

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Town of Orwell, Vermont

For the Year Ending
December 31, 2025



Memorial Day Parade & the new gazebo *Courtesy of Cindy Sproul*

Please bring this report with you to:
Town of Orwell Meeting
♦ Tuesday, March 3, 2026 ♦ 10:00 a.m. ♦

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

FIRE/FIRST RESPONSE – 911 or 802-382-0963

www.orwellvtfire.gov

POLICE – 911 or 802-388-4919

Animal Control – Addison County Sheriff's Department 802-388-2981

**Health Officer – Kent Anderson 802-948-2156 **Forest Fire Warden – Alex Kansky – 802-829-2141

IMPORTANT ORWELL DATES

FEBRUARY 19, 2026

SVUUSD School Meeting – 6:30pm

Fair Haven Union High School

MARCH 3, 2026

Town Meeting – 10:00am Orwell Town Hall

MARCH 27, 2026

Rabies Clinic at the Orwell Fire House

5:00pm to 7:00pm Dogs can be licensed at this clinic

APRIL 1, 2026

ON OR BEFORE – 2026 DOG LICENSE REQUIRED

Liquor/Tobacco Licenses expire on due date yearly

MAY 2, 2026

Green-Up Day

M-F 8:00AM to 2:00PM

Hazardous Waste Center at ACSWMD in Middlebury

Sat. 8:00AM to 2:00PM

Business hazardous waste by appointment

MAY 24, 2026

Orwell Memorial Day Parade 1:30pm

2026 at Mount Independence State Historic Site - 250th Anniversary

497 Mount Independence Road Orwell, Vermont (802) 948-2000

www.historicsites.vermont.gov/mount-independence

\$8.00 for adults, \$1.00 for ages 6-16, free for children under 6,

Fri. May 22 - Wed. Oct. 28, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Planning for 2026 events, including more nature programs, is underway. Please check event listings later at www.historicsites.vermont.gov or www.mountindependence.org or call the site at 802-948-2000 after it opens. 250th anniversary events in 2026 and 2027. Contact us if you have ideas or would like to help. This year opens through Wed., Oct. 28th, to honor the Mount's finest day, when it turned back the British fleet in 1776.

EVENTS

Friday, May 22: Opening Day, 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, May 23: Early Bird Nature Walk, 8:00 -11:00 a.m.

Bird expert Sue Wetmore is your guide. Meet in front of the museum, wear walking shoes, and bring your binoculars if you have them.

June 13-14: Vermont Days Weekend Free admission at Vermont State Historic Sites and day use State Parks June 13: Opening of new Western Defenses Trail, 1:00 p.m.

July 25: Mount Independence 250, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Day to commemorate 250th anniversary of the naming of Mount Independence after the Declaration of Independence-- honoring the regiments here in 1776; Orwell Library "Trail Tale;" many activities for all ages; music; and much more. Call for details.

August 16: Bennington Battle Day Free admission at all Vermont State Historic Sites

September 5 and 6: Soldiers Atop the Mount Living History Weekend, during site hours Reenactors will be encamped at the site for this annual program. Special 250th offerings.

September 5 or 6 (date and time to be determined): Military Road Auto Tour, Mount Independence to Hubbardton Battlefield, honoring 250th anniversary of Gen. Gates order to build the road.

October 24 or 25 (TBD): The Mount's Finest Day: commemorating October 28, 1776, when the strength of the Mount and Ticonderoga turned back Sir Guy Carleton and his British fleet, saving New England and points south for the winter.

NOVEMBER 10, 2026

PROPERTY TAXES DUE

PLEASE PAY TOWN TREASURER AT THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF ORWELL

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Auditors' Report 2025

The undersigned Auditors of the Town of Orwell, Vermont have examined the accounts and reports of the various town offices and organizations for the 2025 calendar year. We declare, to the best of our abilities and after careful review, that these records are correct and accurate.

The financial statements submitted herewith represent fairly the financial positions of the Town of Orwell for the year ending December 31, 2025. The Town of Orwell prefers to operate on a cash, rather than an accrual basis, and to the best of our knowledge all expenses and receipts are accounted for.

The reports and projects presented by various social service agencies have been accepted as is without further consideration or inspection. Copies of the various agency reports are available at the Town Clerk's office.

We thank those in our Orwell community who dedicate their experience and talent and make town government run smoothly every year. You make a difference and we are grateful. To our Orwell neighbors, we wish you a happy and successful 2026.

Corrections with respect to 2024 reports:

Please note that the beginning balances for the Orwell Free Library and for the Wright Memorial Library accounts differ slightly from the ending balances presented in the 2024 annual reports. Specifically:

- The 2025 Orwell Free Library beginning balance reflects an outstanding check for \$30 which was not acknowledged in the 2024 financial submission resulting in a beginning balance amount \$30 less than the ending balance shown at the end of 2024.
- The 2025 Wright Memorial Library beginning balance reflects two receipts totalling \$3,000 recorded in the organization checkbook and bank statements but not reflected in the ending balance shown at the end of 2024.

Respectfully submitted,
Ed Hilton, Karen Rowland, and Danielle Rougeau
Auditors, Town of Orwell

❧ ❧
**ATTENTION ALL HALE AND HARDY
ORWELLIANS**
❧ ❧

**THE TOWN OF ORWELL, VERMONT
WAS FOUNDED IN 1763**



THEREFORE IN 2013



ORWELL CELEBRATED



**THE TOWN'S 250th ANNIVERSARY
ON AUGUST 17-18, 2013**



***AS ONE OF THE FINAL
DEDICATIONS TO THE EVENT,
A TIME CAPSULE WAS BURIED
AND IS TO BE
OPENED ON
AUGUST 18, 2063***



~~~~~  
~~~~~ 38 YEARS TO GO!

TOWN OFFICERS 2025

MODERATOR

Michael R. Audet

TOWN CLERK

Elizabeth "Betty" Walker

TOWN TREASURER

Bryan S. Young

TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS

Bryan S. Young

SELECTMEN

Mike Christian -2 year of a 3 yr term
Les Wood - 2 year
Rob Barnes - 3 year
Joe Pouliot - 2 year
Andrea Treadway - 3 year

Term Expires 2026
Term Expires 2026
Term Expires 2027
Term Expires 2027
Term Expires 2028

AUDITORS

Edward Hilton
Karen Rowland (Appt 1 year of a 3 year term)
Danielle Rougeau

Term Expires 2026
Term Expires 2027
Term Expires 2028

LISTERS

Cheryl Tudhope
Jean Audet
Sharon Ronchetti (2 year of a 3 year term)

Term Expires 2026
Term Expires 2027
Term Expires 2028

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Cindy Werner
Emily Casey
Sarah Harris
Amy Buxton Torrey
Virginia Wilson
Karen DeMoy
Rae Anne Barry
Becky Maden
Anna "Kathy" Buxton

Term Expires 2026
Term Expires 2027
Term Expires 2027
Term Expires 2027
Term Expires 2028
Term Expires 2028
Term Expires 2029
Term Expires 2029
Term Expires 2030

CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS

Jeff Wachelka
Wayne G. Hall
Arlene Batschelet
Susan James
Diane Jackson

Term Expires 2026
Term Expires 2027
Term Expires 2028
Term Expires 2029
Term Expires 2030

| | | |
|--|------------------------|---|
| FIRST CONSTABLE | | Allen R. Alger |
| EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR | | Sandy Korda |
| DEPUTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR | | Robert G. Arnebold |
| ASSIST. TOWN CLERKS / | | Sharon Macedo
Anna Golann |
| ASSIST. TREASURER | | Diane Jackson |
| TAX COLLECTOR | | Bryan S. Young |
| DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR | | Diane Jackson |
| JUSTICES OF THE PEACE | | |
| Glen Cousineau | Richard O. Buxton, Jr. | Lisa Limoge |
| Michael R. Audet | Stephanie Corey | |
| ZONING ADMINISTRATOR | | Thomas J. Purdy, Sr. |
| ASSIST. ZONING ADMINISTRATORS | | Stephanie Corey
Harold "Joe" Pouliot |
| LIBRARIAN | | Kate Hunter |
| LIBRARIAN'S ASSISTANTS | | Heather Ewing
Michelle Goddard |
| HEALTH OFFICER | | Kent Anderson |
| WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR | | Edward Tracey |
| ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER | | Sheriff's Department |
| TREE WARDEN | | Allen M. Alger |
| ORWELL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF | | Paul Metcalf
Alex Kansky |
| FIRST RESPONSE RESCUE SQUAD | | Peter W. Ochs |
| PLANNING COMMISSION/DRB MEMBERS | | |
| Dan Redondo, Chair | David Burtch | |
| Sharon Macedo, Sec. | Cian Quinn | |
| Gary Murdock, Vice Chair | | Joe Andriano, Alternate
Michelle Wigginton |

W A R N I N G

THE LEGAL VOTERS OF THE TOWN OF ORWELL, VERMONT,
ARE HEREBY WARNED TO MEET AT THE TOWN HALL IN SAID ORWELL,
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2026, AT 10:00 A.M.

TO TRANSACT THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS:

PLEASE NOTE: The vote under Articles One will be by Australian Ballot. The Polls will be open from 10:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m., **Tuesday, March 3, 2026**, at the Orwell Town Hall.

1. To Elect all Town Officers, required by law, as follows by Australian Ballot:

| | |
|---|------------------|
| 1 Town Moderator for one year | Glen Cousineau |
| 1 Town Clerk for one year | Anna Golann |
| 1 Town Treasurer for one year | Bryan S. Young |
| 1 Trustee of Public Funds for one year | Bryan S. Young |
| 1 Select Person for three years | Mike Christian |
| 1 Select Person for two years | Les Wood |
| 1 Auditor for three years | |
| 1 Auditor for one year (of a three year term) | |
| 1 Lister for three years | |
| 1 Lister for 1 year (of a three year term) | |
| 1 Lister for two years (of a three year term) | Sharon Ronchetti |
| 1 Library Trustee for five years | Cindy Werner |
| 1 Cemetery Commissioner for five years | Sharon Macedo |
| 1 Delinquent Tax Collector for one year | Diane Jackson |
| 1 First Constable for one year | Gary Murdock |

2. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to accept the Town Officers report submitted by the Auditors?
3. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to accept the report of the Board of Trustees of the Ethan M. & Eliza T. Wright Memorial Library, Inc?
4. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to appropriate funds for the following town projects (each item to be voted separately)?
 - A. \$16,500.00 for the operating expenses of the Ethan M. & Eliza T. Wright Memorial Library Building for 2026?
 - B. \$2,000.00 for the purchase of books and materials by the Orwell Free Library?
 - C. \$200.00 for St. Paul's Cemetery in order to defray a portion of the 2026 maintenance costs?
 - D. \$2,500.00 for the 2027 operating expenses of the Orwell Parade Committee?
 - E. \$750.00 for the Sixty-Plus Club of Orwell, funds to be used to defray the costs of operating said club for the Senior Citizens of the Town of Orwell?
 - F. \$1,750.00 for the 2026 operation of the Orwell Youth Recreation Program?
 - G. \$4,000 for the operating expenses of the Orwell Historical Society?

5. Shall the Town of Orwell vote to have the Treasurer collect taxes on real property on or before November 10, 2026, by delivery to Treasurer postmarked on or before that date?
6. Shall the Town of Orwell vote delinquent taxes and delinquent sewer rents to have an 8% penalty charged against them and a 1% interest per month added from the due date?
7. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to conduct the next annual municipal meeting to be held at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, March 2, 2027, per 17 VSA §2640? (Election of Town Officers by Australian ballot will be on Tuesday, March 2, 2027.)
8. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to accept the proposed 2026 Town Budget in the amount of **\$ 1,877,297.38** of which **\$1,162,961.19** shall be raised by taxes and **714,336.19** to be raised by non-tax revenues?
9. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell accept the proposed 2026 Sewer Budget in the amount of **\$110,691.36**, such amount to be raised by user rents and dumping fees?
10. Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell appropriate funds for the following Social Services and other requests by petition (each item to be voted separately)?
 - A. Counseling Service of Addison County, Inc. **\$1,500.00**, funds to be used to help pay part of the cost of providing mental health care to town residents?
 - B. H.O.P.E., Inc. **\$1,750.00**, funds to be used to help defray part of the cost of providing housing, fuel, food, clothing, and other essential items?
 - C. Atria Collective, Inc, formerly Women Safe, Inc. **\$1,250.00**, funds to be used to support their mission to work toward the elimination of physical, sexual, and emotional violence against women and their children through direct service, education and social change?
 - D. Addison County Home Health and Hospice, Inc. **\$5,000.00**, funds to help defray costs for providing home health care services to infants, children and adults referred by their physicians, regardless of their ability to pay?
 - E. Tri-Valley Transit **\$830.00**, funds to maintain and improve transportation services for elders, persons with disabilities, and the general public?
 - F. Addison County Readers, Inc. **\$350.00**, funds for the purpose of improving literacy skills for children under five years of age?
 - G. Addison County Restorative Justice Services Inc. **\$740.00**, funds to provide restorative justice projects for offenders who have potential to learn from their mistakes and avoid incarceration and a criminal record?
 - H. Turning Point Center of Addison County **\$1,000**, for the purpose of supporting its mission to assist persons, their families, and their friends in recovery from substance use disorder and addictive behaviors?

I. Elderly Services \$1,200.00, funds for the purpose of improving the lives of area elders through the "Project Independence" adult day program, family counseling, door to door transportation and nutritious meals?

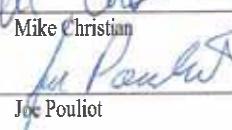
11. To transact any other business which may legally come before the Town.

Signed and dated at Orwell, Vermont on this 27 day of January 2026.

Orwell Select Board



Andrea Treadway, Chair

Mike Christian

Rob Barnes

Joe Pouliot



Les Wood, Vice Chair

NOTICE TO VOTERS

*FOR HELP OR INFORMATION CALL
THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE
1-800-439-8683
(Accessible by TDD)*

BEFORE ELECTION DAY:

CHECKLIST POSTED: February 1, 2026

(No later than 30 days before election - 17:2141).

Please make certain that your name is on the checklist. If it is not, Register to Vote. Same Day Registration (17:2144[a]). There is no deadline to register to vote. You will be able to register to vote on the day of the election. You can register prior by visiting the Town Clerk's Office or going online to olvr.vermont.gov.

SECRET PARTY CHOICE. You do not register by party in Vermont.

EARLY OR ABSENTEE BALLOTS:

When - Voters, no later than **2:00 p.m.** on the day before election, in the Orwell Town Clerk's Office on **MONDAY, March 2, 2026** (17:2531[a], 2532[a][1]).

How - Request either in person, in writing, by telephone or online at mvp.vermont.gov.

Who - Voter or family member may apply all three ways. Non-family member with written authorization by the voter may apply in person.

ONLY A VOTER SHALL TAKE A BALLOT OUT OF THE TOWN OFFICE. (17:2537)

On ballot requests by other than a voter, ballots must be **MAILED** to voter.

EARLY OR ABSENTEE VOTING -

1. Vote in the Town Clerk's office before the deadline.
2. Voter can have ballots mailed or may take their ballots out of the clerk's office and then either return in person, via someone else or by mail to the Town Clerk before **7:00 p.m. on Election Day**.
3. If ill or disabled request that two Justices of the Peace bring a ballot to you at your home. (Ballots can be delivered on any of the eight days preceding the day of the election or on the day of election.)

ONCE VOTED AND RETURNED, AN ABSENTEE BALLOT CANNOT BE RETURNED TO THE VOTER FOR ANY REASON.

POSTING OF SAMPLE BALLOTS: On or before **February 21, 2026**

(No later than 10 days before election - 17:2522[a]).

AT THE POLLS:

If your name was dropped from the checklist in error, explain the situation to your Town Clerk and ask that it be put back on.

If the problem isn't cleared up to your satisfaction, have the Town Clerk or a Select Person or other member of the Board of Civil Authority call an immediate meeting of the members of the board who are present.

If you are still not satisfied, you may appeal to a judge who will settle the matter that day. Call the Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-439-8683 for more information.

If you know voters who cannot get from the car into the polling place, let them know that a ballot may be brought to their car by two election officials.

If you know voters who have physical disabilities, are visually impaired, or cannot read, let them know they may bring a friend or relative who is a registered voter to help them to vote.

DO NOT:

- A. *Knowingly vote more than once, either in the same town or in different towns.*
- B. Mislead the Board of Civil Authority about your own or another person's eligibility to vote.
- C. *Hinder or Impede a voter going into or from the polling place.*
- D. Leave campaign materials in the voting booth or building containing a polling place.
- E. *Socialize in a manner that will disturb other voters.*
- F. Offer bribe, threaten or exercise undue influence to dictate or control the vote of another person.

For HELP or INFORMATION: Call the Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-439-VOTE (439-8683).

If you believe that any of your voting rights have been violated, you may file an Administrative Complaint with the Secretary of State's Office, 128 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633.

If you believe you have witnessed efforts to commit any kind of fraud or corruption in the voting process, you may report this to your local United States Attorney's Office.

If you have witnessed actual or attempted acts of discrimination or intimidation in the voting process, you may report this to the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice at (800) 253-3931.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTERS using Australian Ballots

If you have any questions after reading the following, or at any time during the voting process, ask your Town Clerk or another Election Official.

CHECK IN:

1. Go to "ENTRANCE" checklist table.
2. **GIVE YOUR NAME**, and if asked, your residence to the Election Official in a *clear audible voice*.
3. Wait until your name is repeated and checked off by the Election Official.

ENTER:

1. Take your ballot(s) from the election official and enter a voting booth. Fill in the oval to the right of the name of the candidate(s) or issue(s) you want to vote for. Follow the directions on the ballot as to how many to vote for (Example- "Vote for not more than two").
2. To vote for someone whose name is not printed on the ballot, use the blank line labeled "WRITE-IN" on the ballot.

IF YOU SPOIL YOUR BALLOT ask an Election Official for another ballot.

The limit is three ballots.

CHECK OUT:

1. Go to the "EXIT" checklist table.
2. **GIVE YOUR NAME** to the Election Official in a *clear, audible voice*.
3. Wait until your name is repeated and checked off by the Election Official.
4. **VOTE** by placing your voted ballot(s) in the "VOTED BALLOTS" box(s).
5. Leave the voting area by passing outside the guardrail.

To save a lot of confusion, I am asking that voters, when voting on a paper ballot at Town Meeting, *to please vote only on the Article under debate*. PLEASE *do not ask* the Election Official, at that time, for your Australian Ballot.

Thank you for your help.

Respectfully,
Elizabeth "Betty" Walker, Town Clerk
Sharon Macedo, Assistant Town Clerk
Anna Golann, Assistant Town Clerk

ABSTRACT OF GRAND LIST

2025 Tax Rate

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Total Listed Value of Real Estate | \$ 237,623,300.00 |
| TOTAL GRAND LIST | \$ 2,376,233.00 |

VOTED AMOUNTS TO BE RAISED BY TAXES

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Wright Memorial Library Operations | \$ 16,000.00 |
| Orwell Free Library | 1,500.00 |
| St. Paul's Cemetery | 200.00 |
| Orwell Parade Committee | 2,200.00 |
| Orwell 60-Plus Club | 750.00 |
| Orwell Youth Recreation Program | 1,000.00 |
| Orwell Historical Society | 4,000.00 |
| Town Clock Tower | 14,500.00 |
| Select Board Budget | 996,472.39 |
| Counseling Service of Addison County | 1,500.00 |
| H.O.P.E. | 1,750.00 |
| Atria Collective, Inc. (formerly Women Safe) | 1,250.00 |
| Addison County Home Health & Hospice | 5,000.00 |
| Retired Senior Volunteer Program | 320.00 |
| Tri-Valley Transit | 830.00 |
| Addison County Readers, Inc. | 350.00 |
| Addison County Restorative Justice Services | 740.00 |
| Turning Point Center of Addison County | 1,000.00 |
| Addison County Parent/Child Center | 1,500.00 |

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| TOTAL TAXES TO BE RAISED BY TOWN | \$ 1,050,862.39 |
|---|------------------------|

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------|----------|---|----------|---------------------|----------|---------------|
| TAX RATE | = | AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAX BILLING | = | 1,050,862.39 | = | 0.4423 |
| | | TOTAL GRAND LIST | | 2,376,233.00 | | |

| | | |
|---|----------|---------------|
| Municipal Rate Set by Select Board | = | 0.4423 |
| STATE SET HOMESTEAD TAX RATE | = | 0.9320 |
| STATE SET NON-RESIDENTIAL RATE | = | 1.1797 |

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Grand List 2025 | 2,376,233.00 |
| Grand List 2024 | 2,297,712.00 |
| Grand List 2023 | 1,530,593.00 |

Respectfully submitted,
Bryan S. Young, Treasurer

TOWN OF ORWELL
2025 STATEMENT OF FUNDS

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Balance December 31, 2024 | \$ 279,457.88 |
| Agency of Natural Resources | 7,320.82 |
| Beer & Tobacco Licenses | 140.00 |
| Book Restoration Fees | 4,958.00 |
| Borrowings | |
| Tax Anticipation | 579,000.00 |
| Collector/Collected Taxes | 81,869.07 |
| Penalties | 6,549.50 |
| Warrant Interest | 7,951.96 |
| Copier Fees | 2,067.78 |
| Current Use Recording | 1,483.50 |
| Dog Licenses | 4,930.00 |
| Clerk Fees | 15,230.00 |
| Grant-in-Aid | 9,500.00 |
| Grant Receipts | 113,561.10 |
| Interest Income | 285.76 |
| PILOT Payment State Property | 7,099.00 |
| Reappraisal Payment- State | 779.00 |
| Refunds | 124.18 |
| Rental Income, Old Town Garage | 2,400.00 |
| Speed Control | 7,376.47 |
| State Highway Aid | 78,798.23 |
| State Hold Harmless | 104,938.00 |
| Tax Adjustments- State, School | 83,744.90 |
| Tax Receipts Total | 3,000,791.13 |
| Town Green Fundraiser and Grant | 4,095.00 |
| Zoning Fees | 13,790.00 |
| Tax Paid Slate Valley USD | 2,116,578.71 |
| Payment of Borrowings | 570,800.00 |
| Payment of Select Board Orders | 1,675,472.79 |
| Line Items Paid | 54,390.00 |
| Bank Fees | 139.18 |
| Balance December 31, 2025 | 860.60 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$ 4,418,241.28 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$ 4,418,241.28 |

Respectfully submitted,
 Bryan S. Young
 Town Treasurer

**TOWN OF ORWELL
RESERVE FUNDS 2025**

Reappraisal Fund

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|-------|
| Balance December 31, 2024 | \$ - | | |
| 2025 State Payment Received | \$ 6,621.50 | | |
| Interest Income | \$ 209.74 | | |
|
Balance December 31, 2025 | |
\$ 6,831.24 | |
| | <hr/> | \$ 6,831.24 | <hr/> |

Book Restoration Fund

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|------------------|-------|
| Balance December 31, 2024 | \$ 24,060.42 | | |
| 2024 Fees Received | \$ 3,815.00 | | |
| Interest Income | \$ 1,071.40 | | |
|
Balance December 31, 2025 | |
\$ 28,946.82 | |
| | <hr/> | \$ 28,946.82 | <hr/> |

Respectfully submitted,
Bryan S. Young
Trustee of Public Funds

**TOWN OF ORWELL
SCHEDULE OF INDEBTEDNESS 2025**

| | Balance
12/31/2024 | Borrowed | Paid | Balance
12/31/2025 |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| <u>Town of Orwell</u> | | | | |
| Fire Truck | \$ 189,000.00 | \$ - | \$ 37,800.00 | \$ 151,200.00 |
| Tax Anticipation 2025 | - | 533,000.00 | 533,000.00 | - |
| Tax Anticipation 2026 | - | 46,000.00 | - | 46,000.00 |
| <u>Sewer Fund</u> | | | | |
| Lagoon Project | \$ 366,217.52 | \$ 68,717.52 | \$ 91,217.52 | \$ 343,717.52 |

Respectfully submitted,
Bryan S. Young
Town Treasurer

TOWN OF ORWELL
2025 PAYROLL

General

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Allen R. Alger | 140.40 |
| Joseph Andriano | 375.00 |
| Jean Audet | 3,392.93 |
| Robert Barnes | 1,750.00 |
| Michael Christian | 437.50 |
| Rex Corey | 1,687.50 |
| Heather Ewing | 8,282.00 |
| Michelle Goddard | 1,227.60 |
| William Goddard | 1,750.00 |
| Anna Golann | 2,714.00 |
| Kate Hunter | 43,596.00 |
| Diane Jackson | 6,893.80 |
| Sidney Korda | 1,500.00 |
| Sharon Macedo | 32,088.37 |
| Thomas Purdy | 1,311.66 |
| Becky Quesnel | 595.25 |
| Cian Quinn | 375.00 |
| Daniel Redondo | 375.00 |
| Sharon Ronchetti | 3,402.47 |
| Danielle Rougeau | 974.40 |
| Karen Rowland | 961.20 |
| Andrea Treadway | 2,000.00 |
| Cheryl Tudhope | 6,529.14 |
| Elizabeth Walker | 62,557.79 |
| Leslie Wood | 1,750.00 |
| Bryan Young | 29,507.91 |
| | \$ 216,174.92 |

Highway

| | |
|------------------|---------------|
| Allen M. Alger | 84,119.46 |
| James Booska | 233.19 |
| Alexander Kansky | 57,049.58 |
| Peter Parent | 68,865.07 |
| | \$ 210,267.30 |

Sewer

| | |
|---------------|--------------|
| Diane Jackson | 401.72 |
| Edward Tracey | 22,859.05 |
| | \$ 23,260.77 |

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan S. Young

Town Treasurer

Orwell Selectboard Report 2025

The Selectboard continues to work on projects started in prior years with the goal of reducing the future tax burden to our community through energy efficiency projects with the Municipal Energy Resiliency Program (MERP) Implementation Grant and the salt shed project. We completed the new town equipment shed, bought the wheeled excavator, and the bandstand this year. We continue to look at ways to reduce the tax burden through grants and other programs.

We have included the balance of the salt shed project in this year's budget, which is slated for completion fall of 2026, making sure we are in compliance with the State and EPA for stormwater mitigation prior to the deadline.

Our solar contractor, GEE (Green Earth Energy) completed the MERP solar projects at the sewer plant and firehouse. We are starting to see the benefits of producing energy for the town buildings, reducing the cost of energy for the town. Joe Pouliot removed the trees prior to the solar installation at the sewer plant saving the town from this expense. BCI dug the trench for the powerlines at the sewer plant. Our general contractor All Points Construction along with the architectural firm Architend are collaborating with us to continue the rest of the weatherization and energy efficiency projects through the grant. Currently, they are working at the Town Clerk's Office, which has new lighting and a roof. Once completed the Clerk's Office will have new heating/ventilation, insulation, doors, and an upgraded ADA compliant ramp. There are similar projects slated for the Town Garage, Firehouse, and Sewer Plant. The remaining income and expenses are part of this year's budget with the completion of the grant projects this summer. This project is the result of the MERP grant which does not require matching funds. The cost of the project comes from grant funds, tax credits, and rebates.

The town highway department writes and receives multiple grants each year which help to offset the cost to our taxpayers for maintaining our 75.375 miles of roadway. The Road Foreman received a municipal grant-in-aid to for ditching projects. We received a Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) grant for a scoping study for a crosswalk on Route 73 so our students to safely access the library after school. The next step is to work with VTRANS on culvert sizing and creating the crosswalk.

Last year, through a grant written by the Addison County Sheriff's Department we received a radar sign. We recently bought a small trailer for the highway department to mount the sign to move it around town. This will be on a road near you this spring to hopefully reduce speeding and make our roads safer.

The Rescue Squad received a PACIF grant through the town for new safety equipment (life vests). This ensures our first responders are safe when providing aid during water rescue on our lakes and ponds.

We would like to thank Rob Barnes for planting and taking care of two maple trees in front of the Town Clerk's Office. These trees are in memory of Roland "Ted" Simmons Jr and Walker James former Selectboard members.

The Selectboard thanks the following long-time elected officials and staff retiring this year for their service. Cheryl Tudhope - 35 years as a Lister, Jean Audet – 16 years as a Lister, Elizabeth "Betty" Walker - 28 years combined as Assistant Town Clerk (18 years) and Town Clerk (10 years), Sharon Macedo - 11 years as Assistant Town Clerk, Kathy Buxton – 21 years as a Library Trustee, and Karen Rowland with 30+ years as Auditor.

If anyone is interested in becoming a Lister or Auditor or interested in servicing on a committee or board, please contact the Selectboard.

Finally, thank you to the members of our community who donated time, materials, and food to those working on the Bandstand Project! A special thank you to, Fran Bradish, Ray Bradish, Rob Barnes, Robbie Barnes, Derek Clifford, Missy Clifford, Bill Goddard, Bill McDoal, Joe Pouliot, Tom Purdy Sr., Tom Purdy Jr., Alan Wilson, Les Wood, and Matt Wyse. We would also like to thank Cody Steele of Peak Performance Builders for the roof and Bud Carpenter and crew with BCI for the sidewalks and powerline trenching.

Respectfully, Andrea Treadway on behalf of the Selectboard:

Rob Barnes Mike Christian Joe Pouliot
Andrea Treadway, Chair Les Wood, Vice Chair

****GREEN UP DAY IS SATURDAY MAY 2, 2026****

Thank you to all the Green Up helpers for 2025 Green Up Day!

Special thanks to Cindy Watrous and Barbara Young - another momentous year of service to Orwell!

The Selectboard cannot succeed with this project without your help.

In order to keep our Town looking beautiful, we continue to need volunteers for the 2026 State Road-side cleanup.

This Year Cindy Watrous and Barbara Young will be glad to sign you up for Green Up/Roadside Day.

The Sign-up sheet will be at Town Meeting and Town Clerk's Office.

| CATEGORY | 2025
BUDGET | 2025
ACTUAL | 2026 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | | | BUDGET |
| Balance forward General Fund | 279,457.88 | 279,457.88 | 860.60 |
| Agency of Nat'l Resc-F&W | 7,320.82 | 7,320.82 | 7,500.00 |
| Beer /Tobacco Licenses | 170.00 | 140.00 | 140.00 |
| Better Roads Grant | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Book Restoration Fees | 3,800.00 | 4,958.00 | 3,800.00 |
| Borrowings - Tax Anticipation | 0.00 | 579,000.00 | |
| Borrowings - Line Items/Capital | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| Clean-up Day | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| Copier Fees | 2,000.00 | 2,067.78 | 2,000.00 |
| Current Use Rel/App Recordings | 60.00 | 1,483.50 | 60.00 |
| Delinquent Penalties | 0.00 | 6,549.50 | |
| Delinquent Tax Collected Past Yrs | 65,000.00 | 81,869.07 | 65,000.00 |
| Delinquent Tax Current Yrs | 0.00 | | |
| Delinquent Tax Interest | 7,000.00 | 7,951.96 | 7,000.00 |
| Delinquent Tax Legal Fees | 0.00 | | |
| Dog Fees/Kennel | 4,200.00 | 4,930.00 | 4,500.00 |
| Fees | 12,000.00 | 15,230.00 | 12,000.00 |
| Grand List- Act 60-Reappraisal State | 775.00 | 779.00 | 780.00 |
| Grand List-Reappraisal Fund Transfer | 0.00 | | |
| Grant-Library Summer Program | | | |
| Grant Receipts | 9,862.50 | 603.40 | 9,862.50 |
| Grant-in-Aid | 0.00 | 9,500.00 | |
| Insurance Claims | 0.00 | | |
| Interest Income | 60.00 | 285.76 | 60.00 |
| Legal Settlement | 0.00 | | |
| MERP Implementation Grant | 420,330.79 | 112,957.70 | 307,373.09 |
| Misc. Income | 0.00 | | |
| Pilot Payment | 6,000.00 | 7,099.00 | 7,000.00 |
| Refunds | 0.00 | 124.18 | |
| Rent, Old Town Garage | 2,400.00 | 2,400.00 | 2,400.00 |
| Sale of Equipment | 0.00 | | |
| Sheriff Contract | 12,000.00 | 7,376.47 | 12,000.00 |
| State Highway Aid | 150,000.00 | 78,798.23 | 150,000.00 |
| State Hold Harmless Payment | 90,000.00 | 104,938.00 | 90,000.00 |
| State Paving Grant | 0.00 | | |
| Tax Adjustment w/State, School | 30,000.00 | 83,744.90 | 30,000.00 |
| Tax Receipts | 996,472.39 | 829,822.42 | 1,162,961.19 |
| Town Green Fundraiser & Grant | 0.00 | 4,095.00 | |
| Zoning Fees | 2,000.00 | 13,790.00 | 2,000.00 |
| TOTAL INCOME | 2,100,909.38 | 2,247,272.57 | 1,877,297.38 |

| CATEGORY | BUDGET | 2025 | 2026 |
|---------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | | ACTUAL | BUDGET |
| Ambulance | 16,107.00 | 16,107.00 | 16,107.00 |
| Animal Control | 0.00 | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| ARPA Expenditures | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| Bank Service Charge | 60.00 | 139.18 | 60.00 |
| Better Back Roads Exp | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| Borrowings - Tax Anticipation | 0.00 | 533,000.00 | |
| Borrowings - Line Items/Capital | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| Cemeteries | 26,125.00 | 26,125.00 | 18,000.00 |
| Clean-up Day | 100.00 | 0.00 | 100.00 |
| Dues and Fees | 12,877.00 | 21,047.36 | 21,000.00 |
| Election Fees | 500.00 | 350.00 | 500.00 |
| Emergency Services Dispatch | 3,500.00 | 3,850.00 | 4,200.00 |
| Emergency Management Training | 1,000.00 | 57.40 | 1,000.00 |
| MERP Implementation Grant | 420,330.79 | 213,557.70 | 206,773.09 |
| Fire Truck | Principal | 37,800.00 | 37,800.00 |
| | Interest | 7,560.00 | 7,539.28 |
| Fire Department | | | |
| ACFA/VSFA Dues | 600.00 | 200.00 | 650.00 |
| American Tower Rent | 1,253.94 | 1,285.32 | 1,300.00 |
| Building Maintenance | 600.00 | 1,548.19 | 2,000.00 |
| Electricity | 1,500.00 | 1,613.39 | 1,500.00 |
| Equipment Testing | 3,000.00 | 2,379.50 | 3,500.00 |
| Equip Vehicle Repair | 9,000.00 | 7,983.88 | 9,000.00 |
| Equip Purchase | 9,000.00 | 28,235.45 | 10,000.00 |
| Fire Extinguisher | 1,000.00 | 0.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Heat-Propane | 2,000.00 | 2,135.60 | 2,000.00 |
| Hydrant & Pond Maint | 10,000.00 | 0.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Insurance | 9,831.54 | 9,367.27 | 9,015.10 |
| Radio Repair | 3,000.00 | 0.00 | 4,000.00 |
| Sewer Rent | 372.50 | 372.50 | 380.00 |
| Telephone | 600.00 | 1,068.23 | 650.00 |
| Training | 1,000.00 | 202.49 | 1,500.00 |
| Turnout Gear | 14,000.00 | 7,396.82 | 16,000.00 |
| Waste Removal | 408.00 | 512.00 | 500.00 |
| Well | 4,000.00 | 4,304.65 | 0.00 |
| Total Fire Department | 71,165.98 | 68,605.29 | 63,995.10 |
| First Response | | | |
| American Tower Rent | 1,253.94 | 1,285.26 | 1,300.00 |
| Building Maintenance | 600.00 | 818.59 | 600.00 |
| Dues | 200.00 | 150.00 | 200.00 |
| Electricity | 600.00 | 610.47 | 600.00 |
| Equip Vehicle Repair | 600.00 | 2,680.29 | 600.00 |
| Equip Purchase | 3,850.00 | 156.00 | 3,850.00 |
| Heat - Propane | 1,500.00 | 1,654.70 | 1,500.00 |
| Insurance | 1,367.82 | 1,303.79 | 2,536.75 |
| Oxygen | 100.00 | 0.00 | 100.00 |
| Radio Repair/Purchase | 1,000.00 | 1,383.99 | 1,000.00 |
| Sewer Rent | 372.50 | 372.50 | 380.00 |
| Supplies | 2,000.00 | 2,896.68 | 2,000.00 |
| Telephone | 600.00 | 152.90 | 600.00 |
| Training | 1,500.00 | 2,182.81 | 2,000.00 |
| Total First Response | 15,544.26 | 15,647.98 | 17,266.75 |

| CATEGORY | BUDGET | 2025 | 2025 | 2026 |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|--------|
| | | ACTUAL | BUDGET | BUDGET |
| Fuel & Oil | 32,000.00 | 39,781.19 | 42,000.00 | |
| Gasoline | 5,000.00 | 5,134.00 | 5,000.00 | |
| Grant Expense | 9,862.50 | 394.48 | 9,862.50 | |
| Health Insurance | 28,875.00 | 24,061.80 | 29,160.00 | |
| Highway Improvements | | | | |
| Chloride | 30,000.00 | 28,548.99 | 32,000.00 | |
| Contracted Services | 30,000.00 | 19,324.90 | 10,000.00 | |
| Culverts | 15,000.00 | 13,196.00 | 15,000.00 | |
| Ditching | 3,000.00 | 0.00 | 3,000.00 | |
| Equipment Rental | 15,000.00 | 0.00 | 5,000.00 | |
| Gravel | 150,000.00 | 134,753.72 | 125,000.00 | |
| Paving | 60,000.00 | 58,500.58 | 100,000.00 | |
| Salt, for Winter | 50,000.00 | 67,822.59 | 100,000.00 | |
| Sand, for Winter | 50,000.00 | 44,924.48 | 80,000.00 | |
| Signage/Guard Rails | 2,000.00 | 605.90 | 3,000.00 | |
| Snow Removal | 1,000.00 | 0.00 | 1,000.00 | |
| Stone | 10,000.00 | 0.00 | 10,000.00 | |
| Training/Other | 500.00 | 0.00 | 500.00 | |
| Tree Removal | 0.00 | 0.00 | 10,000.00 | |
| Total Highway Improve | 416,500.00 | 367,677.16 | 494,500.00 | |
| Highway, Equipment Maintenance | | | | |
| Chains | 4,000.00 | 1,606.00 | 4,000.00 | |
| Equip Purchase | 65,000.00 | 57,075.89 | 10,000.00 | |
| Excavator | 0.00 | 0.00 | 5,000.00 | |
| GMC Pickup 2017 | 4,000.00 | 4,262.22 | 4,000.00 | |
| Grader | 10,000.00 | 6,774.57 | 5,000.00 | |
| Loader | 6,000.00 | 398.07 | 5,000.00 | |
| Mack Truck 2017 | 10,000.00 | 24,191.30 | 15,000.00 | |
| Mack Truck 2019 | 10,000.00 | 2,994.66 | 15,000.00 | |
| Miscellaneous Parts | 4,000.00 | 3,539.43 | 4,000.00 | |
| Oil, Grease, Filters | 4,000.00 | 3,179.24 | 4,500.00 | |
| Road Side Mower | 4,000.00 | 3,580.33 | 4,000.00 | |
| Shoes, Edges, Plows | 6,000.00 | 14,506.77 | 6,000.00 | |
| Small Equip Repair | 500.00 | 0.00 | 500.00 | |
| Sundries | 400.00 | 89.44 | 400.00 | |
| Tools | 2,000.00 | 1,813.34 | 2,000.00 | |
| Wetland Permit | 2,600.00 | 1,842.00 | 2,600.00 | |
| Total Equip Maint | 132,500.00 | 125,853.26 | 87,000.00 | |
| Highway Payroll | 208,000.00 | 210,267.30 | 216,320.00 | |
| Payroll Retirement | 14,600.00 | 14,952.74 | 16,560.00 | |
| FICA + Medicare | 16,000.00 | 16,734.41 | 17,270.00 | |
| Total Payroll | 238,600.00 | 241,954.45 | 250,150.00 | |
| Insurance | 30,963.37 | 28,165.45 | 32,225.67 | |
| Interest on Borrowings | 2,000.00 | 7,066.14 | 2,000.00 | |
| Library Payroll | 51,912.00 | 53,105.60 | 53,989.00 | |
| Payroll Retirement | 29,934.35 | 29,976.84 | 3,445.00 | |
| FICA + Medicare | 3,980.88 | 4,228.64 | 4,308.00 | |
| Total Payroll | 85,827.23 | 87,311.08 | 61,742.00 | |
| Library Grant Match | 16,181.25 | 656.25 | 15,525.00 | |

| CATEGORY | BUDGET | 2025 | 2025 | 2026 |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|------|------------|
| | | ACTUAL | | BUDGET |
| Listers | | | | |
| Consulting | | | | 3,200.00 |
| Dues | 240.00 | 50.00 | | 300.00 |
| Equip Purchase | 1,700.00 | 941.38 | | 1,000.00 |
| Lister Maps | 2,500.00 | 1,362.50 | | 1,700.00 |
| Postage | 0.00 | 49.43 | | 100.00 |
| Supplies & Licensing | 1,800.00 | 742.12 | | 1,730.00 |
| Training | | | | 1,200.00 |
| Total Listers | 6,240.00 | 3,145.43 | | 9,230.00 |
| Legal Fees | 5,000.00 | 7,594.77 | | 7,500.00 |
| Mileage | 1,200.00 | 887.88 | | 1,200.00 |
| Misc. Exp | 500.00 | 78.44 | | 500.00 |
| Payroll | 182,175.00 | 163,069.32 | | 189,027.00 |
| Payroll Retirement | 37,225.00 | 36,493.16 | | 7,000.00 |
| FICA + MCARE | 13,940.00 | 12,992.80 | | 15,100.00 |
| Total Payroll | 233,340.00 | 212,555.28 | | 211,127.00 |
| Planning Commission/DRB | 1,500.00 | 0.00 | | 1,500.00 |
| Property Appraisal | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Property Tax Adjustment | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Street Lights | 5,000.00 | 4,868.92 | | 5,000.00 |
| Sundries/Rental Unit | 1,000.00 | 970.00 | | 1,000.00 |
| Sheriff Contract | 30,000.00 | 23,303.75 | | 30,000.00 |
| Town Clock | 1,000.00 | 0.00 | | 1,000.00 |
| Town Green | | | | |
| Bandstand | 38,020.00 | 25,244.73 | | 12,775.27 |
| Ball Field | 3,500.00 | 577.20 | | 2,500.00 |
| Ball Field Repairs * | - | 0.00 | | |
| Grounds | 1,000.00 | 19.99 | | 500.00 |
| Maintenance & Improvements | 5,000.00 | 1,397.80 | | 1,000.00 |
| Mowing | 6,800.00 | 6,430.00 | | 7,000.00 |
| Electricity | 320.00 | 330.97 | | 350.00 |
| Sanitary Services | 1,000.00 | 375.00 | | 500.00 |
| Programming for Events | 500.00 | 104.75 | | 500.00 |
| Total Town Green | 56,140.00 | 34,480.44 | | 25,125.27 |
| Town Garage | | | | |
| Electricity | 3,200.00 | 3,040.90 | | 3,200.00 |
| Heat - Propane | 2,000.00 | 1,688.53 | | 2,000.00 |
| Garage Repairs | 1,000.00 | 0.00 | | 1,000.00 |
| Salt/Sand Shed | 107,805.00 | 50,000.00 | | 120,000.00 |
| Storage Building | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| Sewer Rent | 745.00 | 745.00 | | 760.00 |
| Waste Removal | 1,200.00 | 1,242.56 | | 600.00 |
| Total Town Garage | 115,950.00 | 56,716.99 | | 127,560.00 |

| CATEGORY | BUDGET | ACTUAL | 2025 | 2026 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------|---------------------|
| | | | | BUDGET |
| Town Office | | | | |
| Book Restoration Reserve Transfer | 3,815.00 | 3,815.00 | | 4,958.00 |
| Book Restoration | 500.00 | 0.00 | | 500.00 |
| Books - Land Records | 300.00 | 998.95 | | 1,000.00 |
| Books - Microfilm | 500.00 | 37.50 | | 500.00 |
| Building Repair | 1,000.00 | 1,058.34 | | 1,000.00 |
| Copier | 2,500.00 | 2,282.65 | | 2,500.00 |
| Electricity | 1,650.00 | 1,448.64 | | 1,600.00 |
| Equipment Purchase | 5,000.00 | 4,055.85 | | 5,000.00 |
| Equipment Repair | 1,000.00 | 0.00 | | 1,000.00 |
| Heat - Propane | 1,300.00 | 1,418.09 | | 1,300.00 |
| Postage | 3,800.00 | 2,971.45 | | 3,800.00 |
| Roof Replacement | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| Sewer Rent | 745.00 | 745.00 | | 760.00 |
| Supplies * | 2,500.00 | 4,094.46 | | 2,500.00 |
| Telephone | 4,250.00 | 4,153.48 | | 4,250.00 |
| Waste Removal | 1,200.00 | 1,294.21 | | 720.00 |
| Total Town Office | 30,060.00 | 28,373.62 | | 31,388.00 |
|
Town Report & Ballots |
3,000.00 |
1055.00 | |
1,200.00 |
| TOTAL ORDERS BUDGETED/PAID | 2,100,909.38 | 2,246,411.97 | | 1,877,297.38 |
|
Borrowings Paid |
860.60 | | | |
| Balance 12/31/25 | | | | |
| TOTAL | 2,247,272.57 | | | |

Town of Orwell
Taxes Billed vs. Collected 2025

| | |
|--|-----------------------|
| Total Taxes Billed | 3,481,443.76 |
| Less State Payments | <u>(374,760.84)</u> |
| Net Taxes Due | 3,106,682.92 |
| Less Taxes Collected | <u>(3,000,791.13)</u> |
| 2025 Tax Warrant | 105,891.79 |
| Less Delinquent Taxes Collected | <u>(32,336.49)</u> |
| 2025 Delinquent Taxes Due as of 12/31/25 | 73,555.30 |

Town of Orwell
Delinquent Tax Report 2025

| Tax Year | Balance 12/31/24 | Additions | Payments | Balance 12/31/25 |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 2021 | 7,908.21 | - | 4,413.70 | 3,494.51 |
| 2022 | 14,320.01 | - | 5,672.16 | 8,647.85 |
| 2023 | 13,818.37 | - | 3,539.16 | 10,279.21 |
| 2024 | 64,272.99 | - | 35,907.56 | 28,365.43 |
| 2025 | - | 105,891.79 | 32,336.49 | 73,555.30 |
| Totals | 100,319.58 | 105,891.79 | 81,869.07 | 124,342.30 |

TOWN OF ORWELL- DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR
STATEMENT OF FUNDS 2025

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Balance December 31, 2024 | \$ - |
| Delinquent Taxes Collected | 81,869.07 |
| Warrant Interest Collected | 7,951.96 |
| Penalties Collected | 6,549.50 |
| Savings Interest Earned | 189.29 |
| Payments to Town | 96,559.82 |
| Balance December 31, 2025 | - |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$ 96,559.82 |
| | \$ 96,559.82 |

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Jackson
Delinquent Tax Collector

Town of Orwell
Delinquent Tax List- December 31, 2025

| | | |
|-------------|--|----------------------|
| 2021 | H & B Land Holdings | |
| | Subtotal | \$ 3,494.51 |
| 2022 | H & B Land Holdings | |
| | Valley Stock Farm LLC | |
| | Subtotal | \$ 8,647.85 |
| 2023 | Cawley, James & Christina | |
| | Sherman, Leona (Estate) | |
| | Valley Stock Farm LLC | |
| | Subtotal | \$ 10,279.21 |
| 2024 | Cawley, James & Christina | |
| | Curavoo, Estate of Larry | |
| | H & B Land Holdings | |
| | Kenney, Donald & Gioia Kuss | |
| | Orleans, Brian | |
| | Rohne, Kyle & Amy | |
| | Sherman, Leona (Estate) | |
| | Tatour, Duna | |
| | Valley Stock Farm LLC | |
| | Subtotal | \$ 28,365.43 |
| 2025 | Cawley, James & Christina | |
| | Curavoo, Estate of Larry | |
| | Danylieko, Wilfred | |
| | Davis, Estate of Orval | |
| | H & B Land Holdings | |
| | Hall, Louis & Phyllis | |
| | Holley, Gregory | |
| | Hutchins, Justin & Sarah | |
| | Jacobs, Suzanne | |
| | Jiyaan Holding LLC | |
| | Kenney, Donald & Gioia Kuss | |
| | Krol, Jessica | |
| | Lojek, Jaime & Nina Soffron | |
| | Orleans, Brian | |
| | Orwell Ltd Liability Co. | |
| | Outright Vermont | |
| | Rohne, Kyle & Amy | |
| | Sherman, Leona (Estate) | |
| | Tatour, Duna | |
| | Valley Stock Farm LLC | |
| | Wist, John Joseph and Charles Bundy Wist | |
| | Subtotal | \$ 73,555.30 |
| | Total | \$ 124,342.30 |

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Jackson, Collector

TOWN OF ORWELL
TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS
2025 ANNUAL REPORT

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Cash and Securities December 31, 2024 | \$ 166,361.57 |
| Interest Earned in 2024, distributed in 2025 | (316.62) |
| Gain (Loss) on Eaton Vance Fund | 5,579.92 |
| Interest Earnings- Munger Fund | 1,280.55 |
| Perpetual Care Added | 600.00 |
| Interest Earnings to be distributed in 2026 | 249.81 |
|
Cash and Securities December 31, 2025 | |
| Combined CD | |
| School Fund | \$ 2,989.75 |
| Lake View Cemetery | 1,000.00 |
| Coates Cemetery | 1,084.18 |
| Town- McQuade Fund | 214.50 |
| Wright Memorial Library | 22,961.25 |
| Orwell Free Library | 1,000.00 |
| Mountain View Cemetery | 48,041.77 |
| Accrued Unallocated Interest | 249.81 |
| Mountain View Cemetery- Munger Fund | 32,782.95 |
| Mountain View Cemetery- Eaton Vance | 63,431.01 |
| Trustee Checking | 0.01 |
|
Dividends Received- Eaton Vance | \$ 173,755.23 |
| Interest Earnings | \$ 173,755.23 |
|
Paid to: | |
| SVUSD for benefit of Orwell School | \$ 125.48 |
| Town of Orwell- fbo Lake View Cemetery | 41.97 |
| Town of Orwell- fbo Coates Cemetery | 45.50 |
| Town of Orwell | 9.00 |
| Wright Memorial Library | 963.72 |
| Orwell Free Library | 41.98 |
| Mountain View Cemetery | 2,734.07 |
|
Interest Earnings | \$ 3,961.72 |
| Dividends Received- Eaton Vance | \$ 3,961.72 |

Respectfully submitted,
 Bryan S. Young
 Trustee of Public Funds

TOWN OF ORWELL
STATEMENT OF THE TOWN CLERK
December 31, 2025

| Dog Registration: | # of Dogs | Fee/dog | Total |
|---|--------------|------------|-------------------|
| | 0 | \$7.00 | \$0.00 |
| | 1 | \$9.00 | \$9.00 |
| | 193 | \$13.00 | \$2,509.00 |
| | 31 | \$17.00 | \$527.00 |
| | 70 | \$21.00 | \$1,470.00 |
| | 15 | \$25.00 | \$375.00 |
| Totals | 310 | | \$4,890.00 |
| 1 Pet Dealer Permit | | \$40.00 | |
| 2 Replacement Tags | | \$0.00 | |
| <i>310 Dogs and 1 Pet Dealer Permit</i> | | | \$4,930.00 |
| Money to the Town Treasurer: | | | |
| 1 Pet Dealer Permit | | \$40.00 | |
| Dog Fees | | \$2,720.00 | |
| <i>State Rabies & Spay/Neuter Program</i> | | | \$2,170.00 |
| | Total | | \$4,930.00 |

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth "Betty" Walker
Town Clerk



Reenactment, Ethan Allen's Green Mt. Boys
march to capture Fort Ti

Courtesy Cindy Sproul

Annual Report of the Orwell Development Review Board and Planning Commission

Board Changes

Daniel Redondo was voted as chair of the Development Review Board (DRB) and Planning Commission (PC) at the March 19, 2025 meeting following the resignation of Joe Andriano. Joe returned to the board as an alternate member in July 2025. The DRB and PC are accepting applications for alternate members. If you are interested in participating, please contact Daniel Redondo at 802-989-4629.

Development Review Board

The DRB met monthly to process applications for subdivisions, waivers, and variances.

The DRB denied one variance request (Robie, Permit #1-3-25) for building without a permit and violation of DRB codes for height and square footage of accessory building within the Neighborhood Commercial Zone. The Applicant and the Town of Orwell reached a \$10,000 financial settlement.

The DRB approved:

Condition Use Permit: David Sears & Lisa Knickerbocker (Permit #2-7-25) for construction of a windmill.

Conditional Use Permit: 662 Sunset Lake Road, LLC/Kate Herbst (Permit #3-10-25) for year-round use.

Subdivision Approval: Mary & Stevens Barnes (Permit #3-11-25).

Subdivision Approval and Set Back Requirements Waiver: Bud Carpenter/BCI Enterprises (Permit #3-11-25)

Planning Commission (PC)

The PC met monthly to evaluate and consider modifications to the Town Plan (2024) and Land Use Regulations (2019). The PC did not propose any changes.

In 2024, Vermont enacted ACT 181, which modernized land use review procedures in an effort to increase housing within designated village centers while addressing environmental factors for rural areas outside the village centers. Participation in the ACT 181 process is voluntary for towns. The Planning Commission discussed Act 181 at the July and August PC meetings and received no resident feedback. As a result, the Planning Commission voted to not participate in the Act 181 process at this time. This decision can be re-examined at a future date if warranted by resident interest.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Redondo, Chair

2025 Orwell Development Review Board and Planning Commission Board Members

Daniel Redondo, Chair

Gary Murdoch, Vice Chair

Sharon Macedo, Secretary/Member

Cian Quinn, Member

Michelle Wigginton, Member

David Burtch, Member

Joseph Andriano, Alternate

LISTERS REPORT 2025

The Common Level Appraisal (CLA) for 2025 is 96.37%. The Co-efficient of Dispersion (COD), which measures equity, is 8.95%. These figures are very good for the Town, and the Listers are pleased with the results. The Statewide Adjustment factor applied to our Education Tax Rate is 137.03%.

There are five (5) new homes, and several other large structures to be added to the Grand List in 2026.

Any taxpayer with changes to their property should contact the Listers at the Town Office.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl S Tudhope, (Chair)

Sharon Ronchetti

Orwell Town Listers

Cheryl S. Tudhope, Chair – Retiring March 1, 2026

Sharon Ronchetti, Chair as of March 1, 2026

Open Lister Position #2

Open Lister Position #3



I.G.A.

Courtesy OHM

**TOWN OF ORWELL
VERMONT
TOWN MEETING MINUTES**

MARCH 4, 2025

Town meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Moderator, Michael R. Audet, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. The Moderator reminded the assembly to please state their name before speaking.

Green-up Day for this year is May 3, 2025. Wayne Hall stated that he works with Cindy Watrous and Barbara Young and wanted people to know that this year for Green-up Day it will be roadside clean-up only. There is a sign-up sheet that he will pass around today and then it will be at the Library.

1. As per the Warning, Town Officers were elected by Australian Ballot. The polls were open from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Results of the Australian Ballot follow these minutes.
2. As per the Warning, the ATV/UTV Ordinance question was voted by Australian Ballot. The polls were open from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Results of the Australian Ballot follow these minutes.
3. Paula Barnes moved to accept the reports of the Town Officers submitted by the Auditors. Peter Stone seconded the motion. Miles Tudhope asked "How many people did not get a Town Report?" Andrea Treadway stated that they were brought to the Post Office to be mailed allowing enough time for voters to receive them. She called the Secretary of States Office and was told that once they are mailed out, we have no control. The Town Report is on the Town's website and can be viewed or printed from there. It can also be decided to stop having them mailed out and everyone can pick theirs up at the Town Office. The motion passed by voice vote.
4. Paula Barnes moved to accept the report of the Board of Trustees of the Ethan M. & Eliza T. Wright Memorial Library, Inc. Peter Stone seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.
5. The voters of the Town of Orwell voted on the following town projects separately:
 - A. Paul Stone moved to appropriate \$16,000.00 for the operating expenses of the Ethan M. & Eliza T. Wright Memorial Library Building for 2025. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.
 - B. Thomas Audet moved to appropriate \$1,500.00 for the purchase of books and materials by the Orwell Free Library. Arlene Batschelet seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.
 - C. Peter Stone moved to appropriate \$200.00 for St. Paul's Cemetery in order to defray a portion of the 2025 maintenance costs. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.
 - D. Paula Barnes moved to appropriate \$2,200.00 for the 2026 operating expenses of the Orwell Parade Committee. Peter Stone seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.
 - E. Cindy Werner moved to appropriate \$750.00 for the Sixty-Plus Club of Orwell, funds to be used to defray the costs of operating said club for the Senior Citizens of the Town of Orwell. Dan Redondo seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.
 - F. Thomas Audet moved to appropriate \$1,000.00 for the 2025 operation of the Orwell Youth Recreation Program. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. Jean Audet asked for an explanation on how this money is spent. Maxine Saville explained that this sponsors the youth soccer and softball teams. The motion passed by voice vote.

G. Joe Taparauskas moved to appropriate \$4,000 for the operating expenses of the Orwell Historical Society. Peter Stone seconded the motion. Page Nolker, Secretary, Orwell Historical Society, stated that they are trying to archive and preserve all of the items that are "on loan" or given to the Historic Society. All of the items will be scanned into this Management System which can be used to do research of Orwell from home. Danielle Rougeau, President Orwell Historic Society, has received a lot of free items and equipment from Middlebury College. The motion passed by voice vote.

6. Miles Tudhope moved to appropriate \$14,500 for the painting of the Town Clock Tower. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. Joe Taparauskas asked what the relationship was with the Clock and the Town. Russell Young, Chair, Board of Trustees, gave a history of the Clock. The Church was built in 1842 and did not have a tower. The Bell and the Clock were added in 1882. The Bell and the Clock were gifts from Sally Young, resident of Orwell. It is a Howard Tower Clock. The Bell was given to the Church and the Clock was given to the Town of Orwell. It is called an eight-day clock and is powered by cranking. The Clock stays accurate to within less than one minute. The Clock can be heard up to three miles away. The paint on the Clock Tower is in rough shape and was last painted fifteen years ago. At that time the clock faces were not painted. We found someone to paint it this April. The total cost to paint the entire structure will be \$65,000, with \$4,100 to paint just the clock face. The motion passed by voice vote.

7. Peter Stone moved to have the Treasurer collect taxes on real property on or before November 10, 2025. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

8. Peter Root moved to vote delinquent taxes and delinquent sewer rents to have an 8% penalty charged against them and a 1% interest per month added from the due date. Paul Stone seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

9. Peter Young moved to conduct the next annual municipal meeting to be held at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, March 3, 2026, per 17 VSA §2640. (Election of Town Officers by Australian ballot will be on Tuesday, March 3, 2026. See Article One.) Peter Stone seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

10. Paula Barnes moved to accept the proposed 2025 Budget for the Town, in the amount of \$2,100,909.38, of which \$996,472.39 shall be raised by taxes and \$1,104,436.99 to be raised by non-tax revenues.

Arlene Batschelet seconded the motion. Gerry Audet asked why this is not voted on by Australian Ballot? It was explained that we would need to have a vote. If successful it would not be an Australian ballot until the following year. Paul Stone stated that we have voted on the budget this way ever since he has been in town. There can be no discussion about the budget if it is voted on by Australian Budget. Traditional voting on the floor is the way to go. Cheryl Tudhope reported that there is a movement in the Legislature to create twelve assessing districts, to have County Government. Reach out to your Representative. She also agrees with Paul. Gary Murdock mentioned the Excavator purchase. I see \$65,000 under Equipment Purchase. It was stated that we are budgeting more on Contracted Services and Equipment Rental than last year. Andrea Treadway stated that the \$65,000 is not just for the Excavator. It is for the Excavator and a mud plow. Allen M. Alger, Road Foreman, is willing to speak on this. Allen stated that Contracted Services went down, it was \$50,000 last year. We dig ditches, rent an excavator, change culverts, put rock in ditches, hammer the rock behind the Town Garage. All of that we don't have equipment for. He found a Wheeled Excavator, no trailer needed to move it around, with a 4' ditching bucket, and a 60" bush hog. If the Loader goes down we can still use the Excavator to load trucks. Andrea Treadway stated that we were not sure if the Excavator would pass and then we would still need Equipment Rental. Gary Murdock made an amendment to the budget. Gary Murdock moved to revise the Equipment Rental amount from \$15,000 to \$10,000 and the Contracted Services from \$30,000 to \$10,000. Fran Bradish seconded the motion. Open for discussion. Mike Downey stated that we have a lot of roads to take care of, so we need equipment to keep the dirt roads up. How long is it going to take and how much would it cost to clean up the mess of the ditches? Allen stated they are going to do the work. Jean Audet thought that if an item is over a certain amount that it had to be voted separately. Peter Stone stated that they get voted separately if we are getting a loan for it. Allen found the excavator in New York. We signed a Letter of Intent, if the budget passed we would purchase it. Andrea Treadway

stated that everybody is feeling the effect. We reduced the numbers. The Select Board worked hard and cut \$48,000 before we put out the budget. The clerk read the Amendment to the budget: Gary Murdock moved to revise the Equipment Rental amount from \$15,000 to \$10,000 and the Contracted Services from \$30,000 to \$10,000. Discussion continued. Gary explains that revising this eliminates the double dipping of this and the excavator purchase, correct? Arlene Disorda asked if we can just vote on the excavator? Wayne Hall asked the Road Foreman if the amount gets reduced, can you still do your work? Bill Goddard said he doesn't think the amendment should be made for a specific item. It should be to reduce the budget amount. Bill Logan asked if the vote on the amendment depends on the purchasing of the excavator? Paul Stone stated what Bill Goddard said, you can reduce the budget not a specific item. Paul Stone moved the question. The Clerk read the amendment again. Gary Murdock moved to revise the Equipment Rental amount from \$15,000 to \$10,000 and the contracted Services from \$30,000 to \$10,000. People stood to be counted. 49 Yes 53 No. The motion was defeated. Gary Murdock said then we are just reducing the budget, we lost all control. Andrea Treadway said that per State Statute we can take your suggestion under consideration if you would like you can advise the Select Board to reduce the Highway Budget. Paul Stone said he noticed that we received a MERP Grant in the amount of \$420,330.79. He is happy to see that we got this grant. Paul asked when will work be done? Andrea Treadway replied that this is a "no local match" grant. We are working with ACRPC (Addison County Regional Planning Commission) for a RFP (Request for Proposal). We hope to start work in late Spring/early Summer. There will be two solar arrays to reduce the electric costs to Green Mountain Power. We need someone to do a website redesign to make it more user friendly, and then we will put this information on. Paul Stone stated that the Town Garage was built as "energy efficient", designed and built by his sons. Rick Buxton asked how much the budget is up over last years? Bryan Young stated 7.4% or about \$70,000. Andrea stated that this does not translate into a 7.48% increase in property taxes. Wayne Hall noticed there is \$38,000 in the budget for the Town Gazebo. The size of this Gazebo is appropriate for the few events we have on the Town Green that would use it. \$38,000 would go a long way to fix it. Miles Tudhope asked what the Library's relationship is with the Town. Rules from the State. The Library's payroll is listed with the towns as town employees. Last years Library retirement was \$2,699.27 and this year it is \$29,934.35. Andrea Treadway explained that VMERS (Vermont Municipal Employees Retirement System) was not taken out. This was an oversite. There were years that retirement was not offered to two employees, which is mandatory. Andrea stated that she worked with Bryan Young, Treasurer. The amount is just over \$56,000 and it must be paid all at once. This is not the employees fault, so the town is responsible to pay the employees and the towns share. Anyone who works 24+ hours is State mandated for retirement. Gary Murdock asked about the \$15,000 from ARPA that was for the Town Office Roof. Andrea stated that the Town Office Roof is now covered by the MERP Grant so the \$15,000 was put toward the Sand/Salt Shed. The motion passed by voice vote.

11. Paul Stone moved to accept the proposed 2025 Sewer Budget in the amount of \$112,076.67, such amount to be raised by user rents and dumping fees. Peter Stone seconded the motion. Gary Murdock asked what this would do to the monthly rent? Bill Goddard answered that the quarterly bill will go from \$175.00 to \$190.00, for a total of \$760.00 a year. The motion passed by voice vote.
12. The following articles for funds for Social Services and other requests by petition were voted on separately.
 - A. Paula Barnes moved to appropriate \$1,500.00, for Counseling Service of Addison County, Inc., funds to be used to help pay part of the cost of providing mental health care to town residents. Peter Stone seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.
 - B. Paula Barnes moved to appropriate \$1,750.00, for H.O.P.E., Inc. funds to be used to help defray part of the cost of providing housing, fuel, food, clothing, and other essential items. Peter Stone seconded the motion. Jean Audet asked if these are included in the Budget. Andrea Treadway replied that these are in addition to the Budget. The motion passed by voice vote.

- C. Paul Stone moved to appropriate \$1,250.00, for Atria Collective, Inc., formerly Addison County Woman Safe, Inc., funds to be used to support their mission to work toward the elimination of physical, sexual, and emotional violence against women and their children through direct service, education and social change. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. John Wurtzbacher asked why we go through this same exercise every year. The Social Services having to get signatures. There is no place for them to get signatures. We have always asked for them to get signatures. They all received plenty of signatures by leaving them at the Orwell Bank. The motion passed by voice vote.
- D. Richard O. Buxton, Jr. moved to appropriate \$5,000.00, for Addison County Home Health and Hospice, Inc., funds to be used to help defray costs for providing home health care services to infants, children and adults referred by their physicians, regardless of their ability to pay. Sandy Robinson seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.
- E. Paul Stone moved to appropriate \$320.00, for RSVP, Retired & Senior Volunteer Program, funds to support RSVP. Peter Stone seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.
- F. Thomas Audet moved to appropriate \$830.00, for Tri-Valley Transit, funds to maintain and improve transportation services for elders, persons with disabilities, and the general public. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. Gerry Audet asked if we even use Tri-Valley Transit in Orwell? Members of the assembly answered "yes". The motion passed by voice vote.
- G. Paula Barnes moved to appropriate \$350.00, for Addison County Readers, Inc., funds for the purpose of improving literacy skills for children under five years of age. Peter Stone seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.
- H. Kent Anderson moved to appropriate \$740.00, for Addison County Restorative Justice Services, Inc., funds to provide restorative justice projects for offenders who have potential to learn from their mistakes and avoid incarceration and a criminal record. Peter Stone seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.
- I. Cindy Werner moved to appropriate \$1,000.00, for Turning Point Center of Addison County, for the purpose of supporting its mission to assist persons, their families, and their friends in recovery from substance use disorder and addictive behaviors. Kent Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.
- J. Cindy Werner moved to appropriate \$1,500.00 for Addison County Parent/Child Center, funds to support classes, transportation, infant care and family education services used by town residents. Christine Pouliot seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

13. To transact any other business which may legally come before the Town.

Andrea Treadway stated that she moved here in 1984 and the one constant has been Mike Audet as Moderator, which he has been since 1978... 48 years! Mike was presented with a plaque made by Maple Landmark. Mike Audet received a standing ovation.

Mike spoke about being in VietNam. He stated that there are a lot of good people in town. It is not easy to do these jobs. Its people like you that make this all happen and he is very proud of this town. Mike asked how many Veterans were in attendance at the meeting today. There were five Veterans. Think of them, he said, write them a letter.

Wayne Hall thanked the Orwell First Response and the Fire Department for all they do. The assembly applauded.

Rick Buxton wanted to recognize Dan and Cindy Werner who are no longer on the Recreation and Parks Committee, but did a lot of work while on it. They received a round of applause.

Bill Goddard has been on the Select Board for 6 years, but did not run for re-election. Bill received a round of applause.

Cindy Werner thanked the present and past Select Board members for giving hours and hours of their time. They received a round of applause.

Jean Audet mentioned that there are usually three Listers. There is, at this time, one position open for Lister. Anyone interested please contact Cheryl Tudhope or Jean Audet.

Chris Mongeur asked if public bids will be going out for the MERP Grant. Andrea Treadway answered that RFP's will be in the Addison Independent and on the Addison County Regional Planning website.

Information of these Social Services can be found on the Orwell website. For free health and human services information & referral services Dial 2-1-1.

Paula Barnes moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 AM. Peter Stone seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

Attest: Elizabeth Walbor

Date: 3/24/2025

Orwell Select Board

Andrea Treadway
Andrea Treadway, Chair
Rob Barnes
Rob Barnes
Les Wood
Les Wood

Mike Christian
Mike Christian
Bill Goddard, Vice Chair

Zoning Report 2025

The Orwell Land Use Regulations were created to maintain Orwell's rural character and way of life. The Orwell Land Use Regulations are available to review online in the Town of Orwell website and can be picked up at the Town Office. The application for a permit is also on the website. All can be downloaded and printed out.

All projects town landowners take on are unique. Some may be exempt, i.e.: window and door replacement, siding or roof replacement etc. Some require a permit, i.e.: adding a deck or porch, a dormer etc. Some may require Development Review Board approval. Others may require one or more State permits before a Town permit can be issued. All State permits need to be filed and recorded with the Town Clerk.

The Regulations can be complicated at times, so don't hesitate to call me or the Town Clerk with any questions. We are here to HELP.

Zoning Activity 2025

- * New Construction. 9
- * Additions. 3
- * Signs. 2
- * Decks and Porches. 11
- * Agriculture. 7
- * New Garages, Sheds, Storage Buildings. 11
- * Permit Extensions. 4
- * Certificate of Compliance. 8
- * Lot Line Adjustment. 1
- * Violation. 4

When considering a project please allow time to work through the process and if you have any questions or concerns please contact us.

Again we are here to Help.

Respectfully,



Thomas J. Purdy Sr.
Zoning Administrator
Home 1-802-278-2025

Town of Orwell Wastewater Treatment Facility

Calendar Year 2025



The Town of Orwell Wastewater Treatment Facility is pleased to announce that the facility has enjoyed another year of permit compliance and excellent treatment of the wastewater entering the facility. The Facility continues to improve in compliance and operations. Proactive and forward thinking by the Select Board/ Sewer Commissioners continues to provide the Facility with the support that allows the Facility to perform at maximum compliance.

With the forward thinking and proactive approach projected by the Orwell Select Board a new blower was purchased and installed replacing an existing blower showing signs of fatigue and increased power consumption.

A solar array was also installed utilizing available grant funding. The array was completed in September and the inverters and metering components were completed in December. The array went on line December 30, 2025. We anticipate a significant contribution from the array in reducing power costs at the facility.

The users of the Town of Orwell Wastewater Treatment Facility and the Town in general are fortunate to have a Select Board that supports the efforts to provide a well-maintained Town and Facility. Their commitment to a proactive approach has provided a Facility that the Town can be proud of.

As always the staff of the Wastewater Treatment Facility welcomes visitors and will be more than happy to conduct a tour of the Facility to any interested parties.

Respectfully submitted,
Edward Tracey

TOWN OF ORWELL - SEWER REPORT

| CATEGORY | 2025 | | 2026 |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | BUDGET | ACTUAL | |
| INCOME | | | |
| Balance Forward | 21,924.92 | 21,924.92 | 19,157.36 |
| Interest | 0.00 | 15.59 | |
| Delinquent Collector Penalty | 0.00 | 526.69 | |
| Delinquent Rents Collected | 0.00 | 6,583.66 | |
| Interest - Warrant | 0.00 | 599.18 | |
| User Rents | 68,651.75 | 61,246.25 | 70,034.00 |
| Dumping Fees | 21,500.00 | 19,963.89 | 21,500.00 |
| TOTAL INCOME | 112,076.67 | 110,860.18 | 110,691.36 |
| EXPENSES | | | |
| Bank Fees | 60.00 | 30.00 | 30.00 |
| Evaluation Project | 0.00 | | |
| Insurance | | | |
| Property & Liability | 690.54 | 1,235.81 | 1,303.56 |
| Workers Compensation | 1,303.56 | 661.29 | 690.54 |
| Laboratory | 1,200.00 | 1,037.12 | 1,200.00 |
| Lab: Sludge Testing | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Lab: WET Test | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Lagoon Reserve | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Loan Payment | Principal | 45,763.82 | 22,500.00 |
| | Interest | 9,650.00 | 9,704.02 |
| Payroll | | 22,929.01 | 23,260.77 |
| Payroll expenses | | | 24,191.20 |
| | FICA & MCARE | 1,829.74 | 1,779.45 |
| Postage | | 200.00 | 76.81 |
| Project Costs | | 0.00 | 208.65 |
| Repairs | Building | 500.00 | 392.08 |
| | Equipment | 1,000.00 | 8,497.83 |
| | Other | 250.00 | 474.75 |
| Mileage | | 800.00 | 837.90 |
| Miscellaneous Expense | | 500.00 | 343.32 |
| Sundries | | 300.00 | 211.64 |
| Supplies | Chlorine | 2,050.00 | 1,265.64 |
| | Equipment | 1,000.00 | 41.33 |
| | Lab Chemicals | 500.00 | 226.99 |
| | Other | 500.00 | 410.65 |
| Training & License | | 350.00 | 307.00 |
| Utilities, Electricity | | 20,000.00 | 17,981.31 |
| Propane | | 700.00 | 218.46 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | | 112,076.67 | 91,702.82 |
| Balance December 31, 2025 | | | 19,157.36 |
| TOTALS | | | 110,860.18 |

Town of Orwell
Delinquent Sewer Report 2025

| Tax Year | Balance
12/31/24 | Additions | Payments | Balance
12/31/25 |
|---------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 2023 | 1,131.76 | - | 1,131.76 | - |
| 2024 | 4,234.50 | - | 2,497.42 | 1,737.08 |
| 2025 | - | 7,420.50 | 2,954.48 | 4,466.02 |
| Totals | 5,366.26 | 7,420.50 | 6,583.66 | 6,203.10 |

TOWN OF ORWELL- SEWER FUND
2025 STATEMENT OF FUNDS

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Balance December 31, 2024 | \$ 21,924.92 |
| Borrowings | 68,717.52 |
| Collector/Collected Rents | 6,583.66 |
| Penalties | 526.69 |
| Warrant Interest | 599.18 |
| Dumping Fees | 19,963.89 |
| Interest Income | 15.59 |
| User Rents | 61,246.25 |
| Payment of Borrowings | 91,217.52 |
| Payment of Select Board Orders | 69,172.82 |
| Bank Fees | 30.00 |
| Balance December 31, 2025 | 19,157.36 |
| | \$ 179,577.70 |
| | \$ 179,577.70 |

Respectfully submitted,
 Bryan S. Young
 Town Treasurer

**TOWN OF ORWELL- DELINQUENT SEWER COLLECTOR
STATEMENT OF FUNDS 2025**

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-------|----------|----------|
| Balance December 31, 2024 | \$ | - | |
| Delinquent Rents Collected | | 6,583.66 | |
| Warrant Interest Collected | | 599.18 | |
| Penalties Collected | | 526.69 | |
| Savings Interest Earned | | 15.59 | |
| Payments to Town | | \$ | 7,725.12 |
| Balance December 31, 2025 | | | - |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | \$ | 7,725.12 | \$ |
| | | 7,725.12 | |

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Jackson
Delinquent Tax Collector

**Town of Orwell
Delinquent Sewer Rents- December 31, 2025**

| | | | |
|------|--|-----------|-----------------|
| 2024 | Mitchell, Orin & Brook | 361.27 | |
| | Jiyaan Holding LLC/Orwell One Stop, Inc. | 752.50 | |
| | Sherman, Estate of Leona | 623.31 | |
| | Subtotal | \$ | 1,737.08 |
| 2025 | Davis, Estate of Orval | 745.00 | |
| | Mitchell, Orin & Brook | 745.00 | |
| | Nichols, Sheila | 570.00 | |
| | Jiyaan Holding LLC/Orwell One Stop, Inc. | 1,225.50 | |
| | Piper, Daniel | 15.83 | |
| | Racine, Samantha & Dylan | 229.69 | |
| | Sherman, Estate of Leona | 745.00 | |
| | Vose, Dylan & Janelle | 190.00 | |
| | Subtotal | \$ | 4,466.02 |
| | Total | \$ | 6,203.10 |

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Jackson, Collector



ORWELL FREE LIBRARY

2025 Report

In 2025, we celebrated the many collaborations that make OFL a vital and active community resource. Partnering with a Vermont Master Gardener and Orwell Village School we supported the Orwell Community Learning Garden, a place for local growers to learn and volunteer. Vermont Humanities Council buoyed our early literacy programs with financial support and staff training. Let's Go Fishing program volunteers brought well attended fly tying and ice fishing classes to our residents. In collaboration with the Platt Memorial Library, we again offered our Keynote Speakers Series which brought a year of quality presentations to our villages. Local musicians have a place to gather and play at OFL because of a dedicated acoustic jam leader. Our space is used by Slate Valley School District staff and other community groups to connect with local residents. And finally, we connected OVS students with Orwell Historical Museum for a 6 week History Club. This list is not exhaustive and we are always looking for new ideas. Stop by and share your talents.

Collection use continues to grow. Digital item borrows rose by over 1000. Within our physical collection, adult fiction use went up by 10%. In 2025 we added an additional digital library and now offer 4 resources to borrow ebooks, audiobooks, movies, tv series, documentaries, and music. These apps and websites are now a fundamental and dynamic part of our operations, and we will continue to respond to use as our budget allows.

Library stakeholders continue to work with a local architect to plan for the future, finding ways to improve accessibility, restore the front door and windows, and reconfigure the space to meet the needs of the community.

OFL thanks the Wright Memorial Library Board for their efforts to maintain and improve the building and for working collaboratively with us.

At the library, we offer:

- free 24/7 WIFI.
- public computers.
- computer, device, and internet help.
- a community meeting place.
- a public gallery.
- online eBooks, audiobooks, movies.
- a place to donate used books
- VR and 3D printing.
- a "Library of Things" including art kits and supplies, an egg incubator, wood moisture reader, projector & screen, podcasting mic, and more.
- passes to local attractions like ECHO, VINS & Mt. Independence.
- quiet & comfortable work space.
- over 9,000 lendable books.

2025 Circulation and Usage

Borrowed items: 5466 books, 2729 eBooks & audiobooks,
355 kits & things, interlibrary loans 162 sent, 262 received
7199 library visits, 255 programs offered, 2821 program attendees,
715 items added to the collection, 42 new patrons, 460 volunteer hours logged

Respectfully,

Kate Hunter, Librarian

ORWELL FREE LIBRARY

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 2025

Opening Balances January 1, 2025

| | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Checking | \$ 3,926.98 |
| Savings | 34,213.86 |
| Total Opening Balances | \$ 38,140.84 |

Receipts

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Town Appropriation | 1,500.00 |
| Trustee of Public Funds | 41.98 |
| Interest on Savings | 356.83 |
| Grants | 2,768.97 |
| Donations | 6,655.00 |
| Fundraising: | |
| Book/Plant/Bake Sales | 17,989.00 |
| Adopt An Author | 125.12 |
| Bottle Returns | 1,144.65 |
| Product Sales | 460.79 |
| Copier Fees | 130.30 |
| Discounts/Refunds | 255.83 |
| Voided Outstanding Checks | 30.00 |
| Total Receipts | \$ 31,458.47 |
| Total Opening Balances and Receipts | \$ 69,599.31 |

Disbursements

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Books/eBooks/DVDs/CDs | \$ 4,962.95 |
| Digital | 2,792.90 |
| Media | 154.68 |
| Magazines | 404.87 |
| Kits | 335.04 |
| Grant Expenses | 8,776.08 |
| Advertising | 1,804.18 |
| Furniture/Equipment | 1,618.10 |
| Institutional Memberships | 480.00 |
| Postage & Box Rental | 640.98 |
| Staff Continuing Education | 290.00 |
| Presenters | 860.00 |
| Fundraising Supplies | 313.84 |
| General Operating Supplies | 902.36 |
| Book Supplies | 585.43 |
| Programming Supplies | 1,874.77 |
| Hardware & Software | 950.98 |
| Phone & Internet | 1,079.40 |
| Subscriptions | 1,402.64 |
| Staff Appreciation | 4,600.00 |
| Gifts & Donations | 45.00 |
| Total Disbursements | \$ 34,874.20 |

Closing Balances December 31, 2025

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Checking | \$ 3,165.42 |
| Savings | 31,559.69 |
| Total Closing Balances | \$ 34,725.11 |
| Total Disbursements and Closing Balances | \$ 69,599.31 |

Respectfully submitted, Kathy Buxton, Treasurer

Ethan M. and Eliza T. Wright Memorial Library

Annual Report 2025

The Wright Memorial Library Board would like to extend our deepest thanks and appreciation to Bob Martin. He stepped down from the board at the end of 2025 after several decades of service to this board as member, Treasurer, and Chair. His work has been invaluable. We would also like to extend our thanks to Martha Hill, who also served on the board for several years and stepped down from the board in October of 2025.

We welcome any residents of Orwell to join us on the board in preserving and supporting this vital and vibrant town resource!

During the past year, the building was improved in several areas. Electrical work was completed inside to upgrade the system's wiring and lighting and outside to improve front porch lighting for both safety and reliability. The front yard was regraded to address drainage issues by the front steps and walkway. Through the support of grants obtained by the Orwell Free Library, accessibility was improved throughout the first floor and an exterior book return was placed by the parking lot. All stakeholders in the building are continuing work on plans for improvements to the building in the future. We would also like to extend our thanks to the contractors who worked with us to help make this happen, including Mike Dundon, Randy Edson and Mark Spitzner.

This coming year, the Wright Memorial Library Board has plans for improving the lighting at the rear entrance and roof maintenance over the front porch and east bay window. We also continue to work towards restoration of the front entrance and installation of a handrail on the main stair.

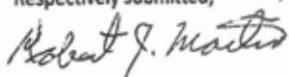
Respectfully submitted,

Jim Dougherty, Janelle Lucas, Bob Martin, Peter Root, John Wurzbacher

Ethan M. & Eliza T. Wright Memorial Library
Annual Report - 2025

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Balance as Dec. 31 2024 | \$13,258.32 |
| | \$13,258.32 |
| Receipts: | |
| Town Appropriations | \$16,000.00 |
| Trustee of Public Funds | \$963.72 |
| Donation-1/15& 6/16/2025 | \$1,500.00 |
| Total Receipts | \$18,463.72 |
| Total opening balance plus receipts | \$31,722.04 |
|
Disbursements: | |
| Cleaning & Supplies | \$1,650.00 |
| Telephone/Internet | \$540.06 |
| Sewer | \$745.00 |
| Insurance | \$3,472.00 |
| Mowing/Plowing | \$0.00 |
| GreenMtn. Power | \$3,798.63 |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$2,733.19 |
| Fuel Oil | \$579.36 |
| Misc. | \$1,474.69 |
| Total Disbursements | \$14,992.93 |
| Ending Balance as of December 31, 2025 | \$16,729.11 |
| Total Disbursements and Closing Balance | \$31,722.04 |

Respectively submitted,



Robert J. Martin
Treasurer

Orwell Volunteer Fire Department 2025 Annual Report

Overview

In 2025, the Orwell Volunteer Fire Department (OVFD) responded to a total of 55 emergency incidents, providing fire suppression, rescue operations, and mutual aid assistance. As a small community, Orwell depends on neighbors helping neighbors, and our volunteers take great pride in being there when residents need us most—whether it's a serious emergency or simply lending a hand when something goes wrong.

With a high number of motor vehicle accidents and seasonal brush fires this year, OVFD remained active year-round and continued working to ensure the safety and well-being of our town through readiness, training, and teamwork.

Incident Response Breakdown

Motor Vehicle Accidents (MVAs): 20
Brush Fires: 8
Structure Fires (including Mutual Aid): 5
Utility Emergencies: 4
Rescue Assists: 3
Vehicle Fires: 3
Fire Alarms: 3
General Fire (Other): 3
Public Assist: 2
Canceled Calls: 2
Chimney Fire: 1
Odor Investigation: 1

2025 Officers and Firefighters

Chief: Alex Kansky
1st Assistant Chief: Paul Metcalf
2nd Assistant Chief: Seth Gero
Captain: Ben Alger
Chairman: David Carpenter
Secretary: Jess Krol
Trustees: Louis Hall, Bob Arnebold, Jeremiah Nolan
Training Officers: Susan Hauck (Treasurer), Dave Carpenter

Firefighters:

Peter Ochs, Jim Booska, Allen M. Alger, Jesse Booska, Sandy Korda, Thomas (TJ) Benard, Samuel St. Peter, Max Carpenter, Devon Kibbey, Scott Messer

Department Updates and Achievements

Throughout 2025, OVFD continued to focus on improving operational readiness and maintaining strong training, preparedness, and community involvement. Our members remained active across a wide variety of emergencies, often responding in challenging weather, roadside conditions, and remote areas of town.

Notable accomplishments in 2025 include:

- Purchasing new battery-powered extrication tools, improving our ability to safely and efficiently perform vehicle rescue operations and support roadside emergencies.
- Installing a new sign at the firehouse and a new roadside sign, improving department visibility and helping residents and visitors better identify and locate our station.
- Hosting our annual fundraising raffle, which remains an important way the community supports OVFD operations and equipment needs.
- Participating in community events allows us to stay connected with residents and continue promoting local fire safety and preparedness.

Closing Remarks

The Orwell Volunteer Fire Department would like to sincerely thank the residents of Orwell for your continued support, encouragement, and trust. Your support—through fundraising efforts, kind words, or simply yielding to emergency vehicles on the roadway—makes a real difference.

We also want to recognize the families of our members for their patience and support, as our volunteers often leave home at a moment's notice to respond to emergencies.

OVFD remains committed to training, maintaining our equipment, and providing dependable emergency services to the town. We look forward to continuing to serve Orwell in 2026 and beyond.

If you are interested in volunteering with OVFD, we welcome new members—no experience needed and training is provided.

We hope everyone has a safe and healthy year.

Thank you,

Orwell Volunteer Fire Department

**Orwell Fire Department
2025 Annual Report**

Balances, Dec. 31, 2024

| | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Checking | \$22,404.23 |
| Savings | \$12,730.77 |
| CD | \$5,765.40 |
| Sub-Total | \$40,900.40 |

Income

To Checking

| | |
|---|------------|
| Fund Drive | \$50.00 |
| Orwell First Response Reimbursement (P.O. Box) | \$60.00 |
| Mother's Day Breakfast | \$1,585.00 |
| Orwell First Response Reimbursement (New Road Sign) | \$899.60 |
| Fundraising Rifle Raffle | \$4,850.00 |
| ACFA Quarterly Dinner Reimbursement | \$367.49 |

To Savings

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Private Donations | \$2,725.00 |
| In Memory of (Bell, A., Alger, A.) | \$2,965.00 |
| Truck Accident 4/26/2025 | \$3,200.00 |
| Truck Accident 5/10/2025 | \$13,000.00 |
| Interest | \$245.02 |

CD Interest

\$146.61

Sub-Total

\$30,093.72

Beginning Balance + Income

\$70,994.12

Expenses

From Checking

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| ACFA Meetings | \$165.00 |
| OFD Hosted ACFA Quarterly Dinner | \$356.47 |
| Background Checks | \$30.00 |
| P.O. Box Rental | \$126.00 |
| Supplies | \$348.38 |
| OFD Family Dinner | \$575.00 |
| Mother's Day Breakfast Supplies | \$937.32 |
| Badges and Awards | \$664.00 |
| Building Sign | \$2,193.00 |
| Rifle Raffle Expenses | \$1,612.20 |
| Two New Thermal Imaging Cameras | \$7,100.00 |
| Tools and Hardware | \$293.87 |
| New Road Sign | \$1,921.24 |
| Funeral Flowers | \$230.00 |
| Donations | \$700.00 |
| Supplies for A. Alger's Service | \$253.35 |

From Savings

\$0.00

Sub-Total

\$17,505.83

Balances, Dec. 31, 2025

| | |
|----------|-------------|
| Checking | \$12,710.49 |
| Savings | \$34,865.79 |
| CD | \$5,912.01 |

Sub-Total

\$53,488.29

Ending Balances + Expenses

\$70,994.12

Respectfully Submitted

Susan M. Hauck

Treasurer – Orwell Vol. Fire Department

**Champlain Large Animal Technical Rescue
c/o Orwell Volunteer Fire Department**

| | |
|--|---------------|
| January 1, 2025 Opening Balance | 348.48 |
| Interest | 3.49 |
| December 31, 2025 Closing Balance | 351.97 |

**Respectfully Submitted
Susan M. Hauck**



Fort Ti Ferry 2009

Courtesy Sue James

ORWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MUSEUM

2025 Annual Report

The OHM secured \$8,000 worth of grants in 2025, allowing us to purchase a computer, scanner, storage hard drive, drone, four rolling storage shelves and an array of archival supplies. All these purchases support the

preservation, accessibility and documentation of the museum's collection and programming. OHM also collaborated with the OVS Boosters to host a fundraiser in September: the first Annual Silver Heist 5K Walk/Run. Thank you to Jenn Barber as event organizer. Each organization received \$1500, and over 60 runners had a wonderful day. We especially thank Adam and Mercedes Kemp for securing grants and inspiring the Silver Heist.

We also thank the Orwell selectboard and community for the \$4000 appropriation we received that has enabled OHS to begin development of a robust, searchable website to house our digital collection, as well as programming notices, discoveries and a quarterly newsletter. The site wireframe has been built, and this year we will focus on scanning, photographing, cataloging and populating the site, with the goal of providing the community and outside researchers with an online inventory and access to the museum collection.

Our community and research activities in 2025 included: establishing a monthly lecture series, (special thanks to all of our local presenters and to OFL for hosting us); mounting a memorial exhibit honoring Art Bell and his donation of Native American relics, (with thanks to Independence Lodge #10 for sharing their downstairs space), organizing two site visits to research an 1800s Orwell mill site on state land east of Needham Hill Road; taking aerial drone photos and videos of Orwell cemeteries; conducting nine oral history interviews; leading a private tour of Orwell's one-room school houses for the 1971 alumni of Fair Haven High School; participating in Orwell's three summer festivals; creating photo boards to support the Orwell General Store initiative; and successfully nominating our town clerk, Betty Walker, for an Individual Achievement Award through the Vermont League of Local Historical Societies and Museums.

An educational highlight of 2025 was History Club, a collaborative program between OHM and OFL. For the second year, OVS students accessed the museum's primary resources, and for the first time selected, cataloged and produced labels for a group exhibit: *Independent Voices*. The exhibit was mounted in the museum entryway and in our newly created Research Room, which is heated, inviting and available for community use.

A wonderful year ended with a wonderful evening hosted by Kay Firth-Butterfield and Walter Burrough at Independence Farm, their new home on Stage Road. Kay researched and presented the history of this historic landmark, then invited Hillary Mullins to share memories of growing up on the farm during the 70s and 80s. The evening concluded with Kay and Walter hosting a fabulous dinner featuring popular culinary specialties from the founding and early years of our nation.

For 2026, OHS will continue looking for opportunities to collaborate with other Orwell organizations and the community. Our focus will remain on providing access to the collection through exhibits, events, special programming and the development of our website and online catalog. And, of course, we will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the United States and the role this region played in securing our independence.

This overview hardly covers the camaraderie, discovery and fun OHS enjoyed in 2025. Our success is a direct result of the OHS board, the vigilance of the Wright Memorial Board to maintain our space, and the interest and energy of the Orwell community. Thank you for your support. We're excited for 2026!

Danielle Rougeau, President
John Wurzbacher, Treasurer
Page Nolker, Secretary
Jim Rowe, Director



OHM Meeting Room

Courtesy OHM

The 60+ Club of Orwell

The 60+ Club held its 1st meeting in December of 1973 to bring seniors in Orwell together. The club continues today welcoming anyone 55 and older to join. It is a great opportunity to stay connected and spend some time with other seniors in the area.

We meet on the third Wednesday of the month for a potluck luncheon in the meeting room of the Congregational Church. The Orwell Bank generously provides the meat and each person brings a dish to pass. As with all potlucks, it is always a great meal.

Each month, 2 members co-host the meeting, decorating the tables, starting the coffee and providing a door prize. Many of the months the hosts also arrange for a program following the meal. This year we have had many wonderful presentations including musical duos, trivia, the fall equinox and zodiac signs and several presentations from local people explaining their unique gifts or businesses. Every December, the Girl Scouts visit us, sing songs and share ornaments they have made.

Our annual group outing is planned for August. This year we enjoyed a visit to the Neshobe Winery in Forestdale. We were treated to a tour of the winemaking operation accompanied by a great explanation of the process: from picking the grapes to the finished product. The tour ended with wine tasting and lunch.

We appreciate the generous support of the First National Bank of Orwell.

Becky Desrocher, Treasurer



Fortnightly Club

Courtesy Linda Martin

Orwell Fortnightly Club Annual Report – 2025

The Fortnightly Club meeting season runs October – December 2025 and March – May 2026. New members once again added to our roster. As I said in last year's report, it is so satisfying to see community women wanting to get involved in a club that tries to offer much to our Orwell community. We are entering our 127th year – that's a very long time for fellowship and as the years roll by, we stay strong.

Our support projects pretty much remain the same – FHUHS Project Graduation, Whiting Food Shelf, Green Up Day, Orwell Elementary School subscription to "Kind News", and the Mabel Young Music Scholarship. Once again we contacted Fyles Brothers and asked if they would be willing to distribute a donation from Fortnightly to a family needing a bit of help with fuel cost and once again they thankfully agreed. We hang Christmas wreaths in the village center, made by and purchased from Red Sky Farm.

All this is made possible by our fundraisers – Fall bake sale, pet stockings sold at the St. Paul's bazaar, and our spring bake sale. The fundraiser success is made possible by the support of our Orwell community and for that support we are most grateful.

Our first meeting this year was October 7th 2025 7:00 pm followed by October 21, November 4, November 18, December 2, December 16. No meetings January and February 2026. Following meetings are March 17, March 31, April 14, April 28, May 19 – banquet.

New members are always welcome. Come join us and see what we are all about.

- Terry Murdock - President 802-989-5763
- Michelle Wigginton – Vice President 802-779-2279
- Missy Saltis – Secretary 802 779-1234
- Linda Martin – Treasurer 802 398-5467



**Orwell First Response Squad
604 Main Street/ P.O Box 124
Orwell, Vermont 05760**

2025

Orwell First Response was dispatched to the following calls:

107 Medical
17 Motor Vehicle Incidents
4 Fire/Standby
1 Detail Event

Current Members /Officers 2026

Peter Ochs, President
Joe Miller, Vice President/Liaison
Mary Miller, Captain/Treasurer/ Training Officer
Sandy Korda
Jess Krol
Alex Kansky
Chad Geno, Co-Training Officer
Katie Geno, Secretary

We are always looking for volunteers. We will help you with training. If you are interested or have questions please reach out to any member above or email peterochs69@gmail.com

We thank you all for your continued support.

Be Safe and Healthy

Mary Miller, Captain



**Orwell First Response Squad
604 Main Street/ P.O Box 124
Orwell, Vermont 05760**

Opening Balance January 1, 2025

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Checking | 574.09 |
| Savings | 38465.72 |
| Total Opening Balances | 39039.81 |

Receipts

| | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Donations | 1485.00 |
| Interest Income | 385.94 |
| Total Receipt | 1870.94 |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Total Receipts/Opening Balance | 40910.75 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|

| | |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Reimbursement | 50.00 |
| Community Service | 119.95 |
| Uniforms | 135.63 |
| Postofficebox/stamps | 74.60 |
| EMS Appreciation | 800.00 |
| EMS Dinner | 239.68 |
| Building signs | 2391.18 |
| Donation/In Memory of | 250.00 |
| Equipment | 27.59 |

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Total Expenses | 4088.63 |
|-----------------------|----------------|

Closing Balance December 31, 2025

| | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Checking | 85.46 |
| Savings | 36736.66 |
| Total | 36822.12 |

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Total Expenses and Closing Balances | 36822.12 |
|--|-----------------|

Respectfully Submitted
Mary Miller, Treasurer

Mountain View Cemetery Association

Project Report

Another year has come and gone, and 2025, is in the record books. The weather is always a challenge that we have to deal with throughout the year. Winter can bring us tree work from snow and ice storms. Spring and summer we had some terrible wind damage from thunderstorms. Fall gives us a chance to hopefully catch up.

Vermont's Finest Lawncare did all the mowing in all the cemeteries in 2025. Jeremy helped with some of the storm damage cleanup.

Mountain View Cemetery Association takes care of our cemetery, but as directed by the selectboard, we oversee the smaller cemeteries in town, also. They include Lake View, North Orwell, Hack, and Coates. This last year we went to the selectboard and requested money to fix the fence at Hack Cemetery on Fisher Road. It needed to be replaced. The project was done by Homestead Fence in late August.

Our board continues to keep up on the maintenance of any gravestones that need to be repaired each year. We had a lot of storm damage last year in Mountain View. It required us to have a lot of brush work to be done, and some trees to be taken down.

Our board was invited to give a presentation by the Orwell Historical Society that was held in the library in late spring. We spoke on what our duties are, and what we try to accomplish as a board throughout the year. It was a well attended meeting.

Mountain View Cemetery Association hopes that everyone takes the time, and visits all OUR town cemeteries to see what has been done and continues to be done to improve them. We, the board, are very proud of all the projects that have been completed, and would like to THANK YOU, for all the support that we get.

Respectfully submitted,

Mountain View Cemetery Association

**Mountain View Cemetery Association
Annual Report 2025**

Beginning Balance- December 31, 2025

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Checking | \$110.96 |
| Savings | \$4,261.84 |
| CD | \$18,958.91 |
| Total Opening Balances | <u>\$23,331.71</u> |

Receipts:

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Town of Orwell | \$26,125.00 |
| Trustee of Public Funds | \$2,734.07 |
| Lot Sales | \$3,000.00 |
| Perpetual Care | \$600.00 |
| Markers | \$0.00 |
| Misc | \$0.00 |
| Interest Savings | \$54.09 |
| Interest CD | \$794.14 |
| Total Receipts | <u>\$33,307.30</u> |
| Total Opening Balance & Receipts | <u><u>\$56,639.01</u></u> |

Disbursements:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Mowing- Mountain View | \$11,400.00 |
| Mowing- Other Cemeteries | \$4,200.00 |
| Tree Removal and Brush @ Mt. View | \$1,560.00 |
| Replacement Fence @ Hack Cemetery | \$7,915.25 |
| Recording Deeds | \$60.00 |
| Flags | \$315.40 |
| Maps | \$500.00 |
| Misc | \$223.56 |
| Markers | \$261.14 |
| Trustee of Public Funds | \$600.00 |
| Total Disbursements | <u>\$27,035.35</u> |

Closing Balances December 31, 2025

| | |
|--|---------------------------|
| Checking | \$2,834.68 |
| Savings | \$7,015.93 |
| CD | \$19,753.05 |
| Total Closing Balances | <u>\$29,603.66</u> |
| Total Closing Balances & Disbursements | <u><u>\$56,639.01</u></u> |

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Jackson, Treasurer



ORWELL MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

12-31-25

Thank you to everyone who helped make the 50th Orwell Memorial Day Parade a success! The parade committee put in a lot of extra effort for this special day and it showed. The happy faces in the crowd and the respect given to our veterans really make it satisfying to everyone involved.

The Master of Ceremonies, Miles Tudhope, recognized our veterans as special Grand Marshals. The large crowd of spectators were entertained by organizations such as the Catamount Pipe Band, Fair Haven High School Band and the Cast Off 8's Square Dance Club and more. We had a large group of classic cars and tractors this year, including some really nice pre-1940 vehicles. Participants such as the Orwell Fortnightly Club, The Green Mountain Nurse Honor Guard, Orwell Little League and the Vermont 1st Calvary were nice reminders of some of the parades from years past. We had some recognition from the local media print media and online social media with a "big parade / small town" theme.

The committee looks forward to Memorial Day weekend, 2026. As always, we will work to bring Orwell a classic parade for the entire family that will honor Veterans and highlight some of the freedoms we enjoy because of their sacrifices. Being the 250th Birthday of America will make the 2026 parade a special one not to miss!

Please help us continue making the Orwell parade the best it can be by volunteering to help with mailings and/or help on the day of the parade with the lineup and safety along the parade route. If you are interested in lending a hand, contact us through our Facebook page www.facebook.com/orwellmemorialday or stop by the Orwell Town Offices.

Thank you again to everyone who participated in the 2025 parade!

Orwell Parade Committee:

George Macedo
Sue James
Ray Leonard
Adam Kemp
Joe Andriano
Lisa Limoge



ORWELL PARADE COMMITTEE

Financial Report 2025

Opening Balance - January 1, 2025

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Checking #4906 | 469.05 |
| Savings #7451 | 11.20 |
| Flag Fund #9987 | 214.84 |
| Total: | \$695.09 |

Receipts

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| Parade Funds for 2025 | 2,200 |
| Interest on Flag Fund #9987 | .12 |
| Interest on Savings #7451 | 2.16 |

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Total Beginning Balance & Receipts | \$2,897.37 |
|---|-------------------|

Expenses

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Post #49 Fair Haven American Legion | \$100 (from 2023) |
| Post #49 Fair Haven American Legion | \$100 (from 2024) |
| Stamps | \$146 |
| Catamount Pipe Band | \$1,200 |
| Supplies reimbursement to Sue James | \$141.39 |
| Legion of Honor | \$100 |
| Mini Cars | \$100 |
| Mini Choppers | \$100 |
| Northern Clowns | \$100 |
| Mini Monsters ***not cashed | \$100 |
| Expense Total: | \$2,187.39 |

Closing Balances - December 31, 2025

| | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Checking #4906 | 581.66 |
| Savings #7451 | 11.32 |
| Flag Fund #9987 | 217.00 |
| Total: | 809.98 |

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Ending Balance | \$809.98 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|



2025 Report

Committee Members: Liza Eddy, Theresa Nolan, Maxine Saville, Kate Hunter, Jess Krol

This year, the Committee continued its focus on community events to bring us together in spaces in Orwell.

On April 19, 2025, we partnered with the Orwell Rec League for our annual Egg Hunt - with approx. 8000 eggs!!! The community enjoyed goats, bunnies, sheep and a calf in our petting farm on the Green! Nothing beats seeing the Easter bunny arrive on the fire truck to kick off the hunt. We cannot express how grateful we are to the volunteers who donate candy, toys, and treats to make this event so spectacular - our Orwell National Bank even stuffed some eggs with \$1 coins, did you get one? Thanks to the N. Orwell Homeowners Association for stuffing and putting out all the eggs. See you on April 4, 2026.

Our first annual Town Wide Yard Sale was an idea suggested by you! On May 17, 2025, we welcomed treasure hunters from all over with a map and website detailing the houses with items for sale and a description. Traffic was strong all day with people reporting good sales! Let us know your feedback before Spring and we will set another date.

On September 7, 2025, we were at the Orwell Food and Farm Fest, providing cornhole, checkers, croquet and other games while connecting with residents to get ideas for future events, including a scarecrow contest coming this fall to decorate the Green.

Trunk or Treat around the Green on Halloween again offers residents that might have missed out on the fun with an organized space to set up a fun trunk and hand out some tricks or treats. What was your favorite trunk? Be sure to get your trunk ready for next year, expect about 300 new friends!

We postponed the winter social but need your feedback. Our winter social last year celebrated our new benches and tables and through grants and donations we were able to offer food and beverages. What would bring you to the green in winter?

All of us personally thank you all for your generous donations and support, and especially for showing up for our community.

We meet quarterly and are always looking for more committee members, ideas for events and volunteers. Maxine is available by phone (802) 989-2106 or email Orwellrec@gmail.com

Hello from the **Orwell Youth Rec League!**

The rec league, the youth league, the coyotes - whatever it's called - is an independently organized, not for profit initiative that provides Orwell (Benson and surrounding) with youth sports opportunities for children from kindergarten through grade 6. The league serves a clear public purpose by offering affordable, structured and supervised athletic programming available to all, here in Orwell.

This year we are proud to offer three seasons of sports as we welcomed basketball back to the Orwell Gymnasium, peep at that new scoreboard donated by Rutland Town School (it sure did fit in my minivan). We follow the policies of Slate Valley athletics as listed on their website. We strive to give our youngest student athletes a place to stay active, learn teamwork, develop sportsmanship and build confidence in a space close to home. Our coaches are volunteers and parents and community members with the same goal. They've painted the dugouts, torn down vines, raked weeds, ref'd games, coached with babies on their hips, kept score, drove the carpool, sold hotdogs, and cheered from the side as the generations of Orwellians before us did. I cannot thank you all enough for your support.

The demand for local youth sports continues to grow, as the Slate Valley School Board has discussed cutting youth 5/6 grade sports from their budget. Costs of operating the program increase with each new sport and grade we offer. Safety equipment, referee fees, insurance and medical kits are not covered by the registration fee.

Town funding ensures that registration fees remain affordable for all families and that all student athletes have safe and competitive gear so we can offer sports right here in our own town. Offering sports in Orwell has driven our enrollment and community hype. Town and taxpayer support represents a matched investment in our children, keeping them active, engaged and connected to our community right here in Orwell. We will continue our sponsorship program from local business and community member - ask about our wish list. I also work on the Parks and Recreation Committee in collaboration with the selectboard who maintains our baseball field on 22A. The new sign looks great and hopefully the new plants and trees thrive!

Some of you may have seen us on the Green at the Food and Farm Fest, July 6, handing out Stewarts donated ice cream sundaes to say thank you! Your support that day purchased new soccer nets and balls!

For these reasons, I respectfully request increased financial support from the Town of Orwell (Benson as well) to continue serving our community as a volunteer Rec Director.

Maxine Saville
Orwell Rec Director

Happy to talk... too much
(802) 989-2106
Orwellrec@gmail.com



ORWELL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TOWN REPORT 2025



As Vermont faces an ever-evolving global landscape of natural and man-made threats - coordinating the Town of Orwell's preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation efforts is our sole purpose.

During the past year, Orwell Emergency Management focused significant time & effort on updating the Town's Five-Year Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, an essential document that guides how our community prepares for, responds to, and recovers from natural and human-caused hazards.

The Hazard Mitigation Plan update is being conducted in coordination with Addison County Regional Planning Commission, Vermont Emergency Management, and local partners. The process includes a review of past hazard events, current risks, and changes in community conditions since the previous plan was adopted. Particular attention is being given to hazards most relevant to Orwell, including severe weather, flooding, winter storms, power outages, transportation incidents, and public health emergencies.

At the 2025 Town Meeting we provided an exhibit offering an opportunity for public input to ensure Orwell residents' concerns and priorities were reflected in the updated plan. Many who attended contributed valuable insight.

The updated Hazard Mitigation Plan positions the Town of Orwell to remain eligible for state and federal hazard mitigation grants, including FEMA programs that can help fund infrastructure improvements, emergency preparedness projects, and risk reduction efforts. Maintaining approved current and updated plans is critical to accessing these vital resources before, during, and after disaster events.

In addition to the above planning work, Orwell Emergency Management continued routine preparedness activities, including coordination with the Selectboard, Fire Department, Rescue Squad, and other response agencies, maintaining emergency contact lists, and monitoring evolving guidance from state and federal partners.

For Emergency and
Weather Notices



Humbly Submitted,
Sandy Korda,
Director

For Non-Emergent
Community Posting





Where is this in Orwell?

Courtesy Ed Tracey

BIRTHS

| Child | Mother | Date of Birth | Place | Father |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------------------|
| Lestini, Arielle Grace | Hannah Elisha Lestini | 2/6/2025 | Middlebury | Johnathan Brent Lestini |
| Andriano, Bridget Timberlin | Sarah Timberlin Harris | 2/10/2025 | Middlebury | Joseph Ilario Andriano |
| Taube, Keaton Jackson | Sherri Anne Jamison | 2/18/2025 | Burlington | Paxton Richard Taube |
| Brown, Lindy Elizabeth | Shannon Elizabeth Brown | 3/31/2025 | Middlebury | Kevin Nicholas Brown |
| Sanborn, Joyce | Kaley Arlene Sanborn | 4/3/2025 | Rutland City | |
| DiFrancesco, Callahan Herbert Gabriel | Allison Jane Cosey DiFrancesco | 4/17/2025 | Middlebury | William David Reed DiFrancesco |
| Gardella, Rowan Joseph | Amanda Jean Gardella | 4/29/2025 | Middlebury | Landon Joseph Gardella |
| Barnes, Wylder Robert | Makayla Lynn Davis | 6/10/2025 | Middlebury | Robert William Barnes |
| Tupper, Chase Joseph | Megan Meredith Russell | 7/24/2025 | Middlebury | Cole Wilson Tupper |
| Reed, Everly Mae | Rachel E Reed | 9/11/2025 | Burlington | Brian Allen Reed |
| Desjardin, Aiyana Lucille | Chelsea Ann Barrows | 9/19/2025 | Middlebury | Kevin Thomas Desjardin |
| Pockette, Clara Barbara | Schylar Dale Corsones-Brown | 10/7/2025 | Rutland City | Maxwell David Pockette |
| Charron, Karson William | Lauren Elizabeth Graziano | 11/20/2025 | Middlebury | Kyle Michael Charron |
| Russell, Bennett Scott | Alexa Brielle Love | 12/2/2025 | Middlebury | Devin Scott Russell |
| Hanson, Rowan Pettingill | Allison Pettingill Straley | 12/11/2025 | Middlebury | Christopher Scott Hanson |
| Bachand, Clayton Mann | Amy Marie Kaufmann | 12/11/2025 | Burlington | Stephen John Bachand II |

CIVIL MARRIAGE

| | | Date | Place | Residence |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| Gramling, Jennifer Ann | Kehoe, Duane Edward | 1/11/2025 | Orwell | Orwell |
| Hoenes, Seth Micah | Blackwood, Nicole Catherine | 5/22/2025 | Warren | New Hampshire |
| Graziano, Matthew Hanson | Fyles, Cassandra Dianne | 6/7/2025 | Orwell | Orwell |
| Crogan, Alyssa Marie | Wyncoop, Elias Gerard | 9/17/2025 | Middlebury | Maryland |
| Booska, Jesse Thomas | Gaboriault, Kaitlyn Grace | 10/18/2025 | Hinesburg | Orwell |
| Mallory, Theodore Daniel Jr | D'Avignon, Hannah Elizabeth | 10/18/2025 | Orwell | Granville |
| Sarkisian, Paige Rae | Yannopoulos, Timothy Julius Wishner | 12/11/2025 | Orwell | Orwell |

DEATH

| | Residence | Age | Date | Place |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----|------------|------------|
| Bell, Arthur Joseph | Orwell | 69 | 2/19/2025 | Orwell |
| Kravetsky, Dorothea Marie | Orwell | 96 | 2/26/2025 | Orwell |
| Akpo-Sani, Pierre | Orwell | 79 | 5/17/2025 | Orwell |
| Alger, Allen Richard | Orwell | 81 | 9/6/2025 | Middlebury |
| Grant, Robert Elwin | Orwell | 91 | 10/9/2025 | Middlebury |
| Makovec, Richard C | Orwell | 61 | 10/15/2025 | Middlebury |
| Garthaffner, Robert John | Orwell | 74 | 11/26/2025 | Orwell |
| Arnebold, Susanann | Orwell | 88 | 12/8/2025 | Orwell |
| Eddy, Mary Anne | Orwell | 93 | 12/11/2025 | Orwell |
| Wilcox, Leighton | Orwell | 81 | 12/21/2025 | Orwell |

MEETING SCHEDULES

Town Boards and Organizations

Selectboard: Second and Fourth Monday of each month,
7:00p.m. at the Orwell Town Office
[802-948-2032 selectboard@townoforwellvt.org](mailto:802-948-2032_selectboard@townoforwellvt.org)

Planning Commission/DRB: Third Wednesday of each month
7:00p.m. at the Orwell Town Office - 802-948-2032

Slate Valley Unified Union School District/SVUUSD: For meeting dates and times
Please visit the website at slatevalleyunified.org or call 802-265-4905

Fortnightly Club: Every other Tuesday from October to May [except January-February]
Meeting dates/locations to be determined
President Terry Murdock 802-989-5763

Independence Lodge #10: Second Tuesday of each month [except June, July and August]
7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Hall

Orwell Cemetery Commission: President Wayne Hall 802-948-2921

Orwell Free Library: 802-948-2041 orwellfreelibrary.org orwellfreelibrary@gmail.com
Hours: Tuesday-10:00a.m. to 6:00p.m.
Wednesday-2:00p.m. to 6:00p.m. Thursday-2:00p.m. to 6:00p.m.
Friday-10:00a.m. to 4:00p.m. Saturday 10:00a.m. to 1:00p.m.

Orwell Historical Society: Third Tuesday of each month
6 PM at the Orwell Free Library
President Danielle Rougeau, ohsvermont@gmail.com

Orwell Parks and Recreation: President: Vacant

Sixty Plus Club: Third Wednesday of each month 12:00 Noon
at the First Congregational Church of Orwell

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9:00a.m. to 12:00 Noon and 1:00p.m. to 3:30p.m.
Friday 9:00a.m. to 12:00 Noon and 1:00p.m. to 3:30p.m.
802-948-2032 townclerk@townoforwellvt.org

TOWN GARAGE
802-948-2433

FIRE HOUSE
802-382-0963

CHURCHES

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ORWELL - every Sunday at 10:00a.m.
Dr. David Anderson, Pastor 802-948-2900
ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH - St. Paul's in Orwell- Sunday at 11:00a.m.
Father Julian Asucan Father Victor Cruz 802-265-3135

Town of Orwell
P.O. Box 32
Orwell, VT 05760

