

**Town of Bethel
Selectboard Meeting
Town Hall @ 6 pm
Monday, December 27, 2021**

[Zoom Link](#) Meeting ID: 812 4637 7206 Passcode: 112890 Call in: 1-646-558-8656

[When participating in person or via Zoom, please raise your hand or use the hand raised option (Zoom), so the Chair may call on you in an orderly manner.]

6 pm – Call the meeting to order and approve agenda.

Appointments

Equity & Inclusion Committee re: their 11/15/21 letter to the Board

Public Comment*

FY 2022/2023 Budget Discussion

Motion to approve

Vermont State Revolving Loan Fund loan agreement for \$107,900 for engineering of Phase II Water Project – 5 year note for 0% interest, Resolution and Certificate.

Motion to approve

Termination of 1998 Historic Bridge Programmatic Agreement and MOA, to allow disposal of Old Bridge No. 4. (Randolph Ctr. Road in East Bethel)

Motion to approve

Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC) Appointment

Motion to appoint Fire Chief David Aldrighetti as second REMC member

Bethel Roylton Transfer Station 2022/2023 Budget

Motion to approve

Bethel Historical Society Request for Coin Drop on 5/21/2022

Motion to approve with traffic plan and proof of insurance

Bethel Cub Scout Pack 202's request for waiver of Town Hall rental fee

Motion to include dates of January to March 2022

Minutes and Communications:

1. Town Manager's Report
2. Selectboard Minutes from 12/13/2021
3. Other Communications –see packet
4. Any Other Business Necessary to Come Before the Board
 - a) *Change January meeting start times to 6:30 pm.*

* Public comment will be limited to items not already listed on the agenda, and to 3 to 5 minutes per person.

Town Manager's Report for 12/27/21 meeting:

- * The Equity & Inclusion Committee requested a meeting in early December to discuss their letter to the Selectboard dated 11/15/21. Since they are now holding two Community Conversations on speeding in January, I have written to them to see if they would like to postpone their appointment until after those Conversations, so they can submit a written report to you on their findings. I have also provided them a link to a past Selectboard packet with all of the data Constable Oscar Gardner had provided you. If they would like to reschedule, I will let you know on 12/27.
- * I would like to get the budget approved on 12/27. The State Treasurer's Office has released the VSERS number as 19.4%. I made adjustments accordingly to that information and our 12/13 meeting discussions.
- * We have been waiting for this loan information regarding engineering for Phase II. (Graham, Bicentennial, Sand Hill, Krystal and Highland). We will wrap this loan into the Phase II construction loan, as we did with Phase I.
- * I have been contacted by VTRANS regarding our MOA of the storage of the old Bridge 4 in East Bethel. Apparently when it was removed, it was put in storage for a possible future use. I have pictures and it has been stored outside and is in poor condition. As we have no current use, we should sign to allow the disposal of it.
- * I have included the copy of the email from TRORC's Victoria Littlefield regarding new rules for a second appointment to the Regional Emergency Management Committee. I am the Emergency Management Director for Bethel, so automatically a member.
- * Per the Interlocal Agreement, you need to approve the BRTS budget after the BRTS Board has done so. This is their adopted budget.
- * There is a coin drop request and the Cub Scout's request to waive the Town Hall rental fee.
- * Due to scheduling conflicts, Chris would like the January meetings to start at 6:30 pm. That is not an issue for me.
- * We are not approving the warning at this meeting, as when the Legislature goes into session, they are deciding to let Selectboard's choose how to handle Town Meeting. It is my recommendation that if Australian Ballot is an option, you handle the March 2022 Town Meeting the same as you did the March 2021 Town Meeting. That may adjust our current DRAFT of the Warning.
- * I continue to work with FEMA, VHB and the State on Pinello Bridge, and moving that project forward. I am working with Brian Wright to find historical documents on the layout of Wright Road, as he is planning to subdivide some more of his land and would like to upgrade the class 4 section of the road. He is also working with GMP to extend power further out in that

area. I have been in contact with Richard Lunna regarding his survey, and some additional information that may provide.

- * There is a flurry of activity on Town Report, and I have reached out to the Planning Commission Chair and Better Connections consultant to see if they have questions for a survey in Town Report. I have drafted the Year in Review and sent to Chris for comments.

November 15, 2021

RE: Full-Time Town Constable Budget Discussion

Dear Bethel Selectboard Members,

Thank you so much for your service to our community. As an Advisory Committee on Equity and Inclusion of our town, we are writing with feedback and further questions in response to your budget discussions at the October 25, 2021 Selectboard meeting. In particular, this letter addresses the proposal of a new full-time constable position.

The Bethel Equity and Inclusion Committee was founded in September of 2020 with the purposes of:

1. understanding, documenting, and remedying issues of inequality in our community,
2. increasing the civic engagement of marginalized people in our town, and
3. educating and training Selectboard members, School Board members, and Committee members on methods for Equity and Inclusion in their respective roles.

Based on your budget discussions on October 25, it is our understanding that discussion of the need for a full-time constable in Bethel was based on several factors.

These include:

- the amount of time it takes to arrest and prosecute someone (10 hours was mentioned),
- issues of people living in Peavine Park,
- drug use/abuse in our community,
- speeding,
- driving under the influence, and
- matters involving dogs.

We share concerns about these issues and agree that public funds should be allocated toward addressing them. However, we have concerns about increasing policing as a remedy to these issues.

Both locally and nationally, municipalities are moving away from policing as the primary tool for solving community problems. As Black community members have expressed to the Bethel Selectboard, racial profiling is an issue here and not everyone feels safe with a police presence. Further, the criminal legal system has not proved to be an effective way to prevent crime. We understand that tools rooted in prevention, not punishment,

such as Positive Behavioral Interventions, Housing First Models, Harm Reduction, and Community Accountability (sometimes referred to as Community Policing) can be successful evidence-based approaches to the issues we need to address in Bethel. Policing is ripe with issues of racial profiling, excessive force, false arrest, and often leads to recidivism when the root causes of criminal behaviors aren't addressed. We are excited to partner with you in thinking through prevention-based models for addressing these real issues in our community instead of investing in more policing.

As the Selectboard moves forward with this discussion, we have some questions as we strive for a more equitable town:

1. Do you have clear evidence of how policing in communities of similar size and demographic to Bethel has decreased harm from drug use, driving under the influence, homelessness, mistreatment of animals, and/or has resulted in decreased speeding?
2. Chris mentioned that around 10 years ago, community members did not want a full-time police presence in Bethel. Can you share why that was? Additionally, can you quantify and qualify your indication that our community does want a full-time constable now?
3. Can you specify more clearly on how part-time constable resources are currently being used and their efficacy? Can you share reports from their hourly work?
4. Can you share what alternatives you've considered to addressing these issues in our communities? For example, to reduce traffic speed in front of the school, could the town install speed bumps?
5. Can you clarify what, if any, increased revenue fines would bring to the town? In addition, mention of quotas was made and we're wondering if you can clarify what a quota system would look like in our town?
6. Are you in touch with other towns in Vermont that have successfully reduced speeding, driving under the influence, homelessness, drug use, and issues involving dogs without increasing funding for a constable/police?
7. Can you address any budgetary reductions that would be proposed to balance this budget increase such as reduction in funding to local social service agencies?

Finally, we are seeking clarity on a procedural issue raised during this budget discussion. **Can you clarify what the decision making process would be for shifting to a full-time constable in Bethel?** It was our understanding from the Board's discussion that the Selectboard could increase the line item in the proposed budget to reflect a full-time position presented for voter approval at Town Meeting. It is also our understanding that it would then be up to community members to make a motion to remove the line item at Town Meeting. Is there an alternate procedure that reflects more

transparency about the proposal to introduce a full-time constable in our town? To us, this decision is not purely budgetary because it also includes the larger question of whether Bethel residents want to invest in policing as a solution to harmful behaviour in our community.

We thank you for your thoughtfulness and consideration of this matter and we look forward to your responses. An EIC representative will be at the November 22, 2021 Selectboard meeting.

Thank you again for your service to our town!

Sincerely,

The Bethel Equity and Inclusion Committee*

Current Membership:

Christy Fry

David Phair

Jesse Plotsky

Laura Perez

Owen Daniel-McCarter

Rita Champion

***With input and support from community member Leonard Meek**

TOWN OF BETHEL APPLICATION TO CONDUCT A CHARITABLE SOLICITATION ON TOWN HIGHWAY

Name of Nonprofit Organization Bethel Historical Society
Applicant Name JoAnn Marshall Telephone 802 234-5234
Address 10 Pond Road Town Bethel Zip 05032

I/We request permission to conduct a solicitation on Church St, Town Highway No. _____, between in front of the Band Stand (indicate nearest cross streets and/or landmarks).

Date of Solicitation 5/21/2022 Time 7:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Attached is a certificate of insurance verifying that the organization possesses Worker's compensation Insurance, if required by Statute; Automobile Liability insurance with limits not less than \$300,000.00 Combined Single Limit and Commercial General Liability insurance coverage with limits not less than \$300,000.00 per occurrence naming the Town of Bethel as an additional insured.

I/We agree to comply with any and all participant and traffic sign requirements attached to the permit.

JoAnn D. Marshall
Signature of Applicant

12/7/2021
Date

Town Manager's Office:

Date Received 12.20.21

Received by Kieggottino

Board of Selectman: Approve _____ Deny _____

Board Chair _____ Date _____

Conditions

1. No solicitation will be conducted during night-time hours, or during rain or snow storms
2. No one under the age of 16 years of age will be allowed to participate in the solicitation
3. The sponsor agrees in writing to comply with any and all attached participant and traffic safety requirements. A typical layout with required signs is attached. Applicant must provide required signage.
4. Completed permit application must be submitted in a timely manner for consideration by the Board of Selectmen.
5. Town Manager's Office must approve the set up prior to the solicitation.
6. Required use of traffic cones or barrels to channel traffic.
7. No traffic control devices shall be set to require travelers to stop and no verbal or written implication shall be given that failure to stop is illegal.
8. All participants must wear reflective vests.
9. The name of the organization in question shall be on a banner or sign.
10. No sales are to be made during the solicitation.
11. The solicitation shall not take place within 750 feet of an intersection.
12. Violation of any of the above will result in immediate cancellation of permit.

BETHEL ROYALTON TRANSFER STATION						
SOLID WASTE REVENUES	BUDGET	unaudited	BUDGET	ACTUAL	PROPOSED	Notes for 2022-2023 Budget
	20-21	20-21	21-22	As of 11/30/21	22-23	
40-6-00-32.00 Sale of Recyclable Materials	\$40,000	\$24,067	15,000	18,207	35,000	
40-6-00-34.01 Alliance Surcharge	88,981	88,861	106,577	99,957	109,734	10% Increase
40-6-00-81.00 Fees	1,000,000	1,097,223	906,000	538,225	1,100,000	
Charge for Recycling			76,968	included in fees		
40-6-00-86.00 Grant Revenue (swip)		\$13,039	12,600	7,577	11,411	
40-6-00-95.00 Other	7,719	691	65	1		
TOTAL SOLID WASTE REVENUES	1,136,700	1,223,881	1,111,210	663,967	1,256,145	
SOLID WASTE EXPENDITURES						
40-7-00-01.00 Wages	200,000	170,718	197,488	75,959	245,625	
40-7-00-02.00 Social Security	12,500	10,375	12,243	4,706	15,229	
40-7-00-03.00 Medicare	3,000	2,328	2,863	1,101	3,562	
40-7-00-04.00 Retirement	22,500	21,923	33,254	23,584	54,038	budgeted 22% waiting for state
40-7-00-05.00 Health Insurance	60,000	37,043	57,948	10,853	50,808	
40-7-00-06.00 Workers Compensation	30,000	18,323	29,423	4,372	19,896	
40-7-00-06.01 Dental Insurance	3,200	1,293	2,318	364	1,856	
40-7-00-07.00 Insurance	9,000	4,995	5,653	1,106	5,105	included one \$1,000 deductible
40-7-00-20.00 Electricity	5,000	2,992	4,500	1,473	4,500	
40-7-00-21.00 Telephone	1,400	1,160	1,300	482	2,000	
40-7-00-22.00 Heat	3,500	1,296	2,000	0	2,000	
40-7-00-23.00 Uniform Rental	500	45	500	115	500	
40-7-00-25.00 Facility Maintenance	15,000	6,191	15,000	480	40,000	
40-7-00-26.00 Equipment Operation/Repair	19,000	10,234	16,000	6,508	18,000	Includes increase for diesel costs
40-7-00-26.01 Repair of Scales	2,100	1,350	2,100	5,297	2,500	
40-7-00-27.00 Equipment Rental	1,000	0	500	0	500	
40-7-00-27.01 Maintenance Website	500	621	600	0	700	
40-7-00-44.00 New Equipment	10,000	560	0	60	24,194	
40-7-00-44.01 Office Equip & Supplies	4,000	4,644	5,000	1,660	5,000	
40-7-00-50.00 Legal	2,000	225	500	3,179	500	
40-7-00-51.00 Supplies	3,000	1,204	1,000	679	1,500	
40-7000-52.00 Advertising	1,000	424	2,000	156	500	
40-7-00-67.00 Tip Fee and Hauling	512,500	579,552	515,000	229,566	578,550	Includes 5% increase for Casella
40-7-00-68.00 Hazardous Waste	16,000	58,689	43,600	15,970	50,000	Includes 15% increase for Clean Harbors
40-7-00-69.00 Recycling	75,000	80,516	85,600	21,326	55,000	Includes 5% increase for Casella
40-7-00-75.00 Labor Reimbursement Bethel	10,000	8,846	8,801	0	22,582	
40-7-00-76.00 Auditing Services	10,000	10,500	10,500	360	10,500	Issue RFP for auditing services in Jan. 2022
40-7-00-79.00 Certification	10,000	6,542	4,400	657	4,500	
40-7-00-79.01 Swip Compliance	10,000	1,869	10,700	1,322	2,500	
40-7-00-80.00 Debt Service Principle	57,000	50,673	0	0	0	
40-7-00-88.00 Debt Service Interest	4,000	1,363	15,500	0	0	
40-7-00-89.00 CAT Loader	5,000	8,095	5,600	973	7,000	
40-7-00-90.00 John Deer Excavator	5,000	20,645	12,100	2,494	15,000	
40-7-00-92.00 Closure Reserve Account	12,000	12,000	0		12,000	
40-7-00-95.00 Other	2,000	62	2,000			
40-7-00-99.00 transfer to other funds		83				
TOTAL SOLID WASTE EXPENDITURES	1,136,700	1,137,378	1,105,971	414,802	1,256,145	
40-7-00-96.00 Depreciation Expense						
Total after depreciation	1,136,700	1,137,378	1,105,971	414,802	1,256,145	

Budget approved by BERTS Board

LOAN AGREEMENT

Vermont State Revolving Fund

Loan RF3-423-2.0

Loan Amount: \$107,900.00

1. Town of Bethel, the Municipality, hereby certifies to the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank (“Bond Bank”) that:
 - (a) It will secure all state and federal permits, licenses and approvals necessary to construct and operate the improvements to be financed by the Loan (the “Project”), if any, as described in Exhibit A;
 - (b) It has established, or covenants with the Bond Bank to establish, by ordinance, rule or regulation, a rate charge or assessment schedule which will generate annually sufficient revenue to pay:
 - (i) Principal, administrative fees and interest of the Municipal Note, as the same becomes due; and
 - (ii) reasonably anticipated cost of operating and maintaining the improvements to be financed by the Loan, if any, and the system of which is a part;
 - (c) It has duly established a fund under Title 24 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated, or by other means permitted by law which, for so long as the Municipal Note shall remain outstanding, shall be maintained and replenished from time to time, and used solely to repair, replace, improve and enlarge the improvement to be financed by the Loan, if any.
2. The Municipality shall make funds sufficient to pay the principal, administrative fees and interest as the same matures (based upon the Maturity Schedule appended hereto as Exhibit C) available to the Bond Bank at least five business days prior to each principal payment date.
3. The Bond Bank and Municipality agree that Loan proceeds will be paid to the Municipality as Project costs are incurred and paid by the Municipality over the course of the Project, but in no event shall payments be made more often than monthly, and only on Municipality’s certification, through its authorized representative, that such costs have been paid.
4. The Municipality is obligated to make the principal, administrative fee and interest portion of the Municipal Note payments scheduled by the Bond Bank on an annual basis. The Municipality may prepay the Loan at its option without penalty.
5. The Municipality shall be obligated to inform in writing to the Bond Bank, or such agent designated by the Bond Bank, at least thirty days prior to each principal payment date of any

changes to the name of the official or address to whom invoices for the payment of principal, administrative fees and interest should be sent.

6. The period of performance for this agreement begins upon execution and ends five years after execution.

7. Notwithstanding paragraph 14 hereof, prior to payment of the amount of the Loan, or any portion thereof, the Bond Bank shall have the right to cancel all or any part of its obligations hereunder and after payment of any portion thereof to require a refund of amounts paid if:

(a) Any representation made by the Municipality to the Bond Bank in connection with its application for a loan or additional loans shall be incorrect or incomplete in any material respect; or

(b) The Municipality has violated commitments made by it in its application and supporting documents or has violated any of the terms of this Loan Agreement.

8. The Municipality shall at all times comply with all applicable federal and state requirements pertaining to the Project, including but not limited to requirements of Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, Title 24 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated, and the list of Federal Laws and Authorities included as Exhibit B. The enumeration of the Federal Laws and Authorities in Exhibit B shall not be construed as a waiver by the Municipality of any exemption or exception, jurisdictional or otherwise.

9. If any provisions of this Loan Agreement shall for any reason be held to be invalid or unenforceable, the invalidity or unenforceability of such provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this Loan Agreement and this Loan Agreement shall be construed and enforced as if such invalid or unenforceable provision had not been contained herein.

10. This Loan Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, any of which shall be regarded for all purposes as an original and all of which constitute but one and the same instrument. Each party agrees that it will execute any and all documents or other instruments, and take such other actions as are necessary, to give effect to the terms of this Loan Agreement.

11. No waiver by either party of any term or condition of the Loan Agreement shall be deemed or construed as a waiver of any other terms or conditions, nor shall a waiver of any breach be deemed to constitute a waiver of any subsequent breach, whether of the same or of a different section, subsection, paragraph, clause, phrase, or other provision of this Loan Agreement. Any delay in exercising rights or requirements of the Loan Agreement does not constitute a waiver of such rights or requirements.

12. The Municipality agrees to indemnify and hold the Bond Bank, the state, its officials, agents, and employees harmless from and against any and all claims, suits, actions, costs, and damages resulting from the negligent performance or non-performance by the Municipality or any of its officials, agents, or employees of the Municipality's obligations under this Agreement, as it

may be amended or supplemented from time to time. It is further understood that such indemnity shall not be limited by an insurance coverage.

13. The Municipality agrees that the Loan will be adjusted upon final audit to an amount equal to or less than the project costs determined eligible by the Department of Environmental Conservation and recommended to the Bond Bank for loan participation.

14. The Municipality agrees that if actual final eligible costs are less than the amount paid under the Loan Agreement, repayment of the excess funds will be made within sixty days of the request made by the Department of Environmental Conservation.

15. Increases, amendments, or modifications to the project during construction will be processed for record keeping purposes only, except for the addition of major approved Project Elements, Exhibit A. The Loan Agreement will also be amended upon completion of the project based upon final audited eligible costs, and any increases in the Loan will be made contingent upon availability of funds. All Project records will be retained by the Municipality and made available for state inspection upon request for three years after Project completion or until any audit questions have been resolved, whichever is later.

16. The Municipality will obtain flood insurance for any insurable portion of the Project.

17. The Municipality agrees to use the Loan proceeds solely for the Project for which the Loan is made and any approved amendments thereto. The Municipality further agrees to make prompt payment to the contractors and to apply any interest received to the Project. Once payment has been made to contractors, the applicant shall submit a payment request to the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Disbursements from DEC are made on a reimbursement basis. Funds will be disbursed from Federal Award ID Number FS991218## (## equals last two digits of award year). Upon disbursement, DEC will notify the Municipality of the standard terms and conditions applicable based on the exact amount of federal funds disbursed and relevant capitalization grant being drawn down. Please see <https://dec.vermont.gov/water-investment/water-financing/srf/reimbursement-help> for the standard terms and conditions. If the foregoing link is not accessible, contact DEC for assistance.

18. The terms of this Loan Agreement shall be controlling over those of any prior Agreement with respect to this Loan Agreement. However, this Loan Agreement shall not otherwise supersede the terms of any other agreements between the Municipality and the State.

19. The Municipality agrees to furnish to the Bond Bank such financial statements as the Bond Bank may reasonably request, which statements and supporting records shall be prepared and maintained in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

20. This agreement will be funded by approximately 80 percent federal funds. These funds are being awarded in accord with the Federal Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, CFDA number 66.468, under the authority of the Environmental Protection Agency. This is not a research and development award. For any accounting year in which the Municipality expends Loan proceeds

and other Federal funds of \$750,000.00 or more from all Federal sources, the Municipality shall have an audit performed in accord with the Federal Single Audit Act and furnish a copy to the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation within 9 months of the end of Municipality's accounting period.

21. By acceptance of this Agreement, the Municipality agrees to complete a Subrecipient Annual Report as provided by the Department of Finance. Prior to submitting the Subrecipient Annual Report, the Municipality must review previous fiscal year disbursements from the Facilities Engineering Division to determine the actual amount of federal funds disbursed from the loan proceeds. The Subrecipient Annual Report must then be submitted to the State of Vermont Department of Finance within 45 days after its fiscal year end, informing the State whether or not a single audit is required for the prior fiscal year. If a single audit is required, the Municipality will submit a copy of the audit report to the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation within 9 months of its fiscal year end. If a single audit is not required, only the Subrecipient Annual Report to the State Department of Finance is required.

22. The Municipality understands that the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act, which is codified at Subchapter IV of Chapter 31 of Title 40 of the United States Code and U.S. Department of Labor Memorandum No. 208 ("Memorandum 208"), apply to the Project, and the Municipality certifies and agrees that with respect to the Project, it has complied and will continue to comply with the requirements of the Davis-Bacon Act and Memorandum 208.

23. The effective date of the Loan Agreement is the execution date of the General Obligation Note.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement.

Attest:



Secretary

VERMONT MUNICIPAL BOND BANK

By: 

Executive Director

Attest:

Clerk

Town of Bethel

By: _____
Chair of the Governing Body

And by:

Treasurer

List of Loan Exhibits

EXHIBIT A: Project description and conditions

EXHIBIT B: List of Federal Laws and Authorities

EXHIBIT C: General Obligation Note

EXHIBIT D: Resolution and Certificate

EXHIBIT A

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND CONDITIONS FOR THIS AGREEMENT

Description:

Final design for water main improvements on Main Street, Highland Drive, Graham Street, Krystal Drive, Sand Hill Road, Centennial Drive, and surrounding areas.

Conditions:

- 1) Repayment of this loan shall commence five (5) years after the execution of the loan.
- 2) If this loan does not result in a constructed project by the anticipated repayment start date, repayment shall commence immediately.
- 3) If this project is funded by any non-DWSRF funding, the applicant shall, within sixty (60) days of receiving the non-DWSRF funding, repay the entire portion of the DWSRF planning loan(s) in excess of any amount found to be eligible for forgiveness.
- 4) The engineer will meet with the Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division (DWGWPD) to present work summaries at 30% work completion, 60% work completion, and 90% work completion, or as otherwise directed by the DEC engineer. Disbursements will not be made without each required meeting and disbursements above 90% of the loan amount will not be made until the final documents have been received, reviewed, and approved by DWGWPD.
- 5) The Applicant shall, as a condition of the loan, provide the Department with a digitally formatted copy of any plan or surveys developed with funds awarded under the loan, if the Applicant or any subcontractor develops plans or surveys in digital format. By acceptance of the loan, the Applicant agrees to pass through this requirement to any subcontracts awarded and funded by the loan. This condition is included pursuant to Section 56 of Act 233 of 1994. Such digital formats are subject to the Federal Freedom of Information Act and the State Access to Public Records and Document Statute and, unless otherwise restricted, the Department will release copies of such information to the general public upon request. It shall be acceptable to submit read only copies or copies marked archival copies only. The Applicant, by acceptance of this loan agrees not to copyright any plans or surveys developed pursuant to this action. Acceptable electronic formats include pdf and pdf/A.

EXHIBIT B

LIST OF FEDERAL LAWS AND AUTHORITIES WHERE APPLICABLE

ENVIRONMENTAL:

- “American Iron and Steel” requirements of P.L. 113-76 the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2014
- Archeological and Historic Preservation 16 USC §469a-1
- Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, 16 USC §668-668c
- Clean Air Act, 42 USC §7401
- Coastal Barrier Resources Act, 16 USC §3501
- Coastal Zone Management 16 USC §1451
- Davis-Bacon Act (40 CFR '31.36(i)(5))
- Davis Bacon and Related Acts Wage Rate Requirements (29 CFR 5.5)
- Endangered Species Act, 16 USC §1531
- Floodplain Management, Executive Order 11988, as amended by Executive Order 12148
- Protection of Wetlands, Executive Order 11990 (1977) as amended by Executive Order 12608 (1997)
- Environmental Justice, Executive Order 12898
- Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment, Executive Order 11990 (1977), as amended by Executive Order
- Farmland Protection Policy Act, 7 USC §4201
- Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, 16 USC §661
- Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, 16 USC §1801 *et seq.*
- Marine Mammal Protection Act, 16 USC §7703 *et seq.*
- Migratory Bird Act 16 USC Chapter 7, Subchapter II: Migratory Bird Treaty
- National Historic Preservation Act 54 USC § 300101 *et seq.*
- Rivers and Harbors Act, 33 USC §403
- Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 USC §300f
- Wild and Scenic Rivers Act 16 USC §1271

ECONOMIC:

- Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966, PL 89-754 as amended
- Section 306 of the Clean Air Act and Section 508 of the Clean Water Act, including Executive Order 11738, Administration of the Clean Air Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act with Respect to Federal Contracts, Grants, or Loans

SOCIAL LEGISLATION:

- Age Discrimination Act, PL 94-135
- Civil Rights Act of 1964, PL 88-352
- Disadvantaged Business Enterprise, 49 USC § 47113 - Minority and disadvantaged business participation

- Equal Employment Opportunity, Executive Order 11264
- Women's and Minority Business Enterprise, Executive Orders 11625 and 12138
- Section 13 of PL 92-500; Prohibition against sex discrimination under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act
- Rehabilitation Act of 1973, PL 93-112 (including Executive Orders 11914 and 11250)

MISCELLANEOUS AUTHORITY:

- Executive Order 12549 - Debarment and Suspension
- Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-386)
- Uniform Relocation and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, PL 91-646
- Signage requirements per 2015 EPA guidance
- 2 CFR 200.216 and section 889 of Public Law 115-232, Prohibition of certain telecommunication and video surveillance services or equipment

EXHIBIT C

\$107,900.00

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
 STATE OF VERMONT
 Town of Bethel
 GENERAL OBLIGATION NOTE

The Town of Bethel (hereinafter called the “Municipality”), a body corporate and a political subdivision of the State of Vermont, promises to pay to the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank, or registered assigns, the not-to-exceed sum of \$107,900.00 with a preliminary interest at the rate of 0.00% per annum and with a preliminary administrative fee of 0.00%, subject to change based on final disbursed value, beginning on 1/1/2027 as follows:

Vermont EPA Drinking Water State Revolving Fund							
Bethel Town, Vermont							
Loan RF3-423-2.0							
Prepared on 11/29/2021							
Loan Terms							
Loan Amount:	\$107,900.00						
Loan Term Year:	5						
Interest rate:	0.0000%						
Administrative Fee:	0.0000%						
Repayment Date	Payment Number	Principal Due	Principal Payment	Principal Forgiven	Interest Payment	Administrative Fees	Total Payment
1/1/2027	1	107,900.00	7,885.00	68,475.00	0.00	0.00	7,885.00
1/1/2028	2	31,540.00	7,885.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,885.00
1/1/2029	3	23,655.00	7,885.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,885.00
1/1/2030	4	15,770.00	7,885.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,885.00
1/1/2031	5	7,885.00	7,885.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,885.00
			39,425.00	68,475.00	0.00	0.00	
For planning purposes only. Figures subject to change based on actual disbursements.							

EXHIBIT C

This Note is payable in lawful money of the United States at People's United Bank in the City of Burlington, State of Vermont. Repayment terms shall comply with 24 V.S.A. Chapter 120, §4755 which prohibits deferral of payment. Final payment of this Note shall be made upon surrender of this Note for cancellation.

This Note is issued by the Municipality for the purpose of financing design of infrastructure improvements under and by virtue of Title 24 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated, and a vote of the governing body of the Municipality duly passed on 5/24/2021.

This Note is transferable only upon presentation to the Treasurer of the Municipality with a written assignment duly acknowledged or proved. No transfer hereof shall be effectual unless made on the books of the Municipality kept by the Treasurer as transfer agent and noted hereon by the Treasurer with a record of payments as provided hereon.

It is hereby certified and recited that all acts, conditions and things required to be done precedent to and in the issuing of this Note have been done, have happened, and have been performed in regular and due form, as required by such law and vote, and for the assessment, collection and payment hereon of a tax to pay the same when due the full faith and credit of the Municipality are hereby irrevocably pledged.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the Municipality has caused this Note to be signed by its Treasurer, and a majority of its Selectboard and its seal to be affixed hereto.

Town of Bethel

By: _____

Majority of its Governing Body

Date _____

Treasurer

EXHIBIT C

\$107,900.00

Town of Bethel
GENERAL OBLIGATION NOTE

CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

It is hereby certified that this Note is a fully registered Note payable only to the holder of record as appears of record in the office of the Treasurer of the issuing Municipality. This Note may be transferred by presentation of the same with an assignment in writing signed by the registered holder. Presentation shall be made to the Treasurer of the Municipality at his office and he shall record such transfer in his records and on the Note. The name and address of the original registered owner of this Note is Vermont Municipal Bond Bank, 20 Winooski Falls Way #305, Winooski, VT 05404.

Treasurer

EXHIBIT D

RESOLUTION AND CERTIFICATE
(General Obligation)
(Vermont Drinking Water State Revolving Fund)

WHEREAS, at meetings of the municipal legislative body of the Town of Bethel (herein called the "Municipality") at each of which all or a majority of the members were present and voting, which meetings were duly noticed, called and held as appears of record, it was found and determined that the public interest and necessity required certain public water system improvements described in Exhibit A, and it was further found and determined that the cost of making such public improvements would be too great to be paid out of ordinary annual income and revenue, and that a proposal for providing such improvements and the issuance of bonds of the Municipality to pay for its share of the cost of the same shall be submitted to the legal voters at meetings thereof, and it will be ordered, all of which action will be hereby ratified and confirmed; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality has applied for financial assistance in planning for the authorized improvements which application has been approved by the Department of Environmental Conservation and the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank, as evidenced by the Funding Application Approval, the terms and conditions of which are found in Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to powers vested in them by law the said governing board is about to enter into a Loan Agreement on behalf of the Municipality with the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank respecting a Loan from said Bank in the amount of \$107,900.00, to be discounted by the amount of up to \$68,475, repayable with interest at the rate of 0.00% per annum, together with an administrative fee of 0.00%.

AND WHEREAS, the Note to be given by the Municipality to the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank at the time of receiving the proceeds of said Loan shall be substantially in the form found in Exhibit C;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Governing Body proceed forthwith to cause said Note to be executed and delivered to the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank upon the price and terms stated, and be registered as the law provides; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Note when issued and delivered pursuant to law and this Resolution shall be the valid and binding obligation of the said Municipality, payable according to law and the terms and tenor thereof from unlimited ad valorem taxes on the grand list of taxable property of said Municipality as established, assessed, apportioned and provided by law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in addition to all other taxes, there shall annually be assessed and collected in the manner provided by law each year until the Note, or any bond or bonds issued to refund or replace the same, is fully paid, a tax, charge or assessment sufficient to pay the note and bond or bonds as the same shall become due; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that execution of the above-referenced Loan Agreement between the Municipality and the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank is hereby authorized, the presiding officer of the legislative body and Treasurer of the borrower being directed to execute said Loan Agreement on behalf of the Municipality and the legislative branch thereof; and

EXHIBIT D

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipality expressly incorporates into this Resolution each and every term, provision, covenant and representation set forth at length in Exhibit A to be delivered in connection with the issuance and sale of the Note, execution and delivery of each of which is hereby authorized, ratified and confirmed in all respects, and the covenants, representations and undertakings set forth at length in said Loan Agreement are incorporated herein by reference; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all acts and things heretofore done by the lawfully constituted officers of the Municipality, and any and all acts or proceedings of the Municipality and of its Governing Body, in, about or concerning the improvements hereinabove described and of the issuance of evidence of debt in connection therewith, are hereby ratified and confirmed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in connection with the pending sale of the Note in the face amount of \$107,900.00 to the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank, execution and delivery of the Note, this Resolution Certificate, Loan Agreement and incidental documents, all attached hereto, are authorized; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that People's United Bank in the City of Burlington, Vermont, is hereby designated the Municipality's paying agent with respect to the Note and the Loan Agreement.

And we, the undersigned officers, as indicated, hereby certify that we as such officers have signed the Note payable as aforesaid, and reciting that it is issued under and pursuant to the vote herein above mentioned, and we also certify that the Note is duly registered in the office of the Treasurer of the Municipality as prescribed by law.

And we, the said officers of the Municipality, hereby certify that we are the duly chosen, qualified and acting officers of the Municipality as undersigned; that the Note is issued pursuant to said authority; that no other proceedings relating thereto have been taken; and that no such authority or proceeding has been repealed or amended.

We further certify that no litigation is pending or threatened affecting the validity of the Note nor the levy and collection of taxes, charges or assessments to pay it, nor the works of improvement financed by the proceeds of the Note, and that neither the corporate existence of the Municipality nor the title of any of us to our respective offices is being questioned.

EXHIBIT D

ATTEST:

Town of Bethel

Clerk

By: _____

Majority of its Governing Body

And By:

Its Treasurer



Instructions: To authorize recurring distributions from the VT EPA State Revolving Funds ("SRF") through Payment Requests filed with the Department of Environmental Conservation ("DEC") for your SRF loan, please complete this form, sign and date it, and return it along with your signed Loan Agreement to the Vermont Bond Bank ("VBB").

Account Information	
Borrower's Name	Bethel
SRF Loan Number	RF3-423-2.0
"On-Request" distributions will be made to borrowers based on Payment Request(s) that have been filed with and approved by the DEC and VBB.	


Distribution Information	
<input type="checkbox"/> By ACH Transfer To: Name of Receiving Bank	
Receiving Bank Routing Number	
Account Number at Receiving Bank	
Account Type (Checking or Saving)	
Account Name	
OR	
<input type="checkbox"/> By Check Payable to (Name):	
Address:	

Distribution Agreement & Signature

_____ ("Borrower") hereby requests that funds be transferred or checks be issued from the appropriate State Revolving Fund Account in accordance with the instructions provided above. By signing below I, as an authorized representative of the Borrower, have verified the accuracy of the instructions. For any non-People's account, Borrower has provided a copy of a voided check or pre-printed deposit slip. Further, Borrower understands that the People's United Bank ("Bank") is not responsible for the correctness or timeliness of the posting of funds by the receiving financial institution, if other than the Bank. This authorization shall remain in effect until a new form is filed with the Bank, or until it is revoked by Borrower in writing. If Borrower has authorized "on-request" transfers above, the Bank may rely upon Borrower's authorized representative's direction to process a distribution based on the above instructions to my account. Borrower agrees to periodically review its bank account statement and bring any discrepancies to the Bank's attention.

Borrower's Authorized Signature _____ Print Name _____ Date _____

VBB Distribution Acknowledgment & Signature

 _____ Michael Gaughan _____ 12/14/2021
 Executive Director Signature _____ Print Name _____ Date _____

**Request for Taxpayer
 Identification Number and Certification**

Give Form to the
 requester. Do not
 send to the IRS.

Print or type See Specific instructions on page 2.	1 Name (as shown on your income tax return). Name is required on this line; do not leave this line blank.	
	2 Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above	
	3 Check appropriate box for federal tax classification; check only one of the following seven boxes: <input type="checkbox"/> Individual/sole proprietor or single-member LLC <input type="checkbox"/> Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (C=C corporation, S=S corporation, P=partnership) ▶ _____ Note. For a single-member LLC that is disregarded, do not check LLC; check the appropriate box in the line above for the tax classification of the single-member owner. <input type="checkbox"/> Other (see instructions) ▶ _____	4 Exemptions (codes apply only to certain entities, not individuals; see instructions on page 3): Exempt payee code (if any) _____ Exemption from FATCA reporting code (if any) _____ <i>(Applies to accounts maintained outside the U.S.)</i>
	5 Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.)	Requester's name and address (optional)
	6 City, state, and ZIP code	
	7 List account number(s) here (optional)	

Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on line 1 to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is generally your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the Part I instructions on page 3. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN* on page 3.

Social security number								
					-			

OR

Employer identification number								
					-			

Note. If the account is in more than one name, see the instructions for line 1 and the chart on page 4 for guidelines on whose number to enter.

Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

1. The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me); and
2. I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding; and
3. I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below); and
4. The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.

Certification Instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions on page 3.

Sign Here	Signature of U.S. person ▶	Date ▶
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General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Future developments. Information about developments affecting Form W-9 (such as legislation enacted after we release it) is at www.irs.gov/irb.

Purpose of Form

An individual or entity (Form W-9 requester) who is required to file an information return with the IRS must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) which may be your social security number (SSN), individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN), adoption taxpayer identification number (ATIN), or employer identification number (EIN), to report on an information return the amount paid to you, or other amount reportable on an information return. Examples of information returns include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Form 1099-INT (interest earned or paid)
- Form 1099-DIV (dividends, including those from stocks or mutual funds)
- Form 1099-MISC (various types of income, prizes, awards, or gross proceeds)
- Form 1099-B (stock or mutual fund sales and certain other transactions by brokers)
- Form 1099-S (proceeds from real estate transactions)
- Form 1099-K (merchant card and third party network transactions)

- Form 1098 (home mortgage interest), 1098-E (student loan interest), 1098-T (tuition)
 - Form 1099-C (canceled debt)
 - Form 1099-A (acquisition or abandonment of secured property)
- Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN.

*If you do not return Form W-9 to the requester with a TIN, you might be subject to backup withholding. See **What is backup withholding?** on page 2.*

By signing the filled-out form, you:

1. Certify that the TIN you are giving is correct (or you are waiting for a number to be issued),
2. Certify that you are not subject to backup withholding, or
3. Claim exemption from backup withholding if you are a U.S. exempt payee. If applicable, you are also certifying that as a U.S. person, your allocable share of any partnership income from a U.S. trade or business is not subject to the withholding tax on foreign partners' share of effectively connected income, and
4. Certify that FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that you are exempt from the FATCA reporting, is correct. See **What is FATCA reporting?** on page 2 for further information.

Note. If you are a U.S. person and a requester gives you a form other than Form W-9 to request your TIN, you must use the requester's form if it is substantially similar to this Form W-9.

Definition of a U.S. person. For federal tax purposes, you are considered a U.S. person if you are:

- An individual who is a U.S. citizen or U.S. resident alien;
- A partnership, corporation, company, or association created or organized in the United States or under the laws of the United States;
- An estate (other than a foreign estate); or
- A domestic trust (as defined in Regulations section 301.7701-7).

Special rules for partnerships. Partnerships that conduct a trade or business in the United States are generally required to pay a withholding tax under section 1446 on any foreign partners' share of effectively connected taxable income from such business. Further, in certain cases where a Form W-9 has not been received, the rules under section 1446 require a partnership to presume that a partner is a foreign person, and pay the section 1446 withholding tax. Therefore, if you are a U.S. person that is a partner in a partnership conducting a trade or business in the United States, provide Form W-9 to the partnership to establish your U.S. status and avoid section 1446 withholding on your share of partnership income.

In the cases below, the following person must give Form W-9 to the partnership for purposes of establishing its U.S. status and avoiding withholding on its allocable share of net income from the partnership conducting a trade or business in the United States:

- In the case of a disregarded entity with a U.S. owner, the U.S. owner of the disregarded entity and not the entity;
- In the case of a grantor trust with a U.S. grantor or other U.S. owner, generally, the U.S. grantor or other U.S. owner of the grantor trust and not the trust; and
- In the case of a U.S. trust (other than a grantor trust), the U.S. trust (other than a grantor trust) and not the beneficiaries of the trust.

Foreign person. If you are a foreign person or the U.S. branch of a foreign bank that has elected to be treated as a U.S. person, do not use Form W-9. Instead, use the appropriate Form W-8 or Form 8233 (see Publication 515, Withholding of Tax on Nonresident Aliens and Foreign Entities).

Nonresident alien who becomes a resident alien. Generally, only a nonresident alien individual may use the terms of a tax treaty to reduce or eliminate U.S. tax on certain types of income. However, most tax treaties contain a provision known as a "saving clause." Exceptions specified in the saving clause may permit an exemption from tax to continue for certain types of income even after the payee has otherwise become a U.S. resident alien for tax purposes.

If you are a U.S. resident alien who is relying on an exception contained in the saving clause of a tax treaty to claim an exemption from U.S. tax on certain types of income, you must attach a statement to Form W-9 that specifies the following five items:

1. The treaty country. Generally, this must be the same treaty under which you claimed exemption from tax as a nonresident alien.
2. The treaty article addressing the income.
3. The article number (or location) in the tax treaty that contains the saving clause and its exceptions.
4. The type and amount of income that qualifies for the exemption from tax.
5. Sufficient facts to justify the exemption from tax under the terms of the treaty article.

Example. Article 20 of the U.S.-China Income tax treaty allows an exemption from tax for scholarship income received by a Chinese student temporarily present in the United States. Under U.S. law, this student will become a resident alien for tax purposes if his or her stay in the United States exceeds 5 calendar years. However, paragraph 2 of the first Protocol to the U.S.-China treaty (dated April 30, 1984) allows the provisions of Article 20 to continue to apply even after the Chinese student becomes a resident alien of the United States. A Chinese student who qualifies for this exception (under paragraph 2 of the first protocol) and is relying on this exception to claim an exemption from tax on his or her scholarship or fellowship income would attach to Form W-9 a statement that includes the information described above to support that exemption.

If you are a nonresident alien or a foreign entity, give the requester the appropriate completed Form W-8 or Form 8233.

Backup Withholding

What is backup withholding? Persons making certain payments to you must under certain conditions withhold and pay to the IRS 28% of such payments. This is called "backup withholding." Payments that may be subject to backup withholding include interest, tax-exempt interest, dividends, broker and barter exchange transactions, rents, royalties, nonemployee pay, payments made in settlement of payment card and third party network transactions, and certain payments from fishing boat operators. Real estate transactions are not subject to backup withholding.

You will not be subject to backup withholding on payments you receive if you give the requester your correct TIN, make the proper certifications, and report all your taxable interest and dividends on your tax return.

Payments you receive will be subject to backup withholding if:

1. You do not furnish your TIN to the requester,
2. You do not certify your TIN when required (see the Part II instructions on page 3 for details),

3. The IRS tells the requester that you furnished an incorrect TIN,

4. The IRS tells you that you are subject to backup withholding because you did not report all your interest and dividends on your tax return (for reportable interest and dividends only), or

5. You do not certify to the requester that you are not subject to backup withholding under 4 above (for reportable interest and dividend accounts opened after 1983 only).

Certain payees and payments are exempt from backup withholding. See *Exempt payee code* on page 3 and the separate instructions for the Requester of Form W-9 for more information.

Also see *Special rules for partnerships* above.

What is FATCA reporting?

The Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) requires a participating foreign financial institution to report all United States account holders that are specified United States persons. Certain payees are exempt from FATCA reporting. See *Exemption from FATCA reporting code* on page 3 and the instructions for the Requester of Form W-9 for more information.

Updating Your Information

You must provide updated information to any person to whom you claimed to be an exempt payee if you are no longer an exempt payee and anticipate receiving reportable payments in the future from this person. For example, you may need to provide updated information if you are a C corporation that elects to be an S corporation, or if you no longer are tax exempt. In addition, you must furnish a new Form W-9 if the name or TIN changes for the account; for example, if the grantor of a grantor trust dies.

Penalties

Failure to furnish TIN. If you fail to furnish your correct TIN to a requester, you are subject to a penalty of \$50 for each such failure unless your failure is due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect.

Civil penalty for false information with respect to withholding. If you make a false statement with no reasonable basis that results in no backup withholding, you are subject to a \$500 penalty.

Criminal penalty for falsifying information. Willfully falsifying certifications or affirmations may subject you to criminal penalties including fines and/or imprisonment.

Misuse of TINs. If the requester discloses or uses TINs in violation of federal law, the requester may be subject to civil and criminal penalties.

Specific Instructions

Line 1

You must enter one of the following on this line; do not leave this line blank. The name should match the name on your tax return.

If this Form W-9 is for a joint account, list first, and then circle, the name of the person or entity whose number you entered in Part I of Form W-9.

a. Individual. Generally, enter the name shown on your tax return. If you have changed your last name without informing the Social Security Administration (SSA) of the name change, enter your first name, the last name as shown on your social security card, and your new last name.

Note. ITIN applicant: Enter your individual name as it was entered on your Form W-7 application, line 1a. This should also be the same as the name you entered on the Form 1040/1040A/1040EZ you filed with your application.

b. Sole proprietor or single-member LLC. Enter your individual name as shown on your 1040/1040A/1040EZ on line 1. You may enter your business, trade, or "doing business as" (DBA) name on line 2.

c. Partnership, LLC that is not a single-member LLC, C Corporation, or S Corporation. Enter the entity's name as shown on the entity's tax return on line 1 and any business, trade, or DBA name on line 2.

d. Other entities. Enter your name as shown on required U.S. federal tax documents on line 1. This name should match the name shown on the charter or other legal document creating the entity. You may enter any business, trade, or DBA name on line 2.

e. Disregarded entity. For U.S. federal tax purposes, an entity that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner is treated as a "disregarded entity." See Regulations section 301.7701-2(c)(2)(iii). Enter the owner's name on line 1. The name of the entity entered on line 1 should never be a disregarded entity. The name on line 1 should be the name shown on the income tax return on which the income should be reported. For example, if a foreign LLC that is treated as a disregarded entity for U.S. federal tax purposes has a single owner that is a U.S. person, the U.S. owner's name is required to be provided on line 1. If the direct owner of the entity is also a disregarded entity, enter the first owner that is not disregarded for federal tax purposes. Enter the disregarded entity's name on line 2. "Business name/disregarded entity name." If the owner of the disregarded entity is a foreign person, the owner must complete an appropriate Form W-8 instead of a Form W-9. This is the case even if the foreign person has a U.S. TIN.

Line 2

If you have a business name, trade name, DBA name, or disregarded entity name, you may enter it on line 2.

Line 3

Check the appropriate box in line 3 for the U.S. federal tax classification of the person whose name is entered on line 1. Check only one box in line 3.

Limited Liability Company (LLC). If the name on line 1 is an LLC treated as a partnership for U.S. federal tax purposes, check the "Limited Liability Company" box and enter "P" in the space provided. If the LLC has filed Form 8832 or 2553 to be taxed as a corporation, check the "Limited Liability Company" box and in the space provided enter "C" for C corporation or "S" for S corporation. If it is a single-member LLC that is a disregarded entity, do not check the "Limited Liability Company" box; instead check the first box in line 3 "Individual/sole proprietor or single-member LLC."

Line 4, Exemptions

If you are exempt from backup withholding and/or FATCA reporting, enter in the appropriate space in line 4 any code(s) that may apply to you.

Exempt payee code.

- Generally, individuals (including sole proprietors) are not exempt from backup withholding.
- Except as provided below, corporations are exempt from backup withholding for certain payments, including interest and dividends.
- Corporations are not exempt from backup withholding for payments made in settlement of payment card or third party network transactions.
- Corporations are not exempt from backup withholding with respect to attorneys' fees or gross proceeds paid to attorneys, and corporations that provide medical or health care services are not exempt with respect to payments reportable on Form 1099-MISC.

The following codes identify payees that are exempt from backup withholding. Enter the appropriate code in the space in line 4.

- 1—An organization exempt from tax under section 501(a), any IRA, or a custodial account under section 403(b)(7) if the account satisfies the requirements of section 401(f)(2)
- 2—The United States or any of its agencies or instrumentalities
- 3—A state, the District of Columbia, a U.S. commonwealth or possession, or any of their political subdivisions or instrumentalities
- 4—A foreign government or any of its political subdivisions, agencies, or instrumentalities
- 5—A corporation
- 6—A dealer in securities or commodities required to register in the United States, the District of Columbia, or a U.S. commonwealth or possession
- 7—A futures commission merchant registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission
- 8—A real estate investment trust
- 9—An entity registered at all times during the tax year under the Investment Company Act of 1940
- 10—A common trust fund operated by a bank under section 584(a)
- 11—A financial institution
- 12—A middleman known in the investment community as a nominee or custodian
- 13—A trust exempt from tax under section 664 or described in section 4947

The following chart shows types of payments that may be exempt from backup withholding. The chart applies to the exempt payees listed above, 1 through 13.

IF the payment is for . . .	THEN the payment is exempt for . . .
Interest and dividend payments	All exempt payees except for 7
Broker transactions	Exempt payees 1 through 4 and 6 through 11 and all C corporations. S corporations must not enter an exempt payee code because they are exempt only for sales of noncovered securities acquired prior to 2012.
Barter exchange transactions and patronage dividends	Exempt payees 1 through 4
Payments over \$600 required to be reported and direct sales over \$5,000 ¹	Generally, exempt payees 1 through 5 ²
Payments made in settlement of payment card or third party network transactions	Exempt payees 1 through 4

¹ See Form 1099-MISC, Miscellaneous Income, and its instructions.

² However, the following payments made to a corporation and reportable on Form 1099-MISC are not exempt from backup withholding: medical and health care payments, attorneys' fees, gross proceeds paid to an attorney reportable under section 6045(f), and payments for services paid by a federal executive agency.

Exemption from FATCA reporting code. The following codes identify payees that are exempt from reporting under FATCA. These codes apply to persons submitting this form for accounts maintained outside of the United States by certain foreign financial institutions. Therefore, if you are only submitting this form for an account you hold in the United States, you may leave this field blank. Consult with the person requesting this form if you are uncertain if the financial institution is subject to these requirements. A requester may indicate that a code is not required by providing you with a Form W-9 with "Not Applicable" (or any similar indication) written or printed on the line for a FATCA exemption code.

A—An organization exempt from tax under section 501(a) or any individual retirement plan as defined in section 7701(a)(37)

B—The United States or any of its agencies or instrumentalities

C—A state, the District of Columbia, a U.S. commonwealth or possession, or any of their political subdivisions or instrumentalities

D—A corporation the stock of which is regularly traded on one or more established securities markets, as described in Regulations section 1.1472-1(c)(1)(i)

E—A corporation that is a member of the same expanded affiliated group as a corporation described in Regulations section 1.1472-1(c)(1)(i)

F—A dealer in securities, commodities, or derivative financial instruments (including notional principal contracts, futures, forwards, and options) that is registered as such under the laws of the United States or any state

G—A real estate investment trust

H—A regulated investment company as defined in section 851 or an entity registered at all times during the tax year under the Investment Company Act of 1940

I—A common trust fund as defined in section 584(a)

J—A bank as defined in section 581

K—A broker

L—A trust exempt from tax under section 664 or described in section 4947(a)(1)

M—A tax exempt trust under a section 403(b) plan or section 457(g) plan

Note. You may wish to consult with the financial institution requesting this form to determine whether the FATCA code and/or exempt payee code should be completed.

Line 5

Enter your address (number, street, and apartment or suite number). This is where the requester of this Form W-9 will mail your information returns.

Line 6

Enter your city, state, and ZIP code.

Part I. Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. If you are a resident alien and you do not have and are not eligible to get an SSN, your TIN is your IRS individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN). Enter it in the social security number box. If you do not have an ITIN, see *How to get a TIN* below.

If you are a sole proprietor and you have an EIN, you may enter either your SSN or EIN. However, the IRS prefers that you use your SSN.

If you are a single-member LLC that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner (see *Limited Liability Company (LLC)* on this page), enter the owner's SSN (or EIN, if the owner has one). Do not enter the disregarded entity's EIN. If the LLC is classified as a corporation or partnership, enter the entity's EIN.

Note. See the chart on page 4 for further clarification of name and TIN combinations.

How to get a TIN. If you do not have a TIN, apply for one immediately. To apply for an SSN, get Form SS-5, Application for a Social Security Card, from your local SSA office or get this form online at www.ssa.gov. You may also get this form by calling 1-800-772-1213. Use Form W-7, Application for IRS Individual Taxpayer Identification Number, to apply for an ITIN, or Form SS-4, Application for Employer Identification Number, to apply for an EIN. You can apply for an EIN online by accessing the IRS website at www.irs.gov/businesses and clicking on Employer Identification Number (EIN) under Starting a Business. You can get Forms W-7 and SS-4 from the IRS by visiting IRS.gov or by calling 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676).

If you are asked to complete Form W-9 but do not have a TIN, apply for a TIN and write "Applied For" in the space for the TIN, sign and date the form, and give it to the requester. For interest and dividend payments, and certain payments made with respect to readily tradable instruments, generally you will have 60 days to get a TIN and give it to the requester before you are subject to backup withholding on payments. The 60-day rule does not apply to other types of payments. You will be subject to backup withholding on all such payments until you provide your TIN to the requester.

Note. Entering "Applied For" means that you have already applied for a TIN or that you intend to apply for one soon.

Caution: A disregarded U.S. entity that has a foreign owner must use the appropriate Form W-8.

Part II. Certification

To establish to the withholding agent that you are a U.S. person, or resident alien, sign Form W-9. You may be requested to sign by the withholding agent even if items 1, 4, or 5 below indicate otherwise.

For a joint account, only the person whose TIN is shown in Part I should sign (when required). In the case of a disregarded entity, the person identified on line 1 must sign. Exempt payees, see *Exempt payee code* earlier.

Signature requirements. Complete the certification as indicated in items 1 through 5 below.

1. **Interest, dividend, and barter exchange accounts opened before 1984 and broker accounts considered active during 1983.** You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification.
2. **Interest, dividend, broker, and barter exchange accounts opened after 1983 and broker accounts considered inactive during 1983.** You must sign the certification or backup withholding will apply. If you are subject to backup withholding and you are merely providing your correct TIN to the requester, you must cross out item 2 in the certification before signing the form.
3. **Real estate transactions.** You must sign the certification. You may cross out item 2 of the certification.
4. **Other payments.** You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification unless you have been notified that you have previously given an incorrect TIN. "Other payments" include payments made in the course of the requester's trade or business for rents, royalties, goods (other than bills for merchandise), medical and health care services (including payments to corporations), payments to a nonemployee for services, payments made in settlement of payment card and third party network transactions, payments to certain fishing boat crew members and fishermen, and gross proceeds paid to attorneys (including payments to corporations).
5. **Mortgage interest paid by you, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, qualified tuition program payments (under section 529), IRA, Coverdell ESA, Archer MSA or HSA contributions or distributions, and pension distributions.** You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification.

³ You must show your individual name and you may also enter your business or DBA name on the "Business name/disregarded entity" name line. You may use either your SSN or EIN (if you have one), but the IRS encourages you to use your SSN.
⁴ List first and circle the name of the trust, estate, or pension trust. (Do not furnish the TIN of the personal representative or trustee unless the legal entity itself is not designated in the account title.) Also see *Special rules for partnerships* on page 2.
 *Note. Grantor also must provide a Form W-9 to trustee of trust.

Note. If no name is circled when more than one name is listed, the number will be considered to be that of the first name listed.

Secure Your Tax Records from Identity Theft

Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personal information such as your name, SSN, or other identifying information, without your permission, to commit fraud or other crimes. An identity thief may use your SSN to get a job or may file a tax return using your SSN to receive a refund.

To reduce your risk:

- Protect your SSN,
- Ensure your employer is protecting your SSN, and
- Be careful when choosing a tax preparer.

If your tax records are affected by identity theft and you receive a notice from the IRS, respond right away to the name and phone number printed on the IRS notice or letter.

If your tax records are not currently affected by identity theft but you think you are at risk due to a lost or stolen purse or wallet, questionable credit card activity or credit report, contact the IRS Identity Theft Hotline at 1-800-908-4490 or submit Form 14039.

For more information, see Publication 4535, *Identity Theft Prevention and Victim Assistance*.

Victims of identity theft who are experiencing economic harm or a system problem, or are seeking help in resolving tax problems that have not been resolved through normal channels, may be eligible for Taxpayer Advocate Service (TAS) assistance. You can reach TAS by calling the TAS toll-free case intake line at 1-877-777-4778 or TTY/TDD 1-800-829-4059.

Protect yourself from suspicious emails or phishing schemes. Phishing is the creation and use of email and websites designed to mimic legitimate business emails and websites. The most common act is sending an email to a user falsely claiming to be an established legitimate enterprise in an attempt to scam the user into surrendering private information that will be used for identity theft.

The IRS does not initiate contacts with taxpayers via emails. Also, the IRS does not request personal detailed information through email or ask taxpayers for the PIN numbers, passwords, or similar secret access information for their credit card, bank, or other financial accounts.

If you receive an unsolicited email claiming to be from the IRS, forward this message to phishing@irs.gov. You may also report misuse of the IRS name, logo, or other IRS property to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) at 1-800-366-4484. You can forward suspicious emails to the Federal Trade Commission at: spam@uce.gov or contact them at www.ftc.gov/idtheft or 1-877-IDTHEFT (1-877-438-4336).

Visit IRS.gov to learn more about identity theft and how to reduce your risk.

What Name and Number To Give the Requester

For this type of account:	Give name and SSN of:
1. Individual	The individual
2. Two or more individuals (joint account)	The actual owner of the account or, if combined funds, the first individual on the account ¹
3. Custodian account of a minor (Uniform Gift to Minors Act)	The minor ²
4. a. The usual revocable savings trust (grantor is also trustee) b. So-called trust account that is not a legal or valid trust under state law	The grantor-trustee ¹ The actual owner ¹
5. Sole proprietorship or disregarded entity owned by an individual	The owner ⁸
6. Grantor trust filing under Optional Form 1099 Filing Method 1 (see Regulations section 1.671-4(b)(2)(i)(A))	The grantor*
For this type of account:	Give name and EIN of:
7. Disregarded entity not owned by an individual	The owner
8. A valid trust, estate, or pension trust	Legal entity ⁴
9. Corporation or LLC electing corporate status on Form 8832 or Form 2553	The corporation
10. Association, club, religious, charitable, educational, or other tax-exempt organization	The organization
11. Partnership or multi-member LLC	The partnership
12. A broker or registered nominee	The broker or nominee
13. Account with the Department of Agriculture in the name of a public entity (such as a state or local government, school district, or prison) that receives agricultural program payments	The public entity
14. Grantor trust filing under the Form 1041 Filing Method or the Optional Form 1099 Filing Method 2 (see Regulations section 1.671-4(b)(2)(i)(B))	The trust

¹ List first and circle the name of the person whose number you furnish. If only one person on a joint account has an SSN, that person's number must be furnished.

² Circle the minor's name and furnish the minor's SSN.

Privacy Act Notice

Section 6109 of the Internal Revenue Code requires you to provide your correct TIN to persons (including federal agencies) who are required to file information returns with the IRS to report interest, dividends, or certain other income paid to you; mortgage interest you paid; the acquisition or abandonment of secured property; the cancellation of debt; or contributions you made to an IRA, Archer MSA, or HSA. The person collecting this form uses the information on the form to file information returns with the IRS, reporting the above information. Routine uses of this information include giving it to the Department of Justice for civil and criminal litigation and to cities, states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. commonwealths and possessions for use in administering their laws. The information also may be disclosed to other countries under a treaty, to federal and state agencies to enforce civil and criminal laws, or to federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies to combat terrorism. You must provide your TIN whether or not you are required to file a tax return. Under section 3406, payers must generally withhold a percentage of taxable interest, dividend, and certain other payments to a payee who does not give a TIN to the payer. Certain penalties may also apply for providing false or fraudulent information.



Kyle Obenauer
Senior Architectural Historian

Vermont Agency of Transportation

Project Delivery Bureau - Environmental Section
219 N. Main Street
Barre, VT 05641

kyle.obenauer@vermont.gov
(802) 279-7040
www.vtrans.vermont.gov

Date: 12/01/2021

Subject: Bethel BRO 1444(24) – Bridge No. 4

Dear Signatories,

In 1996, the Town of Bethel, Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans), Vermont State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) were signatories of the included Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for project Bethel BRO 1444(24). This bridge replacement project resulted in an Adverse Effect determination under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act to Bethel's Bridge No. 4. To help resolve those adverse impacts, the project MOA stipulated Bridge No. 4, a wrought iron lenticular truss constructed in 1896, be rehabilitated and adaptively reused at a future time and location. The 1996 Bethel BRO 1444(24) MOA also stipulated that if a new site was not immediately available, Bridge No. 4 be temporarily stored by VTrans after removal until a suitable location was identified. See Stipulation A – Bridge No. 4 of the project MOA.

Today, Bridge No. 4 is stored at a private contractor's yard and VTrans pays an annual storage fee. The bridge is in very poor condition and based on a 2021 site visit, it has been determined by VTrans that very few original components of the lenticular truss remain. Bridge components that have been retained are largely unusable (Appendix B).

Specifically:

- Of the eight top chord sections remaining, at least four should be replaced due to bends, kinks, twists, and other damage in varying degrees of severity.
- Of the six verticals in storage, four need replacement.
- The salvaged bottom chord eye bars are very bent, mangled and not salvageable.
- All four end posts of the truss are missing.
- All lateral bracing needs to be replaced.
- Overall, approximately 80% of the structure would need to be replaced.

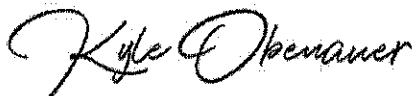
The condition of the truss, number of missing components, and severity of deterioration has made several attempts to rehabilitate and reuse Bridge No. 4 unsuccessful, including a proposal to install the truss as a pedestrian bridge on the University of Vermont campus, most recently. Furthermore, no as-built plans exist to guide reconstruction.

Although this specific bridge could not be rehabilitated and adaptively reused, a similar lenticular truss has previously been rehabilitated and reused in Highgate, at Highgate Falls. VTrans, in collaboration with its state, federal, and other project partners, has also had unprecedented success over the past year in finding suitable locations to adaptively reuse several other historic trusses on multiple sections of Vermont's Lamoille Valley Rail Trail, rehabilitating and preserving these historically significant structures for continued use.

By signing below, signatories to the Bethel BRO 1444(24) project MOA and signatories to the 1998 Historic Bridge Programmatic Agreement (VTrans, FHWA, and SHPO) demonstrate concurrence that rehabilitation and reuse of Bridge No. 4 is no longer feasible and prudent due to changed circumstances of the structure and support VTrans' plan to divest the remaining components of Bridge No. 4 from its bridge inventory and discontinue funding storage of this truss on or before July 01, 2022.

Please, let me know if there are any questions.

Sincerely,



Signatories:

Matthew R. Hake, Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

Date

Laura V. Trieschmann, State Historic Preservation Officer
Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

Date

Andrea Wright, Environmental and Right of Way Manager
Vermont Agency of Transportation

Date

Town of Bethel
Bethel, Windsor County, Vermont

Date

Appendix A – Bethel BRO 1444(24) MOA

Bethel BRO 1444(24)
March 15, 1996

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
Submitted to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.6(a)

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has determined that the proposed replacement of Bridge No. 4, a wrought iron, lenticular pony truss erected in 1896 with pin-connected joints, which carries Town Highway No. 3 across the Second Branch of the White River in Bethel, Vermont, will have an adverse effect on a property eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, and has consulted with the Vermont State Historic Preservation Officer (Vermont SHPO), pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800, regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f); and

WHEREAS, the Vermont Agency of Transportation (Vermont AOT) has participated in the consultation and has been invited to concur in this Memorandum of Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the town of Bethel has an interest in this project and has been invited to concur in this Memorandum of Agreement; and

WHEREAS, Vermont AOT, Vermont SHPO, and FHWA agree that Bridge No. 4 can no longer function as part of Vermont's statewide transportation system at its present site due to poor structural capacity and inadequate geometry;

NOW, THEREFORE, FHWA and Vermont SHPO agree that the undertaking shall be implemented in accordance with the following stipulations in order to take into account the effect of the undertaking on historic properties.

Stipulations

FHWA will insure that the following measures will be carried out.

A. Bridge No. 4

(1) FHWA and Vermont AOT will undertake to relocate Bridge No. 4 to a different site prior to initiating construction of the new bridge, either for continued limited use as part of the state's transportation network or for alternative transportation use on a bikepath, snowmobile trail, pedestrian path, or other suitable use. The process of finding a new site, developing a

plan to rehabilitate the bridge, and marketing and relocating it will be coordinated by Vermont AOT after consultation with Vermont SHPO. Possible sites include but are not limited to:

- (a) Montshire Museum, Norwich, Vermont.
- (b) Peavine Rail Trail, Bethel, Stockbridge, and Rochester Vermont
- (c) Vermont Association of Snow Travelers (VAST) trail in Bethel;

(2) In the event that a new location is not found before construction of a new bridge is initiated, Bridge No. 4 will be temporarily stockpiled in Vermont AOT's historic truss bridge stockpiling site in Clarendon, Vermont, or will be stored at another site of mutual agreement.

my ENG DM
(3) At the earliest practical opportunity, and in no event later than November, 1998, Vermont AOT will enter into a separate contract for the rehabilitation of Bridge No. 4 in a manner sufficient to preclude further repairs for a period of twenty years, excluding repairs made necessary by extraordinary events. The proximate cost of that rehabilitation shall not exceed \$50,000, including engineering costs, and Vermont AOT will provide that amount from the state highway bridge fund to pay for the rehabilitation. Funds from other state, federal, local, and private sources may be added as available to complete more rehabilitation work on the bridge. FHWA shall participate in funding this cost.

(4) The scope of work for said contract of rehabilitation shall follow the Secretary of the Interior Standards for Rehabilitation and shall specify the following work in the stated order of priority within the limit of available funds.

- (a) replacement of severely damaged upper truss chord member
- (c) replacement of damaged end post
- (d) repair diagonal
- (e) replacement of existing floor system
- (f) construction of new deck
- (g) cleaning and painting structure; grease coating may be considered as an acceptable temporary alternative.
- (h) recasting decorative finials

(5) The costs of lead paint abatement, rehabilitation, relocation, and reassembly of Bridge No. 4 at its new site will be considered as part of the project costs for any eligible bikepath or enhancement project on which it is to be used and to be funded by FHWA and Vermont AOT. The cost of an interpretive placard for Bridge No. 4 at its new site will also be considered as part of the project cost.

(6) Vermont AOT will support efforts to nominate the bridge to the National Register of Historic Places. A draft nomination for the bridge has been prepared and will be finalized and forwarded to the National Park Service by Vermont SHPO

(7) In the event that Bridge No. 4 is relocated for continued but limited use on the state's network of highways, all costs associated with relocating, rehabilitating, and reassembling Bridge No. 4 at that new site will be part of the project costs for that new site and will be eligible for federal funding.

(8) Vermont AOT Contract Administration will accelerate review and processing of the contract for construction of the new bridge to replace Bridge No. 4 in order to allow construction to take place in 1997.

[Handwritten signature]
B. Archeological Resources

(1) Prior to construction of a new bridge, Vermont AOT will conduct appropriate identification, evaluation, and data recovery studies of the project's area of environmental impact prior to the initiation of any ground disturbing activities.

(2) If archeological sites are identified that in the opinion of Vermont SHPO and FHWA are eligible for inclusion in the National Register, Vermont AOT will ensure that such sites are avoided and preserved in-place, in accordance with Stipulation B(3) or, treated in accordance with the data recovery stipulation B(4).

(3) FHWA and Vermont AOT will ensure that a plan to preserve archeological sites in place is developed in consultation with the SHPO and reviewed and approved by Vermont SHPO. Unless Vermont SHPO objects within 30 days after receipt of the plan, Vermont AOT shall ensure that the plan is implemented.

(4) If National Register eligible sites cannot be preserved in place, FHWA and Vermont AOT will ensure that a treatment plan is developed in consultation with Vermont SHPO and reviewed and approved by Vermont SHPO. Vermont AOT will submit the plan to Vermont SHPO and the Council for 30 day review. Unless Vermont SHPO and the Council object within 30 days after receipt of the plan, Vermont AOT will ensure that the plan is implemented.

(5) If human remains are discovered during any phase of archeological study, that portion of the study will stop immediately. FHWA and Vermont AOT will notify appropriate authorities and follow state law. If the human remains are Native American, the consulting archeologist will immediately contact Vermont SHPO. A treatment and reburial plan will be

developed by FHWA, Vermont AOT and SHPO in consultation with appropriate Native Americans such as the Abenaki Nation. Vermont AOT will ensure that the treatment and reburial plan is fully implemented. Avoidance and preservation in place is the preferred option for treating human remains.

(6) Final project plans must be submitted to the Vermont AOT archeologist for final concurrence as to historic/archaeological issues at least 60 days before construction begins.

(7) As efforts to relocate the bridge proceed, Vermont SHPO will be given an opportunity to review the proposed new location early in project planning stages. If Vermont AOT's archeologist determines that the new location or sitework related to new use has the potential for affecting archeological resources, he or she shall conduct a field inspection to identify the need for a Phase I study. The need for follow-up Phase I, Phase II, and Phase III studies will be considered in evaluating the feasibility of a site. Funding for archeological studies may be considered as part of project costs.

C. Performance Standards for Archeological Studies

(1) All archeological studies will be completed in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology (48 FR 44734-37), Vermont SHPO Guidelines for Conducting Archeological Studies in Vermont and the Council's Treatment of Archeological Properties. Vermont SHPO will review and approve all scopes of work, treatment plans resulting from this agreement, and drafts of all reports. Precise site-locational data will be provided in a separate report appendix if it appears that public distribution of such information may jeopardize archeological sites.

(2) All studies will be conducted prior to the initiation of any ground disturbing activities.

(3) All archeological studies, including field inspections, will be conducted by an archeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards (48 FR 44748-9).

D. Treatment of Human Remains.

(1) If human remains are accidentally uncovered during construction, Vermont AOT will notify appropriate authorities and observe state law.

(2) In accordance with state laws that protect unmarked burials, if previously unidentified human remains are discovered during construction, that portion of the project will stop

immediately. The remains will be respectfully covered over and the project engineer will immediately consult with FHWA, Vermont AOT's archeologist, and Vermont SHPO. A treatment and reburial plan will be developed by FHWA, Vermont AOT, and Vermont SHPO in consultation with appropriate Native Americans such as the Abenaki Nation. FHWA and Vermont AOT will ensure that the treatment and reburial plan is fully implemented. Avoidance and preservation in place is the preferred option for treating human remains.

E. Borrow Areas, Disposal Sites, Staging Areas

Location maps for borrow areas, disposal sites, and staging areas for this project will be submitted to Vermont AOT's archeologist for review and approval as soon as they become available and at least 10 business days prior to their proposed use. If Vermont AOT determines that any of the areas have the potential for containing archeological sites, Vermont AOT shall notify FHWA and Vermont SHPO. Vermont AOT shall cause a field inspection to be conducted to identify the need for a Phase I Study. The contractor shall be responsible for any necessary follow-up Phase I, Phase II and III studies.

F. Discovery

(1) If previously unidentified archeological sites are discovered during project construction, that portion of the project will stop immediately. The project engineer will immediately contact the Vermont SHPO. No further construction will proceed until the requirements of 36 CFR 800.11 have been satisfied.

(2) FHWA and Vermont AOT will consult with the SHPO to record, document and evaluate national register eligibility of the site and the project's effect on the site, and to design a plan for avoiding or mitigating adverse effects on a potentially eligible site.

G. Dispute Resolution

Should Vermont SHPO object within 30 days to any actions proposed pursuant to this agreement and the objection cannot be resolved, FHWA shall consult with the objecting party to resolve the objection. If FHWA determines that the objection cannot be resolved, FHWA shall request further comments from the Council pursuant to 36 CFR Section 800.6 (b). Any Council comments provided in response to such a request will be taken into account by FHWA in accordance with 36 CFR Section 800.6(c)(2) with reference only to the subject of the dispute. The responsibility

of FHWA to carry out all actions under this agreement, other than those subject to dispute, will remain unchanged.

H. Coordination with Other Federal Agencies

In the event that this project must receive a U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Section 404 permit, the Corps can comply with Section 106 and the 36 CFR 800 regulations by conditioning its permit with the stipulations set forth in this executed agreement. The Corps must notify Vermont SHPO in writing about their intent to meet the terms of this agreement as a condition of their permit and submit a copy of the permit to Vermont SHPO.

I. Project Coordination

(1) If archeological resources have been identified during project planning and they are being treated through whole or partial avoidance, the project's consulting archeologist will conduct a mandatory, on-site briefing for key construction personnel prior to the beginning of construction.

(2) Vermont AOT will ensure that key project and construction personnel are thoroughly familiar with the contents of this agreement.

(3) This agreement will be included in the construction contract for this project.

(4) Vermont AOT must provide a copy of this agreement to the project's consulting archeologist.

=====

Execution of this Memorandum of Agreement by FHWA and Vermont SHPO, its subsequent acceptance by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (the Council), and implementation of its terms, are evidence that FHWA has afforded the Council an opportunity to comment on this project and its effects on historic properties, and the FHWA has taken into account the effects of the undertaking on historic properties.

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

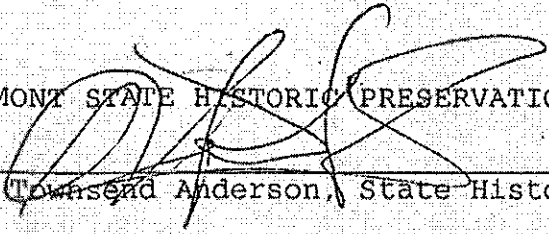
KWD

By: Frederick H. Downs
~~Donald W. [unclear]~~, Division Administrator

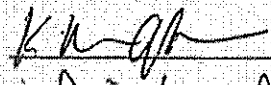
Date: 7/31/96

Frederick H. Downs

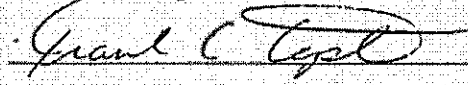
VERMONT STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

By:  Date: 3/18/96
Townsend Anderson, State Historic Preservation Officer

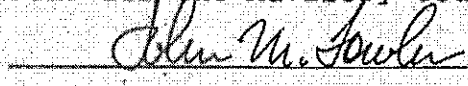
CONCURRENCE by Vermont Agency of Transportation

By:  Date: 6-5-96
Title: Director of Planning

CONCURRENCE by the town of Bethel

By:  Date: 6-15-96
Title: Chairman

ACCEPTED for the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

By:  Date: 10/25/96
Title: Acting D.D. Director

December 11, 2021

Town of Bethel Selectboard
134 South Main Street
Bethel, Vermont 05032

Dear Members of the Selectboard,

I am Kim Kraus, Chair of Bethel Cub Scout Pack 202. I am writing to request a waiver of the rental fee for use of the Town Hall for Cub Scout meetings during the winter months.

During the pandemic, the Pack paused meetings in the fall/winter of 2020. As vaccines became available and the weather improved in the spring of 2021, we resumed meeting outdoors to mitigate COVID risk. This fall, with vaccinations widely available and families looking to participate in positive, fun, and educational activities, the Pack has tripled our membership.

Our Pack Committee would like to continue meeting through the winter months to preserve our consistent meeting schedule and continue to deliver the Scouting program to our members. By consistently participating in a Cub Scouting program, kids can lay the foundation upon which they will build their personal character by developing self-confidence, ethics, and academic, leadership, and citizenship skills. The Town Hall could provide us with a centralized, consistent indoor meeting place.

The Pack meets Saturdays at 1 pm for about an hour and a half to 2 hours. We are requesting to meet at the Town Hall and have the rental fee waived from January 8 through at least March 26, unless it is already scheduled by another party. Community service, and earning your keep are valuable ideals that Scouting strives to teach. The Pack members are willing to provide a service to the Town for the privilege of using the facility. We will make sure to pick up after our meetings and assist with some general light cleaning of the facility.

The Town of Bethel has a tradition of supporting Scouting for members of our community. Troop 202 met in the basement of the current town office building until its membership declined. Pack 202 is excited to be bringing Scouting back to families in our area.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Kim Kraus
Pack 202 Committee Chair

Mel Washburn
President, Bethel Rotary Club
Pack 202 Chartered
Organization Representative

Dominic Yetz
Pack 202 Cubmaster

Selectboard Meeting - Monday, December 13, 2021 - 6 pm – Bethel Town Hall

Zoom Link - Meeting ID: 864 8530 9362 Passcode: 972049 Telephone: 1-646-558-8656

Present: Lindley Brainard, Dave Eddy, Chris Jarvis, Gene Kraus, Paul Vallee, Therese Kirby, Julie Kraus, David Fair, Jesse Plotsky, Jamie Daniel, Owen Daniel-McCarter, Leonard Meek, and filmed by Orca Media.

Chris Jarvis called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. The Selectboard members agreed, that any future agenda items they would like discussed, would be given to the Town Manager by noon the Wednesday prior to a meeting. This would allow the Town Manager to include the information in the packet and allow Selectboard members time to review the information. They agreed their will be times things need to be added at the last minute (liquor license, grant approval, etc.), but they would be added under Other Business.

Motion was made by Paul Vallee to approve the agenda, seconded by Lindley Brainard, and passed unanimously.

Public Comment**

Jesse Polotsky said the Equity & Inclusion Committee would be hosting community conversations around speeding on 1/25 at 6 pm and 1/23 at 3 pm. They will publish the Zoom link and if they want to hold a hybrid meeting, Therese asked them to reach out to Kelly Hill to check the schedule for Town Hall availability.

Chris Jarvis noted there has been confusion around the subject of a constable. The time constraints on a constable has grown substantially. If the constable has 20 hours in the community, they also need time to prepare paper work for each ticket issued, or maybe appear in court. It is not possible to provide adequate community presence in 20 hours when a majority of that time is spent on paperwork. Additionally, it is difficult to find someone for the salary offered when they can be hired full-time somewhere else. That is why the Selectboard looked at various funding/schedule options when preparing this budget.

FY 2022/2023 Budget Discussion

The Human Services budget had not arrived in time to be included in this draft of the proposed budget, but will be less than the figure in this draft. Current draft budget shows revenues up 5.45%; expenses up 1.44% and the amount to be raised by taxes is up .60%. Chris said in the past, budgets were put together but not always realistic. In the last four years, they have worked hard to create realistic budgets that are adhered to by all departments. The Selectboards has discussed sticking below a 3% increase, and they have stayed below that for the last two years. The town has many needs (Town garage building, roof on Town Office, roads need repair, fire house repairs, unanticipated spending, etc.) and new ones coming up. We are constantly looking for grants and matching funds to help. If there are monies left over at the end of the budget year, it is left as an undesignated fund balance. Last year was the first time Bethel had an undesignated fund balance in many years. Each year we improve processes and financial planning. Budgets are reviewed regularly. Eventually, Gene noted we will be need to deal with climate change issues and it is unknown what dollars will be needed and available. Timing is an issue regarding the tax rate as the Grand List is finalized in April, after the budget is finalized and voted on. The Board should be able to finalize the budget at the next meeting. If we hold at less than 1% increase in the amount to be raised by taxes, Chris's plan would be to take 2% and put it into capital roads and capital improvements. (Later in the meeting a discussion of terminating the interlocal agreement with Royalton to run the transfer station, will affect some change in the draft budget as well.). Therese expects to have VSERS retirement numbers this week to include in the updated budget as well.

Lindley agreed to reach out to Yestermorrow regarding repointing the Town Hall and the possibility of working on our stone wall.

Draft 2022 Town Meeting Warning

The Town Meeting Warning is still in a working draft. Several items are in the draft that need to be finalized. (Constable, Australian ballot, cannabis and climate coordinator, etc.). The Selectboard has decided not to go forward with the cannabis issue this year, as there are still many issues to be firmed up. This issue will be reviewed again next year. Regarding the Australian ballot question, the Selectboard was divided on this. While it was felt the budget should not be on the warning, there was division on using the Australian ballot for the election of officers. Chris Jarvis commented of the 237 towns in Vermont, 43 towns vote Australian ballot for all topics and almost all are larger communities like Burlington and Williston. 74 towns vote from the floor. The Selectboard included voting via Australian ballot for the election of officers on the Town Meeting Warning. Any decision on this issue would not go into effect until the next Town Meeting (3/2023).

Interlocal Contract for Operation of the Bethel/Royalton Solid Waste Management Facility Annual decision on contract term.

Once a year the Interlocal Contract comes up for renewal, and it is automatically renewed unless we choose to terminate, which must be decided, so we can provide notice to Royalton prior to January 1. If either town pulls out, residents can still take trash to the Transfer Station, as each Town would remain in the White River Alliance and pay the annual alliance fee. There have been discussions/meetings with the Royalton Selectboard in the past about the facility. Currently Bethel staff handles the finances and the employee benefits, as the Transfer Station is run under Bethel's tax id number. Motion made by Chris Jarvis to provide notice to the Town of Royalton, of Bethel's intent to terminate current agreement, seconded by Gene Kraus. Vote was unanimous.

Minutes and Communications

Town Managers Report

Tetrault's storm water issue has been moved to the 1/10/22 meeting, as we are waiting for information from the Town's attorney, Wayne Elliott (Aldrich & Elliott) let us know the State of Vermont is funding an additional \$240,000 in subsidy to be applied to our \$2.8 million dollar water project, discussion of Right of First Refusal Termination, and the Transfer Station's Facility Manager gave their notice, and their last day will be in March 2022.

Approval Selectboard Minutes from 11/22/2021

Dave Eddy moved to approve the Selectboard Minutes from 11/22/2021 with corrections, Lindley Brainard seconded, and the motion passed.

Motion made by Lindley Brainard to adjourn at 8:44 pm, seconded by Paul Vallee, and the motion passed.

Submitted by Julie Kraus

Therese Kirby

From: Victoria Littlefield <vlittlefield@trorc.org>
Sent: Monday, December 6, 2021 11:38 AM
Subject: Regional Emergency Management Committee Appointments

Good morning,

In July 2021, regional Local Emergency Planning Committees were replaced with one statewide Local Emergency Planning Committee. As noted in statute (Sec. 12. 20 V.S.A. § 6) the Emergency Management Division will establish Regional Emergency Management Committees which “shall coordinate emergency planning and preparedness activities to improve their regions’ ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from all disasters.”

As directed by the Legislature, the Regional Emergency Management Committee will consist of two voting members from each town as follows:

- The local Emergency Management Director or designee, and
- A representative from the local emergency services community to be appointed by your executive or legislative branch

The local Emergency Management Director or emergency services representative may designate the other voting member in their city or town to serve as their proxy, but must notify the Regional Planning Commission in writing prior to the meeting in which the proxy designation is made. This proxy designation allows that individual to represent 2 individuals for the purposes of achieving quorum.

The Regional Emergency Management Committee may also have nonvoting members to include public or private individuals or organizations interested in emergency planning and preparedness.

Your Emergency Management Director is *automatically* a member of the REMC and we already have their contact information. We are asking your executive or legislative branch to identify the second member, which must be a representative of the local emergency services community. Please reply to this email by **January 31, 2022** with your municipality’s second appointee’s name, address, phone number, and email and by whom they were appointed (Town Manager, Selectboard, etc.).

Note that we will be asking the Regional Emergency Management Committee representatives to be confirmed each year with submittal of your Local Emergency Management Plan.

The initial meeting of our Regional Emergency Management Committee will take place on March 17, 2022. Do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have questions or wish to discuss further.

Sincerely,
Tory

Victoria (Tory) Littlefield | Regional Planner



128 King Farm Road | Woodstock, VT 05091
802-457-3188 x3005

trorc.org | [facebook](#) | [youtube](#)

This email is not a legal opinion and is part of the public domain.

David Aldighetti
Agreed

Bethel Development Review Board
Tuesday, December 8, 2021
Draft Minutes of Meeting

Board Members Present: Eric Benson, Penny Griffin, Charles Washburn and via zoom: Keith Bollman, Brad Andrews, Owen Daniel-McCarter

Public Present: Alex Riesterer, Applicant

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM for a public hearing regarding a Conditional Use request for structures located in the River Corridor. The property is located at 672 Camp Brook Road, ID# 02-008.000, Map #09-016.000. The property is located in the Medium density Development District as well as in the River Corridor. The return receipts from the abutting property owners for the notice of this hearing were included in the applicants file. Per State Statute, a copy of the application was forwarded to John Broker-Campbell, Regional Floodplain Manager of the Department of Environmental Conservation and his response received. A copy of the letter is included in the file.

Mr. Riesterer was present and was asked to describe the reason for his request for the variance. He explained that his desire is utilize an existing 13 foot x 17 foot bermed concrete foundation for storage by capping the structure with either a gambrel or standard gable roof structure. The roof structure would be bolted to the concrete foundation to prevent detachment in a possible flood event. Additionally, he also wishes to rebuild a section of the currently uninhabited dwelling on the property, also located in the River Corridor, that would not include adding to the existing footprint. The storage shed structure is about 40 feet from the top of stream bank and the existing dwelling is about 60 feet away. It was observed that the immediate area around the structures had not seen high water during the past 50+ years. Mr Riesterer also plans to install an in-ground leach field septic system, however, the current design appears to predate the current state standards.

The Chair then read through the River Corridor sections found in Section 4.12, the five Conditional Use requirements in Section 6.8.1 of the Bethel Unified Bylaw.

There being no other questions, Mr. Riesterer was advised of the 45 day requirement for the DRB to render a decision, as well as the 30 day appeal period if the variance were to be approved. The public hearing was then closed at 7:25 and the applicant departed. The Board then entered into deliberative session.

The Board exited deliberative session at 7:40 PM. A motion was made by O. Daniel-McCarter and seconded by C. Washburn to waive the 50' setback requirement for the existing shed structure. The motion passed on a unanimous vote. A motion was then made by K. Blooman and seconded by P. Griffin to approve the request with the following conditions:

- 1) The proposed roof structure must be adequately anchored to the concrete foundation of the shed structure to prevent lateral movement;
- 2) Prior to occupancy of the dwelling , a current state approved septic system is to be installed.

The motion passed on a unanimous vote.

The meeting was then adjourned at 7:453 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Benson

Class 4 Road Committee Meeting Minutes

Saturday, October 23, 2021 (Continuance of Meetings on July 10, and August 7, 2021).

Topic: Continuance of July 10, 2021 committee meeting for evaluation and assessment of roads in the vicinity of so-called Charlie Wilson Road, TH #83, and other road-beds in the Northwestern Section of Town started on Saturday July 10, 2021. The Bethel Class 4 Road committee established a schedule of road evaluations to assess Class 4 roads by sections of the Town base map. The first section was delineated as the northwestern corner locale of the Town of Bethel, beginning with so-called Charlie Wilson Rd, TH #83, and adjacent or nearby roads and trails between Camp Brook Road and Gilead Brook Road. Town Class 4 Road files were chosen providing background information for roads and road segments for; Byam to Gilead, Segments 30-38; Pond/Herraden Road, Segments 39-52-52a; Byam Road, Segments 36-38-119; Camp Brook to Byam, Segments 38-59; Charlie Wilson Road, Segments 44-49; and Original "Camp Brook Road", Segments 55-56-57-58-60-61. (Segment numbers refer to the Bethel Class 4 Committee road map for identification and alignment of roads with public records). In October the committee reviewed two additional roads, also in this region of Town, the so-called "Thresher Road" section of Gilead Brook Road (TH 7) and the Class 4 section of Wright Road (TH 19), to specifically assess water drainage issues and related road-bed alterations.

9:00 am - The committee met at 4240 Gilead Brook Road, on Saturday October 23, 2021 to continue assessment and evaluation of Bethel Town Class 4 roads in the Northwestern section of Town, including the remote sections of Gilead Brook and Wright Roads. Alex Riesterer, Chris Fors, and Carl Russell were present in quorum for the committee, with Derrick Wrigh and Brian Wright present as public attendees.

9:00 am - Public Comment - Committee received commentary and supporting documents from Brian Wright concerning management of ground water flow in the road-beds of both Town Roads. Comments and documentation were also received from Derrick Wright concerning potential water quality and erosion impact on his adjacent farmland as a result of road bed alterations to address ground water flow on both Town Roads.

9:15 am - Committee reviewed the condition and features of the NUTS (Not Up To Standards) segment of TH #7, the 0.46 mile so-called Thresher Road portion of Gilead Brook Road.

10:45am - Committee reviewed the condition and features of the Class 4 section of Wright Road TH#19.

Observations and Findings resulting from the evaluation of this subset of Town Roads

The committee recorded specific observations for each road section that was visited, and added them to each individual road folders in the Class 4 Road Files, in the Bethel Town Offices. While each roadway had unique features and concerns, several significant concerns were identified that are shared across all roads evaluated during this project. Broadly, the issues were identified as;

- 1) **Road-bed Maintenance** - There has been no standard set for evaluation or compliance to Town/State ordinances or regulations, so that in many cases problems have only gotten worse. Unattended impacts have gone on for decades, requiring adjacent owners, or public road users, to try to remediate potential problems themselves. This has led to inadequate ditching, grading, draining, and stream-crossings, allowing road-beds to continually degrade. With state-wide emphasis being placed on backcountry recreation, these roads are not in satisfactory condition to meet the public interest without further critical failure.
- 2) **Right-Of-Way Location** - There are surveys recorded in Town records for each of these roads, most of which were recorded during the early 1800's. Benchmarks for the origins of these road surveys are often trees, or are described by geographical details that no longer exist. Exact legal locations of the ROW's are unidentifiable, and the only guidance available for users is the physical evidence of historic use, which is inconsistent and unverifiable. Without clear markers defining the legal ROW, many of these roads have sections where unsupervised/unauthorized road-bed relocation may extend outside of the limits of legal corridor, onto private land.
- 3) **Water Quality Issues** - Soil erosion has caused sunken road-beds, with no way for water to flow, except within the travel-way, leading to further erosion. Inadequate, or non-existent, culverts and stream-crossings create water quality issues that can effect watershed health, and cause undesirable impacts of adjacent landowners.
- 4) **Public Use and Awareness** - Most of these roads are used regularly by back-country travelers with ATV's, 4x4 vehicles, motorcycles, bicycles, and pedestrians. There are many sources available to the public where these roads are depicted on a map, but there is no consistency or validation across these databases. What is depicted on one map may not be on another, the actual location of the public ROW may not be where it is depicted to be, and in some cases what is depicted is no longer a public ROW. The unsupervised and unguided use of these roads is only made worse by the lack of clarity around road status and location.

Class 4 Road Committee Meeting Minutes

Saturday, October 23, 2021 (Continuance of Meetings on July 10, and August 7, 2021). (Cont.)

Gilead Brook and Wright Roads - During evaluation of Gilead Brook Road and Wright Road, the committee heard concerns from adjacent landowners and users of the roads. While the concerns of the parties were specific to the use and maintenance of those two road-beds, the committee agrees that they are consistent with those listed above that were found on others. Documents supporting the individual concerns were accepted by the committee and are submitted here as findings of the potential conflicts and complications that can arise from the current, and historic, inattention to Class 4/Unidentified/Ancient Town Highways.

The specific issues of the current conflict on these two roads are related to historic road-bed maintenance, water management, and erosion. The committee observed sunken road-beds where historical use combined with heavy rain events have resulted in travel-ways that are below grade for most if not all of the observed sections. Some sections are as deep as 2-3 feet below historical grade, while most of the road-beds are below grade enough to make water dispersal difficult or impossible.

There was also current and historical road-bed alterations evident on both roads. Both roads show historical improvements including ditching, grading, and the installation of culverts, that were implemented by individuals responsible for logging or construction projects on adjacent or nearby properties. Some of these improvements are still functioning adequately, while others have failed and water issues persist.

There are some water-bars established during 2021 on both roads to remove water from the travel-beds. Because of sub-grade road-beds, these water-bars utilized established farm field access points, which appear to be the only places along the roads where water can be effectively diverted without significant excavation. While the field access points do offer a solution without heavy equipment, they also create erosion hazard in locations where diverted water has never been dispersed before.

There are additional complicating factors associated with both of these roads. When reviewing the so-called Thresher Road section of Gilead Brook Road, it was determined that its legal status is actually Class 3 - Not Up To Standards, which makes it functionally a Class 4 road, but impacts from road-bed alteration may need to be considered differently than on Class 4 roads. Also, a section of Wright Road is similarly Class 3, but maintained as Class 4, but the impacts from water and road-bed alterations are limited to the Class 4 section.

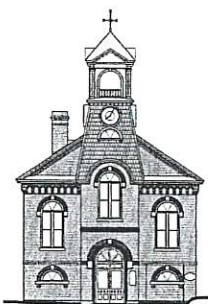
11:45 am - Motion to Adjourn was made by Alex Riesterer, seconded by Chris Fors, and passed unanimously.

Recommendations - Included in Report to Selectboard November 5, 2021.

The committee agrees that the cocktail of issues identified through evaluation of this subset of Class 4 roads are likely to be present on the majority of such roads throughout the Town. In order to address any of these issues, on any one roadway, a more comprehensive review and planning process is necessary, so that policies and budgeting can assure consistent and effective resolution of the potential conflicts between public use and private ownership.

Using Gilead Brook Road and Wright Road as examples of issues that persist on Bethel Class 4 roads, the committee agrees that the current conflict arises from decades of inattention that has resulted in untenable issues that exceed the resources of private landowners or users of these public Rights-Of Way. If the Town is to take any action to remediate the road-bed alterations, or to improve water management on these roads, then there should be a more comprehensive plan and procedures in place, so that there can be a consistent approach across all Class 4 roads. Setting a precedent with one road, is likely to create demand/need for similar action on other roads. While there is evidence to suggest that many, if not all, of Bethel's Class 4 roads require similar attention and improvements, historically funding has been inadequate.

Included in the potential expenses related to the issues listed in this report would be; material, infrastructure, and equipment time to raise road beds and to divert/disperse/manage water; legal and surveying expenses to research road surveys and private property deeds in order to establish jurisdiction over use and maintenance of road-beds; remediation of water quality/erosion impacts on private property, either from direct use of road-beds relocated onto private property, or from impacts on adjacent ownerships caused by diverted water; regulatory personnel to implement and enforce current or future policies and ordinances; public education campaign, signage, and collaboration with agencies and organizations promoting or publicizing outdoor recreational use of these remote travel corridors; more in-depth professional reconnaissance and evaluation of Class 4 roads considering the viability of long-term use under the broad categories listed in this report.



Town of Bethel, Vermont

Incorporated
1779

FYI
134 South Main St.
Bethel, Vermont 05032
Phone: 802-234-9340

December 15, 2021

Town of Royalton
Attn: Selectboard Chair Chris Noble
PO Box 680
South Royalton, VT 05068

Dear Chris,

At the December 13, 2021 Bethel Selectboard meeting, they voted unanimously to notify you of their intent to terminate the current Interlocal Contract for Operation of the Bethel/Royalton Solid Waste Management Facility.

Per item 16 of the contract, the Town of Bethel is providing the Town of Royalton with notice not less than 180 days before the end of the current term of our contract. This requires the Bethel and Royalton Selectboards to meet, or officially appoint one member of each Selectboard to meet and negotiate on the behalf of the appropriate Selectboard.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or would like to schedule a time to meet, please contact me at 802-234-9340 or Selectboard Chair Chris Jarvis. I know he left you a voicemail this week.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Therese Kirby".

Therese Kirby
Town Manager

Cc: Selectboard

FYI

TAX YEAR	Town	Municipal Rate	Education Rate	Total Tax Rate	Median Home Value 2020	Median Home Value 2012	Median Tax Bill	Rank by Rate (high to low)	Rank by Bill (high to low)	Rank by Median Home Value
2022	Norwich	0.5733	1.8625	2.4358	\$ 519,121	\$ 484,000	\$ 12,644.75	9	1	1
2022	Woodstock	0.7645	1.7876	2.5521	\$ 441,206	\$ 372,000	\$ 11,260.02	7	2	2
2022	Pomfret	0.3776	1.5031	1.8807	\$ 397,483	\$ 370,000	\$ 7,475.46	24	3	3
2022	Weston	0.5244	1.6063	2.1307	\$ 349,089	\$ 325,000	\$ 7,438.04	16	4	5
2022	Baltimore	1.9644	1.5623	3.5267	\$ 205,105	\$ 209,000	\$ 7,233.44	2	5	16
2022	West Windsor	0.4827	1.4576	1.9403	\$ 356,267	\$ 331,000	\$ 6,912.65	22	6	4
2022	Barnard	0.4851	1.7326	2.2177	\$ 310,199	\$ 288,000	\$ 6,879.28	13	7	8
2022	Plymouth	0.39	1.6663	2.0563	\$ 323,040	\$ 301,000	\$ 6,642.67	19	8	7
2022	Andover	0.48	1.5009	1.9809	\$ 330,629	\$ 308,000	\$ 6,549.43	21	9	6
2022	Hartford	1.0376	1.6323	2.6699	\$ 236,281	\$ 220,000	\$ 6,308.47	4	10	11
2022	Hartland	0.5913	1.7367	2.328	\$ 267,252	\$ 248,000	\$ 6,221.63	12	11	9
2022	Windsor	1.6718	1.415	3.0868	\$ 177,211	\$ 165,000	\$ 5,470.15	3	12	23
2022	Reading	0.5191	1.5004	2.0195	\$ 262,329	\$ 245,000	\$ 5,297.73	20	13	10
2022	Sharon	0.7672	1.6764	2.4436	\$ 212,489	\$ 198,000	\$ 5,192.38	8	14	14
2022	Chester	0.8554	1.5041	2.3595	\$ 219,052	\$ 204,000	\$ 5,168.53	11	15	13
2022	Springfield	2.0352	1.7004	3.7356	\$ 137,134	\$ 137,000	\$ 5,122.78	1	16	24
2022	Royalton	0.7353	1.6758	2.4111	\$ 202,439	\$ 189,000	\$ 4,881.01	10	17	17
2022	Bethel	1.0449	1.5636	2.6085	\$ 183,414	\$ 180,000	\$ 4,784.35	5	18	21
2022	Weatherfield	0.6126	1.9482	2.5608	\$ 183,414	\$ 181,000	\$ 4,696.87	6	19	22
2022	Bridgewater	0.4251	1.6744	2.0995	\$ 221,573	\$ 206,000	\$ 4,651.93	17	20	12
2022	Stockbridge	0.5284	1.614	2.1424	\$ 206,131	\$ 192,000	\$ 4,416.15	15	21	15
2022	Rochester	0.5796	1.5886	2.1682	\$ 201,413	\$ 188,000	\$ 4,367.04	14	22	18
2022	Cavendish	0.5771	1.5129	2.09	\$ 188,491	\$ 175,000	\$ 3,939.46	18	23	20
2022	Ludlow	0.3132	1.6207	1.9339	\$ 196,433	\$ 221,000	\$ 3,798.82	23	24	19

*Prepared by Tom Marsh
Windsor VT Town Manager

FYI

We cannot finalize
Warning until the
vote has happened at
the State

Town Meeting 2022

The COVID-19 pandemic first hit Vermont in mid-March 2020, curtailing or shutting down many municipal services mere weeks after most towns and cities held their annual meetings for the year. Later in 2020, the legislature passed bills both temporary and permanent to help municipalities hold elections and conduct public and annual meetings. There have been so many different pieces of legislation over the last 20 months that it is understandably confusing where communities stand as we face 2022 and the annual meetings in March.

Very early in the 2022 session, the legislature needs to establish the ground rules for Town Meeting Day 2022, as they did in 2019 and 2020 when they enacted temporary measures that provided flexibility for municipalities to conduct their annual meetings. However, because those temporary provisions will sunset at the end of this year, the legislature needs to renew those measures for town meetings and special meetings in 2022.

During the first week of the session, leadership in both Government Operations committees promised to take up a bill that would:

- authorize legislative bodies to apply Australian ballot systems to annual meetings in 2022;
- authorize legislative bodies to move annual meetings to a potentially safer date later in the year; and
- authorize remote informational meetings for annual meetings.

Due to the urgency of the issue, the provisions of this first bill are limited to town meetings in 2022. Municipalities have voiced strong support for reauthorizing open meeting laws that had previously permitted officials to conduct fully remote meetings provided they met certain criteria for participation and transparency. VLCT hopes the legislature will support granting that authority again as the pandemic rolls into its second full year. (It is worth noting that the new Climate Action Plan endorses making remote meetings a permanent feature of the Open Meeting Law to enhance transparency, encourage participation, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.) This authorization will not be included in this first bill; however, we expect it will appear in another bill soon to follow.

Have your municipality and its constituents benefited from holding remote meetings during the pandemic? Did participation increase? If so, please let your legislators know how helpful that authority was and how it will continue to be this winter as new variants of the coronavirus inevitably reach Vermont.