

Town of Bethel  
Selectboard Agenda  
Monday, January 23, 2023  
**6:30 pm** @ Bethel Town Hall & via Zoom

[Zoom Link](#) Meeting ID: 820 0143 1430 Passcode: 091963 Dial: 1-646-558-8656

**6:30 pm:** Call meeting to order and approve agenda.

**Public Comment**

Dana Cole-Levesque request to be appointed to the Development Review Board (DRB)

**Motion to appoint**

Dietre Feeney's letter of resignation from Recreation Committee

**Motion to accept with thanks**

Second Class Liquor License approval request for Slow & Low Groceries

**Motion to approve**

Certificate of Highway Mileage for year ending February 10, 2023

**Motion to approve, with no changes**

FY 2023-2024 Final Budget Discussion

**Motion to approve**

2023 Town Meeting Warning and discussion of H.42

**Motion to approve**

Discussion and Adoption of Declaration of Intent and Necessity Resolution for \$2.5M Phase II water project

**Motion to adopt**

Minutes and Communications:

1. Town Manager's Report
2. Selectboard Minutes from 1/9/2023
3. Other Communications -
4. Any Other Business Necessary to Come Before the Board

Executive session:

Motion to enter executive session to discuss the evaluation of an employee per 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(3).

### Selectboard Meeting Agenda Notes:

1. You may appoint Dana to the DRB, but you may not yet appoint him to the PC. The PC needs to vote on that first and then send the request to you. We did not have a quorum at our last meeting, so we could not vote.
2. There is a new process with liquor licenses, in that you no longer have to sign them. You just make a motion, which is recorded in the minutes, then Pam will electronically enter your approval/denial in the new online portal.
3. There are currently no changes to the Certificate of Highway Mileage. Hopefully we will take care of a couple of discontinuances or downgrading this summer.
4. This is the final budget discussion, as you must sign the Town Meeting Warning on Monday night. The only change that has happened since your last review, is the County Tax number was provided to us, and that was a slight increase.
5. Penny Griffin (Spaulding Press) said she heard the cost of postage is going up and wondered if Bethel would like to stop bulk mailing the Town Report. In order to do this (next year) we need to vote on it at Town Meeting. The question would be worded as follows: "Shall the town provide notice of the availability of the annual report by postcard, mailed to all registered voters at least 30 days before the annual meeting instead of mailing the report to the voters of the town pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 1682(a)? Since this just came to my attention today, I have printed two different Town Meeting Warnings. One with the language on, and one with it off. It cost us \$373 to mail them last year and we expect that to increase by \$200. I have also included in your packet, a copy of H.42 which gives Selectboard's the authority to go to Australian Ballot again this year, instead of meeting in person. If you do that, we cannot vote on the article to elect Town Officials by Australian ballot, as that must be a floor vote. Jean Burnham has once again volunteered to coordinate pies, baked goods and coffee for Town Meeting. We are also putting out an email asking all committees to have a presence that day, so they can update residents on what they are working on.
6. Adoption of the Declaration of Intent and Necessity Resolution for the \$2.5 Phase II water project. I have included a page which shows rate increases in water and sewer for the past 5 years. Over the past 5 years, water has averaged an increase of 4.26% - and that includes the bond payment for the \$2.8M project. Sewer has averaged an increase of 1.48%. Aldrich & Elliott and I met with Amy Galford of the State of Vermont Drinking Water. As I told you before, when the State issued the Drinking Water Intended Use Plan (IUP), they divided Bethel into two projects. The Gaiko wellhouse, Krystal Drive Pump Station and AC mains are valued at \$750,000. It has not yet been determined if we are eligible for any disadvantage subsidy. The second project is the Distribution Mains. That project is valued at \$850,000, with \$450,000 eligible for 100% lead replacement. They are currently offering us a 30-year loan at 2% interest, plus a 2% admin fee. At the time of our meeting, Amy did not have current budget number or the correct number of users. That information has now been provided to her, and we are waiting to hear back from her. We are in hopes that information changes our eligibility for the disadvantage subsidy. A stumbling block could be that the local median household income (MHI) for Bethel increased from \$51,471 to \$62,188. While it is great that residents are making more money, it could affect our subsidy. The subsidy is based on the MHI, and the amount of our water budgets. I plan on including a copy of the water bond informational mailer in Town Report and having them printed and mailed prior to Town Meeting. We will also be discussing it at all meetings prior to Town Meeting. There are ways that we can split up the bond payment, so some goes to water users and some is paid

by taxes. For example, we could look at the value of all of the road work and hydrant installation and have the tax payers pay for that portion of the bond. The project will take a construction season to complete, then there will be a one-year warranty period, so we have time to evaluate the loan/subsidy package. Richard and I just completed work on our draft of the water budget for Town Report. At this time, we don't see the water budget increasing, so there would be no rate increase this July 2023.

January 10, 2023

**Dana Cole-Levesque**  
(802) 342-3278

1369 Lilliesville Brook Rd  
Bethel, VT 05032  
danaginna@gmail.com

Chris Jarvis, Chair  
Bethel Select Board  
Bethel Town Offices  
134 South Main Street  
Bethel, VT 05032

Dear Chris,

Please accept my application to serve as a member of the Bethel Planning Commission and Development Review Board.

My wife, Virginia, and I have owned property in Bethel since 1976. Our two children attended Bethel schools and our daughter, Zoe, has returned to Bethel to help raise her family with her husband.

I have professional experience in zoning and planning, land use development, and administrative procedures. I would like to use my experience to help the community plan its future.

Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Have a great 2023!



Dana Cole-Levesque

c: Therese Kirby, Town Manager

195 River St.  
Bethel, VT 05032

Town of Bethel  
134 S. Main St.,  
Bethel, VT 05032

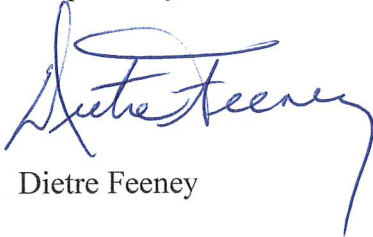
January 17, 2023

Dear Select Board Members,

After some consideration I have decided it's time to step down as a member of the Recreation Committee. I will continue to serve the Town of Bethel as the Pool Director for the 2023 summer season. I am currently the administrator of the Bethel Recreation Center Facebook page. I can continue to serve in this capacity for now, if that is your desire, as it is a primary way for me to communicate with the public regarding pool closures, pool activities, etc., during the summer months.

I am happy to have played a role in bringing more outdoor recreation opportunities to the town while serving the past seven years on the committee.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dietre Feeney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Dietre Feeney



**Application ID:** DLL - Application - 16807  
**Application for:** Second Class License  
**Category of Business:** Second Class

**Business/ Entity Information**

**Business/ Entity Name:** Slow & Low Groceries, Inc.  
**Business ID:** 0009499  
**Business Address:** 183 main st  
Bethel VT 05032  
**Entity Type:** Business Corporation  
**Phone:** 802-234-9010  
**Management Type if LLC:**  
**Email:**

**People Information**

**Location/ Premises Detail**

**Location Name:** Bethel Central Market  
**Do you lease this Premises:**  
**Location Address:** 183 main st  
Bethel VT 05032  
**Health License:** Food:9341  
Lodging:  
**Local Jurisdiction/ Town Clerk:** Bethel - Pamela Brown  
**Vermont Tax Department:** MRT-10903973

**Foundational License (if applicable)**

**License Type:**  
**License Number:**  
**Licensee Name:**  
**License Status:**  
**Licensee Address:**  
**License Start Date:**  
**License End Date:**

**Documents Attached**

Name	Document Type	Assosicated With
------	---------------	------------------



**Application ID:** DLL - Application - 16801  
**Application for:** Tobacco License  
**Category of Business:** Tobacco

### Business/ Entity Information

**Business/ Entity Name:** Slow & Low Groceries, Inc.  
**Business ID:** 0009499  
**Business Address:**  
,  
,  
**Entity Type:** Business Corporation  
**Management Type if LLC:**  
**Phone:**  
**Email:**

### People Information

### Location/ Premises Detail

**Location Name:** Do you lease this Premises:  
**Location Address:** Health License:  
, Food:9341  
, Lodging:  
**Local Jurisdiction/ Town Clerk:** Vermont Tax Department:  
MRT-10903973

### Foundational License (if applicable)

**License Type:** License Number:  
**Licensee Name:** License Status:  
**Licensee Address:** License Start Date:  
, License End Date:  
,

### Documents Attached

Name	Document Type	Assosicated With
------	---------------	------------------

District 4  
 Certcode 1404-0

**CERTIFICATE OF HIGHWAY MILEAGE  
 YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 10, 2023**

Fill out form, make and file a copy with the Town Clerk, and submit the Mileage Certificate on or before February 20, 2023 to: Vermont Agency of Transportation, Division of Policy, Planning and Intermodal Development, Mapping Section via email to: aot.mileagecertificates@vermont.gov or if necessary via mail to: VTrans PPAID - Mapping Section, 219 North Main Street, Barre VT 05641.

We, the members of the legislative body of **BETHEL** in **WINDSOR** County on an oath state that the mileage of highways, according to Vermont Statutes Annotated, Title 19, Section 305, added 1985, is as follows:

**PART I - CHANGES TOTALS - Please fill in and calculate totals.**

Town Highways	Previous Mileage	Added Mileage	Subtracted Mileage	Total	Scenic Highways
Class 1	0.892			0.892	0.000
Class 2	11.940			11.94	0.000
Class 3	56.22			56.	0.000
State Highway	14.280			14.28	0.000
<b>Total</b>	<b>83.332</b>			<b>83.332</b>	<b>0.000</b>
* Class 1 Lane	0.000			0	
* Class 4	35.00			35	0.000
* Legal Trail	0.00			0	

\* Mileage for Class 1 Lane, Class 4, and Legal Trail classifications are NOT included in total.

**PART II - INFORMATION AND DESCRIPTION OF CHANGES SHOWN ABOVE.**

1. **NEW HIGHWAYS:** Please attach Selectmen's "Certificate of Completion and Opening".

2. **DISCONTINUED:** Please attach SIGNED copy of proceedings (minutes of meeting).

3. **RECLASSIFIED/REMEASURED:** Please attach SIGNED copy of proceedings (minutes of meeting).

4. **SCENIC HIGHWAYS:** Please attach a copy of order designating/discontinuing Scenic Highways.

IF THERE ARE NO CHANGES IN MILEAGE: Place an X in the box and sign below.

**PART III - SIGNATURES - PLEASE SIGN.**

Signatures of Selectmen/ Aldermen/ Trustees:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of T/C/V Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Filed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please sign ORIGINAL and return it for Transportation signature.

AGENCY OF TRANSPORTATION APPROVAL: Signed copy will be returned to T/C/V Clerk.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Representative, Agency of Transportation

DATE:

Approved by Selectboard 1/23/23

	BUDGET FY 21-22	Actual FY 21-22	Budget FY 22-23	Actual as of 11/1/2022	Proposed FY 23-24	NOTES:
<b>LOCAL REVENUES</b>						
10-6-00-10.01 Dog Tax	704	1,426	1,300		1,300	
10-6-00-10.02 Local Licenses	705	810			0	
10-6-00-10.05 Town Clerk Fees	17,200	27,213	27,600	32	27,600	
10-6-00-10.08 Recreation Area Fees	5,780	9,594	8,575	6,924	6,270	50 passes @ \$80 + 2270 in camps
10-6-00-10.16 Zoning Application Fees	1,450	1,830	3,075	1,365	1,830	
10-6-00-10.18 Overweight Permit Fees	510	490	530	10	500	
10-6-00-10.19 Trustees Of Public Funds		4,675				
10-6-00-10.22 Proceeds of BRTS Sale				54,560	54,560	5 years
10-6-00-10.24 Town Hall Rental Fees	1,000	757	1,500	210	1,000	
<b>TOTAL - Local Revenues</b>	<b>27,349</b>	<b>46,795</b>	<b>42,580</b>	<b>63,101</b>	<b>93,060</b>	<b>118.55%</b>
<b>MISCELLANEOUS LOCAL REVENUE</b>						
10-6-00-21.00 Misc. Local Revenue						
10-6-00-21.02 Reimb. Tax Sale Exp.		5,046			3,000	
10-6-00-21.50 Other	500	931	1,100	993	1,100	
<b>Total - Miscellaneous Local Revenue</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>5,977</b>	<b>1,100</b>	<b>993</b>	<b>4,100</b>	<b>272.73%</b>
<b>STATE AND FEDERAL REVENUES</b>						
10-6-00-25.01 Highways - Class I	10,380	10,379	10,510	2,664	10,656	
10-6-00-25.02 Highways - Class II	51,024	51,024	51,662	13,102	52,408	
10-6-00-25.03 Highways - Class III	89,264	89,258	90,372	22,917	91,668	
10-6-00-25.08 State Owned Lands	1,750	1,733	1,733	0	1,733	
10-6-00-25.09 Traffic Tickets	3,550	3,105	4,000	185	2,500	
10-6-00-25.10 Fish & Game (Fish Hatch.)	185	171	355	0	355	
10-6-00-25.11 P.I.L.O.T payment (State)	1,183	1,185	1,733		2,000	
10-6-00-25.21 Other		300		15		
10-6-00-25.22 Municipal Planning Grant						
10-6-00-25.46 Tower Lease	6,000	8,096	7,200	1,800	7,200	
10-6-00-25.47 PACIF Grant		2,583				
10-6-00-25.51 TRORC- highway grant						
10-6-00-25.52 Grant Income						
10-6-10-00.01 Dry Hydrant Grant	4,000					
<b>TOTAL - State and Federal Revenues</b>	<b>167,336</b>	<b>167,834</b>	<b>167,564</b>	<b>40,684</b>	<b>168,520</b>	<b>0.57%</b>
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>						
10-6-00-30.01 Admin Reimb-Solid Waste	8,846	8,801	0		0	

<i>Approved by Selectboard 1/23/23</i>		<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual as of</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>NOTES:</b>
		<b>FY 21-22</b>	<b>FY 21-22</b>	<b>FY 22-23</b>	<b>11/1/2022</b>	<b>FY 23-24</b>	
10-6-00-30.02	Admin Reimb-Sewer Dept.	4,409	4,409	4,476		7,227	based on salary & insurance
10-6-00-30.07	Admin Reimb Water Dept.	6,811	6,811	7,731		9,200	based on salary & insurance
10-6-00-30.08	Green Maple True-Up						
10-6-00-30.10	RR Revenue Sharing	3,700	1,850	3,700		3,700	
10-6-00	Green Lantern Lease	1,500	1,500	1,500	375	0	
<b>TOTAL - Miscellaneous</b>		<b>25,266</b>	<b>23,371</b>	<b>17,407</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>20,127</b>	<b>15.63%</b>
10-6-00-31.00	Checking Interest	6	6	6	2	6	
10-6-00-31.01	Sweep Account Interest	1,448	1,052	1,011	26	1,000	
10-6-00-31.06	Proceeds of Debt		15,934		2,443		
<b>TOTAL - Interest Earnings</b>		<b>1,454</b>	<b>16,992</b>	<b>1,017</b>	<b>2,471</b>	<b>1,006</b>	<b>-1.08%</b>
<b>TAXES - PROPERTY</b>				<b>2,145,004</b>			
10-6-00-50.02	Current Property Taxes		2,117,632		1,533,283		
10-6-00-50.03	Land-use	141,000	149,671	144,000	4,030	148,049	per State spreadsheet 2022
10-6-00-50.05	Delinquent Taxes-prior	35,000	0	30,000	0	25,000	
10-6-00-50.06	Penalty	16,000	14,247	10,000	-129	10,000	
10-6-00-50.07	Interest	20,000	20,214	15,000	5,524	15,000	
10-6-00-50.10	Education Billing Fee	5,800	5,943	5,800		5,900	
<b>TOTAL - Taxes-Property</b>		<b>217,800</b>	<b>2,307,707</b>	<b>204,800</b>	<b>1,542,708</b>	<b>203,949</b>	<b>-0.42%</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>		<b>439,705</b>	<b>2,568,676</b>	<b>434,468</b>	<b>1,650,333</b>	<b>490,762</b>	<b>12.96%</b>
Amount to be Raised by Taxes		2,094,623		2,136,958	-323,807	2,344,111	9.69%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>2,534,328</b>		<b>2,571,426</b>	<b>1,326,525</b>	<b>2,834,873</b>	<b>10.25%</b>

## TOWN OF BETHEL BUDGET

Approved by Selectboard 1/23/23		BUDGET	FY	Actual	FY	Budget	FY	Actual as of	Proposed Budget	Notes for 23/24 budget
PUBLIC WORKS PERSONNEL		21-22		21-22		22-23		11/1/2022	FY 23-24	
10-7-05-01.00	Wages	191,980		189,558		217,974		44,441	232,300	3 FT 2 seasonal
10-7-05-01.02	Overtime	40,000		53,093		40,000		3,100	40,000	
10-7-05-02.00	Social Security	14,383		15,974		15,994		3,094	16,883	
10-7-05-03.00	Medicare	3,364		3,483		3,741		678	3,948	
10-7-05-04.00	Retirement	29,171		46,170		44,904		12,588	39,600	
10-7-05-05.00	Health Insurance	98,861		45,857		62,490		10,747	56,700	
10-7-05-06.00	Workers' Comp/UI	20,345		16,065		15,040		2,177	23,063	
10-7-05-06.01	Dental Insurance	4,561		2,048		2,500		384	1,856	
10-7-05-08.00	Mileage Reimbursement	1,600		563		1,600		58	1,600	
10-7-05-09.00	Training	1,000		489		1,000		120	2,500	
<b>TOTAL - Public Works Personnel</b>		<b>405,264</b>		<b>373,300</b>		<b>405,243</b>		<b>77,387</b>	<b>418,449</b>	<b>3.26%</b>
<b>TOWN OWNED EQUIPMENT</b>										
10-7-05-10.10	Insurance-Building & Equip.	9,970		9,990		9,970		2,590	15,320	
10-7-05-10.32	Repairs/Parts	66,000		74,378		69,300		15,344	55,000	loader and grader need engine service
10-7-05-10.33	Tires, Chains, cutting edges								20,000	
10-7-05-10.35	Permits	1,600		1,350		1,700		0	1,700	
10-7-05-10.36	Garage Supplies/Bldg. Maint.	13,600		13,976		14,000		3,930	16,000	
10-7-05-10.37	Electricity	3,655		4,386		3,655		1,155	5,000	
10-7-05-10.38	Telephone	6,180		7,431		6,270		1,862	7,500	
10-7-05-10.39	Uniforms	5,000		3,349		5,000		431	5,000	
10-7-05-10.40	Other	300		408		300		0	300	
10-7-05-10.41	Gas, Oil & Grease	8,800		13,473		9,000		-706	15,000	
10-7-05-10.42	Diesel	55,650		62,137		55,650		0	70,000	
10-7-05-10.43	Underground Tank	500		525		550		50	550	
10-7-05-10.44	Communications System	8,500		13,197		1,500		0	2,500	
10-7-05-10.45	Trash Removal								744	
<b>TOTAL - Town Owned Equipment</b>		<b>179,755</b>		<b>204,600</b>		<b>176,895</b>		<b>24,656</b>	<b>214,614</b>	<b>21.32%</b>
<b>HIRED SERVICES OR EQUIPMENT</b>										
10-7-05-12.25	Roadside Mowing	12,600		26,222		14,122		0	15,931	60 miles
10-7-05-12.26	Ditching	20,000		20,298		30,000		28,248	30,000	
10-7-05-12.27	Tree Cutting	5,000		6,275		5,000		0	3,000	
10-7-05-12.40	Sweeping	1,850		1,011		1,950		0	2,000	
10-7-05-12.41	Rental Equipment	500		0		500		0	1,500	
10-7-05-12.42	Hired Services	20,000		15,971		22,500		3,500	24,750	
10-7-05-12.43	Engineering Services	500		0		1,875		0	500	
<b>TOTAL - Hired Services or Equipment</b>		<b>60,450</b>		<b>69,777</b>		<b>75,947</b>		<b>31,748</b>	<b>77,681</b>	<b>2.28%</b>
<b>MATERIALS</b>										
10-7-05-30.01	Salt	60,000		58,070		60,000		0	92,400	800 ton
10-7-05-30.02	Chloride	16,200		4,085		20,750		9,872	20,750	

## TOWN OF BETHEL BUDGET

Approved by Selectboard 1/23/23		BUDGET	FY	Actual	FY	Budget	FY	Actual as of	Proposed Budget	Notes for 23/24 budget
		21-22		21-22		22-23		11/1/2022	FY 23-24	
10-7-05-30.03	Gravel	40,000		43,231		40,000		9,716	50,000	includes material for mud season
10-7-05-30.05	Sand	54,575		52,576		53,000		0	75,000	change to new material
10-7-05-30.08	Culverts	10,000		8,042		12,000		5,717	15,000	
10-7-05-30.09	Patching Material	5,500		7,056		5,500		2,433	8,000	
10-7-05-30.10	Guardrail	7,800		6,816		8,580		0	8,000	
10-7-05-30.11	Tools	4,500		3,898		4,500		1,345	5,500	
10-7-05-30.12	Signs	4,000		1,941		4,250		3,825	5,000	
10-7-05-30.16	Highway Rehabilitation	115,000		115,000		115,000		28,750	175,000	inc \$10,000 for sidewalks
10-7-05-ERAF	ERAF	43,100		43,100		56,790		56,790	44,400	\$88,800 in ERAF left at 1.2M bridge cost
10-7-05-30.95	Other			11						
<b>TOTAL - Materials</b>		<b>360,675</b>		<b>343,826</b>		<b>380,370</b>		<b>118,448</b>	<b>499,050</b>	<b>31.20%</b>
<b>OTHER PUBLIC WORKS</b>										
10-7-05-40.01	Storm Water Catch Basins	15,000		15,189		15,000		38	6,700	
10-7-05-40.02	Cemeteries	37,000		36,159		40,000		18,135	40,000	Fence repair & tree removal
10-7-05-40.03	Church Street Bridge Loan	18,975		18,974		18,376		16,333	17,738	
10-7-05-40.10	Sidewalk Improvement									
10-7-05-40.11	Parking-Pedestrian Safety	1,500		1,036		1,700		0	2,500	
10-7-05-40.13	Other	1,000		523		500		0	500	
10-7-05-40.14	Highway Equip Trust Fund	115,000		115,000		120,000		30,000	125,000	to match capital budget
10-07-05-40.24	2016 JD Backhoe									
10-07-05-40.25	2017 International									
<b>TOTAL - Other Public Works</b>		<b>188,475</b>		<b>186,881</b>		<b>195,576</b>		<b>64,506</b>	<b>192,438</b>	<b>-1.60%</b>
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS</b>		<b>1,194,619</b>		<b>1,178,384</b>		<b>1,234,031</b>		<b>316,745</b>	<b>1,402,233</b>	<b>13.63%</b>
<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT</b>										
10-7-10-01.00	Wages	20,000		19,964		20,000		0	26,450	
10-7-10-02.00	Social Security	1,240		1,238		1,240		0	1,640	
10-7-10-03.00	Medicare	290		289		290		0	384	
10-7-10-06.01	Workers' Comp/UI	4,926		2,764		6,147		3,942	4,698	
10-7-10-07.00	Insurance	10,135		7,367		10,255		766	7,700	
10-7-10-10.00	Apparatus/repairs/maint	14,500		15,035		14,500		0	14,500	
10-7-10-10.00	Truck Equipment	3,000		0		3,000		0	3,000	
10-7-10-11.00	Gas, Oil & Lubricants	1,800		1,594		2,500		0	3,500	
10-7-10-20.01	Electricity	1,142		2,071		1,200		590	2,333	
10-7-10-21.00	Telephone	3,912		2,749		2,700		753	3,024	
10-7-10-22.00	Heat	4,000		6,214		4,000		0	6,835	increased 10% over last year
10-7-10-22.00	DISPATCHING	1,161		0		1,161		0	0	
10-7-10-50.00	Communications	12,000		11,109		12,000		870	12,000	
10-7-10-51.01	Safety & Equip. Supplies	15,000		20,038		20,000		6	20,000	
10-7-10-52.00	Facility Maintenance	5,000		5,000		2,500		170	2,500	Johnson controls
10-7-10-95.00	Other	100		0		100		0	100	

## TOWN OF BETHEL BUDGET

Approved by Selectboard 1/23/23		BUDGET	FY	Actual	FY	Budget	FY	Actual as of	Proposed Budget	Notes for 23/24 budget
		21-22		21-22		22-23		11/1/2022	FY 23-24	
10-7-10-96.00	Training	2,400		520		2,400		0	2,400	
10-7-10-97.00	Safety & Equipment Fund	38,550		38,550		38,550		38,550	38,550	
10-7-10-97.01	2017 Kenworth tanker	20,821		31,325		20,821		21,381	21,381	
10-7-10-97.02	2012 Kenworth									
10-7-10-98.00	Homeland Security Grant									
10-7-10-98.02	Dry Hydrant Grant	2,500		0		0				
10-7-10-98.03	Fire Protection	5,500		5,500		5,500		5,500	5,500	
10-7-10-98.04	AFG/FEMA Grant	5,000		0		0				
<b>TOTAL - Fire Department</b>		<b>172,977</b>		<b>171,327</b>		<b>168,864</b>		<b>72,528</b>	<b>176,494</b>	4.52%
<b>CONSTABLE DEPARTMENT</b>										
10-7-15-01.00	Labor	19,324		4,044		18,980		1,348	29,120	20 hours per week @ \$28/hr
10-7-15-02.00	Social Security	1,198		362		1,177		84	1,805	
10-7-15-03.00	Medicare	280		85		275		20	422	
10-7-15-04.00	Retirement	0		0		0		0	0	
10-7-15-06.00	Workers' Comp/UI	1,701		962		659		121	1,080	
10-7-15-07.00	Insurance on Equipment	2,300		3,461		2,965		873	3,090	
10-7-15-07.02	Professional Liability	2,312		2,187		2,470		501	3,363	
10-7-15-10.00	Cruiser repair/maint	2,500		871		3,000		0	3,000	
10-7-15-21.00	Cell Phone	600		592		600		148	600	
10-7-15-39.00	uniforms	800		0		800		0	800	
10-7-15-62.00	Gas	2,700		2,708		3,000		25	5,000	
10-7-15-70.00	Contract Services	500		350		500		249	500	
10-7-15-70.01	Equipment	1,000		750		1,000		0	2,000	
10-7-15-90.00	Training	250		0		250		0	750	
10-7-1590.01	Animal Control	1,000		0		500		0	500	For housing animal with local Vet
10-7-15-90.02	Cruiser Replacement Fund	5,000		5,000		5,000		1,250	5,000	
10-7-15-90.03	Signage	7,400		6,824		15,800		0	8,000	2 more solar speed signs
10-7-15-95.00	Other	100		0		100		3	100	
10-7-15-96.00	CONTRACT									
10-7-15-97.00	DOG WARDEN									
<b>TOTAL - Constable Department</b>		<b>48,965</b>		<b>28,196</b>		<b>57,076</b>		<b>4,622</b>	<b>65,131</b>	14.11%
<b>RECREATION DEPARTMENT</b>										
10-7-20-01.00	Wages	44,755		25,628		43,000		26,396	55,000	
10-7-20-02.00	Social Security	2,775		1,700		2,666		1,637	3,410	
10-7-20-03.00	Medicare	649		398		624		383	798	
10-7-20-04.00	Retirement	2,045		2,648		4,018		0	1,410	
10-7-20-06.00	Workers' Comp/UI	2,663		1,691		2,663		281	2,793	
10-7-20-07.00	Insurance-Building & Equip.	2,134		1,994		2,176		443	1,937	
10-7-20-20.00	Electricity	1,000		1,913		1,000		2,400	2,250	
10-7-20-21.00	Telephone	450		1,043		475		312	500	
10-7-20-25.00	Repairs & Maintenance	8,500		10,987		6,500		375	8,500	include \$1200 for skatepark resurfacing

## TOWN OF BETHEL BUDGET

<i>Approved by Selectboard 1/23/23</i>	BUDGET 21-22	FY 21-22	Actual FY 21-22	Budget 22-23	FY 22-23	Actual as of 11/1/2022	Proposed Budget FY 23-24	Notes for 23/24 budget
10-7-20-27.00 Rec. Facility Improv. Fund	10,000		10,000	10,000		2,500	10,000	
10-7-20-30.00 Programming & Activities	3,600		409	3,600		439	3,000	
10-7-20-51.00 Supplies	2,500		1,121	2,500		187	2,500	
10-7-20-52.00 Chlorine	3,000		1,963	3,000		2,667	3,500	
10-7-20-53.00 American Red Cross	4,000		2,848	4,000		0	3,200	
10-7-20-60.00 Water & Sewer	1,400		719	1,400		315	1,400	
10-7-20-95.00 Other/mileage	150		175	200		191	250	
<b>TOTAL - Recreation Department</b>	<b>89,621</b>		<b>65,237</b>	<b>87,821</b>		<b>38,526</b>	<b>100,448</b>	<b>14.38%</b>
<b>PARKS &amp; PUBLIC PLACES</b>								
10-7-25-01.00 Wages	12,223		13,303	13,030		4,225	19,200	40 hrs/wk for 24 weeks
10-7-25-02.00 Social Security	758		936	808		262	1,190	
10-7-25-03.00 Medicare	177		219	189		61	278	
10-7-25-04.00 Retirement	1,956		2,104	2,541		0	0	
10-7-25-05.00 Health Insurance	7,535		7,292	7,532		0	0	
10-7-25-06.00 Workers' Comp/UI	1,072		190	1,147		22	1,320	
10-7-25-06.01 Dental Insurance	355		324	334		0	0	
10-7-25-07.00 Insurance	200		75	100		21	100	
10-7-25-12.01 Moving Equipment	2,500		1,494	500		0	500	
10-7-25-12.02 Utility Truck Maint				875		146	1,200	tires, maint, etc
10-7-25-20.00 Street Lights	18,580		19,181	18,769		6,410	19,332	
10-7-25-20.01 Electricity - Parks	1,520		1,806	1,548		474	1,594	
10-7-25-25.01 Maintenance	12,780		13,164	7,780		1,230	9,500	money for stonewall, boat launch
10-7-25-26.00 Parks Beautification	3,000		808	5,500		171	5,500	water fountain at bandshell & gazebo
10-7-25-27.00 Flags and Poles	480		1,081	480			480	
10-7-25-30.00 Streetscape Program								
10-7-25-35.00 Trail Maintenance				750			750	Must budget for due to VOREC
10-7-25-95.00 Other			14	50		7	50	
<b>TOTAL - Parks &amp; Public Places</b>	<b>63,136</b>		<b>61,991</b>	<b>61,932</b>		<b>13,029</b>	<b>60,995</b>	<b>-1.51%</b>
<b>MUNICIPAL OFFICES</b>								
10-7-30-01.01 Wages	67,924		66,620	68,100		19,152	68,044	
10-7-30-01.02 Salary - Town Clerk	32,736		33,746	34,381		11,263	37,030	
10-7-40-01.02 Treasurer	4,910		5,088	5,156		1,577	5,310	
10-7-40-01.03 Town Manager	86,520		87,738	89,116		27,320	91,789	
10-7-40-01.04 Labor				10,000		0	15,000	contract labor/energy coordination
10-7-30-02.00 Social Security	11,910		12,282	12,199		3,684	12,535	
10-7-30-03.00 Medicare	2,785		2,858	2,853		855	2,932	
10-7-30-04.00 Retirement	30,734		38,447	38,367		11,729	42,032	
10-7-30-05.00 Health Insurance	85,317		79,347	85,373		32,150	107,746	
10-7-30-06.00 Workers' Comp/UI	826		950	669		-1,134	1,137	
10-7-30-06.01 Dental Insurance	3,888		3,482	3,876		1,525	3,641	
10-7-30-07.00 Insurance - Building	3,552		2,580	3,160		596	5,568	

## TOWN OF BETHEL BUDGET

<i>Approved by Selectboard 1/23/23</i>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>FY</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>FY</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>FY</b>	<b>Actual as of</b>	<b>Proposed Budget</b>	<b>Notes for 23/24 budget</b>
	<b>21-22</b>		<b>21-22</b>		<b>22-23</b>		<b>11/1/2022</b>	<b>FY 23-24</b>	
10-7-30-07.01 POL Insurance	4,468		3,234		4,000		719	3,426	
10-7-30-20.00 Electricity	3,000		2,728		2,790		723	2,500	
10-7-30-21.00 Telephone	5,125		6,308		8,000		1,971	7,600	
10-7-30-22.00 Heat	3,500		3,119		4,500		544	5,500	
10-7-30-25.00 Maintenance - Building	1,500		3,064		1,500		862	2,000	inc. \$1,000 for tasco annual fee
10-7-30-25.01 Trash removal	400		102		200		62	150	
10-7-30-26.01 Copier ink, etc	500		1,517		1,884		1,222	1,900	
10-7-30-26.02 - Computer	6,500		8,191		7,000		4,620	8,850	Nemrc, Zoom & Carbonite
10-7-30-26.03 Office Equipment	500		92		500		0	500	
10-7-30-27.04 Purchase - Office Furniture	400		170		200		308	200	
10-7-30-28.00 Lease - Photocopier	1,127		1,033		1,128		546	1,138	94.85/mo copier lease
10-7-30-51.00 Supplies	5,500		4,650		6,300		-197	6,300	
10-7-30-52.01 Postage/Mailing Supplies	2,184		2,367		3,500		1,805	2,500	73.64 monthly fee, \$1,600 postage
10-7-30-60.00 Water & Sewer	1,350		1,234		1,296		315	1,360	
10-7-30-70.00 Bank Fees	120		26		100		19	23	
10-7-30-71.00 Compuccount	3,500		2,798		3,500		748	3,500	
10-7-30-95.00 Other	350		428		250		238	250	
10-7-30-95.01 Training	500		190		200		0	600	VMCTA, VLCT, YTCMA
10-7-30-95.02 Managers Expense	300		275		300		0	300	
<b>TOTAL - Municipal Offices</b>	<b>371,926</b>		<b>374,664</b>		<b>400,397</b>		<b>123,222</b>	<b>441,380</b>	<b>10.24%</b>
<b>TOWN HALL</b>									
10-7-35-07.00 Insurance	6,200		6,326		7,292		1,788	8,040	
10-7-35-20.00 Electricity	1,200		1,621		1,200		377	1,300	greenbacker cost decrease
10-7-35-21.00 Telephone	1,465		1,411		1,488		446	1,584	
10-7-35-22.00 Heat	4,000		4,539		4,000		128	4,766	5% increase over last year
10-7-35-25.00 Building Repair	6,000		3,504		4,000		1,359	4,000	Includes \$1,500 Tasco
10-7-35-25.02 Repair-Clock	315		315		350		355	350	
10-7-35-51.00 Supplies	800		353		500		90	500	
10-7-35-60.00 Water & Sewer	1,350		1,234		1,296		315	1,296	
10-7-35-95.00 Other	50		0		50		0	50	
<b>TOTAL - Town Hall</b>	<b>21,380</b>		<b>19,303</b>		<b>20,176</b>		<b>4,858</b>	<b>21,886</b>	<b>8.48%</b>
<b>TOWN OFFICIALS</b>									
10-7-40-01.01 Selectboard	1,050		1,050		3,050			3,750	700/ea +250 extra for chair
10-7-40-01.04 Trustees Of Public Funds	250		250		600			600	200/ea
10-7-40-01.06 Health Officer	600		0		600			1,200	1 deputy (40 HRS YEAR CURRENT EST)
10-7-40-01.07 Elections	250		0		250			250	
10-7-40-01.08 Board of Civil Authority	100		0		50			50	
10-7-40-01.10 Cemetery Commissioner	500		500		600			1,500	
10-7-40-01.11 Fire Warden					600			3,000	120 hours a year plus 500 miles (25/hr)
10-7-40-01.12 Tree Warden					600			600	
10-7-40-02.00 Fical/medi	210		99		356			570	
<b>TOTAL - Town Officials</b>	<b>2,960</b>		<b>1,899</b>		<b>6,706</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>11,520</b>	<b>71.79%</b>

## TOWN OF BETHEL BUDGET

<i>Approved by Selectboard 1/23/23</i>	<b>BUDGET</b> 21-22	<b>FY</b>	<b>Actual</b> 21-22	<b>FY</b>	<b>Budget</b> 22-23	<b>FY</b>	<b>Actual as of</b> 11/1/2022	<b>Proposed Budget</b> FY-23-24	<b>Notes for 23/24 budget</b>
<b>LISTERS</b>									
10-7-45-01.00 Wages	14,500		18,868		25,500		4,865	27,040	
10-7-45-02.00 Social Security	899		1,281		1,581		302	1,676	
10-7-45-03.00 Medicare	210		300		370		71	392	
10-7-45-27.00 Computer	2,800		3,045		2,800		859	3,000	
10-7-45-51.00 Supplies	850		582		850		85	900	
10-7-45-62.00 Mileage	500		95		500		79	500	
10-7-45 Assessor Services	10,000		0		0				
10-7-45-64.00 Mapping Services	2,800		2,675		2,800		2,800	3,000	
10-7-45-70.00 Training	900		215		900			1,000	
10-7-45-80.00 Memberships	300		325		300			350	
10-7-45-95.00 Other	100		19		200		35	200	
<b>TOTAL - listers</b>	<b>34,073</b>		<b>27,405</b>		<b>35,801</b>		<b>9,096</b>	<b>38,059</b>	<b>6.31%</b>
<b>GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS</b>									
10-7-50-90.01 Town Meeting	325		99		325		0	400	
10-7-50-90.02 Town Reports	3,700		3,446		3,800		0	3,800	
10-7-50-90.03 Tax Billing	325		361		375		399	450	
10-7-50-90.04 Preservation Of Records	1,200		1,259		1,200		0	1,500	
10-7-50-90.05 Tax Abatements	6,000		0		6,000		25	6,000	
10-7-50-90.08 Legal	10,000		6,221		10,000		1,711	10,000	
10-7-50-90.09 Planning	1,200		283		1,200		90	1,200	
10-7-50-90.10 Auditing Services	23,500		30,391		24,500		2,266	25,000	
10-7-50-90.11 Training	1,000		239		1,000		165	500	
10-7-50-90.12 Recording Fees	100		165		100		0	200	
10-7-50-90.13 Social Media	750		1,436		1,250		0	2,000	
10-7-50-90.14 Ins. Shooting Range			1,330		1,400		1,536	1,690	website upgrades with ARPA
10-7-50-90.15 Meeting Minutes	1,500		1,339		2,775		471	2,775	
10-7-50-90.16 Conservation Commission	2,500		2,500		2,500		2,500	2,500	
10-7-50-90.17 Red Cross Shelter Maint.	1,200		750		1,500		0	1,500	
10-7-50-90.18 Energy Committee	100		0		100		0	100	
10-7-50-90.20 Voting Equip. & Supplies	750		37		2,500		65	1,500	
10-7-50-90.80 Advertising	5,000		2,414		5,500		428	5,700	
10-7-50-90.81 Other	500		4,378		500		20	500	
10-7-50-90.90 Tax Sale Expenses	4,000		7,643		4,000		0	6,000	some offset by revenue
10-7-50-90.96 Reappraisal Fund	20,000		20,000		6,000		1,500	7,000	per capital schedule
10-7-50-90.98 Capital Improv. Reserve Fund	20,000		20,000		60,000		15,000	55,000	per capital schedule
<b>TOTAL - Government Operations</b>	<b>103,650</b>		<b>104,291</b>		<b>136,525</b>		<b>26,176</b>	<b>135,315</b>	<b>-0.89%</b>
<b>APPROPRIATIONS</b>									
<b>Local</b>									
10-7-55-70.01 Bethel Library	5,000		5,000		5,000			7,500	
10-7-55-70.02 Council On The Arts	2,000		2,000		2,000			2,000	
10-7-55-70.03 Bethel Historical Society	500		500		500			500	

## TOWN OF BETHEL BUDGET

<i>Approved by Selectboard 1/23/23</i>	BUDGET 21-22	FY Actual 21-22	FY Budget 22-23	FY Actual as of 11/1/2022	Proposed Budget FY 23-24	Notes for 23/24 budget
10-7-55-70.04 Vt League Of Cities/Towns	3,740	3,598	3,536	3,536	3,658	
10-7-55-70.05 Two Rivers Reg Plan Comm	3,106	3,106	3,068	3,068	3,165	
10-7-55-70.06 Green Mtn. Economic Devel	982	982	975		976	
10-7-55-70.07 Green Up Day	150	150	150		150	
10-7-55-70.09 White River Partnership	500	500	500		500	
10-7-55-70.10 VT Rural Fire Protection (VA	100	100	100		100	
10-7-55-70.11 Bethel Forward Festival	2,000	2,000	2,000		2,000	
<b>Total - Local</b>	<b>18,978</b>	<b>17,936</b>	<b>17,829</b>	<b>6,604</b>	<b>20,549</b>	15.26%
<b>Human Services *</b>						
10-7-55-71.01 So. Roylton Senior Center	3,000	3,000	3,000		4,000	
10-7-55-71.02 Visit. Nurse Assoc.	7,000	7,000	7,000		7,000	
10-7-55-71.03 Clara Martin Center	3,000	3,000	3,000		3,250	
10-7-55-71.07 Safeline	1,000	1,000	1,000		1,500	
10-7-55-71.08 Tri-Valley Transit	4,000	4,000	4,000		4,000	
10-7-55-71.09 Windsor County Mentors	600	600	500	500	500	
10-7-55-71.11 Cen VT Council On Aging	650	650	650		650	
10-7-55-71.13 VT Assoc For The Blind	800	800	400		400	
10-7-55-71.15 Vermont Adult Learning	200	200	0		0	
10-7-55-71.17 VT Center for Indep Living	300	300	300		300	
10-7-55-71.21		250				
10-7-55-71.23 Orange County Parent Child	1,000	1,000	1,000		1,000	
10-7-55-71.24 Quin-Town Center for Sr	1,200	1,200	600		500	
10-7-55-71.25 American Red Cross	250	250	250		0	
10-7-55-71.26 Bethel Art Bus	500	500	500		0	
10-7-55-71.27 One Planet (WRSVU)	2,500	2,500	2,500		2,500	
10-7-55-71.28 Health Hub	1,000	1,000	1,000		0	
10-7-55-71.29 Health & Rehab Services	250	250	500	500	500	
10-7-55-71.30 VT Family Network					250	
<b>Total - Human Services</b>	<b>27,250</b>	<b>27,500</b>	<b>26,200</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>26,350</b>	
10-7-55-72.01 White River Valley Ambulance	123,830	125,860	127,080	52,750	153,048	
<b>TOTAL - APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>169,158</b>	<b>171,296</b>	<b>171,109</b>	<b>60,354</b>	<b>199,947</b>	16.85%
<b>DEBT SERVICE</b>						
10-7-05-54.04 2011 Debt Financing	82,946	82,946	82,946		82,946	
10-7-60-88.04 Long Term Debt-Town Hall	59,528	59,528	59,528		56,236	
10-7-60-91.00 Interest-Tax Antic Notes	2,100	0	2,100		2,100	
10-7-60-97.00 Long Term Debt-WW/BFD	4,121	1,000	0			
10-7-60-98.00 Town Garage	75,000	75,000	0			
10-7-60-99.00 LOC for BRTS			2,529			
<b>TOTAL - Debt Service</b>	<b>223,695</b>	<b>218,474</b>	<b>147,103</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>141,282</b>	-3.96%

## TOWN OF BETHEL BUDGET

<i>Approved by Selectboard 1/23/23</i>	BUDGET 21-22	FY 21-22	Actual 21-22	FY 21-22	Budget 22-23	FY 22-23	Actual as of 11/1/2022	Proposed Budget FY 23-24	Notes for 23/24 budget
<b>TAXES</b>									
10-7-65-88.00 School Tax Payment			0				637,125		
10-7-65-89.00 County Taxes	14,239		13,053		14,250		13,685	14,021	
10-7-65-90.00 Reimb. Overpaid taxes			0				6,559		
<b>TOTAL - Taxes</b>	<b>14,239</b>		<b>13,053</b>		<b>14,250</b>		<b>657,369</b>	<b>14,021</b>	
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>									
10-7-70-91.00 Alliance Fee	23,929		23,929		26,163			26,163	
10-7-70-91.05 Landfill closure maint					3,473				
<b>TOTAL - Miscellaneous</b>	<b>23,929</b>		<b>23,929</b>		<b>29,636</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>26,163</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>2,534,328</b>		<b>2,459,450</b>		<b>2,571,426</b>		<b>1,326,525</b>	<b>2,834,873</b>	<b>10.25%</b>

## WARNING

### TOWN OF BETHEL ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

The legal voters of the Town of Bethel are hereby warned, and notified, to meet at the **WHITE RIVER UNIFIED MIDDLE SCHOOL, BETHEL CAMPUS GYMNASIUM**, in said Bethel on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 10:00 am to transact the following business from the floor:

1. To elect a Town Moderator for the term of one year.
2. To elect a Town Clerk for the term of one year.
3. To elect a Town Treasurer for the term of one year.
4. To elect by ballot, a Selectboard Member for a term of three years to succeed Paul Vallee, whose term expires.
5. To elect by ballot, a Selectboard Member for a term of two years to succeed Chris Jarvis, whose term expires.
6. To elect by ballot, a Lister to serve the one-year balance of a three-year term, to succeed Pamela Brown, whose term expires in 2024.
7. To elect by ballot, a Lister for a term of three years to succeed Judi Brigham, whose term expires.
8. To elect a Trustee of Public Funds under section 24 V.S.A. for a term of three years to succeed Sandy Farrell, whose term expires in 2023.
9. To elect a Trustee of Public Funds under section 24 V.S.A. to serve the one-year balance of a three-year term, to succeed Paul Vallee, whose term expires in 2024.
10. Shall the voters authorize total fund expenditures for operating expenses of \$2,655,475 of which \$2,164,713 shall be raised by taxes and \$490,762 non-tax revenues?
11. Shall the voters appropriate up to the additional sum of \$27,500 to the Bethel Library, for continued service to Bethel residents?
12. Shall the voters appropriate up to the additional sum of \$30,000 to the Recreation Facility Improvement capital fund, to complete phase 2 of the skatepark?
13. Shall the voters appropriate a total of \$26,350 to the following social service agencies, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 2691? (See the Town Report for a detailed description of each agency.)
14. Shall the voters appropriate up to the sum of \$153,048 to the White River Valley Ambulance, Inc., for continued service to Bethel residents?
15. Shall the Town Voters authorize the expenditure of \$1,000 for the not-for-profit operation of the Friends of the Historic Playhouse Theater in Randolph, Vermont?
16. Shall the voters authorize payment of real and personal property taxes in four (4) equal installments, with the due dates being August 15, 2023, November 15, 2023, February 15, 2024, and

May 15, 2024, by delivery to the town office postmarked on or before that date?

17. Shall the Town of Bethel elect its town officers by Australian ballot?

18. Shall the town provide notice of the availability of the annual report by postcard, mailed to all registered voters at least 30 days before the annual meeting, instead of mailing the report to the voters of the town pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 1682(a)?

**Discussion of items to be voted on by Australian ballot.**

**The following articles will be voted by Australian ballot.** Polls open Tuesday, March 7, 2023 from 8 am to 7pm at the White River Unified Middle School, Bethel Campus.

Article 1. Shall the voters of the Town of Bethel permit the operation of cannabis retailers in town?

Article 2. Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Bethel be issued in an aggregate amount not to exceed Two Million Five Hundred Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$2,500,000.00), subject to reduction by state and federal grants-in-aid and other financial assistance, be issued to fund the costs and expenses of making capital improvements to the water system of the Town of Bethel?

19. To transact any other non-binding business that may legally come before this meeting pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2660(d).

Dated at Bethel, Vermont, this 23rd day of January, 2023.

By the Selectboard members of the Town of Bethel:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Jarvis

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lindley Brainard

\_\_\_\_\_  
D. Gene Kraus

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Eddy

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Vallee

## WARNING

### TOWN OF BETHEL ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

The legal voters of the Town of Bethel are hereby warned, and notified, to meet at the **WHITE RIVER UNIFIED MIDDLE SCHOOL, BETHEL CAMPUS GYMNASIUM**, in said Bethel on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 10:00 am to transact the following business from the floor:

1. To elect a Town Moderator for the term of one year.
2. To elect a Town Clerk for the term of one year.
3. To elect a Town Treasurer for the term of one year.
4. To elect by ballot, a Selectboard Member for a term of three years to succeed Paul Vallee, whose term expires.
5. To elect by ballot, a Selectboard Member for a term of two years to succeed Chris Jarvis, whose term expires.
6. To elect by ballot, a Lister to serve the one-year balance of a three-year term, to succeed Pamela Brown, whose term expires in 2024.
7. To elect by ballot, a Lister for a term of three years to succeed Judi Brigham, whose term expires.
8. To elect a Trustee of Public Funds under section 24 V.S.A. for a term of three years to succeed Sandy Farrell, whose term expires in 2023.
9. To elect a Trustee of Public Funds under section 24 V.S.A. to serve the one-year balance of a three-year term, to succeed Paul Vallee, whose term expires in 2024.
10. Shall the voters authorize total fund expenditures for operating expenses of \$2,655,475 of which \$2,164,713 shall be raised by taxes and \$490,762 non-tax revenues?
11. Shall the voters appropriate up to the additional sum of \$27,500 to the Bethel Library, for continued service to Bethel residents?
12. Shall the voters appropriate up to the additional sum of \$30,000 to the Recreation Facility Improvement capital fund, to complete phase 2 of the skatepark?
13. Shall the voters appropriate a total of \$26,350 to the following social service agencies, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 2691? (See the Town Report for a detailed description of each agency.)
14. Shall the voters appropriate up to the sum of \$153,048 to the White River Valley Ambulance, Inc., for continued service to Bethel residents?
15. Shall the Town Voters authorize the expenditure of \$1,000 for the not-for-profit operation of the Friends of the Historic Playhouse Theater in Randolph, Vermont?
16. Shall the voters authorize payment of real and personal property taxes in four (4) equal installments, with the due dates being August 15, 2023, November 15, 2023, February 15, 2024, and

May 15, 2024, by delivery to the town office postmarked on or before that date?

17. Shall the Town of Bethel elect its town officers by Australian ballot?

**Discussion of items to be voted on by Australian ballot.**

**The following articles will be voted by Australian ballot.** Polls open Tuesday, March 7, 2023 from 8 am to 7pm at the White River Unified Middle School, Bethel Campus.

Article 1. Shall the voters of the Town of Bethel permit the operation of cannabis retailers in town?

Article 2. Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Bethel be issued in an aggregate amount not to exceed Two Million Five Hundred Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$2,500,000.00), subject to reduction by state and federal grants-in-aid and other financial assistance, be issued to fund the costs and expenses of making capital improvements to the water system of the Town of Bethel?

18. To transact any other non-binding business that may legally come before this meeting pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2660(d).

Dated at Bethel, Vermont, this 23rd day of January, 2023.

By the Selectboard members of the Town of Bethel:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Jarvis

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lindley Brainard

\_\_\_\_\_  
D. Gene Kraus

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Eddy

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Vallee

1

H.42

2

Introduced by Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs

3

Date:

4

Subject: Elections; local elections; annual municipal meetings; alternative

5

procedures

6

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to provide

7

temporary authority until July 1, 2024 that:

8

→ (1) permits a municipal legislative body to move the date of the annual

9

municipal meeting, apply the Australian ballot system to annual and special

10

meetings, and hold electronic informational meetings in the days preceding the

11

annual meeting;

12

(2) authorizes alternative procedures for the Representative Town

13

Meeting of the Town of Brattleboro and the budget vote for the Northeast

14

Kingdom Waste Management District; and

15

→ (3) permits a public body to hold electronic meetings without

16

designating a physical location and without requiring staff to be physically

17

present at that location.

18

An act relating to temporary alternative procedures for annual municipal

19

meetings and electronic meetings of public bodies

1 § 2680(h) in advance of the municipality's annual meeting. A public  
2 informational hearing that is held electronically under this subsection shall  
3 comply with all of the provisions for electronic meetings under Sec. 2 of this  
4 act.

5 (d) Town of Brattleboro. Until July 1, 2024, the Town of Brattleboro may  
6 hold its annual Representative Town Meeting by electronic means.

7 (e) Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District. Until July 1, 2024,  
8 the Board of Supervisors of the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management  
9 District may vote to adopt the District's annual budget for the ensuing fiscal  
10 year.

11 Sec. 2. OPEN MEETING LAW; TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF  
12 DESIGNATED PHYSICAL MEETING LOCATION  
13 REQUIREMENTS

14 (a) Notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 312(a), until July 1, 2024:

15 (1) a quorum or more of the members of a public body may attend a  
16 regular, special, or emergency meeting by electronic or other means without  
17 being physically present at a designated meeting location;

18 (2) the public body shall not be required to designate a physical meeting  
19 location where the public may attend; and

20 (3) the members and staff of the public body shall not be required to be  
21 physically present at a designated meeting location.

1       Sec. 3. SUSPENSION OF SCHOOL BUDGET BALLOT LANGUAGE  
2                   REQUIREMENT

3               Notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 563(11)(D), which requires a school board to  
4       use specified language for a school budget ballot, the ballot language  
5       requirement is suspended during fiscal year 2024.

6       Sec. 4. EXPIRATION OF TEMPORARY AUTHORITY

7               The authority granted by Secs. 1 and 2 of this act shall expire on July 1,  
8       2024.

9       Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

10              This act shall take effect on passage.

**Water Rates for the past 5 years: (4.26% avg increase over past 5 years)**

**2017/2018 Rates**

\$100.92 per E.U.  
\$ .90 per 1,000 gallons for metered acts.  
\$ 25.00 vacancy rate.

**2018/2019 Rates(15% increase)**

\$116.12 per E.U.  
\$ 3.59 per 1,000 gallons for metered acts.  
\$ 80.08 vacancy rate to cover fixed costs.

**2019/2020 Rates (1.92% increase)**

\$118.35 per E.U.  
\$ 3.66 per 1,000 gallons for metered acts.  
\$ 83.60 vacancy rate.

**2020/2021 Rates (.92% increase)**

119.45 per E.U.  
\$ 3.90 per 1,000 gallons for metered acts.  
\$ 85.29 vacancy rate to cover fixed costs.

**2021/2022 Rates (2.47% increase)**

\$122.40 per E.U.  
\$ 4.05 per 1,000 gallons for metered acts.  
\$ 93.02 vacancy rate to cover fixed costs

**2022/2023 Rates(1.03% increase)**

\$126.04 per E.U.  
\$ 4.40 per 1,000 gallons for metered acts.  
\$ 100.83 vacancy rate to cover fixed costs

**Sewer Rates for the past 5 years:(1.48% avg increase over past 5 years)**

**2017/2018 Rates**

\$175.97 per E.U.  
\$ 2.18 per 1,000 gallons for metered acts.  
\$ 50.00 vacancy rate.

**2018/2019 Rates**

\$175.97 per E.U.( No increase per EU)  
\$ 11.06 per 1,000 gallons for metered acts.  
\$120.70 vacancy rate to cover fixed costs.

**2019/2020 Rates (3.47% increase)**

\$182.08 per E.U.  
\$ 12.49 per 1,000 gallons for metered acts.  
\$121.94 vacancy rate to cover fixed costs.

**2020/2021 Rates (.263% increase)**

\$182.56 per E.U.  
\$ 12.26 per 1,000 gallons for metered acts.  
\$120.23 vacancy rate to cover fixed costs.

**2021/2022 Rates (1.99% increase)**

\$186.21 per E.U.  
\$13.04 per 1,000 gallons for metered acts.  
\$146.54 vacancy rate to cover fixed costs

**2022/2023 Rates(1.68% increase)**

\$189.39 per E.U.  
\$ 14.57 per 1,000 gallons for metered acts.  
\$151.51 vacancy rate to cover fixed costs

**DECLARATION OF OFFICIAL INTENT  
OF TOWN OF BETHEL  
TO REIMBURSE CERTAIN EXPENDITURES  
FROM PROCEEDS OF INDEBTEDNESS**

WHEREAS, the Town of Bethel, Vermont (the "Issuer") intends to improve the Town's potable water distribution system by replacing certain water mains and appurtenance along portions of Sand Hill Road, Bicentennial Lane, Graham Street, Krystal Drive and Highland Avenue and water mains crossing under the railroad, reconstructing the Gaiko Well house, by refurbishing the Boulevard Water Tank, and by installing a new pump station to serve Krystal Drive (the "Project") at a cost not to exceed Two Million Five Hundred Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$2,500,000.00); and

WHEREAS the Issuer expects to pay certain capital expenditures (the "Reimbursement Expenditures") in connection with the Project prior to the issuance of indebtedness for the purpose of financing costs associated with the Project on a long-term basis;

WHEREAS the Issuer reasonably expects that for that part of the Project consisting of Project management and construction costs, debt obligations in an amount not expected to exceed Two Million Five Hundred Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$2,500,000.00) will be issued, and that certain of the proceeds of such debt obligations will be used to reimburse the Reimbursement Expenditures; and

WHEREAS the Issuer declares its reasonable official intent to reimburse prior expenditures for the above-described part of the Project with proceeds of a subsequent borrowing:

NOW THEREFORE, the Issuer declares:

Section 1. The Issuer finds and determines that the foregoing recitals are true and correct, and that all of the capital expenditures covered by this Resolution were or will be made no earlier than 60 days prior to the date of this Resolution.

Section 2. This declaration is made solely for the purposes of establishing compliance with the requirements of Section 1.150-2 of the Treasury Regulations. This declaration does not bind the Issuer to make any expenditure, incur any indebtedness, or proceed with the Project.

Section 3. The Issuer hereby declares its official intent to use proceeds of indebtedness to reimburse itself for Reimbursement Expenditures within 18 months of either the date of the first expenditure of funds by Issuer for such Project or the date that such Project is placed in service, whichever is later (but in no event more than three years after the date of the original expenditure of Issuer funds for such Project), and to allocate an amount not to exceed \$800,000.00 of the proceeds thereof to reimburse itself for its expenditures in connection with the Project.

Section 4. The Issuer's debt obligations for the aforementioned purpose will not be "private activity bonds" within the meaning of Section 141 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

Section 5. All prior actions of the officials and agents of Issuer that are in conformity with the purpose and intent of this Resolution and in furtherance of the Project shall be and the same hereby are in all respects ratified, approved and confirmed.

Section 6. All other resolutions of the legislative body of the Issuer, or parts of resolutions, inconsistent with this Resolution are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 7. It is hereby found that all discussions and deliberations of the legislative body of the Issuer leading to the adoption of this Resolution occurred at one or more meetings of the legislative body conducted pursuant to public notice and open to public attendance.

Section 8. This declaration shall take effect upon its adoption.

#### TOWN OF BETHEL SELECTBOARD

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Jarvis, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lindley Brainard

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Eddy

\_\_\_\_\_  
D. Gene Kraus

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Vallee

The undersigned, Clerk of the Issuer, hereby certifies that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the declaration of the legislative body of said Issuer duly made at a meeting thereof held on the date, specified below, and that said declaration was not amended, modified or revoked.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pamela Brown, Town Clerk

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NECESSITY RESOLUTION  
TOWN OF BETHEL  
WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

WHEREAS various elements of the water transmission and distribution system (“System”) of the Town of Bethel (“Town”) have been determined to be at or very near the end of their respective useful lives, undersized relative to current and expected future demands on the System, comprised of galvanized steel, asbestos-cement and deteriorated plastic components which can pose environmental challenges and the System itself experiences hydraulic issues and consequently are in need of replacement, reconstruction or refurbishment, or, in one case, a newly installed pump station all as detailed in an engineering study commissioned by the Town and conducted by Aldrich+Elliott (RF3-423-1.0) dated July 2021; and

WHEREAS the elements of the Town’s System that have been determined to be immediately in need of replacement are water mains serving Sand Hill Road, Bicentennial Lane, Graham Street, Krystal Drive and Highland Avenue and water mains crossing under the railroad; the Gaiko Well house requires reconstruction, and the Boulevard Water Tank requires refurbishment; and a new pump station is required to serve the Krystal Drive neighborhood (collectively, the “Project”);

WHEREAS the aggregate estimated capital cost of the Project, together with related engineering fees, permitting, and other costs is estimated to be \$2,500,000.00; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that public interest and necessity demand that the Town undertake the Project to enhance the reliability of the System, to meet the current and reasonably anticipated demand for water, to reduce the amount of galvanized steel, asbestos-cement and deteriorated plastic pipe in the System, and to address deficiencies in one of the System water storage tanks and one of the system’s well houses; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the aggregate cost of the Project which is estimated to be Two Million Five Hundred Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$2,500,000.00) is too great to be paid out of the ordinary annual income, revenue, and available resources of the Town; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a proposal for the issuance of general obligation bonds or notes of the Town in an aggregate amount not to exceed Two Million Five Hundred Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$2,500,000.00), subject to reduction by state and federal grants-in-aid and other financial assistance, to fund the Project should be submitted to the legal voters of the Town to be voted by Australian ballot at a meeting duly warned and held Tuesday, March 7, 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Selectboard will hold a public information hearing on the bond issue proposition on Monday, February 27, 2023, beginning at 6:30 o'clock in the afternoon (6:30 PM) at the Bethel Town Hall.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all acts relating to the proposition of incurring bonded indebtedness and the issuance of general obligation bonds of the Town for the purpose of the Project be in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 53 of Title 24, Vermont Statutes Annotated; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the attached form of the Article and Warning for this ballot item is specifically adopted for use in connection with consideration of the proposition of undertaking the identified capital project and incurring bonded indebtedness therefor.

Adopted this \_\_ day of January 2023.

TOWN OF BETHEL SELECTBOARD

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Jarvis, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lindley Brainard

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Eddy

\_\_\_\_\_  
D. Gene Kraus

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Vallee

Received for Record: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pamela Brown, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BETHEL**  
**2023 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**  
**BOND ISSUE WARNING**

The legal voters of the Town of Bethel are hereby Notified and Warned to meet on **TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023**, at the White River Unified Middle School (Bethel Campus) Gymnasium between the hours of eight o'clock in the forenoon (8:00 AM), at which time the polls will open, and seven o'clock in the afternoon (7:00 PM), at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot on the following Article:

Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Bethel in an aggregate amount not to exceed Two Million Five Hundred Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$2,500,000.00), subject to reduction by state and federal grants-in-aid and other financial assistance, be issued to fund the costs and expenses of making capital improvements to the water system of the Town of Bethel?

## BALLOT

### ARTICLE 2

Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Bethel be issued in an aggregate amount not to exceed Two Million Five Hundred Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$2,500,000.00), subject to reduction by state and federal grants-in-aid and other financial assistance, be issued to fund the costs and expenses of making capital improvements to the water system of the Town of Bethel?

To vote "YES", make a cross (X) in this square . To vote "NO", make a cross (X) in this square .

Town of Bethel  
Selectboard Agenda  
Monday, January 9, 2023  
6:30 pm @ Bethel Town Hall & via Zoom

Zoom Link Meeting ID: 827 5176 0467 Passcode: 965347 Dial: 1-646-558-8656

---

Present: Lindley Brainard \*\*, Dave Eddy, Chris Jarvis, Gene Kraus, Paul Vallee, Therese Kirby \*\*, Julie Kraus\*\*

Visitors: Leonard Meek \*\*

6:31 pm: Call meeting to order. Agenda edited to move "Executive Session: Motion to enter executive session to discuss the evaluation of an employee per 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(3)." to the next Selectboard meeting. Moved by Paul Vallee, seconded by Gene Kraus, and so voted.

Public Comment \*

Gene commented that the Energy Committee applied for a grant and has received notice of the grant approval.

FY 2023-2024 Budget Discussion

Reviewed potential tax rate, including the addition of requests of the Bethel Public Library, Bethel Recreation Committee and Randolph Playhouse.

Draft Town Meeting Warning and Bond Informational

Town Meeting Warning must go to the printers by January 25. Some discussion about any changes from the State Legislature for future town meetings state-wide, dates (i.e. all in-person, partial on-line, date flexibility, etc.) Bond Informational meeting during the Town Meeting.

EPA Community Grant/Sen. Sander's earmark for Sand Hill - update

\$750,000 with a \$150,000 match. The match cannot be ARPA money; however, there are no time limits on using these monies. Using the original plan and improving stormwater, repairing the road base and repaving the entire road, more of Sand Hill Road will be in the project than originally planned.

June 2022 finalized audit

No substantial findings.

Minutes and Communications:

1. Town Manager's Report
2. Selectboard Minutes from 12/19/2022 Paul moved to accept minutes, seconded by Lindley. So voted.
3. Other Communications -
4. Any Other Business Necessary to Come Before the Board  
Many staff have been dealing with illness since October and the Town Office is very short staffed. Currently Pam Brown is the only staff in the building.

7:27 pm Motion to adjourn by Paul, seconded by Lindley. So voted.

The next meeting of the Selectboard will be January 23, 2023 at 6:30 pm.

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

\*\* via Zoom

## Year in Review

In 2022, the Selectboard sold our share of the Bethel Royalton Transfer Station to the Town of Royalton. Bethel will still be a member of the White River Alliance and pay our annual dues for use, so nothing has changed for Bethel residents using the Transfer Station. We sold our share for \$273,250, which will be paid to us in annual installments over five years.

The Selectboard also contracted with NEMRC to perform a two-year rolling reappraisal starting in July of 2023. They will work with the Bethel Listers to review all 1,117 parcels, to be sure land sizes/values and building sizes/values are all up-to-date. This process allows the Grand List to be adjusted to reflect accurate values. Once the reappraisal is complete, property owners will receive a "Change of Appraisal Notice", which will show the past and current value of the property, and the amount of decrease or increase. There is a statutory process by which people can speak with NEMRC and the Listers to discuss any changes.

We have included a copy of our finalized audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2022. As you can see, Bethel now has an undesignated fund balance. This is due to tighter financial controls and Department Head oversight.

The Equipment Committee approved the purchase of a 2022 Western Star to replace the 2013 Freightliner. We have yet to take possession of the vehicle due to Covid delays, but hope to have in on the road by March of 2023. This purchase continues to be a part of the capital equipment plan for purchasing highway equipment.

During 2022, the Selectboard adopted the Declaration of Inclusion, updated the Purchasing Policy and Cemetery Rules, and renewed the Town Manager's contract for two years.

The Selectboard also appropriated American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money to replace the pumps at the wastewater plant, replace the generator on Lower Church Street for the Sewer Department, update the Town website and perform road construction projects.

Bethel has secured funding to replace the small bridge over Stoddard Brook on Peavine Boulevard, rebuilding and repaving of Christian Hill, a stormwater/paving project on Sand Hill, a ditching and culvert replacement project on Wright Road/Gilead Road and to replace a large culvert on Deering Road. Those projects will happen during 2023. We also secured funding for a 4-year scoping and construction project to update the sidewalk from a portion of Church Street to a portion of Pleasant Street. Pinello Bridge replacement will happen in 2024.

To help reduce the damage to Town roads during rain storms and the spring thaw, property owners are reminded it is your responsibility to manage your own stormwater runoff. You should be keeping your driveway crowned, and your ditches and culverts clear of debris.

Bethel still desperately needs volunteers on the Planning Commission, to oversee the shooting range, the Bethel Fire Department, the Equity & Inclusion Committee, Energy Committee, Development Review Board and Class 4 Road Committee. If you are interested in serving in any of these roles, please attend a meeting or reach out to the Town Office for more information.

On behalf of the Selectboard and the Town Manager, we hope you all have a safe and healthy 2023.

Selectboard:

Chris Jarvis - Chair, Lindley Brainard, Dave Eddy, D. Gene Kraus and Paul Vallee

Town Manager Therese Kirby

# Equity and Inclusion Committee Meeting

Tuesday December 24, 2022 6pm-8pm

IN PERSON at the Bethel Town Hall, Potluck style gathering!

Audio available VIA ZOOM:

<https://zoom.us/j/5820627640?pwd=TVNiSURhVm5ScTgweWI6OHdRbzZ4QT09>

Meeting ID: 582 062 7640

Dial In: 1-646-558-8656

## Agenda:

1. Welcome Introductions (5 min)
  - Check In: Name, gender pronouns
  
2. Public Comment (5 min)
  
3. Review and Approval of last meeting's notes (3 min)
  
4. Selectboard Meeting Updates (15 min)
  - a. Updates on December & January Selex Meetings
  - b. February Sign Up - 9th and 23rd (at 6:30)
  - c. Re-Appraisal Process Overview
  - d. Town Meeting elections:
    - i. Selectboard Member (3 years) (Paul Vallee)
    - ii. Selectboard Member (2 years) (Chris Jarvis)
    - iii. Lister (1 year) (Pamela Brown)
      - iv. Lister (3 years) (Judi Brigham)
      - v. Trustee of Public Funds (3 years) (Sandy Farrell)
      - vi. Trustee of Public Funds (1 year) (Paul Vallee)
  
5. History-Keeping / Central Email System (10 min)
  - a. Overview of current system
  - b. Request for a centralized system
    - i. one gmail account and google drive / assign role of checking email regularly
    - ii. all committee members have access to drive
    - iii. central communication / email address for town members to contact us / available on website
    - iv. our work is saved beyond our time on the committee and can be transferred to future committee members
  - c. Suggested email address: [betheequityandinclusion@gmail.com](mailto:betheequityandinclusion@gmail.com) (betheequity is not available)

6. Bethel University (10 min)
  - a. Leaders of each session & Preparation planning

7. Vermont Community Foundation Grant (50 min)

- a. WE GOT IT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

- b. Language available here:

- [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pR4mFbP6iAsBeZ0JXuU1kUI\\_udpRkaz7pWJwjyLsP9k/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pR4mFbP6iAsBeZ0JXuU1kUI_udpRkaz7pWJwjyLsP9k/edit?usp=sharing)

- c. Next steps:

- i. Set dates

- ii. Develop budget

- iii. Discuss Printed materials

- iv. Book club books / leads / dates (& talk to Library?)

- v. Student groups

- vi. Juneteenth planning committee

- d. Activities:

**Presentation: Supporting Equity and Inclusion of Transgender People**

This training provides an overview of concepts of gender while addressing common barriers faced by transgender and non-binary people and concrete tools to remove those barriers. **January 2023** (Jesse & Owen lead w/ Trans Student group)

**Presentation: Creating Accessible Spaces**

This training increases understanding of disabilities and explains difficulties that may be experienced in particular settings, why they arise, and offers ways to address or overcome them. **March 2023** (Laura leads)

**Presentation: Healing Justice**

This presentation will take place at Farmer James' land and will provide an overview of natural immune boosters & medicinal herbs and discuss BIPOC leadership in VT agriculture. **August 2023** (James leads)

**Presentation: The History of Slavery in Vermont**

This presentation leads up to Juneteenth and explores Vermont's relationship to slavery and the abolition movement. **May 2023** (Leaders needed - find speakers?)

**Event: Juneteenth Celebration**

This community event will be hosted by the Equity and Inclusion Committee of the Town of Bethel on June 19th at the Bethel Bandshell. The event will provide education about the history and meaning of Juneteenth while also celebrating the liberation of formerly enslaved people. (Sub-committee assembled?)

**Equity & Inclusion Book Club**

The Bethel Equity and Inclusion Committee will host a quarterly book club meeting where community members gather to discuss books written by BIPOC authors. Books will be provided to community members who cannot afford to purchase their own book and a copy of all four books will be donated to the Bethel Library. Jan, April, July & Oct 2023 (Who leads?)

**Weekly Meetup for BIPOC Students**

Facilitated by adults and teachers who identify as BIPOC in our community, this weekly affinity group will be a safer space for middle and high school students who identify as BIPOC to gather, support each other, create art, and find joy.

(Dana Decker point person to coordinate on this)

**Weekly Meetup for Trans\* Students**

Facilitated by adults and teachers who identify as trans\* in our community, this weekly affinity group will be a safer space for middle and high school students who identify as transgender and non-binary to gather, support each other, create art, and find joy.

(Owen and Jesse point people to coordinate on this)

**REMINDER: Our Committee strives to model accessibility so all presentations and book groups will provide free childcare to parents, will be located at ADA accessible spaces whenever possible (options are limited in our town), and will provide food to incentivize participation of low income people/families, etc.**

8. LGBTQ+ Support Policy in White River Valley School District (10 min)

9. Next EIC Meeting (5 min)

a. Next Meeting Time: February 28, 2022 6pm-8pm VIA ZOOM

1. Appreciations (5 min)

Town of Bethel, Vermont  
Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, 1/10/23 6:30 PM  
Town Offices

Meeting brought to order at 6:30pm

Present: Lisa Campbell, Emily Miller, Ferron Griffin, Chris Fors, Mark Heckman, Danny Dover, Christian Pelletier

1. Minutes: Minutes from the November meeting were approved.
2. Plans for improvements to River Street and Peavine Park (Christian Pelletier, White River Partnership)
  - a. The WRP plans to apply for funding in January from the Recreation Trails Program. If we receive the funding, the work might happen at the end of 2023 summer or fall.
  - b. Items the grant would address:
    - i. River Street Access: steps, boat access, and a kiosk. We discussed whether we want to pursue full ADA compliance, something more minimal or something in between.
    - ii. Some improvements at Peavine Park, including the removal of the old boat launch and an improved trail through the knotweed so people can put in boats in an easier location and a kiosk.
  - c. The CC would be happy to write a letter of support for the project. We will get that signed and delivered to the WRP before our next meeting.
3. Planning Commission Update
  - a. Discussion about the current draft of the Bylaws. The CC is pleased with the changes and direction things are moving in.
4. Bethel Parks Challenge Update
  - a. Looked at the cool swag that people got for participating.
5. Land Stewardship webinar coming up
  - a. Land Stewardship: The Cold Hollow to Canada Woodlots Toolkit
  - b. Format: Zoom Webinar (With a Q&A session)
  - c. Date: Friday, January 20, 2023
  - d. Time: 1:00-2:00pm Location
  - e. Presenter: Monica Przyperhart, Cold Hollow to Canada Program Director
6. Any other business
  - a. Legislative breakfast, 7:30am, 2nd Monday of every month through the legislative season. Get the word out.
  - b. Carla's meadow
    - i. Wetland stakes need to be moved a bit on the northern edge.
    - ii. The wetland area might benefit from a small walking bridge to keep folks out of the wet soils.
  - c. VOREC updates
    - i. Landowner agreement forms have been submitted, multiple times.
    - ii. Still waiting on funds to be released.

- iii. The trail around the ball fields may need some additional permitting to accommodate wetlands at one part. That part might benefit from a big Green Up Day clean-up.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45pm. Next meeting will be Tuesday, 2/7/23, 6:30pm at the Town office.