN G. KORPITA	157	REPUBLICAN
3	VALERIE ANN VOORHEIS	148	UNENROLLED

All Others 0
Blanks- 120
Total Votes Cast 576

Office Name: BOARD OF HEALTH
District Name: 0528 SUNDERLAND
Town Name: 289 SUNDERLAND

Candidates	Votes
BRUCE ARTHUR BENNETT	166
All Others Blanks	0
Total Votes Cast	26
	192

Office Name: MODERATOR
District Name: 0528 SUNDERLAND
Town Name: 289 SUNDERLAND

Candidates	Votes
DAVID J. PIERCE	162
All Others	1
Blanks	29
Total Votes Cast	192

Office Name: **ASSESSOR**
 District Name: 0528 **SUNDERLAND**
 Town Name: 289 **SUNDERLAND**

Candidates	Votes	Party:
MARYANN KOWALECK	155	UNENROLLED

All Others	1
Blanks	36
Total Votes Cast	192

Office Name: **CEMETERY TRUSTEE**
 District Name: 0528 **SUNDERLAND**
 Town Name: 289 **SUNDERLAND**

Candidates	Votes	Party:
JANET SAWYER-BERGERON	153	UNENROLLED
	39	
	192	

All Others	
Blanks	
Total Votes Cast	

Office Name: **FRONTIER REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

District Name: **0528 SUNDERLAND**

Town Name: **289 SUNDERLAND**

Candidates	Votes	Party: DEMOCRAT
KEITH P. MCFARLAND	15	
	9	

All Others

Blanks **0**

Total Votes Cast **33**

19

2

Office Name: **PLANNING BOARD 5 YR**

District Name: **0528 SUNDERLAND**

Town Name: **289 SUNDERLAND**

Party: DEMOCRAT

Candidates

AMANDA LYNN HANLEY

Votes

15

7

All Others

Blanks

Total Votes Cast **0**

35

19

2

Office Name: PLANNING BOARD 1 YR
 District Name: 0528 SUNDERLAND
 Town Name: 289 SUNDERLAND

Candidates	Votes	Party;
DOUGLAS WRENN FULTON	154	UNENROLLED

All Others	0
Blanks	38
Total Votes Cast	192

Office Name: SELECT BOARD
 District Name: 0528 SUNDERLAND
 Town Name: 289 SUNDERLAND

Candidates	Votes	Party: DEMOCRAT
DANIEL J. MURPHY	158	

All Others	0
Blanks	34
Total Votes Cast	192

Town Name: 0289 SUNDERLAND

Question 1

PROP 2 1/2 OVERRIDE CAPITAL STABILIZATION

Yes	124	No	66	Blank	2	Total	192
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TOWN PARK

Park Road, Sunderland

Town Park Rental Information: <http://www.sunderlandfire.com/svfa--town-park-rentals.html>

The Sunderland Town Park is located at the top of Park Road. Built on land donated to the Town by Chester Warner in 1927, the Sunderland Fireman's Association constructed a pavilion on the site shortly after. The Town Park has been the venue for countless community and private events from Town celebrations to weddings and parties. It is also good starting point for outdoor recreation on Mt. Toby. The Sunderland Volunteer Fireman's Association took over management of the Town Park over a decade ago and they have affected many improvements. Most of the work has gone into making the Park a destination for groups and groups will once again enjoy the property in the future. Work continues to manage problem trees (replanting new trees is part of the process) and maintain / improve the pavilion structure. A beautiful new fire pit and new grilling stands were installed in the Fall of 2023. More improvements are planned for the coming years. The park grounds are open to the public during daylight hours for folks to visit and enjoy the quiet setting.

In 2023 the park was used as a venue for weddings, meetings and picnics by several parties. In addition to these events, the park was the base camp and start / finish line for two trail running races through the fire roads and trails of Mt. Toby. These events drew close to a hundred participants from across the northeast.

I wholeheartedly thank the Sunderland Highway Department for helping to maintain the roads, parking areas and manage brushy vegetation in the Park.

Rental information and all application documents may be downloaded from the Sunderland Fire Department's website: <http://www.sunderlandfire.com/svfa--town-park-rentals.html> . You may check on availability by email at: townpark@sunderlandfire.com .

Submitted,
Steven J. Benjamin
Fire Chief

TREE WARDEN

Tree maintenance is a continuous job that requires year-round monitoring. This year we attended tree warden seminars for the most up to date information on disease and tree care. In 2023 we have continued to maintain the trees along our town way with the help of professional tree crews as we prune and remove dying or dead trees. Approximately 8 trees were planted on North and South Main Street to replace trees removed. We worked closely with Eversource to monitor trees so they would be pruned away from lines before they cause damage. Our elm trees have been treated to prevent Dutch Elm Disease. Several diseased

and dying trees throughout the town have been removed and replaced. We have had several wind storms over the year which has increased our tree expense costs affecting our original tree budget.

Respectfully,
George Emery, Tree Warden



UPPER PIONEER VALLEY VETERANS' SERVICES DISTRICT

Veteran Resource and Referral Center located in Greenfield, satellite locations throughout the district

Department of Veteran Services

294 Main Street • Greenfield, MA 01301

Phone 413-772-1571 • Fax 413-772-1401

www.greenfield-ma.gov

Conway
Deerfield
Erving
Gill
Greenfield
Hawley
Heath
Leverett
Leyden
Monroe
Montague
New Salem
Northfield
Plainfield
Rowe
Shelburne
Shutesbury
Sunderland
Warwick
Wendell
Whately

District Annual Report CY23

Mission Statement: To advocate for veterans, their spouses, dependants, widows or widowers for Veterans' Benefits on the Local, State and Federal levels

Office has maintained continued outreach operations across the district. We have dramatically increased the amount of VA claims we have been completing due to increased VA Presumptive diseases for numerous eras of service:

District now brings in over \$2,005,921.53 in Federal money **per month** from the VA in Disability Compensation, Veteran Pension, DIC Compensation and Death Pension. This is an increase of VA Benefits from CY22 of 341,580.51 a month.

District hired a new Deputy Director Stacey Geneczko who has completed all her National Certifications for the VA.

District hired new Veteran Service Officer (VSO) Jeffrey Cochran who has completed all his National Certifications for VA. This brings the office from 1 to 3 VA Certified VSO now in the office.

VSA Laura Thorne has maintained her SHINE certification and is helping veterans and their dependents, taking some of the load off the Senior Centers.

The Director Chris Demars conducted a Chapter 115 presentation with GCTV for outreach.

Expect a significant increase to Chapter 115 benefits for all City and Towns due to inflation and cost of living adjustments by the State of Massachusetts.

We project a slight increase of the overall operational budget Fiscal Year 25 budget while continuing to expand services in 2024.

The Office has produced 143 claims and 46 appeals with VA for Veterans and their Dependents this year.

Christopher Demars, Director
Upper Pioneer Valley Veterans' Services District

VILLAGE CENTER COMMITTEE (SVCC)

The VCC was appointed in 2019 as a temporary committee (under the direction of the Selectboard) and charged with the following tasks:

Guide a consultant who will conduct a "Village Center Visioning Process" with the goal of:

- Enhancing the character and amenities of the Village Center
- Reviewing and improving pedestrian access and safety
- Reviewing and improving bicycle access and safety
- Reviewing and improving vehicular access and safety
- Reviewing zoning in the Village Center in order to serve the needs of the Village Center enhancement goals

The SVCC is comprised of seven (8) members as follows: three (3) at large, one business representative, and one (1) each from the Selectboard, Planning Board, Historical Commission and Community Pathways Committee.

The impetus for establishing the SVCC was anticipated changes to the intersection of Routes 116 and 47 and the desire for the Town to take a proactive role in understanding and shaping the impact of any changes to the center of town. In 2023, the town funded a Visioning Study for the Village Center. A consultant – Stantec – was hired and began their work by meeting with the VCC and stakeholders including town officials, building owners etc. A public larger forum is scheduled for March 2024. This event will address questions such as: What are the elements that define a village center? Which changes do we like, and can they work in Sunderland? How can we improve walkability and enjoyment for all ages? How does transportation, including a possible roundabout, impact the center of our town? What improvements would support our village businesses? Based on the information gathered, Stantec will continue to work with the VCC to hone a vision for the village center.

Respectfully Submitted
Lorin Starr, Chair

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

(413) 665-1441 x3 Website: <https://www.townofsunderland.us/zoning-board-appeals>

The New Year brought a welcome dose of normalcy to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Just one year after receiving a record number of eight zoning applications, the Board received only three applications in 2023; but what the Zoning Board's docket lacked in length was more than made up with variety! The Board granted one Special Permit, determined that another application was incomplete and allowed a petition for a Variance to be withdrawn by the applicant. A summary of each case is as follows:

The first case before the Board was a carry-over from 2022. A resident on North Silver Lane had a complicated situation where he wanted to reconstruct a single-family dwelling that had been destroyed in a fire. The old dwelling was a legal non-conforming structure since it pre-dated zoning and was located within the required front yard setback. Sunderland zoning

regulations allow that a legal non-conforming structure that has been destroyed by a fire can be reconstructed, provided that the new structure is not any more non-conforming than the old structure. But in this case, the applicant wanted to add some balconies to the front of the dwelling that would extend even further into the front yard setback – which required a Variance. After three hearings, including separate meetings to explore options with the Building Inspector, it became apparent that the applicant would not qualify for a Variance and that the balconies would not be allowed. Rather than denying the Variance outright, the Board allowed the applicant to withdraw his petition.

The next case was another unusual one for the ZBA. It started when a resident had several truckloads of fill dumped on her Russell Street property. A neighbor notified the Building Inspector that fill was being dumped into a drainage ditch/swale area. The Building Inspector advised the resident that the dumping activity needed to stop and that a Special Permit was required. The resident then filed a Special Permit application to add more than 50 cubic yards of material under Section 125-III-3(G). The ZBA rejected the Special Permit application as being incomplete since it did not include “plans indicating existing topography and the proposed topography upon completion” as required under Section 125-III-3(G)(1). The Conservation Commission then became involved since the site may have wetlands issues or may be located in a flood plain. After several site visits and consultations with the Mass DEP, the Conservation Commission determined that the site was located in a 100-year flood plain. A Mass DEP Enforcement Order was issued by the Conservation Commission directing the resident to remove the illegal fill and restore the site to its original condition. The fill was subsequently removed and no further Zoning Board action was necessary.

The last case considered by the Zoning Board was a much more routine matter. A resident filed a Special Permit application to stable pigs, chickens and turkeys at their home on North Main Street. The parcel near North Silver Lane was nearly 4.7 acres in size. Sunderland zoning by-laws require a Special Permit to stable farm animals on any parcel less than 5 acres. The Board found that the site was large enough and that the submitted plans were more than adequate to coop a maximum of six (6) turkeys and/or twenty-five (25) chickens, plus to stable four pigs. The Board voted to grant a Special Permit to the applicants with six stipulations.

In closing, I would like salute my Zoning Board of Appeals team – Stuart Beckley, Jim Bernotas, Jim Williams Jr., Hollis Graves, Rock Warner and Amanda Hanley – for their dedication and service to the ZBA in 2023!

Respectfully submitted,
Steven A. Krol,
Chairman, Zoning Board of Appeals

GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

ACCOUNTANT

The Town Accountant maintains custody of all town contracts and keeps a detailed record of the town debt, including the reasons for borrowing, the rate of interest when due, and payment provisions (MGL 41, §57). She/he is bound as well to keep a complete set of municipal books~ including each specific appropriation, the amounts and purpose of each expenditure and the receipts from each source of income. The accountant must inform town officers of unexpended balances in their appropriations (MGL 41, §58). Immediately upon the close of the calendar year, she/he must prepare statements detailing the preceding fiscal year's appropriations and expenditures, appropriations for the current fiscal year, and expenditures incurred during its first six months, as well as estimated expenditures for the second six months and estimates for the ensuing fiscal year. By August 1, the accountant or treasurer must furnish the assessors with a written report of the money received other than from taxes, loans, and trust funds for the preceding fiscal years (MGL 41, §54A). A critical function of the town accountant (MGL 41, §56) relates to the payment of the bills and payrolls, which must be examined for the requisite oaths and approvals. Should any claims be deemed fraudulent, unlawful, or excessive, payment authorization may be withheld. In such instances, a statement must be filed with the town treasurer, outlining the reasons for the refusal. Alternatively, if all is in order, the accountant will draw a warrant upon the treasury for payment.

APPROPRIATION

An authorization granted by a legislative body to make expenditures and to incur obligations for specific purposes. An appropriation is usually limited in amount as to the time when it may be expended. Only a town meeting or the school committee can authorize money appropriated for one purpose to be used for another. Any part of a "general" appropriation not spent or encumbered by June 30 automatically reverts to surplus. A "specific" or "particular" appropriation is carried forward from year to year until spent for the designated purpose or transferred by town meeting vote to another account.

ASSESSED VALUATION

The value placed on a particular property by the local Board of Assessors for the purpose of apportioning the town's tax levy among individual property owners equitably and in accordance with the legal requirement that property be assessed at "full and fair cash value," as certified periodically by the state commissioner of revenue.

ASSESSORS

The Board of Assessors is responsible for the valuation of real and personal property for the purposes of levying the property tax: Generally, the required training, the responsibility for maintaining assessment at full and fair cash value and the required revaluation of property every three years have placed an added burden on assessing offices. As part of their function, the assessors must maintain an extensive database on each parcel of property in town. The assessors are also responsible for establishing a tax rate within the levy limit established by Proposition 2 1/2. They must perform the formal calculation of the tax rate(s) for the town on the "tax rate recapitulation sheet." The role of the assessors is important because they maintain and administer the tax base, a major source of revenue for the town.

CHERRY SHEET

Traditionally printed on cherry-colored paper, this financial statement from the State still

retains its nickname in spite of being pink and green. This form lists all the estimated State and County assessments reduced by any money the State expects to return to the Town. The Assessors must receive this "Cherry Sheet" before the new tax rate can be set.

DEPARTMENT HEAD

Department Heads (either appointed, i.e., Highway Superintendent or elected, i.e., Town Clerk) usually prepare their own budgets. Each departmental budget is prepared within the framework and guidelines set by the financial team. Another significant role is in the capital planning process. In order to monitor spending activity, department heads must have access to and use interim financial reports. The department head identifies capital needs and usually has the best information regarding level of utilization and specifications for the acquisition. Department Heads should meet periodically with the financial team to inform these teammates in the financial management process of major issues facing the department.

EXCLUSIONS

There are two types of exclusions: debt and capital outlay expenditure. These are temporary increases in the levy limit. For debt exclusion, the additional amount for the payment of debt service is added to the levy limit for the life of the debt only. The additional amount for the payment of the capital project cost is added to the levy limit only for the year in which the project is being undertaken.

FY- FISCAL YEAR

July 1st to June 30th of the following year. Example: FY2023 starts July 1, 2022 and ends June 30, 2023.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee is the official fiscal watchdog for the town. Finance Committees was established so that a representative group of taxpayers could conduct a thorough review of any or all municipal questions on behalf of all the citizens. The Finance Committee is primarily responsible for submitting its recommendations on the annual budget to the town meeting. The committee is commonly involved in the preparation process involving the development of the budget forms and, in many communities, the establishment of guidelines for department heads. Their statutory authority is limited to making transfers from the town's reserve fund to other line items in the budget as requested.

FREE CASH

Free cash is a term that generally represents the amount of community funds that are unrestricted and available for appropriation. Free cash is generated when actual revenue collections are more than budgeted and when expenditures are less than appropriations, or both. Once certified, that amount can only be used through 6/30 of the fiscal year. Free Cash must be certified each year.

LEVY: The property tax levy is the revenue a community actually raises through real and personal property taxes. The property tax levy is the largest source of revenue for most towns.

LEVY CEILING

The levy ceiling is 2.5% of the total full and fair cash value of all taxable real and personal property in the community. (This is equal to a \$25.00 tax rate.)

LEVY LIMIT

The levy limit is the amount the town can raise. This limit is increased from year to year as long as it remains below the levy ceiling. Permanent increases in the levy limit result from the following. Automatic 2.5% increase yearly; new growth resulting from new construction and overrides.

LOAN INTEREST

If the Town has to borrow money, we have to pay back the loan plus interest. The amount voted for Treasurer Loan Interest would be a part of these payments.

MEDICARE

Wages of local government employees hired after March 31, 1986, are generally subject to the hospital insurance (Medicare) portion of the social security tax under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act, which became effective on April 1, 1986. The tax is equal to 1.45% of the employee's pay. The employer is required to contribute an amount equal to that deducted from the employee's pay (an additional 1.45%).

NEW GROWTH

New growth is generated by a substantial improvement to a property (any new dwelling unit or an addition adding at least 50% to the value of residential property and not less than \$100,000 or 50% for commercial, industrial, and personal property) in a particular year. New growth is calculated by multiplying the allowable new valuation times the prior year's tax rate. It directly increases the levy limit of a community. This is especially important for towns experiencing significant new construction since growth frequently brings with it a need for increased services.

OMNIBUS ARTICLE

A Town Meeting Warrant Article that consolidates budget items for various departments. At the Annual Meeting, the Moderator reads the total budget allowing a "question" to be called if more discussion is wanted on a certain item. A vote will be taken first on the total of items not questioned then each questioned item will be voted separately.

OVERLAY

Overlay is a reserve account that is established by the assessors annually prior to setting the tax rate. The amount established for overlay should reflect the expected amount that will eventually have to be provided to taxpayers as a result of abatements or exemptions for property taxes. The overlay should be reasonable and be based on historical trends.

OVERLAY SURPLUS

Overlay surplus is the balance in the overlay for a particular year that is an excess of the amount remaining to be collected or abated. The Assessors release this excess amount from overlay, to overlay surplus. As a result of new legislation, these funds may be appropriated by town meeting for any purpose for which a town may expend funds. At the close of the fiscal year, any balance in the overlay surplus account becomes part of surplus revenue.

OVERRIDE

A community can permanently increase its levy limit by successfully voting an override. The amount of the override becomes a permanent part of the levy limit base. On a ballot, override questions must be presented in dollar terms and must specify the purpose of the override. Overrides may only be presented at an election and require a majority vote for approval.

RESERVE FUND

The reserve fund is a contingency fund usually created as part of the annual budget appropriations that is used to fund extraordinary and unforeseen expenses. It is disbursed through transfers approved by the finance committee. In general, extraordinary and unforeseen items such as an increased insurance premium or a new police cruiser are acceptable. Salary increases are generally not an acceptable use of this reserve.

RESOLUTION AID

Resolution aid refers to the amounts allocated to each city, town and regional school district as stated in the Legislative Resolution in March. It includes direct, flexible aid under the Cherry Sheet program headings Chapter 70, Additional Assistance, and any others so designed by the Legislature. Although Resolution Aid represents the bulk of Cherry Sheet Aid, the terms are not synonymous. Cherry Sheet aid represents the total of all programs appearing on the Cherry Sheet, Resolution Aid represents a portion of this aid.

REVENUE SHARING

Federal tax dollars paid to a town to be used for any purpose which is permissible use of its own revenue. Public Hearings are required before the sums may be appropriated to individual accounts at the Annual Town Meeting.

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

School departments have a special status concerning a municipality's budget. Under state law (MGL71, §34), the legislative body of a town (town meeting) shall establish the total appropriation for the support of the public schools but may not limit the authority of the School Committee to determine expenditures within the total appropriation.

SELECTBOARD

The Selectboard is the closest thing a Town has to a Chief Executive. They have overall responsibility for the general operations of town government. As chief executive body of the town, the Selectboard develop guidelines consistent with policy, at the same time taking into consideration the available financial resources of the town. As the budget is the single most important policy document that a town develops each year, participation by the Selectboard is essential to their maintaining a leadership role in the town. They should review all the budget requests and develop a good understanding of the Finance Committee's position on the budget. The Selectboard should establish policy priorities and provide leadership in the constant debate between the needs of the departments for sufficient resources to deliver public services and what the taxpayer can afford.

SOFTWARE SUPPORT FEES (TAX COLLECTOR)

Money for the purpose of tape conversions (a process which converts the excise tax information at the Registry of Motor Vehicles to the Tax Collector's computer software data structures) and software updates required for the Tax Collector in order to comply with applicable laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

STABILIZATION

The stabilization fund may be created pursuant to MGL 40, §5B. Any interest earned shall be added to and become a part of the fund. This fund may be appropriated for any lawful purpose. The fund may be appropriated in a town at the annual town meeting or a special town meeting by a 2/3 vote.

TAX COLLECTOR

The Collector is charged with the responsibility for collecting all taxes owed to the municipality. This requires maintaining a good record keeping system and organization to

deposit revenue into town accounts as soon as possible. All receipts must be turned over to the treasurer at least once a week (or more often during heavy collection periods). Another major responsibility of the collector is the processing of motor vehicle excise bills. These bills are generated by the Registry of Motor Vehicles and sent to the town for distribution and collection. Timely action pursuing delinquent accounts dramatically increases the likelihood of eventual collection of the tax or payment due.

TAX TITLE FORECLOSURE

Foreclosures in the Land Court are, generally speaking, the main avenue by which the Treasurer will either be able to force the delinquent taxpayer to redeem the tax title or, if payment is not made, to acquire title to the property for the municipality through foreclosure proceedings.

TOWN CLERK

The Town Clerk certifies town meeting vote, to the treasurer, assessors, and accounting officer, with each appropriation in detail including how each appropriation is to be funded. The Town Clerk certifies all town meeting actions, debt, and overrides to the Department of Revenue. There are several other responsibilities the Town Clerk is required to perform under MGL or services to the community.

TREASURER

The Treasurer is the custodian of all town funds. The position is responsible for the deposit, investment and disbursement of town funds. The Treasurer is empowered by town meeting to issue debt on behalf of the town with the approval of the Selectboard. During the year, the Treasurer must determine the cash needs of the town (i.e., when money will be available to invest and when money will have to be borrowed to meet expenses.) Treasurers should maintain a cash flow budget that is updated and adjusted on a monthly basis. They should review the banking services that are available and competitively seek those that are most cost effective. Investments should be made in accordance with a written investment policy that is reviewed with the selectmen and the Finance Committee. A strong record keeping system is also important to document performance

WARRANT

There are three types:

1. Treasurer's Warrant which is signed by the Selectboard that authorizes the Treasurer to pay a list of bills (MGL41, §56).
2. Assessors Warrant to Collect which authorizes the Collector to collect the amount of tax that has been committed to the Collector (MGL 59, §55)
3. Town Meeting Warrant. All town meetings must be called by a warrant that states the time and place of the meeting and lists all items of business to be acted upon. The warrant must be posted 7 days before the annual town meeting and 14 days prior to a special town meeting (MGL 39, §10).