

The 2024 Town Report is dedicated to MARGO CONNORS

For all the ways in which she serves our community giving not only of her time, but of her heart.

Sugar Hill Select Board 2008 – 2025

Sugar Hill Conservation Commission,

Planning Board, & Health Officer



Cover Design by:

Holman Prints – Many thanks to Kitty Bigelow

Photo from the archives of the Sugar Hill Historical
Museum

Rev. Samuel S. Nickerson, Photographer 1835-1930

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TOWN OFFICERS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Margaret Connors, Chair	(Term Expires 2025)
Chris Ellms	(Term Expires 2026)
Richard Bielefield	(Term Expires 2027)

TOWN OFFICE

Telephone 603-823-8468

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Jennifer P. Gaudette

TOWN CLERK	TREASURER	TAX COLLECTOR
Lissa Boissonneault	Amy Venezia	Lissa Boissonneault
Marie Snyder, Deputy		Marie Snyder, Deputy

CHIEF OF POLICE Michael Ho-Sing Loy FIRE CHIEF / FIRE WARDEN Allan R. Clark (Appointed)

TO REPORT AN EMERGENCY	SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
911	1-800-564-6911
EMERGENCY ONLY	Non-Emergency 603-823-8725

HIGHWAY AGENT Douglas R. Glover

OVERSEER OF PUBLIC WELFARE	HEALTH OFFICER
Board of Selectmen	Deborah Corev

Margo Connors, Deputy

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	MODERATOR
Chief Michael Ho-Sing-Loy (Appointed)	James F. Snyder (2026

TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST	FUNDS	SUPERVISORS OF THE CHI	ECKLIST
Russ Gaitskill	(2026)	Jordan Applewhite, resigned	(2030)
Michael Claflin	(2027)	John Colony	(2026)
Greg Connors, resigned 2024	(2025)	Jae Kim	(2028)
Mark Butterfield appointed	(2025)	Rose Ellms, appointed	(2025)

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Alice Claflin	(2025)
Joanna Santilli	(2026)
Iris Rhodes	(2027)

CEMETERY TRUSTEES

Kathleen Jablonski (2026)			
Elizabeth Warren	(2026)	Lyn Kenerson	(2027)
Larry Sawyer	(2025)	Leo Dickinson	(2027)
	PLANNING		
	Robert Hayward, Jr.,		
James Keefe	(2027)	Patricia Robertson	(2026)
Arthur Chase	(2026)	Margo Connors	(2025)
Steve Monsein	(2026)	Mike Valentine	(2025)
	Amy Venezia, Alt	t & Secretary (2025)	
	ZONING BOARD O	E ADHISTMENT	
C 111' 1	Michael Hern, Chairman		(2027)
Carl Hjelm	(2026)	James Keefe	(2027)
Edward Cenerezio	(2026)	John Colony resigned 2024	(2027)
Amy Venezia, Alt. & Secretary (2025)			
	Sarah Pinney, Alt	(2027)	
CONSERVATION COMMISSION			
Larry Sawyer, Chair (2027)			
Chris Ellms	(2027)	Judy Sawyer	(2025)
Claire Von Karls	(2026)	Jennifer Roshak Childs	(2025)
Charles Wolcott	(2026)	Holly Hayward, Alt	(2027)
Tim Williams, Alt	(2026)	Margo Connors, Alt	(2025)

RECREATION PROGRAM SUGAR HILL REPRESENTATIVES

Nate Hanson (2026) Ryan Carlaw (2025)

All 2024 reports from various agencies not printed in this Town Report are on file in the Selectmen's Office and available upon request.

TOWN OF SUGAR HILL ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES-RESULTS MARCH 12, 2024

Moderator James F. Snyder declared the polls open at 12 noon for the voting by ballot on Article 1 (the election of town officers) Article 2, to increase the Board of Selectmen to 5 members and Articles 3 though 9 amending zoning regulations. Polls will close at 6:30 PM unless the town votes to keep the polls open to a later hour. All articles will be presented, discussed and acted upon at 6 PM. Moderator Snyder went over his rules of conduct for the meeting. The Moderator asked that all newly elected officers stay after the meeting to be sworn in by the Town Clerk. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Articles 1 through 9 to be passed over until ballots are counted at which time Moderator Snyder will read the results.

ARTICLE 1: To vote by nonpartisan ballot for the following Town Officers:

One Selectman to serve for a term of three (3) years

A Moderator to serve for a term of two (2) years

A Town Treasurer to serve for a term of one (1) year

A Town Clerk to serve for a term of one (1) year

A Tax Collector to serve for a term of one (1) year

A Trustee of the Trust Fund to serve for a term of three (3) years

A Library Trustee to serve for a term of three (3) years

A Supervisor of the Checklist to serve for a term of six (6) years.

A Supervisor of the Checklist to serve for a term of four (4) years

Two Board of Adjustment members to serve for a term of three (3) years.

Two Board of Cemetery Trustees to serve for a term of three (3) years

And such other Town Officers as may be required by law

RESULTS OF ARTICLE 1:

Richard Bielefield	191
Samuel A. Mealey	41
Lissa Boissonneault	215
Lissa Boissonneault	202
Nicholas De Mayo	27
Amy Venezia	219
Iris L. Rhodes	210
James F. Snyder	207
Michael Claflin	209
John Colony	198
James C. Keefe	173
Lynn Kenerson	191
Leo Dickinson	176
Jordan Applewhite	200
Jaesoon Kim	201
	Samuel A. Mealey Lissa Boissonneault Lissa Boissonneault Nicholas De Mayo Amy Venezia Iris L. Rhodes James F. Snyder Michael Claflin John Colony James C. Keefe Lynn Kenerson Leo Dickinson Jordan Applewhite

ARTICLE 2: (To Vote by Official Ballot) Are you in favor of increasing the board of selectmen to 5 members? (Majority ballot vote required) 50 YES 180 NO

BALLOT VOTE FAILS

Petition Warrant Article

Article 3:(To Vote by Official Ballot)To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 15 Section 1504.1 of the existing Sugar Hill Zoning Ordinance relating to Schedule of Requirements. The official copy of the amendment is on file and available to the public at the Office of the Town Clerk and will be on display the day of the meeting. The following question is on the official Ballot: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Sugar Hill Zoning Ordinance as follows: to reduce the required width of a parking space from 12 ft. to 9 ft. which is a more typical standard (Sections 1506 and 1602); make the requirement for all residential uses be 2 parking spaces per dwelling unit, except one space for accessory dwelling units; and provide the Planning Board with some flexibility in determining the required number of parking spaces for nonresidential uses (Section 1504)?

145 YES 89 NO BALLOT VOTE PASSES

Article 4: (To Vote by Official Ballot) To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 16 Section 1602 of the existing Sugar Hill Zoning Ordinance relating to Definitions. The official copy of the amendment is on file and available to the public at the Office of the Town Clerk and will be on display the day of the meeting. The following question is on the official Ballot: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Sugar Hill Zoning Ordinance as follows: to correct the terminology used in the Zoning Ordinance to differentiate between two-family dwellings and multifamily dwellings; eliminate the need for a two-family dwelling to have double the acreage of a single-family dwelling; and, in the General Residential (GR) and Rural Residential One (RR1) Districts, eliminate the requirement for a Special Exception from the Zoning Board of Adjustment in order to convert an existing single-family dwelling to a two-family dwelling (Articles 3, 4, 14, 15 and 16)? 134 YES 92 NO BALLOT VOTE PASSES

Article 5: (To Vote by Official Ballot)

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 3 of the existing Sugar Hill Zoning Ordinance relating to Districts and District Regulations. The official copy of the amendment is on file and available to the public at the Office of the Town Clerk and will be on display the day of the meeting. The following question is on the official Ballot: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Sugar Hill Zoning Ordinance as follows: to provide the opportunity for the owner of a two-family dwelling in the General Residential (GR) or Rural Residential One (RR1) Districts to apply for a Special Exception to add one accessory dwelling unit to a two-family dwelling, or for the owner of a single-family dwelling to add a second accessory dwelling unit under certain conditions (Article 3)? 127 YES 95 NO BALLOT VOTE PASSES

Article 6: (To Vote by Official Ballot)

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 3, 14A and 16 of the existing Sugar Hill Zoning Ordinance relating to Accessory Dwelling Units. The official copy of the amendment is on file and available to the public at the Office of the Town Clerk and will be on display the day of the meeting. The following question is on the official Ballot: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Sugar Hill Zoning Ordinance as follows: to make two changes to increase the opportunity to add an accessory dwelling unit; first, to remove the requirement that property with an accessory dwelling unit must be owner-occupied; and second, to allow a lot that does not meet the current minimum lot size to have an accessory dwelling unit in an existing accessory building if it is within the existing footprint and in compliance with setbacks; also remove provisions inconsistent with state law (Articles 3, 14A and 16)? 109 YES 116 NO BALLOT VOTE FAILS

Article 7: (To Vote by Official Ballot)

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 6 of the existing Sugar Hill Zoning Ordinance relating to Cluster Development. The official copy of the amendment is on file and available to the public at the Office of the Town Clerk and will be on display the day of the meeting. The following question is on the official Ballot: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 5 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Sugar Hill Zoning Ordinance as follows: to reduce the required minimum number of homes in a Cluster Development from 5 to 3; enable the Planning Board to reduce frontage and setbacks within a Cluster Development, provided there is at least a 50-foot separation distance between dwellings, and to increase setbacks and/or require screening from abutting properties and existing roads; and provide more guidance regarding use of the protected open space in a Cluster Development (Article 6)?

133 YES 92 NO BALLOT VOTE PASSES

Article 8: (To Vote by Official Ballot)

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 16 of the existing Sugar Hill Zoning Ordinance relating to Definitions. The official copy of the amendment is on file and available to the public at the Office of the Town Clerk and will be on display the day of the meeting. The following question is on the official Ballot: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 6 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Sugar Hill Zoning Ordinance as follows: to establish Short-Term Rentals as a Permitted Use in any single-family dwelling (except those in a cluster development), and in one unit only in an owner-occupied two-family dwelling or owner-occupied single-family dwelling with an accessory dwelling unit (Articles 3 and 16); and require a Zoning Permit to ensure that some basic health and safety requirements are met (New Article and Section 1701)?

117 YES 110 NO BALLOT VOTE PASSES

Article 9: (To Vote by Official Ballot)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the existing Sugar Hill Zoning Ordinance. The official copy of the amendment is on file and available to the public at the Office of the Town Clerk and will be on display the day of the meeting. The following question is on the official Ballot: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 7 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Sugar Hill Zoning Ordinance as follows: to make revisions throughout the Zoning Ordinance to update references to state laws and agencies; make minor editorial corrections; eliminate redundancy and conflicts; clarify language; add elements in accord with state laws and court decisions regarding accessory dwelling units, signs, and Board of Adjustment powers; and update certain language to conform with the current application of the Ordinance? 160 YES 68 NO BALLOT VOTE PASSES

Nick De Mayo made a motion to reorder the position of Article 28 to Article 24. Kenneth Leavitt seconded it. Discussion BY VOICE VOTE, MOTION FAILED

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town of Sugar Hill will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of (\$.00) to defray Town charges.

(4.00)	
Executive	\$85,150.00
Election, Registration & Vital Statistics	38,120.00
Financial Administration	
Property Revaluation	15,000.00
Legal Expenses.	
Payroll Taxes	
Planning Board	
Zoning Board of Adjustment	

C 1C (P 11)	40 100 00
General Government Buildings	
Buildings & Grounds	
Cemetery	
Insurance	
Advertising & Regional Associations	
North Country Council	1,155.00
Franconia Notch Chamber8,0	
Unemployment	100.00
Police Department	
Ambulance	
Fire Department	
Building Inspections	
Emergency Management	
Airport	348.00
Town Maintenance	289,368.00
General Highway Department Expense	229,650.00
Street Lighting	
Highway Block Grant	
Solid Waste Disposal	
Health, Hospitals	
North Country Home Health	
Grafton County Senior	
White Mountain Mental Health	
American Red Cross	
Ammonoosuc Community Health	
Center for New Beginnings	
Franconia Children's Center	
Welfare	
	1,294.00
	1,000.00
Parks and Recreation	
Library	
Patriotic Purposes	
Conservation Commission	
Interest Expense - Tax Anticipation	
Capital Expense	1/,493.00
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	

The Select Board recommends these Appropriations.

Moved by Richard Bielefield, Seconded by Tim Egan

Selectboard Member Margo Connors spoke on the article. Discussion

All in Favor, "Aye", Opposed, 'No", the "Ayes" have it

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be placed in the Highway Department Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund created in 1976.

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation.

Moved by Chris Ellms, Seconded by Meri Hern

Road Agent Doug Glover spoke on the Article

All in Favor, "Aye", Opposed, "No", the "Ayes" have it

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000) to be used for Highway Department Roadwork improvement projects to be chosen at the discretion of the Road Agent and Selectmen. This will be a non-lapsing account per RSA 32:3, VI and will not lapse until the fund is expended or in 3 years, whichever is less. (Majority vote required)

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation.

Moved by Margo Connors, Seconded by Mike Valentine

Doug Glover spoke on the article

All on Favor, "Aye", Opposed, "No", the "Ayes" have it

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of FiftyThousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be placed in the Fire Department Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund created in 1993.

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation.

Moved by Richard Bielefield, Seconded by Doug Evelyn

Fire Chief Allan Clark spoke on the Article

All in Favor, "Aye", Opposed, "No", the "Ayes" have it

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of TenThousand Dollars (\$10,000) to be placed in the Fire Department Building Capital Reserve Fund created in 2008.

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation

Moved by Chris Ellms, Seconded by Rusty Talbot

Fire Chief Allan Clark spoke on the article

All in Favor, "Aye", Opposed, "No", the "Ayes" have it

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of TenThousand Dollars (\$10,000) to be placed in the Highway Department Building Capital Reserve Fund created in 2009.

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation.

Moved by Chris Ellms, Seconded by Tim Egan

Road Agent Doug Glover spoke on the article

All in Favor, "Aye", Opposed, "No", the "Ayes" have it

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of TenThousand Dollars (\$10,000) to be placed in the Carolina Crapo Building Capital Reserve Fund created in 2004.

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation.

Moved by Richard Bielefield, Seconded by Steve Monsein

Richard Bielefield spoke on the article. Discussion

All in Favor, "Aye", Opposed, "No", the "Ayes" have it

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to be placed in the Police Department Capital Reserve Fund created in 1976 with the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to come from the unassigned fund balance.

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation.

Moved by Chris Ellms, Seconded by Tim Egan

Chris Ellms spoke on the article. Discussion

All in Favor, "Aye", Opposed, "No", the "Ayes" have it

ARTICLE 18: To see if the town will vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into a Four-year lease agreement in the amount of Sixty One Thousand Forty Nine Dollars (\$61,049) for the purpose of leasing a Ford F250 Truck, and to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixteen Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty Seven Dollars and fifty Five Cents (\$16,987.55) for the first year's payment for that purpose. This lease agreement contains an escape clause. (Majority vote required.)

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation.

Moved by Margo Connors, Seconded by Meri Hern

Road Agent Doug Glover spoke on the article. Discussion

All in Favor, "Aye", Opposed, "No", the "Ayes" have it

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of

One hundred Seven thousand, Five Hundred Three Dollars and Eighty Six Cents (\$107,503.86) To be returned to the Highway Bridge Capital Reserve Fund created in 2006 said sum shall come from unassigned fund balance.

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation.

Moved by Richard Bielefield, Seconded by Tim Egan

Selectboard members Richard Bielefield and Chris Ellms spoke on the article

Discussion

All in Favor, "Aye", Opposed, "No", the "Ayes" have it

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to establish the Fire Department Equipment Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:3 for the purpose of providing funds for the purchase of equipment and to raise and appropriate Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be placed in said fund; and name the Select Board as agents to expend from said fund.

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation.

Moved by Chris Ellms, Seconded by Tim Egan

Fire Chief Allan Clark spoke on the article. Discussion

All in Favor, "Aye", Opposed, "No", the "Ayes" have it

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen thousand Seven Hundred Forty-Two Dollars (\$15,742.00) purchasing a used bus for the Recreation Department.

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation

Moved by Margo Connors, Seconded by Steve Monsein

Margo Connors spoke on the article. Discussion

All in Favor, "Aye", Opposed, "No", the "Ayes" have it

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) To be placed in the Transfer Station Capital Reserve Fund created in 2019.

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation

Moved by Richard Bielefield, Seconded by Tim Egan

Margo Connors spoke on the article. Discussion

All in Favor, "Aye", Opposed, "No", the "Ayes" have it

ARTICLE 23: Shall we modify the elderly exemption from property tax in the Town of Sugar Hill, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$20,000; for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, 30,000; for a person 80 years of age or older \$40,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 3 consecutive years, own the real estate individually or jointly,

or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married to each other for at least 5 consecutive years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$45,000 or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$65,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$75,000 excluding the value of the person's residence.

The Select Board recommends this article.

Moved by Mary Sturtevant, Seconded by Steve Monsein

Chris Ellms spoke on the article. Discussion

Ed Hansalik made a motion to amend the article to read "To qualify, the person must have been a Sugar Hill resident for ten years"

Seconded by Nick De Mayo

Discussion

Upon review, Ed Hansalik removed his amendment

Samuel Mealey made a further motion to amend the article to read, "and own net assets not in excess of \$100,000, excluding the value of the person's residence.

Seconded by Ed Hansalik. Discussion

All in Favor, "Aye", Opposed, "No", the "Ayes" have it on the amended article

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) for support of the Boys & Girls Club of the North Country. The Boys and Girls Club is a fun, safe, positive place for all children of the North Country under the guidance of caring adults.

The Select Board recommends this appropriation

Moved by Margo Connors, Seconded by Howard Mitz

Discussion

Samuel Mealey made the motion to amend the article from \$2,500 to \$500.00

Seconded by Nick De Mayo, Motion failed

As originally moved: All in Favor, "Aye", Opposed, "No", the "Ayes" have it.

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to adopt the Sugar Hill Community Power plan, to authorize the Select Board to implement the plan, and to take all action in furtherance thereof, pursuant to RSA 53-E. The Sugar Hill Community Power plan is an opt-out program that offers more flexible electricity procurement. The plan will initially provide lower electricity rates for residents, or it will not launch. Initial participation in the plan can be declined, after which enrollment becomes voluntary."

The Select Board recommends this Article.

Moved by Margo Connors, Seconded by Howard Mitz

Margo Connors spoke on the article. Discussion

All in Favor, "Aye", Opposed, "No", the "Ayes" have it

ARTICLE 26: We, the undersigned registered voters of the Town of Sugar Hill request the Board to insert the following article on the Warrant for the March 12, 2023, Town Meeting of Sugar Hill New Hampshire.

It is the sense of the voters that all are welcome in Sugar Hill. In keeping with NH law (RSA 354), people of every age, sex, sexual preference, gender identity, race, creed/religion, color, marital status, familial status, physical or mental disability or national origin are part of our vibrant community. Engaging with people of different backgrounds and experiences enhances the vitality and resilience of our town. Sugar Hill embraces these differences in all our residents and seeks to be a place where everyone feels they belong.

Petition Warrant Article

Moved by Meri Hern, Seconded by Caryn Shamey

Discussion. Ed Hansalik made the motion to amend the article to read "It is the sense that all legally present law abiding citizens and visitors of good will are welcome in Sugar Hill, Seconded by Nick DeMayo. Discussion. **Amended motion failed**

John Barth made the motion to amend wording of "Warrant for the March 12, 2023 Town Meeting of Sugar Hill, New Hampshire to "The Warrant for the March 12, 2024 Town Meeting of Sugar Hill, New Hampshire" Seconded by Steve Monsein, **Amended motion passed**

Nicole De Mayo made the motion to amend the article to add "political persuasion" after the existing wording "mental disability", Seconded by Steve Monsein, Discussion

Amended motion passed

Tim Egan made the motion to move the question

Seconded by Rebecca Brown

Nick De Mayo made the motion not to move the question, seconded by Sam Mealey. Moderator James Snyder overruled this and asked the group if they opposed his decision, which they did not. **Motion not to move the article failed.**

A paper ballot was requested by the proper number of voters.

YES: 78, NO: 29 ARTICLE 26 PASSED

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town of Sugar Hill will vote to require that the annual budget and all special warrant articles having a tax impact, as determined by the governing body shall contain a notation stating the estimated tax impact of the article.

(Majority vote required) Petition Warrant Article

Moved by Ed Hansalik, Seconded by Rebecca Brown

Discussion

All in Favor, "Aye", Opposed "No", the "Ayes" have it

ARTICLE 28: Are you in favor of the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to our American Flag be instituted as a ceremonial act during the opening of all official town meetings and town-sanctioned events? Audience participation is strictly voluntary. (Majority vote required) (Petition Warrant Article)

Moved by Nick De Mayo, Seconded by Ken Leavitt

Discussion

Motion to amend made by Tim Egan, seconded by Ed Hansalik to leave out "town sanctioned events" from the article Motion passed.

Motion made Anne Hansalik to change the article to read: To see if the Town of Sugar Hill will support the institution of the recitation of the Pledge of Allegion to our Flag as a ceremonial act during the opening of all official Town Meetings. Seconded by John Barth. Amendment to the article passed. Tim Egan asked to move the question.

Voted by hand count, Yes: 20, No: 45.

Article failed.

ARTICLE 29: To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

There was a motion by Tim Egan to restrict reconsideration of Articles 10 through 28 Second by Rusty Talbot. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Lissa Boissonneault read the following:

I WOULD LIKE TO RECOGNIZE AND THANK ALL THE ELECTION WORKERS WHICH INCLUDE BALLOT CLERKS, SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECK LIST, BALLOT COUNTERS AND OUR MODERATOR THAT ARE SO FAITHFUL AND PROFESSIONAL IN CARRYING OUT THEIR DUTIES, ESPECIALLY THIS YEAR WITH FOUR MAJOR ELECTIONS TAKING PLACE. WE ARE SO VERY FORTUNATE IN SUGAR HILL TO HAVE THE DEDICATED CITIZENS THAT SERVE ON OUR MANY BOARDS WITH

WISDOM AND COMMON SENSE AND THE GIFT OF THEIR TIME THAT MAKE OUR TOWN THE SPECIAL PLACE TO LIVE THAT IT IS.

OUR FABULOUS TOWN REPORT COVER PHOTO THIS YEAR WAS TAKEN BY JENNIFER GAUDETTE, OUR TOWN ADMINISTRATOR. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO RECOGNIZE WITH MANY THANKS ALL OF JENNIFER'S VERY KNOWLEDGEABLE WORK THAT MAKES SUGAR HILL RUN SMOOTHLY AND PAVES THE WAY FOR OUR SELECTBOARD TO FUNCTION AND MAKE DECISIONS ABIDING BY STATE OF NH LAW AND OUR OWN TOWN ORDINANCES. SHE REMAINS OUR FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH. WE ARE VERY FORTUNATE TO HAVE HER AS PART OF OUR TOWN GOVERNMENT FOR THESE 28 YEARS AND COUNTING AND FOR HER MANY OTHER GOOD DEEDS IN OUR COMMUNITY.

KUDOS, ALSO TO OUR SELECTBOARD FOR THEIR DILIGENT, CAREFUL AND INSIGHTFUL HANDLING OF SUGAR HILL'S BUSINESS. AS YOU MUST HAVE NOTICED ON THE INSERT IN THE 2ND ISSUE TAX BILL THE TOWN PORTION OF OUR TAX BILL WENT DOWN. ALL OF OUR HARD WORKING AND DEDICATED BOARDS CONTRIBUTE TO THE SELECTBOARD BEING ABLE TO CARRY OUT THEIR DUTIES IN THE PROFESSIONAL AND LEGAL MANNER THAT THEY DO.

Lissa Boissonneault also thanked Dennis Cote for once again setting up the microphones for the Selectboard and the Moderator.

There being no further business to transact, Moderator Snyder adjourned the meeting at 10:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Lissa M. Boissonneault, Town Clerk

BALANCE SHEET

(As of December 31, 2024)

ASSETS

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Unrestricted Checking	\$538,884.53
Money Market/Roll	3,234.15
Roll (Bank Investment)	1,001,693.43
ARPA	53,404.49
Total Checking/Savings	1,597,216.60
Other Current Assets:	
Due from State of NH	60,875.50
Due from Trust Funds	50.00
Property Taxes Receivable Current Year	278,708.20
Property Taxes Prior Year	26,790.02
Tax Liens Receivable	0.00
Total Other Current Assets	366,423.72
T + 1 C A	1 062 640 22
Total Current Assets	1,963,640.32
Taxes Deeded Property	17,183.34
Total Assets	\$1,980,823.66
LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY	
Accounts Owed by the Town:	
School District Tax Payable	1,068,644.00
Deferred Revenue	53,314.01
Total Liabilities	\$1,121,958.01
Equity	1= 100 01
Reserved for Tax Deeded Property	17,183.34
Reserved for Article Carried Forward	80,065.35
Surplus	582,715.83
Net Income	<u>178,901.13</u>
Total Equity	858,865.65
Total Liabilities & Fund Equity	\$1,980,823.66

SCHEDULE OF LONG-TERM INDEBTEDNESS None

SUMMARY INVENTORY OF ASSESSED VALUATION

Land Under Current Use (At Current Use Values) Land Buildings Public Utilities	\$ 609,384.00 85,450,900.00 235,748.800.00 6,443,600.00
Total Valuation Before Exemptions Elderly and Blind Exemptions	\$328,252,684.00 100,000.00
Net Valuation on Which Tax Rate Is Computed for Municipal, County and Local Education	\$328,152,684.00
Less Utilities Net Valuation On Which Tax Rate For State Education Tax Is Computed	\$6,443,600.00 \$321,709,084.00

STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS AND TAXES ASSESSED

Total Town Appropriations Less: Revenues Fund Balance Voted surplus Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes Add: Overlay War Service Credits	<u>Amount</u> \$2,173,285.00 (393,276.00) (117,504.00) (150,000.00) 40,248.00 <u>13,000.00</u>		Tax Rate
Net Town Appropriations Municipal Tax Rate		\$1,565,753.00	\$ 4.77
Net Local School Budget Regional School Apportionment Less: Equitable Education Grant State Education Taxes	0.00 1,846,778.00 (.00) (353,310.00)		
Approved School(s) Tax Effort Local Education Tax Rate		1,493,468.00	4.55
State Education Taxes	353,310.00	353,310.00	1.10
Due to County	350,855.00		
Net County Tax Assessment County Tax Rate Combined Tax Rate Total Property Taxes Assessed		350,855.00	1.07 11.49
Property Tax To Be Raised		\$3,750,386.00	
County Tax Rate Combined Tax Rate Total Property Taxes Assessed Less: War Service Credits		3,763,386.00 (13,000.00)	

SCHEDULE OF TOWN PROPERTY

	Land	Buildings	Equipment
Meetinghouse	\$ 117,500.00	\$654,000.00	\$ 90,000.00
Carolina Crapo	285,700.00	818,100.00	60,000.00
Library			35,000.00
Fire Department	178,300.00	334,000.00	1,411,658.00
Police Department			182,434.00
Highway Department		371,800.00	942,123.25
Building & Grounds			91,379.00
Parks & Commons	170 (00 00		
Coffin Pond-SHCC Tennis Court	170,600.00 34,560.00		
Town Forest-SHCC	348,000.00		
Land:	340,000.00		
Cemeteries	308,800.00		
Birches	500.00		
Nason Road	115,900.00		
Creamery Pond	48,800.00		
Creamery Pond-OD	55,900.00		
Route 117	12,000.00		
Route 93	23,000.00		
Creamery Pond Corner	42,900.00		
Pearl Lake Road	73,100.00		
	\$1,815,560.00	\$2,177,900.00	\$2,812,594.25
TOTALS	(1)	(1)	

Note (1) Based on Assessed Valuation

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

To the Voters of the Town of Sugar Hill:

I herewith submit my report of the financial doings of my office for the year 2024:

Motor Vehicle Permits Issued:	\$197,543.00
Dog Licenses Issued:	397.00
Other Permits and Fees:	7,335.00

Total \$205,275.00

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Remittan	ces to	Treasurer:

Motor Vehicle Permits Issued:	\$197,543.00
Local Town Clerk Fees:	2,260.00
State Town Clerk Fees:	3,486.00
Title Application Fees:	344.00
Dog Licenses Issued:	397.00
Dog License Fees:	101.00
Dog License Late Fees:	10.00
Dog License Forfeitures	125.00
Marriage Licenses Issued:	86.00
Town Clerk Fees:	14.00
Vital Statistics (First Copy):	128.00
Vital Statistics (Second Copy):	35.00
Town Clerk Fees:	147.00
UCC Filing Fee:	75.00
Election Filing Fees	4.00
Sale of Checklist	430.00
Insufficient Fund Fees	90.00

Total \$205,275.00

Respectfully submitted, Lissa M. Boissonneault Town Clerk

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2024

DEBITS

Uncollected Taxes –		
Beginning of	Levies of	Levies of
Fiscal Year:	2024	2023
Property Taxes	\$ 0.00	\$199,887.99
Land Use Change	0.00	0.00
Yield Taxes	0.00	0.00
Property Tax Credit Balance	(13,019.48)	0.00
Taxes Committed This Year:		
Property Taxes	3,751,449.00	0.00
Land Use Change	43,078.50	0.00
Yield Taxes	13,403.22	0.00
Overpayment Refunds:		
Property Taxes	0.00	0.00
Interest & Penalties	622.70	3,217.48
Total Debits	\$3,795,533.94	\$203,105.47
	CREDITS	
Remittances to Treasurer		
During Fiscal Year:		
Property Taxes	\$3,459,721.32	\$ 155,405.76
Land Use Change	31,401.50	0.00
Yield Taxes	11,496.80	0.00
Interest	622.70	2,837.48
Penalties	0.00	380.00
Conversion to Lien	0.00	44,482.23
Abatements Made:		
Property Taxes	0.00	
Land Use Change	11,677.00	
Yield Taxes	1,906.42	0.00
Current Levy Deeded	0.00	0.00
Uncollected Taxes End of Year:		
Property Taxes	301,236.93	0.00
Property Tax Credit Balance	(22,528.73)	0.00
Land Use Change Taxes	0.00	0.00
Yield Tax	0.00	0.00_
Total Credits	\$3,795,533.94	\$203,105.47

SUMMARY OF LIEN ACCOUNTS

Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2024

DEBITS

	2023	2022	2021
Unredeemed Liens Balance Beginning of Fiscal Year	\$ 0.00	\$10,467.75	\$6,716.40
Liens Executed	46,561.49	0.00	0.00
Interest & Costs Collected After			
Lien Execution Total Debits	1,009.45 \$47,570.94	1,912.16 \$12,379.91	423.15 \$7,139.55

CREDITS

	2023	2022	2021
Remittances to Treasurer			
Redemptions	\$26,492.74	\$3,746.48	\$6,716.40
Interest & Cost	1,009.45	1,912.16	423.15
Abatements of Unredeem	ed Tax 0.00	0.00	0.00
Liens Deeded to Municip	ality 0.00	0.00	0.00
Unredeemed Liens			
Balance End of			
Fiscal Year	20,068.75	<u>6,721.27</u>	0.00
Total Credits	\$47,570.94	\$12,379.91	\$7,139.55

UNREDEEMED PROPERTY TAXES FROM TAX LIEN

BY ORDER OF THE SELECTMEN THE FOLLOWING LIST IS INCLUDED PER 1997 TOWN MEETING

	2023	2022
Lorentzen, Cornelia M.	\$13,808.45	0.00
Staffier, Paul D.	8,127.07	7,102.63
Stroup, Kimberly Ann	90.27	0.00
Totals	\$22,057.79	\$ 7,102.63

TREASURER'S REPORT

Year Ending December 31, 2024 Cash Basis

Beginning Cash Balance Checking January 1, 2024		\$ 401,749.71
Beginning Balance Roll/Money Market January 1, 2024		1,286,725.63
	Total	\$1,688,475.34
RECE	TIPTS	
Tax Collector	\$3,746,648.17	
	. , ,	
Town Clerk	205,275.00	
Selectmen	27,447.93	
Transfers (Trust & Capital Reserve Funds)	563,446.24	
State & Federal Grants	481,583.91	
Interest on Money Market & NOW account	8,357.35	
Total Receipts		\$5,032,758.60
DISBURS	EMENTS	
Orders of Selectmen	\$5,177,421.54	
	\$5,177,421.54	
Loan Repayments		
Total Disbursements		\$5,177,421.54
Ending Cash Balance NOW checking, Decen	nber 31, 2024	538,884.53
Ending Cash Balance Roll/Money Market, De	1,004,927.87	
Enumg Cash Dalance Roll/Wolley Walket, De	1,004,74/.0/	

CHECKING AND SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

\$1,543,812.40

POLICE PERMIT ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance 1/1/24	\$ 374.04
Deposits	0.00
Withdrawals	0.00
Balance 12/31/23	\$ 374.04
POLICE SPECIAL DUTY FUND	
Beginning Balance 1/1/24 Deposits	\$ 7,981.98 5,600.00

 Withdrawals - Firearms
 2,051.99

 Interest Earned
 4.64

 Balance 12/31/23
 \$11,534.63

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Beginning Balance 1/1/24	\$5,338.82	
Interest Earned Balance 12/31/24	2.67 \$5,341.49	
Butuilee 12/31/21	ψυ,υ 11.19	
CONSERVATION LAND USE FUND		
Beginning Balance 1/1/24	\$110,184.23	
Deposit Change Tax	10,000.00	
Interest Earned	5,904.16	
Balance 12/31/24	\$126,088.39	
RICHARDSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY		
Beginning Balance 1/1/24	\$ 2,033.91	
Interest Earned		
Balance 12/31/24	\$2,034.93	
RICHARSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY		
Beginning Balance 1/1/24	\$3,702.41	
Service Charges	3.00	
Balance 12/31/2024	\$3,699.41	
NORTHERN PASS DEFENSE FUND		
Beginning Balance 1/1/24	\$ 764.78	
Interest Earned	.38 \$ 795.16	
Balance 12/31/24	\$ /95.16	
ARPA		
Beginning Balance 1/1/24	\$53,377.79	
Interest Earned	26.70	
Balance 12/31/24	\$ 53,404.49	

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS Cash Basis

Local Taxes:

Property Taxes, Current Year Yield Taxes, Current Year Current Use Change, Current Year Property Taxes, Prior Year Lien Redemptions, Prior Years Interest & Costs	\$3,459,721.32 11,496.80 31,401.50 199,887.99 36,955.62 7,184.94	
Total Taxes Collected		\$3,746,648.17
From Local Sources and Miscellaneous, except T	axes:	
Motor Vehicle Permits	197,543.00	
Town Clerk Fees	2,260.00	
State Fees	3,486.00	
Title Application Fees	344.00	
Dog Licenses, Fees, Penalty	633.00	
Marriage Licenses	86.00	
Vital Statistics	163.00	
UCC Filing Fees	75.00	
Town Clerk Fees	161.00	
Checklist	430.00	
Election Filing Fees	4.00	
Insufficient Fund Fees	90.00	
Total Town Clerk		\$205,275.00
Building Permits	8,301.70	
Driveway Permits	35.00	
Short Term Rental	2,250.00	
Planning Board Fees	235.00	
Zoning Board Fees	390.00	
Selectmen	145.97	
Highway	400.00	
Police	110.00	
Cemetery Burials/plot purchases (1600)	2,850.00	
Cable TV Permit	1,744.57	
Total Miscellaneous		\$16,462.24

From State:		
Highway Block	51,758.70	
Rooms and Meals	66,293.61	
State Bridge Aid,	44,738.64	
HOP Grant	35,379.15	
FEMA	276,414.06	
Hazardous Mitigation	6,999.75	
Total from State		\$481,583.91
Interest on Checking & Savings Account	8,357.35	
Capital Reserve Funds	563,446.24	
Sale of Municipal Property	5,750.00	
Rent of Municipal Property	1,425.00	
Solar Return	3,810.69	
Total Receipts Other Than Current Revenue		\$582,758.36
Total Receipts From All Sources		\$5,032,758.60
Cash on Hand, January 1, 2024		1,688,475.34
Grand Total of Receipts		\$6,721,233.94

SUMMARY OF PAYMENTS

General Government:		
Executive	\$ 69,184.62	
Election, Registration & Vital Statistics	34,704.28	
Financial Administration	26,474.94	
Revaluation of Property	15,000.00	
Legal Expenses	5,386.43	
Payroll Taxes	42,288.66	
Planning Board	35,320.46	
Zoning Board of Adjustment	509.72	
General Government Buildings	46,103.44	
Buildings & Grounds & WA	67,694.71	
Cemeteries	12,417.41	
Insurance	181,891.99	
Advertising & Regional Associations	9,155.00	
Unemployment	0.00	
Total General Government Expenses		546,131.66
Police Department	316,852.91	
Fire Department	109,636.84	
Ambulance	26,370.76	
Emergency Management	3,640.25	
Total Public Safety Expenses		456,500.76
Total Building Inspections		9,100.00
Total Airports		347.59
Highway, Streets and Bridges:		
Town Maintenance	295,909.92	
General Expenses of Highway Department	225,506.95	
Highway Block Grant	51,758.00	
Highway Roadwork Non – Lapsing Fund	55,000.00	
FEMA 2017	83,200.00	
Street Lighting	2,325.33	
Total Highways, Streets and Bridges Expenses		713,700.20
Sanitation:		
Solid Waste Disposal	(-12,496.00)	
Total Sanitation		(-12,496.00)
Health:		
Health, Hospitals	8,767.00	
Total Health Expenses		8,767.00
T . 1 W 10 . F		2 550 12
Total Welfare Expenses		3,779.13
Culture and recreation:		
Recreation & WA Bus	33,778.00	
Library	29,761.01	
Patriotic	1,997.62	
Total Culture and Recreation Expenses		65,536.63

Conservation:		
Conservation Commission	493.68	
Land Use Change Fund	10,000.00	
Total Conservation Expenses		10,493.68
Debt Service:		
Interest Expense – TAN	0.00	
Total Debt Service Payments		0.00
Transfers to Capital Reserve Funds & Trusts:		
Cemetery Trust	1,600.00	
Article #11 Highway Equipment	50,000.00	
Article # 13 Fire Department HE	50,000.00	
Article #14 Fire Department Building	10,000.00	
Article #19 Bridge	107,503.86	
Article #15 Highway Dept. Building	10,000.00	
Article #16 Crapo Building	10,000.00	
Article #17 Police	20,000.00	
Article #20 Fire Department Equipment	50,000.00	
Article # 22 Transfer Station	20,000.00	
Total Capital Reserve Funds & Trusts		329,103.86
Capital Vehicles/Equipment/Buildings/Land:		
Bridges – Crane Hill	63,301.76	
Bridges – Indian Brook Streeter Pond Road	401,451.49	
Highway Fuel Tank	2,732.86	
Building & Grounds, Plow Dump Body	11,050.00	
Fire Department Building	27,599.48	
Highway Equip	37,107.77	
Transfer Station	44,233.00	
Solar	17,495.13	
Total Capital Expense		604,971.49
Taxes Bought by Town	46,561.49	
Payroll Correction	40.05	
Total Miscellaneous Expenses		46,601.54
Payments to Other Government Divisions:		
Taxes Paid to County	350,855.00	
Payments to School Districts	2,044,029.00	
Total Payments to Other Government Divisions		<u>2,394,884.00</u>
Grand Total of Expenditures		\$5,177,421.54

DETAILED STATEMENT OF PAYMENTS

Executive:	Φ.	410.42	
Selectmen - Expense	\$	419.42	
Town Admin - Gaudette		47,520.00	
Office Asst- Amy Venezia		592.00	
Kim Cowles		1,930.50	
Moderator		500.00	
Workshops		557.28	
Telephone		2,072.19	
Internet		1,332.00	
Website		564.00	
Program Support/Consulting		2,947.92	
Mapping		2,260.80	
Registry		192.96	
Printing/Notices		2,331.00	
NHMA Dues, Coalition, Dues		2,198.00	
Office Supplies		2,527.92	
Postage		962.78	
Signs		69.90	
Gift		205.95	
Total Executive Expenses			\$ 69,184.62
Election, Registration & Vital Statistics:			
Town Clerk - Boissonneault		6,983.89	
Town MV Fees - Boissonneault		3,080.00	
State MV Fees - Boissonneault		3,480.00	
Title Fees - Boissonneault		344.00	
Dog Fees - Boissonneault		97.00	
Marriage Fees - Boissonneault		14.00	
Vital Fees - Boissonneault		147.00	
UCC Fees - Boissonneault		75.00	
Supervisors of the Checklist		1,778.14	
Ballot Clerks		3,010.00	
Computer - Program Support BMSI		3,360.01	
Workshops		132.30	
Food for Elections		571.88	
Dues		20.00	
		570.51	
Telephone			
Supplies/dog tags		271.75	
Office Supplies/copier		984.29	
Voting Equipment		8,125.00	
Postage		1,248.01	
Vital Statistics		249.00	
Dog Licenses	-	162.50	04.504.60
Total Election, Registration & Vital Statistics			34,704.28

Financial Administration:		
Tax Collector - Lissa Boissonneault	6,305.57	
Elizabeth Andross -Trust	200.00	
Lien Fees - Boissonneault	132.00	
Treasurer - Venezia	2,000.00	
Auditor	6,750.00	
Workshops	300.00	
Bank Fees	277.70	
Telephone	397.96	
Computer Program & Support-Avitar/QB	7,415.66	
Registry	33.50	
Research Lien	251.07	
Dues	20.00	
Office Supplies/copier, checks, tax bills	1,292.00	
Postage	1,099.48	
Total Financial Administration Expenses		26,474.94
Total Revaluation		15 000 00
Total Revaluation		15,000.00
Total Legal Expenses		5,386.43
Payroll Taxes:		
Sugar Hill FICA (Town Contribution)	32,166.22	
Sugar Hill Medicare (Town Contribution)	10,122.44	
Total Payroll Taxes Expense		42,288.66
		,
Planning Board:		
Secretary - Salary Amy Venezia	1,888.00	
Registry	41.00	
Printing/Notices	370.80	
Computer	640.88	
Postage	33.48	
Master Plan	5,265.00	
HOP Grant	26,445.30	
	636.00	
Total Planning Board Expenses		35,320.46
Zoning Board:		
Secretary – Amy Venezia	320.00	
Printing/Notices	144.00	
Postage	45.72	
Total Zoning Board Expenses		509.72
C A D TH		
Government Buildings:	20.001.20	
James Keefe	20,991.20	
Telephone (Elevator & Meetinghouse)	1,996.30	
Electricity (Crapo & Meetinghouse)	4,914.88	
Heating Oil (Meetinghouse)	1,589.74	

Propane (Crapo) Unifirst – Rugs Elevator Inspections Alarm Monitoring Tree Work Meetinghouse Tri State Extinguisher Inspections Presidential Pest NC Mechanical NC Appliance Zizza Lock Service Stevenson Services - Clock Supplies New Equipment – Refrigerator MH Total Government Buildings Expenses	3,895.39 2,523.77 975.00 324.00 400.00 834.70 285.00 595.00 160.00 564.00 1,824.00 3,267.49 962.97	46,103.44
Ç 1		,
Grounds & Maintenance: Peter Carbonneau - Salary James Keefe Telephone Supplies Gasoline Diesel Grounds keeping - New Equipment Vehicle Repair New Equipment-Radio Retirement Total Grounds & Maintenance Expenses Truck Lease CRF Plow and Dump Body	34,489.15 5,340.00 493.85 509.67 2,664.89 655.73 808.53 1,587.61 609.56 6,530.71	53,689.70 14,005.01 11,050.00
Cemeteries: Supplies – Flags, flag poles Hinds Electric Eversource Fencing Supplies – Patriotic Brands Supplies – Home Depot Landscaping Top Notch Memorials Brochure Holder Total Cemeteries Expenses	2,214.68 2,500.00 88.71 4,200.00 407.11 95.93 77.00 2,800.00 33.98	12,417.41
Insurance: Health - Highway Police Includes Buy Out Chief Executive Building & Grounds Dental	92,652.96 17,477.04 28,954.08 3,397.01 6,996.00	

Property Liability Worker's Compensation Employee Reimbursed Total Insurance Expenses Total Advertising & Regional Associations Total Unemployment Expenses	30,965.00 15,320.00 (13,870.10) s Expenses	181,891.99 9,155.00 0.00
Police Department:		
Chief Mike Ho-Sing-Loy	110,878.25	
Ho-Sing-Loy Special Detail	220.00	
Corp. Sarah Szandyba	66,221.97	
Szandyba Special Detail Pay	2,200.00	
Szandyba – Overtime	5,833.73	
Officer Kerry Pomeroy	27,603.77	
Pomeroy - Detail Pay	1,320.00	
Officer Cody MacKay	460.00	
Police Retirement	56,120.81	
Prosecutor – Town of Littleton	3,500.00	
Training	1,106.31	
Community Service	235.54	
Telephone Wireless	1,950.55	
Telephone Office/Fax Line added	2,086.31	
Body Camera Storage	3,205.18	
Computer Consulting	2,645.03	
Computer Program Support	306.49	
Internet	239.98	
Website	468.00	
TMDE Calibration	110.00	
Dispatch Service	12,212.46	
Uniforms	1,876.32	
Firearms	1,580.89	
Printing	1,729.15	
Dues	300.00	
Supplies	120.79	
Office Supplies	1,530.43	
Postage/Box Rent	256.15	
Gasoline	5,527.33	
Vehicle Maintenance	1,658.18	
Equipment Maintenence	488.85	
Books	91.79	
New & Replacement Equipment	2,768.65	
Total Police Department Expenses		316,852.91
Ambulance:		
Littleton Fire	26,370.76	
Total Ambulance Expenses		26,370.76

Fire Department:

ire Department:	
Salaries:	
Aldrich, Clifton	5,500.00
Amsbary, Douglas	650.00
Beaulieau, Brian	2,962.50
Burger, Timothy	3,387.50
Chase, Eric	1,012.50
Clark, Allan	19,416.00
Collins, Evelyn	400.00
Collins, Jeffrey	825.00
Crowe, Nelson	275.00
Dahill, David	3,025.00
Gagel, John	900.00
Glover, Douglas	2,112.50
Ireland, Brinson	550.00
Johnk, Gordon	3,612.50
Johnk, Samuel	1,912.50
Kenerson, Danforth	587.50
Lax, Nathan	562.50
Quintal, Richard	75.00
Rasmussen, Eric	6,775.00
Snyder, James	3,987.50
Talbot, Rusty	1,087.50
Warren, Michael	600.00
Warren, Lynne	300.00
Wilson, Ned	3,487.50
Mileage (Chief Clark)	2,300.00
Training	1,454.48
Fire Prevention	462.29
Telephone	968.47
Internet Provider	707.11
Program Support	454.50
Notchnet	528.00
Dispatching Services	4,300.54
Medical Services	400.00
Electric Dividing Maintanana	1,916.31
Building Maintenance	2,227.85
Uniforms & Protective Clothing	5,634.80
Dues Supplies	916.00
Supplies Office Supplies	2,571.20 110.46
Office Supplies Medical Supplies	1,738.58
* *	55.10
Postage Gasoline	57.67
Diesel Fuel	998.72
Propane	4,008.76
Vehicle Maintenance	2,255.21
Equipment Maintenance	1,537.14
Equipment Mannenance	1,557.14

Radio Maintenance Communication Equipment New & Replacement Equipment Miscellaneous Total Fire Department Expenses Fire Department Building CRF	19.95 1,479.73 6,571.27 1,959.20	109.636.84 27,599.48
Total Building Inspections		9,100.00
Emergency Management	2 640 25	
Hazardous Mitigation Plan	3,640.25	3,640.25
Total Emergency Management Total Airport		347.59
Town Maintenance:		
Douglas Glover - Salary	100,420.47	
Joshua Ashey	70,383.43	
Ashey OT	8,080.47	
Todd Nelson	61,379.97	
Nelson OT	7,214.14	
Peter Carbonneau	14,655.81	
Carbonneau OT	525.90	
Retirement	33,249.73	
Total Town Maintenance		295,909.92
General Highway Department:		
Engineering - McCarthy	900.00	
Telephone	1,462.86	
Computer Internet	971.51	
Computer Consulting	789.94	
Computer Support	29.99	
Medical-Drug Testing Consortium Fees	621.50	
Electricity -Salt Shed	188.14	
Heating Oil	190.61	
Wood	0.00	
Building Maintenance	3,093.95	
Equipment Rental -Sweeper	4,312.50	
Uniforms	3,851.05	
Dues	80.00	
Supplies	2,278.47	
Office Expenses	43.28	
Shop Supplies	2,521.75	
Postage Gasoline	10.10	
Gasoline Diesel Fuel	152.27	
	28,020.03	
Propane Vehicle Maintenance	334.95	
	24,609.26 10,153.79	
Equipment Maintenance Radio Maintenance	557.50	
	221.20	

Salt Hot Top Crushed Gravel Sand Culverts Cold Patch Calcium Asphalt New Equipment Animal Control	3,927.18 1,256.55 9,503.21 13,859.48 5,299.18 355.23 4,200.00 237,287.67 6,800.00 225.00	
Total General Highway Department & Non-Laps CRF Heavy Equipment	ing	363,706.95 37,107.77
CRF Building		2,732.86
Bridge CRF – Crane Hill Hoyle & Tanner, Willis Bridge CRF – Indian Brook Streeter Pond Road	am McCarthy	63,301.76 401,451.49
Solar Third Payment		17,495.13
Total Street Lighting Evenances		2 225 22
Total Street Lighting Expenses Total Highway Block Grant Expenses		2,325.33 51,758.00
Total Solid Waste Disposal Expenses		-12,496.00
Transfer Station CRF Baler & Container		44,233.00 8,767.00
Total Health & Hospitals Agencies Expenses Total Welfare Expenses		3,779.13
Total Parks & Recreation Expenses		22,945.00
Warrant Article – Bus		10,833.00
Library:		
Librarian – Irene Amsbary	15,587.00	
Sara Daley	1,773.00	
Telephone/Internet Computer Consulting -Goldman	2,042.47 2,058.75	
G Suite	2,036.73	
Automation	1,460.00	
Books/Movies/Audio	5,958.27	
Programs	435.67	
Shelving	93.00	
Banner & signs Total Library Expenses	107.60	29,761.01
Total Library Expenses		29,701.01
Patriotic:		
Town Party Total Patriotic Expanses	<u>1,997.62</u>	1 007 62
Total Patriotic Expenses		1,997.62
Conservation Commission:		
Dues	250.00	
Worksops Turtle Donation/costs	75.00	
Turtle Donation/costs Total Conservation Commission	168.68	493.68
10mi Combei varion Commission		475.00

10,000.00

unsiers cupituriteserve runus.	
Crapo Building CRF	10,000.00
Highway Department HE	50,000.00
Fire Department HE	50,000.00
Fire Department Building	10,000.00
Bridgework	107,503.86
Police Department CRF	20,000.00
Highway Building	10,000.00
Transfer Station	20,000.00
Fire Department Equipment	50,000.00
4-1 T C C 4-1 D E 1.	

Total Transfers - Capital Reserve Funds327,503.86Total Transfer - Cemetery Trust1,600.00Total Taxes Paid - County350,855.00Total Taxes Paid - School District2,044,029.00Payroll Expense40.05Total Taxes Bought by the Town46,561.49

Total Detailed Expenses

\$5,177,421.54



ACCOUNTANTS' COMPILATION REPORT

To the Board of Selectmen, Town of Sugar Hill:

Management is responsible for the accompanying financial statements of Town of Sugar Hill, which comprise the balance sheet as of December 31, 2024, and the related statements of revenue and expenditures for the year then ended, included in the accompanying prescribed form MS-535. We have performed a compilation engagement in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA. We did not audit or review the financial statements included in the accompanying prescribed form MS-535 nor were we required to perform any procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by management. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion, a conclusion, nor provide any form of assurance on the financial statements included in the accompanying prescribed form MS-535.

The financial statements included in the accompanying prescribed form MS-535 are intended to comply with the requirements of New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration and are not intended to be a presentation in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

February 17, 2025

Report of the Trust Funds - December 31, 2024

PRINCIPAL

INCOME

				Gains or							Grand Total of
Date		Balance	New	on Sala of		Balance	Balance	Income	Expended	Balance	Principal &
Creation	NAME OF CRF	of Year	Created	Securities	Withdrawals	of Year	of Year	Year	Year	Year	End of Year
03/12/2019	Energy Efficiency CRF	3,093.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,093.20	00.0	165.27	0.00	165.27	3,258.47
06/19/1976	Highway Dept. CRF	107,610.16	50,000.00	0.00	30,362.43	127,247.73	0.00	6,745.34	6,745.34	0.00	127,247.73
6/23/1976	Police Department CRF	59,425.07	20,000.00	0.00	0.00	79,425.07	0.00	3,601.40	0.00	3,601.40	83,026.47
12/31/1991	Meetinghouse CRF	24,087.11	00.00	0.00	0.00	24,087.11	1,439.66	1,364.08	0.00	2,803.74	26,890.85
03/14/2014	Northern Pass Defense	717.99	00.00	0.00	0.00	717.99	87.59	43.06	0.00	130.65	848.64
08/01/2004	Carolina Crapo CRF	16,379.05	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	26,379.05	0.00	1,088.19	0.00	1,088.19	27,467.24
07/19/1993	Fire Department CRF	256,516.87	50,000.00	0.00	0.00	306,516.87	16,665.66	15,662.86	0.00	32,328.52	338,845.39
08/09/2006	Highway Bridge	508,674.35	107,503.86	0.00	412,080.76	204,097.45	0.00	28,642.37	28,642.37	0.00	204,097.45
11/20/2008	Fire Department Building	31,824.13	10,000.00	0.00	25,737.85	16,086.28	0.00	1,861.63	1,861.63	0.00	16,086.28
03/10/2009	Highway Department Building	22,440.91	10,000.00	0.00	387.64	32,053.27	890.63	1,454.59	2,345.22	0.00	32,053.27
03/12/2019	Transfer Station CFR	32,220.33	20,000.00	0.00	38,847.89	13,372.44	3,153.11	2,232.00	5,385.11	0.00	13,372.44
03/13/2012	Building & Grounds	15,689.50	0.00	0.00	10,232.40	5,457.10	0.00	817.60	817.60	0.00	5,457.10
	TOTAL CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS	\$1,078,678.67	\$277,503.86	\$0.00	\$517,648.97	\$838,533.56	\$22,236.65	\$63,678.39	\$45,797.27	\$40,117.77	\$878,651.33
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All Funds Invested 100% All Funds are Bank Deposits at PDIP

Respectfully, Chairman, Russ Gaitskill, Mike Claflin, Mark Butterfield Trustee of the Trust Funds

Report of the Trust Funds - December 31, 2024 CEMETERY TRUST FUNDS

PRINCIPAL

INCOME

				Gains or							Grand Total of
Date Of		Balance Beginning	New Funds	(Losses) on Sale of		Balance End	Balance Beginning	Income During	Expended During	Balance End	Principal & Income at
Creation	NAME OF TRUST	of Year	Created	Securities	Withdrawals	of Year	of Year	Year	Year	Year	End of Year
10/09/1975	Sunnyside Care Fund (1)	12,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,000.00	2,951.95	798.97	0.00	3,750.92	15,750.92
09/21/1973	Louise Leazott Trust (1)	500.00	0.00	0.00	00.00	200.00	710.06	64.64	0.00	774.70	1,274.70
11/05/1943	Annie Bowles Trust (1)	150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	175.20	17.38	0.00	192.58	342.58
11/03/1937	Frank E. Bowles Trust (1)	150.00	0.00	0.00	00.00	150.00	175.20	17.38	0.00	192.58	342.58
10/18/1956		100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	99.57	10.66	0.00	110.23	210.23
07/11/1984	Hersom Murray Trust (1)	150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	124.74	14.67	0.00	139.41	289.41
10/09/1975	Anker Trust (2)	2,180.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,180.29	167.46	125.46	0.00	292.92	2,473.21
10/09/1975	Sunnyside Cemetery (3)	9,966.00	2,400.00	0.00	0.00	12,366.00	556.09	607.26	0.00	1,163.35	13,529.35
	TOTAL CEMETERY 0F TRUST FUNDS	\$25,196.29	2,400 .00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$27,596.29	\$ 4,960.27	\$1,656.42	\$0.00	\$6,616.69	\$34,212.98

Chairman Russ Gaitskill, Mike Claflin, Mark Butterfield Trustees of the Trust Funds Respectfully,

⁽¹⁾ Interest only may be used for lot care.3
(2) Funds may be used at discretion of Cemetery Trustees.
(3) Funds may only be used for Sunnyside Maintenance.
All Funds Invested 100%
All Funds are deposited in PDIP.

Report of the Trust Funds - December 31, 2024

			PI	PRINCIPAL	PAL			Z	INCOME	E)	
				Gains or							Grand Total of
Date		Balance Beginning	New	(Losses) on Sale of		Balance End	Balance Beginning	Income	Expended	Balance End	Principal & Income at
Creation	NAME OF TRUST	of Year	Created	Securities	Withdrawals	of Year	of Year	Year	Year	Year	End of Year
10/9/1975	Gladys Jesseman Memorial Trust	\$1,841.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,841.23	442.60	122.04	0.00	564.64	2,405.87
9/21/1973	Fredericka Harmes Fund	1,564.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,564.10	793.62	125.99	0.00	919.61	2,483.71
11/5/1943	Alice Smith Fund	903.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	903.50	457.17	72.71	0.00	529.88	1,433.38
1/22/2001	Richardson Memorial Trust	73,984.55	0.00	00.00	0.00	73,984.55	9,039.83	4,436.56	0.00	13,476.39	87,460.94
	TOTAL LIBRARY TRUST FUNDS	\$78,293.38	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$78,293.38	\$10,733.22	\$4,757.30	\$0.00	\$15,490.52	93,783.90

All Funds Invested 100%. All Funds are deposited in PDIP or CD's.

SUGAR HILL IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION FUNDS PRINCIPAL INCOME

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Respectfully, Chairman Russ Gaitskill, Mike Claflin, Mark Butterfield Trustees of Trust Funds

SELECT BOARD'S REPORT

Thank you to all the Sugar Hill employees and volunteers who make our town a wonderful place to live and visit.

Over the past five years there are few things that have changed more than property values. According to the NH Municipal Association, "We have seen a nationwide housing price boom causing prices to skyrocket and fundamentally changing our expectations of what a typical house should be valued at. In New Hampshire, many communities, both big and small, have seen dramatic changes in residential property values. This presents unique challenges for municipalities when it comes to properly evaluating properties for tax assessments. According to RSA 75: municipalities must reappraise all real estate at least once every five years so that the assessments are at full and true value. This includes collecting new or verifying existing physical data through reinspection and remeasurement, analyzing market data, and appraising all property at the same percentage at market value. The NH Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) is responsible for annually equalizing the local assessed valuation of municipalities throughout the state. DRA has determined that the average level of assessment for real property in Sugar Hill is 100.9% for tax year 2024. This means that our current appraisals are accurate. The average level of assessment in 2023 was only 51.5%. The town received the new tax rate in November and signed the tax warrant. The new rate is \$11.49. The new town net valuation is \$328,133,775 up from \$174,268,324 in 2023.

In January 2024, the Select Board adopted policies and procedures for Select Board meetings with a specific time frame for public comment. The Board is working to update the Class VI Road policy and make sure that owners receiving building permits submit the necessary paperwork to the town. The Board agreed to increase the non-resident Building rental of the Meetinghouse to \$1000 beginning January 1, 2025. At the 2024 Annual Meeting, the town voted to modify the elderly exemption from property tax in the town based on assessed value for qualified taxpayers. See "Forms" on the town website for more details.

The Sugar Hill Broadband Committee's commitment to fiber service was instrumental in getting Consolidated Communications to advance the deployment schedule to residents and businesses. Advancement of construction is going on now with a completion date of March 2025 for turn up of service. Any issues or problems should be reported to the town hall. The Sugar Hill Broadband Committee will continue to advocate for residents in need of broadband and facilitate any inquiries that may arise while the construction moves forward. The Select Board would like to thank the Broadband Committee Members: Doug Evelyn, Nancy Martland, Michael Morley, Tim Egan, Jordan Applewhite, Jeanne Cummings, and Nancy Vailas for their time and commitment to the town over the past several years.

Eversource is rebuilding the U199 transmission line (between Littleton and Sugar Hill) within the existing right-of-way. Progress of the U199 Rebuild Project is moving forward as planned, with civil construction currently taking place within the easement off Streeter Pond Road in Sugar Hill. The work in this area is consistent with the visible work being completed along Meadow Street in Littleton near Shaw's supermarket. The

X178 Rebuild Project, which travels from Campton to Whitefield, is currently in the permitting phase. Additionally, there is a pending petition in front of the NH Site Evaluation Committee. Both rebuild projects are currently 115 kilovolt lines and will remain 115 kilovolts after the rebuild. Wooden poles will be replaced with stronger steel poles, and new conductors (power line) and a fiber optic communication wire (OPGW) will be installed to allow faster and more reliable communication between substations. Public informational sessions were held in 2023 and 2024.

More information can be found at www.eversource.com/U199-line-project. Questions or comments can be directed to: NHProjectsInfo@eversource.com or 888-926-5334.

The Short-Term Rental (STR) permit form was reviewed by Town Counsel and has been updated to reflect counsel's recommendations. The form was posted in the newsletter and on the website on September 1, 2024. STR Registration Forms were due into the Selectmen's office on September 30, 2024.

Short Term Regulations, as allowed by the Sugar Hill Zoning Ordinance, were put in place for the benefit of both homeowners and visitors to our community. We want to ensure safety and minimize neighborhood disruption. Sugar Hill strives to preserve the traditional character of residential neighborhoods that can be negatively impacted by Short Term Rental use and help preserve the quality and quantity of housing stock for year-round use. The Board voted not to charge an annual renewal fee for submitting STR forms, just the initial filing fee of \$250.

Traffic Calming Project: (Traffic Calming reduces automobile and truck speeds or volumes mainly using physical measures to improve quality of life, safety and the comfort of walking and bicycling). For the past two years, the Select Board has been working with the North Country Council (NCC) to address traffic safety and speeding through the center of town as well as on Route 117 from Franconia to Sunnyside Cemetery. Under the guidance and direction of NCC, the town implemented a "pop-up" demonstration from August 16 - 19. The goals of the pop-up were to improve the safety of pedestrians, cyclists, and vehicles through town by reducing speeds and increasing the visibility of pedestrians in the town center. The pop-up also supported local efforts to highlight the town center and create a sense of place.

(Pop-up traffic calming projects are community-based efforts to see how low-cost and temporary versions of street design elements affect the behavior and safety of all people using local streets and roadways).

The project included data from three traffic counters- before, during, and after the event, flower planters and bollards outside the post office and town hall, more visible crosswalk markings, 2 welcome signs entering and leaving the village center, a community survey, and staff observations.

Conclusion: Vehicle speeds were reduced in the project area and feedback from the community showed clear opinions on the need for speed reduction, safety improvements and continued law enforcement support.

Pop-ups are a great way to test road treatments that could be adapted into permanent features. At this time, the board is looking at installing two signs that will read Welcome to Sugar Hill, Historic Village at the Community Church and at the intersection of Route 117 and Pearl Lake Road, repainting the crosswalk to bright yellow, adding flower boxes and installing a fence along 117 in front of the Historical Museum to prevent pedestrians from crossing the highway above the crosswalk. Thank you to Sugar Hill Landscapes for the use of their hydrangea bushes. The board is also looking at ways to slow travel around Polly's Pancake Parlor.

We want to thank all the residents who have supported the community by volunteering, attending meetings and participating on boards and committees.

Respectfully submitted, Margo Connors, Chair Richard Bielefield Chris Ellms

TOWN BRIDGE REPORTS

STREETER POND ROAD BRIDGE

The Streeter Pond Road Bridge damaged in the 2017 flood was replaced by a larger bridge to meet increased flows of Indian Stream. This project was completed in August 2024. The previous bridge, a 4-foot high and 10-foot-wide concrete structure WAS RED LISTED BY NEW HAMPSHIRE DOT. THE NEW CONCRETE BRIDGE HAS AN OPENING OF 22-FEET-WIDE AND 5-FOOT HIGH. IT ALSO IS BETTER ALIGNED WITH THE EXISTING STREAM TO ALLOW A MORE FLUID PASSAGE OF THE STREAM. The project cost of \$473,229 was withdrawn from the Bridge Fund for temporary repairs and the replacement between 2018-2024 and we will receive a \$255,714.75 award from FEMA.

CRANE HILL ROAD BRIDGE

The Crane Hill Road Bridge will be replaced by a prefabricated metal truss bridge and is anticipated to be advertised for bids in March of 2025. The bridge has been on the state DOT red list for several years. Engineering studies have shown that repair of the existing Warren truss bridge would be impractical and cost considerably more than a new bridge.

The new bridge will be located approximately 60 feet above the existing bridge. The bridge will have the same span over the river. It will be raised 2 feet above the existing bridge to accommodate ice flows. To match the new height the approaches from Streeter Pond Road and Crane Hill Road will be raised accordingly.

Preliminary engineering and Right of Way cost for the bridge are approximately \$458,570. These costs will be shared by 80% State/ Federal and 20% Town. The total construction cost for the new bridge is estimated to be \$4,100.000. The total construction cost will be from the Federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. It is anticipated that the project will be complete in the fall of 2026. Once completed the Town will assume all maintenance cost.

Respectfully submitted, William McCarthy Town Engineer

CEMETERY TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees take an active role working with Peter Carboneau, Sexton, who is the driving force behind the beautiful scene found when visiting Sunnyside Cemetery or Streeter District/Lucy Hannah Cemetery.

This year at Sunnyside, more landscaping was completed in the new section. Roads were maintained, but we are looking at some potential major washout issues at the lower end and the need to replace broken asphalt at the upper end, hence the warrant article asking for additional funds for road work.

A new professional cleaner was hired and worked with Peter to restore/reclaim many granite and marble stones. The Trustees are researching the best way to clean and preserve the slate monuments, some of the oldest in the region.

At Streeter District/Lucy Hannah, we continue to complete the landscaping started in 2023. Trustees Kenerson and Dickinson, along with Sexton Carbonneau, worked with historical records to pair up footstones with headstones in the Streeter District section. In so doing, bases of several monuments were found sending Trustees on a hunt for how to find "lost" graves on the property. We are working with historical records, surveys of the Hannah addition, and hopefully, family records to find graves. Trustee Sawyer is investigating work with a sonar detector operator, and we will inform you what we find as he completes his work.

Many thanks to Doug Glover, the Highway Department and Jim Keefe for assisting the Cemetery Sexton as needed to maintain the properties.

The Town Website, under Boards and Committees, has a link to all the cemetery regulations and forms. If your family owns a cemetery section, please review these documents and update forms for our records. Questions may be directed to the Trustees through the Select Board's office.

Respectfully submitted, Kathleen E. Jablonski, Chair Lyn Kenerson, Larry Sawyer Leo Dickinson Lyn Warren Cemetery Trustees

PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board has been very busy updating the Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations, and now that all of those are complete it is time to focus on the Master Plan. We started 2024 with a public hearing for the proposed changes to the Zoning Ordinance which were then voted on at the Town Meeting in March. We then focused on reviewing and making updates to the Subdivision Regulations and held a public hearing on these changes in August.

Our work continues into 2025 with the review and update of the Master Plan. The Master Plan provides the foundation for future proposals for amendments to the Sugar Hill Zoning Ordinance, and for revisions the Planning Board will make itself to the Subdivision and Site Plan Review Regulations, as well as for other town initiatives.

Although the Planning Board was very busy with all these updates, we did have one hearing for a Lot Line Adjustment in 2024 as well.

The Planning Board meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 5:30PM. All the meetings are open to the public and we welcome anyone interested in hearing what the Planning Board is doing to attend a meeting. Anyone interested in serving on the Planning Board should write a letter of interest and submit it to the Selectboard.

Appreciation is due to all members who generously donate their time and work to maintain the quality and beauty of our Town.

Respectfully submitted, Amy Venezia, Secretary

TOWN OF SUGAR HILL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

To the inhabitants of the Town of Sugar Hill, in the County of Grafton, and the State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified that the Annual Town Meeting Ballot Voting of the Town of Sugar Hill, New Hampshire, will be held at the Sugar Hill Meetinghouse on Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at 12:00pm am to act on the following subjects:

Polls will open at 12:00 pm. for voting by ballot on Articles 1 (the election of Town Officers). Polls will close at 6:30 p.m.

All Articles will be presented, discussed and acted upon starting at 6:00 p.m.

ARTICLE 1: To vote by nonpartisan ballot for the following Town Officers:

One Selectman to serve for a term of three (3) years

A Town Treasurer to serve for a term of one (1) year

A Town Clerk to serve for a term of one (1) year

A Tax Collector to serve for a term of one (1) year

A Trustee of the Trust Fund to serve for a term of three (3) years

A Library Trustee to serve for a term of three (3) years

A Supervisor of the Checklist to serve for a term of six (6) years.

A Supervisor of the Checklist to serve for a term of four (4) years

Two Board of Adjustment members to serve for a term of three (3) years.

Two Board of Cemetery Trustees to serve for a term of three (3) years

And such other Town Officers as may be required by law

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town of Sugar Hill will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of (\$One Million, Eight Hundred Seventeen Thousand, and Six Hundred Forty-Five Dollars .(\$1,817,645) to defray Town charges.

Executive	\$85,502.00
Election, Registration & Vital Statistics	31,740.00
Financial Administration	29,014.00
Property Revaluation	7,200.00
Legal Expenses	15,000.00
Payroll Taxes	45,000.00
Planning Board	
Zoning Board of Adjustment	1,000.00
General Government Buildings	51,600.00
Buildings & Grounds	47,825.00
Cemetery	12,500.00
Insurance	
Advertising & Regional Associations	9,291.00
North Country Council	
Franconia Notch Chamber8,000.00	
Unemployment	250.00

Police Department	00
Ambulance	
Fire Department	
Building Inspections 10,000.	
Emergency Management	00
Airport	
Town Maintenance	
General Highway Department Expense	00
Street Lighting	
Highway Block Grant	
Solid Waste Disposal	00
Health, Hospitals	00
North Country Home Health1,775.00	
Grafton County Senior	
White Mountain Mental Health 692.00	
American Red Cross300.00	
Ammonoosuc Community Health 1,250.00	
Boys & Girls Club2,500.00	
Center for New Beginnings 500.00	
Franconia Children's Center500.00	
Above the Notch	
Welfare	00
Tri County Cap 1,294.00	
Pantry 1,000.00	
Parks and Recreation	00
Library	00
Patriotic Purposes	
Conservation Commission	00
Interest Expense - Tax Anticipation	00
Capital Expense	
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS\$1,817,645.	00
The Select Board recommends these Appropriations.	

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be placed in the Highway Department Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund created in 1976. The tax impact is \$0.16 per thousand.

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Fifty One Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$151,900) to be used for Highway Department Roadwork improvement projects to be chosen at the discretion of the Road Agent and Selectmen. Twenty Six Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$26,900) to come from the Fund Balance. This will be a non-lapsing account per RSA 32:3, VI and will not lapse until the fund is pended or in 3 years, whichever is less. (Majority vote required) The tax impact of \$125,000 is \$0.38 per thousand.

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of FiftyThousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be placed in the Fire Department Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund created in 1993. Tax impact is \$0.16 per thousand

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to be placed in the Fire Department Building Capital Reserve Fund created in 2008. Tax Impact is \$0.04 per thousand.

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to be placed in the Highway Department Building Capital Reserve Fund created in 2009. Tax Impact is \$0.04 per thousand.

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to be placed in the Carolina Crapo Building Capital Reserve Fund created in 2004. Tax Impact is \$0.04 per thousand.

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to be placed in the Police Department Capital Reserve Fund created in 1976. Tax Impact is \$0.06 per thousand

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$5,750) to be added to the Building & Grounds Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2012. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required.)

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Fire Department Equipment Fund created in 2024. (Majority Vote Required) The tax impact is \$0.02 per thousand.

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) to be added to the Meetinghouse Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 1991. The tax impact is \$0.05 per thousand.

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty One Thousand Dollars (\$21,000) for the purpose of cemetery road maintenance at Sunnyside Cemetery with One Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-Six Dollars (\$1,456) to come from the Cemetery Trust Fund Interest and the remaining Nineteen Thousand Five Hundred Forty Four Dollars (\$19,544) to come from taxation. (Majority Vote Required) The tax impact is \$0.06 per thousand.

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to establish a Cemetery Infrastructure Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for cemetery improvements and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand Five Hundred (\$6,500) to be placed in the fund. Further to name the Select Board as agents to expend from said fund. (Majority Vote Required) This article will be passed over in the event Article 13 passes. The tax impact for the article is \$0.02 per thousand.

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fourteen Thousand Five Dollars (\$14,005) for the second year's payment for the Dodge 2500 Truck. This lease agreement contains an escape clause. (Majority vote required.) The tax impact of this article is \$0.045

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Eleven Thousand Fifty-Two Dollars (\$211,052) To be added to the Highway Bridge Capital Reserve Fund created in 2006 This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required)

The Select Board recommends this appropriation.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) To be placed in the Transfer Station Capital Reserve Fund created in 2019. The tax impact is \$0.04 per thousand

The Select Board recommends this Appropriation.

ARTICLE 18: Are you in favor of combining the office of the Town Clerk and Tax Collector to create a new office of Town Clerk/Tax Collector with the term of office to be THREE years? If approved, an article shall be placed on the ballot at the next annual meeting to choose a town clerk/tax collector. (Majority ballot vote required)

The Select Board recommends this Article

ARTICLE 19: To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Given under our hands and seals this 24thth day of February, Two Thousand and Twenty Five

SUGAR HILL SELECT BOARD Chris Ellms Richard Bielefield Margaret Connors

RETURN OF POSTING

We hereby attest that the within Warrant is a true copy of the Warrant for the Town Meeting described therein, and further certify that we have caused to be posted an attested copy of this Warrant at the place of the Meeting and a like copy in one other public place in the Town of Sugar Hill, namely the Sugar Hill Post Office fourteen (14) days before the day of the Meeting on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, not counting the day of posting or the day of the Meeting.

SUGAR HILL SELECT BOARD Chris Ellms Richard Bielefield Margaret Connors

This Warrant and Return of Posting has been duly recorded in the Office of the Town Clerk of Sugar Hill, New Hampshire, this 24th day of February, 2025.

BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF SUGAR HILL – REVENUE (Modified Accrual Basis)

SOURCES OF REVENUE Revised MS-4R	Estimated 2024	Actual 2024	Estimated 2025
Taxes:	2021	2021	2023
Land Use Change Tax	15,000.00	31,402.00	15,000.00
Yield Taxes	5,000.00	11,497.00	2,500.00
Interest & Penalties on Taxes	6,000.00	7,185.00	6,000.00
Intergovernmental Revenues - State:			
Highway Block Grant	45,000.00	51,759.00	45,000.00
Rooms & Meals	50,000.00	66,294.00	60,000.00
State Grants	0.00	0.00	0.00
HOP Grant & Haz Mitigation	42,000.00	42,379.00	0.00
Licenses and Permits:			
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	170,000.00	203,633.00	190,000.00
Other Licenses, Permits & Fees	1,000.00	1,567.00	1,000.00
Building, Driveway & Cable Permits	5,000.00	12,331.00	5,000.00
Business Licenses & Permits	0.00	75.00	0.00
From Federal & State Government:	0.00	321,153.00	0.00
Charges For Services:			
Income from Departments	2,500.00	4,131.00	2,500.00
Miscellaneous Revenue:			
Interest on Deposits	4,000.00	8,357.00	5,000.00
Sale of Municipal Property	0.00	5,750.00	0.00
Income from Trusts	0.00	0.00	7,630.00
Rent of Town Property	0.00	1,425.00	1,000.00
Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00
From CC Funds	0.00	0.00	1,456.00
Sale of Municipal Property (Cemetery)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Solar Credit	4,000.00	3,811.00	4,000.00
From Capital Reserve Funds:	0.00	0.00	0.00
Amount Voted from Fund Balance	117,503.00	117,503.00	243,702.00
Fund Balance (unanticipated)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Revenues and Credits	\$467,003.00	\$890,252.00	<u>\$589,788.00</u>

BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF SUGAR HILL EXPENDITURES (Modified Accrual Basis)

PURPOSES OF APPROPRIATION	Appropriation 2024	Actual 2024	Estimated 2025
General Government:			
Executive	85,150.00	69,185.00	85,502.00
Election, Registration & Vital Statistics	38,120.00	34,704.00	31,740.00
Financial Administration	26,085.00	26,475.00	29,014.00
Revaluation of Property	15,000.00	15,000.00	7,200.00
Legal Expenses	15,000.00	5,386.00	15,000.00
Personnel Administration	40,000.00	42,289.00	45,000.00
Planning & Zoning	37,000.00	35,830.00	11,065.00
Gen Gov Buildings & Grounds & WA	117,730.00	113,798.00	99,425.00
Cemeteries	12,500.00	12,417.00	12,500.00
Insurance	182,757.00	181,892.00	209,794.00
Advertising & Regional Association	9,155.00	9,155.00	9,291.00
Unemployment Compensation	100.00	0.00	250.00
Public Safety:			
Police Department	326,995.00	316,853.00	348,333.00
Ambulance	26,371.00	26,371.00	26,371.00
Fire Department	118,800.00	109,637.00	122,700.00
Building Inspection	12,000.00	9,100.00	10,000.00
Emergency Management	6,000.00	3,640.00	4,000.00
Airport:			
Airport Operations	348.00	348.00	179.00
Highways, Streets and Bridges:			
Town Maintenance	289,368.00	295,910.00	313,005.00
General Highway***	229,650.00	363,707.00	239,950.00
Street Lighting	2,700.00	2,325.00	2,500.00
Highway Block Grant	45,000.00	51,578.00	45,000.00
Sanitation:			
Solid Waste Disposal	15,458.00	(12,496.00)	44,748.00
Health:			
Health and Hospitals &WA	8,767.00	8,767.00	9,267.00
Welfare:	(000 00	2.770.00	(000 00
Assistance	6,000.00	3,779.00	6,000.00
Culture and Recreation:			
Parks and Recreation & WA Bus	44,162.00	33,778.00	32,076.00
Library	36,087.00	29,761.00	36,240.00

Patriotic Purposes	2,000.00	1,998.00	2,000.00
Conservation:			
Conservation Commission	1,000.00	494.00	1,000.00
Debt Service:			
Principal Long-Term Bonds	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interest Long Term Bonds	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interest Tax Anticipation Notes	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Solar Payment	17,495.00	17,495.00	17,495.00
Operating Transfers Out:			
Capital & Outlay	0.00	327,504.00	0.00
To Special Revenue Fund	0.00	10,000.00	0.00
To Fiduciary Funds	0.00	1,600.00	0.00
Grand Total	\$ <u>1,767,798.00,</u>	\$2,148,280.00	\$ <u>1,817,645.00</u>
Spec Warrant Articles Recommended	435,233.00	435,233.00	590,207.00
Individual Warrant Articles Recommen		2,500.00	0.00
Total Appropriations Recommended			\$2,407,852.00
Less Estimated Revenues and Credits			589,788.00

\$1,818,064.00

***Non-Lapsing Offset \$55,000.00 FEMA \$83,200.00

(Exclusive of School and County Taxes)

Amount of Taxes to Be Raised

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS AND EXPENDITURES

(Year Ending December 31, 2024)

				Unexpended
	A	ppropriation		or
		2024		Overdrafts
Executive	\$	85,150.00	\$ 69,185.00	\$ 15,965.00
Elec, Reg and Vital Statistics		38,120.00	34,704.00	3,416.00
Financial Administration		26,085.00	26,475.00	(390.00)
Revaluation of Property		15,000.00	15,000.00	0.00
Legal Expenses		15,000.00	5,386.00	9,614.00
Payroll Taxes		40,000.00	42,289.00	(2,289.00)
Planning & Zoning**		37,000.00	35,830.00	1,170.00
Government Buildings & Grounds		117,730.00	113,798.00	3,932.00
Cemeteries		12,500.00	12,417.00	83.00
Insurance		182,757.00	181,892.00	865.00
Advertising and Regional Association		9,155.00	9,155.00	0.00
Unemployment		100.00	0	100.00
Police Department		326,995.00	316,853.00	10,142.00
Ambulance		26,371.00	26,371.00	0.00
Fire Department		118,800.00	109,637.00	9,163.00
Building Inspection		12,000.00	9,100.00	2,900.00
Emergency Management*		6,000.00	3,640.00	2,360.00
Airport		348.00	348.00	0.00
Town Maintenance		289,368.00	295,910.00	(6,542.00)
General Highway		229,650.00	363,707.00	(134.057.22)*
Street Lighting		2,700.00	2,325.00	375.00
Highway Block		45,000.00	51,578.00	(6,578.00)
Solid Waste Disposal		15,458.00	(12,496.00)	
Health and Hospitals		8,767.00	8,767.00	0.00
Welfare		6,000.00	3,779.00	2,221.00
Parks & Recreation		44,162.00	33,778.00	10,384.00
Library		36,087.00	29,761.00	6,326.00
Patriotic Purposes		2,000.00	1,998.00	2.00
Conservation Commission		1,000.00	494.00	506.00
Interest Tax Anticipation Notes		1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Long Term Notes & Interest		0	0	0
Solar Payment		17,495.00	17,495.00	0
•	\$1	,767,798.00	\$ <u>1,809,176.00</u>	(41,378.00)
Special Warrant Articles		405,486.00	405,486.00	0.00
Non-Lapsing		702,700.00	702,700.00	55,000.00
FEMA				83,200.00
Grand Total	¢э	,173,284.00	\$2,214,662.00	\$96,822.00
Ofalla Total	φZ	,1/3,204.00	\$4,414,004.00	\$70,022.00

NOTES

ROAD AGENT'S REPORT

2024 turned out to be a difficult year from the beginning. Winter was very mild and brought a lot of warm trends which made the dirt roads rutted and very soft. This made plowing very tough when we did get snow because the plows wanted to bite in instead of gliding over the surface. Once we started into mud season the thawing of the dirt roads happened in a hurry which in turn turned everything into mud. We hauled hundreds of yards of $1\frac{1}{2}$ " stone to try to keep everything passable. Once the thawing stopped, we were able to grade everything out, add a topcoat of gravel and put things back into shape for the summer.

Sweeping started and what normally would take about a month turned into a month and a half because of all the sand used from the warm winter. As summer set in, we started ditch work and culvert replacement to be ready for paving.

FEMA finally came through with the 2017 storm reimbursement money that we had been waiting for and this meant we could pave more than originally planned. With the added funds we were able to complete about an extra mile of paving that would not have been able to happen on our regular budget. We were also able to do a few side roads ourselves using the grader and our own roller. Fall set in and the guys were busy hauling winter sand.

The Road Committee was a huge help in putting together next year's plans. A special thanks to Carl Martland for the countless hours he puts in to make it all make sense. I would also like to thank Jennifer for all she does to make sure we can fund the work of the Department. In addition, the Police Department and Fire Department for things they do to assist us when needed and last but not least our Select Board for supporting what the Department does throughout the year.

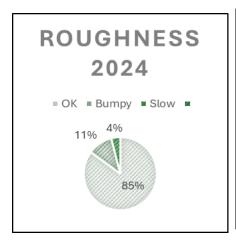
Respectfully Submitted, Douglas Glover, Road Agent

SUGAR HILL ROADS COMMITTEE 2024 Annual Report of Sugar Hill Roads Committee

Members of the Sugar Hill Road Committee work with Road Agent Doug Glover to identify places most in need of road work and make plans for surfacing and other rehabilitation projects. The Town has 22 miles of paved roads, two miles of other paved roads, and nearly four miles of gravel roads. In 2024, sections of Bickford Hill, Carpenter, Crane Hill, Dyke, Easton, Grand View, Hadley, Jesseman, Jericho, Lovers Lane, Nason, Peckett's, and South Roads totaling approximately 3.5 miles were paved.

Pavement conditions on the Town's major paved roads are documented by analyzing photographs taken at 0.1-mile increments and noting the extent of cracking, potholes, and other problems. In 2024, the pavement on more than two-thirds of the Town's major roads was found to be in excellent or good condition, while only 8% were in poor or very

poor condition. Dyke, Easton, Jesseman, Pearl Lake, and Valley Vista each had two segments in "very poor" condition, while Grand View, Jericho, and Streeter Pond each had one. Overall pavement conditions improved in 2024 to levels last seen before major storms caused serious damage to town roads in 2019.





Average ride quality was better in November 2024 than in any of the other surveys that have been conducted annually since 2012. It was possible to drive comfortably at the speed limit on 85% of the paved miles on major roads. Drivers would experience roughness on the remaining roads but would still be able to drive at the speed limit except for short segments on Dyke, Easton, Jesseman, Pearl Lake, and Streeter Pond Roads. Birches Road was, on average, the roughest road in Sugar Hill.

Over the past year, the Road Committee met twice with the Road Agent and the Select Board to discuss long-range plans for improving the quality of the Town's Roads. In 2025, the committee will continue to work with the Highway Department and Select Board in setting priorities for road work and in examining long-term strategies for maintaining and improving our roads.

Sugar Hill Roads Committee:
Brian Beaulieu
Carl Martland
Mark Mendelsohn
Rick Quintal

SUGAR HILL POLICE DEPARTMENT 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Our Annual Report contains an outline of the service the Department provided this year. Listed below are our calls for service:

1079 Calls for Service:

Burglary	3	Theft	4
Motor Vehicle Theft	3	Simple Assault	2
Fraud	1	Malicious Mischief	1
Narcotic Drug Laws	2	Family Offense	5
DWI/DUI	1	Disorderly Conduct	4
Public Intoxication/Drunkenness	3	All Other Offenses	17
Non-Criminal Incidents	91	Fire Related	29
Deaths/Suicide	3	Lost Found Missing	7
Missing Persons	2	Animal Complaints	25
Fish & Game Activity Codes	7	Traffic Enforcement	441
MV Crash Investigations (No Fatalities)	23	Parking Enforcement	3
Traffic Enforcement	441	Public Service	181
Traffic Related Service	36	Warrant Tracking	4
Assisting Other Agency	9	Administrative Duties	172

Training in 2024 consisted of Taser re-certification, Interview and Body Language Techniques, Dark Web Investigation, Sex Offender Registration, Background Investigation, Internet/Phone Crimes Refresher, DEA Current Drug Trends, Federal Firearms Offense Training, NEOA Regional Criminal Investigation School, Intoxalizer Recert, and SPOTS User Certification. We also completed our annual certification of required training Firearms, Use of Force, Ethics, Implicit Bias, De-escalation, and Prioritizing Officer Mental Health Wellness and Resilience.

We would like to thank everyone for all your support, and we look forward to serving the community in 2025.

Respectfully Submitted, Chief Michael Ho-Sing-Loy Corporal Sarah Donahue

Officer Kerry Pomeroy (Part-Time)
Officer Zachary Bushway (Part-Time)
Officer Ryan Jarvis (Part-Time)

SUGAR HILL FIRE DEPARTMENT

Our emergency calls in 2024 were 127 as compared to 112 in 2023 an increase due to an increase in medicals. Medical calls increased from 43 to 53 while fire calls were 74 as compared to last year when they were 72. Sugar Hill was fortunate to have no structure fires in 2024.

The medical squad consists of 8 licensed EMS providers and the entire Fire Department is trained in CPR and the use of an AED. This training proved to be invaluable as in the fall we had 3 cardiac arrest calls and after intervention all 3 had a pulse when placed in the ambulance. One is expected to return to a normal life. It is unusual to have 3 cardiac arrests in a year, but to have all 3 re-gaining a heartbeat is unheard of. This is the direct result of training, early CPR and early use of an AED.

The Department now has eight highly trained EMS providers, and one EMS provider is scheduled to be on call at all times. We are fortunate to have Captain Ned Wilson and Lieutenant Jeff Collins certified at the advanced level and can provide medications and start IV's. Evelyn Collins who is a paramedic on the Medical Squad and can administer a large assortment of drugs prior to the ambulance arriving. All members of the Medical Squad have AED's and carry Narcan and Epi-Pens.

The Medical Squad performs an initial assessment, determines if adequate resources are enroute, and provides initial life saving measures prior to Littleton Fire Department Ambulance arriving on the scene. In addition, they assist in moving and loading the patient, which often requires more than the two firefighters who respond with the ambulance. Having the Medical Squad allows Littleton Fire to provide Ambulance service at less cost than Towns without medical squads as they do not have to send additional manpower.

2024 had a record year of fire/carbon monoxide deaths exceeding by more than double the average number of deaths. Bethlehem had a fire death in 2024. The first in the immediate area in a long time. The common denominator is typically an older person and no working smoke/CO detectors. The Department has detectors and will install them at no cost. If you want us to evaluate your home and provide detectors, please call me at 603.494.1491.

Your Fire Department is well equipped, adequately staffed and highly trained. The Department continues to have 26 dedicated Firefighters who are active in training and responding to calls. Although the Firefighters are part-time employees, they are committed to providing the Town with services usually found only in full-time departments.

The skill level of your Firefighters is very high for a community of our size. Training is extremely important and a high priority with training twice a month. We are fortunate to have excellent Fire Apparatus, and all four trucks have now been purchased during my tenure. The trucks are expected to have a 25-year life and due to the excellent maintenance program provided by our Highway Department and the care provided by the firefighters we anticipate that the trucks will last at least 25 years. Our Rescue Truck is

now over 20 years old is likely to be the next truck replaced, but remains in good condition.

It remains critical that we continue to place funds into our Capital Reserve Account to replace our apparatus and other expensive equipment. We ask that you fund our Capital Reserve Account in the amount of \$50,000 so that we have adequate funds to replace apparatus when scheduled and have funds that can be utilized in an emergency for unexpected significant repairs.

We obtained the additional \$50,000 of funding to replace our 20 year old air-packs over the \$50,000 appropriated last year. We expect the new air packs to arrive around town meeting time. The next large equipment replacement will be our radios, which are also approximately 20 years old and likely will no longer be supported by the manufacturer.

Please do not hesitate to call our Dispatch at (603) 823-8123 if you require assistance even if it is not a true emergency. We are happy to serve our friends and neighbors any time of day or night. Should you desire to install a solid fuel heating appliance such as a wood stove or pellet stove, please contact us and we will gladly inspect at no cost to be certain it meets current codes.

The Fire Department responded to the following:

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	2022	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Alarm Activations	29	16	18	23	28
Brush/Grass Fires	1	0	1	0	2
Chimney Fires	0	0	0	0	2
Hazardous Conditions	6	14	9	9	9
Hazardous Materials	1	0	0	0	0
Medical/Assist Ambulance	53	43	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Accidents	4	5	2	2	5
Mutual Aid – Cover	0	1	2	1	0
Mutual Aid – Scene	12	15	19	17	12
Rescues	4	5	5	2	1
Service Calls	10	9	11	3	8
Smoke Investigations	6	2	1	0	5
Structure Fires	0	2	2	0	0
Vehicle Fires	1	0	1	2	0
TOTAL	127	112	71	59	72

The following are current members of the Fire Department:

Chief Allan R. Clark, EMT		Asst. Chief Doug Glover
Capt. Gordie Johnk	Capt. Brinson Ireland	Capt. Ned Wilson, EMT-A
Lt Jim Snyder, EMR	Lt Cliff Aldrich, EMR	Lt Jeff Collins, EMT-A
Lt Sam Johnk	Engineer Tim Burger	Engineer Rick Quintal
Engineer Tim Burger	Eng Erik Rasmussen,EMR	Doug Amsbary
Brian Beaulieu	Eric Chase	Nelson Crowe
David Dahill	Jody Hodgdon	Dan Kenerson
Nathan Lax	Alex Macomber, EMT	Rusty Talbot
Lynne Warren	Evelyn Collins, Paramedic	Michael Warren

Sugar Hill is fortunate to have 26 very active Firefighters during a period when many Departments are decreasing in size due to their inability to attract new Firefighters for a variety of reasons. We have the largest active contingent of active Firefighters in the area. The commitment in time to be a Firefighter is significant and Sugar Hill has an excellent complement of Firefighters willing to make that commitment. We have very little turnover and accordingly, you have a stable and well-trained Fire Department.

It is truly an honor to serve such a wonderful community as Sugar Hill as the Fire Chief. Hard to believe, but I have been with the Department now 24 years and as your Chief for 22 years. I am working on making sure that there is a smooth transition when I retire in a few years. Thank you for your support, the support of the Selectmen, Police and Highway crew.

I especially thank the spouses of the Firefighters for tolerating the many disruptions to their family life for the good of the community, without their support we would not have the Department that we have.

Respectfully submitted,

Allan R. Clark

Allan R. Clark Fire Chief

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

The responsibility of the Emergency Management Director "EMD" is to coordinate the efforts of the Town during an emergency towards a unified goal and to prepare the Town for major incidents. Emergency Management in Sugar Hill is a cooperative effort of the Highway Department, Fire Department, and Police Department working together toward a common goal.

Sugar Hill was fortunate to have no major damage from Mother Nature for 2024, unlike some of our surrounding towns which had extensive damage to their road systems. Our Highway Department, through a Mutual Aid Agreement, was called upon to assist Littleton in repairing their roads. Final work was completed on our roads damaged by the storm in December 2023. The total cost of repairs was \$35,867.15. The reimbursement process was completed with FEMA and the Town was awarded 75% (\$26,900.36). Management Cost Reimbursement will be \$1,793.35.

Indian Brook Bridge/Culvert on Streeter Pond Road was finally completed August 2024. Work began last fall 2023. Diversion pipes were installed before the project was shut down due to weather and contractor availability. The total actual cost of the project was \$473,229.00. The reimbursement process is being finalized with FEMA. The town will be reimbursed \$255,714.75. The Town has already received two payments in the amount of \$24,340.00 and \$141,972.79 totaling \$166,312.79, the balance of \$89,401.96 is being finalized.

The Sugar Hill Hazard Mitigation Plan was finally approved by FEMA, this should carry us through to 2029. Our next project will be to update our Emergency Operations Plan 2020. We will probably start late 2025 early 2026. Crane Hill Bridge project was scheduled to start in 2024 now it is going out for bid in spring 2025. Work will hopefully begin 2025.

A reminder that your 911 street address sign is a critical component for emergency responses. It is critical that it be able to be read from the road. Should you require a new sign or never received a sign, please contact the Town office. The Sugar Hill Emergency Management Director (EMD), Fire and Police Departments, in partnership with the Grafton County Sheriff's Department and the State of NH have changed to a new Emergency Notification System. It is important that all residents and businesses within the dispatch area subscribe to the system to ensure proper notification can be made during an emergency. Subscription is quick and easy, and your information will remain confidential within our system and not be used for any other purpose. https://sugarhillnh.genasys.com/portal/en

I express sincere appreciation to the Selectmen, Jennifer Gaudette, the Fire Department, and the Highway Department for working together cooperatively in the best interest of the residents and visitors to the Town. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 603-728-5795 should you ever require any assistance.

Respectfully submitted, Chief Michael Ho-Sing-Loy Emergency Management Director

REPORT OF FOREST FIRE WARDEN AND STATE FOREST RANGER

This past year's weather resulted in more wildland fire acreage being burnt than past years. Due to lack of snow in late fall and early winter there were wildland fires beyond the normal fire season. Statewide 37 structures were threatened by wildfires and 4 structures were destroyed. Your Fire Department and the State Division of Forests & Lands worked throughout the year to protect homes and the forests. There was one wildland fire in Sugar Hill in 2024.

Every year New Hampshire sees fires which threaten or destroy structures, a constant reminder that wildfires burn more than just trees. Homeowners should take measures to prevent wildfire from spreading to their home. Precautions include keeping your roof and gutters clear of leaves and pine needles and maintaining adequate green space around your home free of flammable materials. The potential for a significant wildfire exists in Sugar Hill due to the excessive amount of fuel on the ground due to recent windstorms. Improper disposal of hot coals results in numerous fires each year. Additional information and homeowner recommendations are available at www.firewise.org.

As we prepare for the 2025 fire season, remember to contact your Forest Fire Warden to determine if a fire permit is required before doing <u>ANY</u> outside burning. Under State law (RSA 227-L:17) a fire permit is required for all outside burning unless the ground is completely covered with snow. Fire permits are only available online by visiting <u>www.NHfirepermit.com</u>. The burning of household waste is prohibited by the Air Resources Division of the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services year-round.

Year	Number of Wildfires	Wildfire Acres Burned	Number of Unpermitted Fires*	
2024	123	125	77	
2023	99	64.5 42		
2022	99 59 66	203	48 96	
2021		86 89	96	
2020	113	89	165	

State Forestry Director Patrick Hackley 603-271-2214

> Deputy Warden Jeffrey Collins 603-348-7351

Warden Allan R. Clark 603-494-1491

Deputy Warden Doug Glover 603-616-8467 State Forest Ranger Steven Sherman 603-788-4157

> Deputy Warden Jim Snyder 603-348-7091

RICHARDSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

2024 saw the Library circulation increase - 1562 books checked out this year! We added many new patrons and welcomed back some former ones. We now have magazines, books, a classics section, and musical instruments for younger child patrons. We have had an upsurge in the number of visitors doing research on both properties and ancestors and have been able to assist them with their projects.

Friday afternoons 3-5 continue to be our family read aloud time. We have had a terrific volunteer, Jack Talbot (a Profile student) who assists us with this activity. We are still offering the ever popular "Read to Dogs" program. (3 of the dogs have qualified for their GED). The playground out behind the Library is frequently used and the Library lends sleds to take advantage of the sledding hill.

Christmas saw the gifting of books to each resident child at the annual town Christmas party. Many happy readers that evening!

We are planning to offer an art program once a month for children on Friday afternoons. Please contact your Library if you are interested in being a part of it. The Library remains what the original Library was built for – it is a community center, a meeting place, a source of information – for much more than "just books".

I enjoy every minute I spend there and hope you will continue to visit the Library whenever possible!

Hours: Tuesday 1-5, Thursday 10-1, Friday 1-5, and Saturday 10-1

Respectfully submitted, Irene Amsbary Librarian

Trustees: Alice Claflin Iris Rhodes Joanna Santilli

CONSERVATION COMMISSION REPORT

2024 was a relatively busy year with a lot of small projects.

Spring of 2024, a group of environmental and policy students from Plymouth State University cooperating with representatives of the Franconia, Easton and Sugar Hill Conservation Commissions, worked on identifying the water resources of the Tri-Town area. The results were made available via a link on the Town website.

The Commission worked to protect turtles during their mating season through hatching time; approximately May into late fall. We put up signs indicating turtle crossings, roped off areas where turtles were laying eggs and posted signs obtained from NHFG to keep people from disturbing the nests. Members were quite diligent in monitoring the nesting areas and the busy road crossing areas. We worked closely with the New Hampshire Turtle Rescue at //nhturtlerescue.org. Through our coordination, the rescue people presented a Power Point presentation via Zoom which we found quite informative and useful in our efforts to protect the turtles. Some of our neighbors who were aware of our efforts were attentive to turtle activity on their property which resulted in several dozen hatchlings being saved and transferred to safe waters.

This was the third year sponsoring the townwide roadside cleanup in April and May. More than 30 people participated. A reminder that there are free blue cleanup bags and safety vests located at the Crapo Building. We do ask volunteers to concentrate on the town roads and leave the state roads to Commission members. This year the Commission members started cleaning the roadside of state roads in February and the last cleanup was in December.

In May, the Commission co-sponsored with the Franconia and Easton Commissions a presentation on the history and future of the White Mountain National Forest.

This summer a pair of loons made Coffin Pond their summer residence. After some input from the New Hampshire Loon Preservation Committee, it was decided that Coffin Pond is large enough to support a pair, but we need to be patient. It may take up to three years before the loons decide to nest. We have postponed indefinitely creating a trail in the area where they were observed most often.

Our work on the Natural Resources section of the Town Master Plan was completed and accepted by the Planning Board in September.

The hiking trail that has been in use along the southern edge of Coffin Pond was revised to improve its safety and to make it usable as a single-track bike trail. The two very uneven sections up onto a berm can now be avoided. The trail now connects directly to the Ski Hearth Farm out to the Streeter Pond Road and the Indian Stream bridge giving potential access to Ski Hearth Farm trails. We thank the generosity of Cliff Hughes for making this available to our community.

This fall the Commission was asked by the Select Board to take over responsibility of the Town of Sugar Hill Energy Policy. Commission members have already updated the policy and there is more information in this Annual Town Report.

The Commission has been concerned that residents are not aware of the regulations pertaining to wetlands in the State and therefore in Sugar Hill. More than 50 years ago the State Legislature recognized the importance of protecting all wetlands. The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services has a website that will help you if you are planning to alter your landscape with any kind of digging. Please check with them prior to making any changes. Remember, the Sugar Hill Conservation Commission does not make the rules, but we are required to enforce them.

The Commission also has observed that many residents are using more lighting at night than is needed. Be a good citizen and limit your outdoor lighting to a minimum. Limit the hours your outside lighting is on. Never shine lights onto your neighbor's property. Never shine lights into the air as it is detrimental to night flying creatures.

The Sugar Hill Conservation Commission meets on the third Thursday of each month in the Crapo Building. Guests are always welcome.

Larry Sawyer Claire Von Karls Charlie Wolcott Chris Ellms Jennifer Childs-Roshak

Margo Connors, Alternate Holly Hayward, Alternate Tim Williams, Alternate

TOWN OF SUGAR HILL NH ENERGY POLICY

Background: The Town of Sugar Hill first adopted a Right to a Sustainable Energy Future and Community Self-government Ordinance in 2012. The ordinance included a provision requiring the Town to implement a sustainable energy policy. The policy has been updated by the Sugar Hill Conservation Commission (SHCC) in December 2024 at the request of the Select Board and in parallel with the revised Town Master Plan. The SHCC will work closely with the Select Board to steward the Town's energy approach.

<u>Policy Principles:</u> The Town wishes to promote energy systems and practices that will reduce reliance on imported power, reduce environmental impacts, promote sustainability as defined in the Ordinance, support state and local economies and reduce costs in the fullest sense.

The policy recognizes that many or all aspects of energy usage impact the physical, psychological and economic health of the Town and Townspeople. Not least of the impact is degradation to the landscape in which we live and to the rural nature of the Town. Energy cannot be "green" unless it comprises green generation, green transmission and green construction and consumption at points of usage.

All the above factors are interrelated, not just in Sugar Hill but throughout New Hampshire.

- Tourism is essential to our local and state economies, therefore energy systems and practices that do not degrade the qualities that we and our visitors value so highly are of paramount importance.
- Local and regional resources must be utilized to realize their potential contributions to local employment and prosperity.

- Forestry is a particularly important industry in the area. Many local residents
 and businesses rely on forestry and forestry related work. The nature of forestry
 and forestry products produced has changed but is no less important as a
 renewable resource.
- Other local resources are wind, hydro and solar power. All of these can provide local employment in their production, transportation and marketing. Local energy, in all its aspects, can be locally regulated and thus is in keeping with the Ordinance and with the need for local control and stewardship of our environment. This contrasts with large-scale energy production and transmission, including large hydro, which does not promote sustainability of local and state economies, environments or employment opportunities.
- Climate change is an escalating threat and the impact on Sugar Hill is serious and evolving. The SHCC, in collaboration with other Conservation Commissions, the State and Federal governments, wants to be actively engaged in solutions for all.

Specific Aims

Educate and assist the Town and residents to achieve a sustainable energy future.

- Assist in reducing energy consumption in all Town facilities.
- Provide information to residents regarding energy conservation methods, measurement of heat loss and alternative energy systems.
- Make information available regarding potential cost savings of renewable energy, including grants available to offset capital costs.
- Stay attuned to Local, State and Federal energy initiatives that will benefit the Town of Sugar Hill and residents as well as support the work of this policy.

Measures Already Taken by the Town of Sugar Hill

- Energy audits of Town buildings.
- Improvements to the energy efficiency of the Fire Department building, including roof repairs and added insulation.
- Improvements to the Carolina Crapo building, including ceiling fans and new energy-efficient windows
- Replaced lights in the Meeting House.
- Installation of solar array at the Town Garage.
- Collection and monitoring of energy use data for the Town.

Recommended Next Steps

- Incorporate ongoing assessment and evaluation of the policy into the usual work of the SHCC.
- Report to the Select Board.
- Schedule updates to the Policy at least every 5 years in alignment with the Town Master Plan cadence.
- Develop specific communication channels and educational content for Town residents, related to the energy policy and an overall desire to improve green energy usage.

2024 COOLEY-JERICHO COMMUNITY FOREST REPORT

The Cooley-Jericho Community Forest was created in 2013 and is a collaborative effort of the Ammonosuc Conservation Trust (ACT) and the towns of Easton, Franconia, Landaff, and Sugar Hill. ACT owns the 840-acre property on behalf of these communities.

CJCF offers a plethora of wonderful outdoor recreation opportunities including hiking, mountain biking, bird watching, hunting, snowmobiling, and glade skiing. In conjunction with ACT, the Granite Backcountry Alliance (GBA) and many enthusiastic volunteers worked hard over the years to create challenging and inspiring glades and associated trails which are attracting backcountry skiing enthusiasts from across the region. In addition to the glades, the forest hosts 6 miles of trails to enjoy including a connection that links ACT's trail system to the WMNF Jericho trail.

In late 2022 ACT was awarded cost share funding for a non-commercial forestry project to improve long-term wildlife habitat, climate resiliency, and timber value. We will likely start laying this project out in 2025 in hopes of implementing the practice in 2026 or 2027. It should be noted that over the last couple of years, there has been extensive logging on some of the abutting properties, including WMNF. There has been no logging on the CJCF since it became a community forest. There are no plans for a commercial timber harvest in the current 10-year management planning cycle. A windstorm in 2023 impacted surrounding properties, but damage to the community forest was minimal.

The existing parking lot on Trumpet Round Road accommodates 10 vehicles and is well maintained by the town of Sugar Hill. Plans have been prepared by a local civil engineer to build a new parking lot below the old log landing to replace the existing lot to better serve the community and be respectful of the neighbors. This design work was paid for by a grant from the Davis Foundation with support from GBA. ACT is now soliciting bids from site contractors and will be applying for grant funds for the parking lot construction. ACT also has a small grant to update the information kiosk which provides maps and other information for those coming to explore the community forest. The Stewardship Plan was updated in 2020 and is now available online at www.act-nh.org/stewardship-plan. Hard copies can also be made available to the four towns.

The Stewardship Team met this year in Sugar Hill with representatives from all four towns to review the goals in the updated Stewardship Plan and discussed any steps that need to be taken in the next few years such as the improvements of the parking at Trumpet Round Road. Other activities completed or ongoing include view clearing in alternate years started in October 2024, ongoing boundary marking, the installation of a toolshed on the former log landing area, with funds raised by local donors and constructed by ACT staff and volunteers, and Plymouth State students who undertook some project work on the property in Spring 2024 identifying Marten habitat. ACT's trail manager continued to work

with volunteers combatting erosion and poor drainage on trails, maintaining view clearings, planning sustainable trail re-routes, and expanding our volunteer trails crew. ACT has also re-established a relationship with the WMNF Trails Lead to address maintenance needs on the Jericho Road Trail.

ACT is honored to be involved with this wonderful example of people working together for a common long-term community benefit and is grateful to all four towns for sharing the vision of a community forest that is open to all. If anyone is interested in helping out with volunteer workdays, please send an email to us at volunteer@act-nh.org.

Please feel free to contact ACT's Outreach & Member Services Director, Katrina Meserve at 603-823-7777 or outreach@act-nh.org for information on other programs or check the website at www.act-nh.org.

Respectfully submitted,
Rosalind C Page
Executive Director, ACT

TRI-TOWN TRANSFER STATION

We would like to thank everyone for their recycling efforts and patience this year. We appreciate your efforts in keeping the recycling streams pure with 1 & 2 plastic bottles with no lids and flat cardboard with no trash in it. These practices are what have allowed us to be more efficient. With our new bailer we have extended our open to the public hours now open all day Thursdays.

Respectfully,

Tim Blake Kevin Dauphine Laurie Matthews

The Northeast Resource Recovery Association – your recycling nonprofit – helped market the recyclable materials listed below to be processed into raw materials, ready to be remanufactured into new products!

RECYCLABLE MATERIAL	2023 RECYCLED AMOUNTS	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT! Here is just one benefit of recycling materials, rather than manufacturing new products from virgin resources.		
PLASTICS	2,760 LBS	You saved 145 gallons of gasoline!		
GLASS	126,700 LBS	You saved about 759 trash bags from ending up in a landfill!		
SCRAP METAL	129,046 LBS	You saved 192,279 pounds of iron ore!		
PAPER &/OR CARDBOARD	172,960 LBS	You saved 1,470 trees!		
STEEL CANS	11,632 LBS	You saved enough energy to swap 403 incandescent lightbulbs for LEDs!		
TIRES	7,295 LBS	You saved 174 gallons of oil!		

AVOIDED EMISSIONS



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

By recycling the materials above, you avoided about **1,331,106** lbs. of carbon dioxide emissions. This is equivalent to removing **135** passenger cars from the road for an entire year!

^{**}The above data was calculated using the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Waste Reduction Model (WARM).

ENERGY COMMITTEE

The following graph shows energy use in the Town of Sugar Hill for 2024

Dept.	Electric	Gas	Diesel	#2 Fuel	Propane	Total
MH	785.70			1,589.74		2,375.44
Crapo	4,114.18				3,895.39	8,009.57
Fire	1,916.31	57.67	998.72	0.00	4,008.76	6,981.46
Highway	188.14	152.27	28,020.03	190.61	334.95	28,886.00
Police		5,527.33				5,527.33
Grounds		2,664.89	655.73			3,320.62
Streetlight	2,325.33					2,325.33
Cemetery	15.00					15.00
Wood						
Total	9,344.66	8,402.16	29,674.48	1,780.35	8,239.10	57,440.75

2022 Total \$69,975.82 2023 Total \$64,815.18

PEMI-BAKER SOLID WASTE DISTRICT

In 2024, the 19-member Pemi-Baker Solid Waste District continued its cooperative efforts to promote waste reduction, increase recycling, and provide residents with a means of properly disposing of their household hazardous waste (HHW).

The District held two (2) one-day HHW collections, one in Littleton on Sunday, August 4th, and the other in Plymouth on Saturday, September 21st. A total of 272 households participated, representing every community in the District. 4,675 lbs. of material were collected, with nearly all (64%) of it being flammable materials. Total expenses for 2024 HHW programming, which includes advertising, setup & disposal, totaled \$25,975, a 14.8% decrease from 2023. To help cover these expenses, the District received a \$10,000 donation from Casella Waste Management and the NH Department of Environmental Services granted an additional \$5,811. Net expenditure for the program was \$23,489.97 which comes to \$0.80 per district resident. The District also coordinated two (2) fluorescent light bulb collections in the spring and fall, where all member towns were able to dispose of their bulbs and ballast. Due to weather conditions, the Plymouth fall bulb collection is being rescheduled for pick-up on December 20th, 2024. This year, fluorescent light bulb collections resulted in 23,278 linear feet of fluorescent tubes being properly disposed of and 326 PCBs containing light ballasts. Other materials collected were 1,070 compact fluorescent lamps and an additional 261 specialty bulbs. There were eleven smoke detectors collected. The total cost for this effort was \$4,079.97.

The District partnered with Casella to start a 6-month pilot program recycling box springs and mattresses. The Littleton Transfer Station became a host site for mattress storage. Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA) conducted a 46-day study in which Littleton disposed of 34 mattresses. For every .98 tons disposed of, they saved \$82.32 in tipping fees and \$153.83 in hauling fees. They saved 27.3% of space in a construction and demolition container that would have otherwise gone to the landfill. By the end of 2024, it was estimated that they would save \$714 and 87 cubic yards of open-top landfill space.

The next two events in 2025 have been scheduled for August 3rd in Littleton at the Transfer Station and September 20th at the Plymouth Recycling Center. Both events will run from 9 AM to 12 PM.

Citizens interested in participating in the development of the district's programs are welcome to attend the district meetings. Information regarding the place and time of the meetings is available at all municipal offices and recycling centers. If at any time an individual community needs assistance in regard to their solid waste/recycling program, please contact the District by email.

Respectively Submitted, Erik Rasmussen, Chairman

THE WILLING WORKERS SOCIETY 2024 Annual Report

The Willing Workers is a nonsectarian, nonprofit organization that was founded in 1920. Today, our organization is comprised of more than 65 women from Sugar Hill and surrounding towns. The mission of the organization is to foster a spirit of helpfulness.

Visit our website for more information. https://thewillingworkers.org/ You will find tabs for our projects, our history, scholarship information, and our current events. Or check us out on Facebook: The Sugar Hill NH Willing Workers.

The year 2024 was quite successful for the Willing Workers and our ongoing support for the local communities. We raised funds through Cookies for a Cause, an Eclipse Festival, Grandma's Attic sales (online and in-person), a handmade quilt raffle, three sales at the Meetinghouse and our second annual Cookie Walk and Christmas Greens sale. In fact, our fundraising efforts allowed us to make year-end allocations to deserving not-for-profit community organizations totaling over \$17,850. In addition, we provided fresh milk deliveries each week to three local food pantries.

The Willing Workers received multiple anonymous donations in 2024 allowing us to increase the funds in our milk program and the scholarship program. We awarded \$20,000 in scholarships to three qualified students in 2024 and we are hopeful that 2025 will see even more deserving recipients of the Roger Aldrich Valedictorian Award and the Maxine Aldrich Education Merit Award. (Information is available at the website listed above.)

In December, the Willing Workers hosted the 132nd Sugar Hill Christmas Party where each child received the traditional orange, a gift from Santa, and a book. There was music and much merriment.

Sadly, we had to bid farewell to four of our members this year. Sylvia Hutchinson, past President for many years, Joan Way, Sue Meader, and Cynthia Lanchester. We remember their contributions and honor their memories. Together with their families, the Willing Workers organized beautiful celebrations of life for Sylvia Hutchinson and Joan Way. We are always prepared to offer support to grieving families and to those who are ill or infirm, who may be in need of meals or other acts of caring. Please let us know of anyone who may need our help.

We welcomed four new members in 2024 and hope to continue the trend in 2025. Our meetings are held on the first Thursday of most months and are usually held at the Crapo Building in Sugar Hill. We are an enthusiastic and dedicated group of women doing good works for the community. Please join us - we work hard but we enjoy ourselves while we're doing it. We put the "fun" in fundraising!

Grandma's Attic continues to need your gently used items, our Mitten committee can always use woolen sweaters and other garments to re-purpose or upcycle, and our crafts committee may be in need of specific supplies. Monitor the Town newsletter or the Willing Worker website for information.

Thank you to the Town of Sugar Hill employees and residents who help to make our organization such a success.

Respectfully submitted, the Board and Members of the Willing Workers Jody Flescher - President, Sally Beaulieu -Treasurer, Noreen Watts - Corresponding Secretary, Kathy Jablonski - Recording Secretary, Karen Bracken, Lisa Bowman, and Claire Von Karls - Members at Large

SUGAR HILL HISTORICAL MUSEUM REPORT

We opened our 48th season titled, *Garden Lore* for visitors on May 24th, 2024, and closed October 14, 2024. Our days were Friday and Saturday, and we were very happy with our attendance of 1175 visitors. They came from twenty-nine states, and we counted eight foreign countries. Ninety percent of our guests came in for the first time. Our docents received such lovely compliments about the whole display. At the end of this season, Polly's Pancake Parlor's red chairs were safely returned in that red car and this museum is most grateful for the generous loan. They brightened up the room and coordinated with that magnificent center bouquet on the luncheon table. The (non-political) vote for a favorite vignette featuring costumes worn over the one hundred years of the White Mountain Garden Club meetings was a lot of fun. 187 ballots were submitted. The earliest dated costumes got the prize!

We all remarked on how quickly we were able to dismantle everything in the exhibit on the closing day. We have the best and most enthusiastic volunteers! Each year the same group of friends and relatives come up to the museum to help. This year no instructions were given! They all knew what to do! How important each person is, cannot be over emphasized to our team.

The Red Barn Project is still in the planning stage. Getting a perfect design to fit our needs for storage is still in the works. Estimates are coming in.

Sugar Hill Winters are the plans for the next exhibit. It will answer the question: "What do y'all do up here in the winter?"

This museum's water system has been drained and winterized once more as we wait for opening day again on May 23, 2025.

Thank you for all the support for this Sugar Hill Historical Museum.

Kitty H. Bigelow Director, Curator

SUGAR HILL IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION 2024

The Sugar Hill Improvement Association was first established in August of 1890 and after 134 years still remains an active and vital part of our community. The SHIA has a Board of Directors and a slate of officers but if you are a resident, you are automatically a member and are welcome to attend any of our meetings.

We have two trust funds, one for educational purposes and one for money to be expended for projects for the benefit of the residents of Sugar Hill. An application is available if you have an idea for a worthy project that the Association could consider for funding. We have legal guidelines for approval of any project.

Each spring, high school graduating seniors living in Sugar Hill (for two years or more) are sent a letter and asked to apply for the Carolina Crapo Memorial Book Award. This award is a gift made possible by funds donated by Mr. Henry Crapo in honor of his wife, Carolina, to seniors who are going on to further their education at a two or four institution. The application process is specific, has a time limit but is easy to follow by the student. Letters are sent out each May to qualifying Sugar Hill seniors. If you are an adult resident of Sugar Hill and are going back to school or taking classes that will result in a college/technical school degree at a two- or four-year institution, you may also apply for this gift. Any questions can be sent to the SHIA Board or specifically to Starcy Branch or Kathie Cote. We will send a letter and application to you.

We continue to maintain our flags in Sugar Hill, replacements being needed each year due to weather damage. As always, our thanks go to the Sugar Hill Road Crew for putting up and taking down our flags. They fly from Memorial Day through Veterans Day. During this time, our flags lend a festive and patriotic flair to Sugar Hill. After Veterans Day, our great Road Crew will replace the flags with our winter banners to continue to add a welcome to Sugar Hill residents and visitors alike.

With our continuing project and ongoing care of the Sugar Hill Meetinghouse, this year we were able to complete the painting of the building and clock faces. This was postponed from last year due to the rainy season we had. This building is used by residents as well as being rented for special functions and is, indeed, an integral part of life in Sugar Hill and we are proud we can act as caregivers.

In September we sponsored a program given by Vermont's garden expert, Charlie Nardozzi on invasive species. He is widely known as a garden writer, speaker, radio, and television personality. We thank the Inn at Sunset Hill for letting us use their facility for the program as well as an overnight stay and meal for Charlie and his wife.

We also replaced the mountain identifying sign at the viewing area on Sunset Hill Road. This became a neighborhood project as the Inn at Sunset Hill and David Dahill next door rebuilt the platform and even put solar night lights around the railing. It's worth a trip to check out the lovely new sign as well as at night to see it all lit up! We have had bushes and trees cut on the back side of the tennis court as they were affecting the surface of the court. Next summer we will, hopefully, be doing some work on the surface.

For the first time in many years, we will be lighting the lovely and huge tree on the museum lawn for the holidays. It is too big for the museum to light, but we have taken on that task, and it will be lit for all to enjoy.

The Sugar Hill Improvement Association feels extremely fortunate to be able to fund projects that benefit our town and to also give out the book awards. This is all made possible through the generosity of our forebears and the ongoing careful management of our trust funds. We look forward to the New Year of 2025 and any new projects we will be able to fund for the betterment of The Town of Sugar Hill.

Lissa Boissonneault, President

REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS SHIA EDUCATION FUND & COMMUNITY FUND

Year Ending 12/31/2024

The Trustees would like to take a moment to thank Greg Connors, who served as the Chair of this committee for several years and has been generous of his time and his energies. At the same time, we welcomed Mark Butterfield who was elected to replace Greg.

All three Trustees attended the Municipal Trustees Training Workshop. The workshop provided invaluable insight and information as to our legal obligations as well as practical suggestions on how best to carry out our duties. While there we took the time to review the most recent year's reporting adjustments to the Town's MS9 reports to the state with Amy Nichols, Assistant Attorney General.

The Trustees held a joint meeting with the members of SHIA where information was provided explaining how the funds of the Trust are invested and managed. This was a very productive meeting whereby a common process was determined that would allow both groups to work more effectively in the future. In addition to explaining how available funds are accumulated, the Trustees will provided quarterly investment reports on the funds to SHIA, and the association will provide capital needs reports in advance to allow the trustees to plan accordingly.

The Trustees met in July in order to review the investment policy for the two trusts. The state requires that this be done on an annual basis. During this meeting, which included representatives of our investment advisors, the policy was determined to comply as to the actual investments overseen by our advisors. At this time the Trustees confirmed that it is the wish of the group that investments be rebalanced to take advantage of maximum earnings as opposed to a growth strategy.

The YTD total performance for the CRAPO fund was 16.75% vs index of 15.98 and had an end of year balance of \$1,166,362.47. The YTD total performance for the CTF fund was 16.19% vs index of 15.98 and had an end of year balance of \$1,270,089.68.

Russ Gaitskill Mark Butterfield Mike Claflin Trustees

LAFAYETTE RECREATION COMMITTEE

What an exciting year it has been for Lafayette Recreation! Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our incredible team, we've created memorable experiences through our youth programs and community events. The energy has been contagious, and we're thrilled to keep this momentum rolling into 2025!

Our summer camp program was an absolute hit, attracting over 60 enthusiastic campers! The introduction of our childcare bus allowed us to embark on more adventures—nature explorations, swimming at Echo Lake, biking excursions, and engaging swim lessons. Our summer camp staff rocked it this year; their commitment to making each day safe, fun, and enriching shone through! Highlighting our outdoor adventures, we took two fantastic field trips—one to Santa's Village and another to Loon Mountain. Plus, we breathed new life into our overnight adventure camp, hosting three thrilling trips for students entering 6th to 9th grades. They embraced the great outdoors with hiking, canoeing on the Saco River, and white-water rafting in beautiful Maine! We're eager to expand this thrilling program next summer!

This year was also a blast for our youth sports programming! Participation levels were great as kids brought their enthusiasm to every game. Our baseball season was particularly thrilling, teaming up with Bethlehem to form a dynamic 5th and 6th-grade team. The younger grades showed amazing spirit and teamwork. Softball made a triumphant return, featuring a team of remarkable young girls from 3rd to 6th grade, while our Pre-K and Kindergarten Saturday sessions captured the hearts of young athletes and their families.

Soccer season kicked off with incredible energy! The 5th and 6th-grade team boasted exceptional talent, claiming victory in the Valley Cup for the second year in a row! Our 3rd and 4th-grade teams were fierce competitors, and the 1st and 2nd graders showed impressive growth throughout the season. The Saturday sessions for Pre-K and Kindergarten thrived with love and support from the community, allowing our budding athletes to enjoy games—and smiles all around!

Despite lower enrollment, our basketball teams showcased determination and skill, delivering exciting performances in various tournaments and games. We would love to see more community members volunteering to fill paid positions such as referees and umpires across all sports seasons to help enhance our programs.

None of this would be possible without the amazing support of our local businesses! Their generous sponsorship allowed us to outfit our young athletes with brand new jerseys they could proudly keep—fostering community pride. We also replaced older equipment, enhancing safety and allowing every athlete to practice effectively with the right gear. It's been an incredible year for our teams, and we're immensely grateful for the community's backing.

Our yearly events truly brought the community together and were met with enthusiastic participation. Old Homes Day was a smash hit, featuring a fantastic Lafayette Recreation float! The Top Notch Triathlon, thanks to the fantastic organization by Matthew and

Elizabeth Steele, continued to be a favorite, drawing dedicated participants. The Wobble 'n' Gobble Thanksgiving tradition attracted nearly 500 participants, collaborating with Adaptive Sports for a worthy cause. Our Halloween Cup was a thrill, with teams from all over the North Country competing in a fun tournament, raising substantial funds for Lafayette Recreation. The food truck and local concession stand run by our dedicated parent volunteers were a hit, and the sold-out sweatshirts made the fundraiser a resounding success!

A massive shout out to our fantastic community—coaches, business owners, recreation committee members, and volunteers! Your time and resources have propelled Lafayette Recreation to new heights, and we couldn't have achieved this without you! As we gear up for another exciting year in 2025, we're filled with gratitude for the wonderful support from all of you. Thank you for being an essential part of our community!

Respectfully submitted, Lafayette Committee Members

Franconia: Adam Boyer, Kristin Wadsworth, and Peter Gaudette Easton: Alex Macomber & Kent Butterfield Sugar Hill: Ryan Carlaw & Nate Hanson Lafayette

Regional School: Amy Kopp



FRANCONIA NOTCH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 2024 REPORT

Please accept this letter as our request for inclusion for and disbursement of funds from the Town's Annual Appropriations Budget for the Franconia Notch Regional Chamber of Commerce in the amount of \$8,000.00. The efforts of Chambers of Commerce throughout New Hampshire are instrumental in promoting a strong and vibrant tourism economy, which, in 2024, contributed \$66,294 to Sugar Hill, through the State Rooms & Meals Tax. Annually, millions of dollars flow into the region, supporting our economy, providing jobs, and enriching the quality of life for all residents.

The Chamber's website continues to promote our region with over eighteen thousand visitors seeking information. Our social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram) have reached over five thousand users. Chamber membership of one-hundred-eighteen businesses and individuals, from twenty towns, representing non-profits, educational institutions, and churches; in addition to businesses. The Information Booth operated from the Memorial Day weekend through Columbus Day. Over eighteen-hundred individuals visited the information booth with countless others stopping by to pick up information when the booth was closed. The Welcome Center continues to be is a focal point for folks seeking directions, suggestions on places to go and things to do. Numerous parties expressed their gratitude over the availability of the public restrooms which the staff of the Chamber maintain throughout the year. The 5th annual town-wide yard sale returned with families throughout the region listing their locations on our social media platform. The Chamber played an important role in coordinating Franconia's Old Home Day celebration, bringing together multiple stakeholders in the planning and execution of the weekend celebration; feedback from residents, vendors, and participants indicated that the execution of the event was appreciated by the community.

The upcoming year, the Chamber will continue to focus on the economic contribution of on and off-road cycling and the development of the areas biking resources (Parker Mtn./Bethlehem Trail Association/Profile Trails/X-NH Rail Trail) which provide the Chamber with the opportunity to promote the region as a destination for the cycling community. A "Bike the North Country" kiosk and bike rack were installed at the Welcome Center where the previous installed bicycle workstation complements these new additions to the cycling infrastructure of the area. Further enhancing our services to the local and visiting cycling community. The Chamber has been a primary distributor of a regional cycling map that has met with significant popularity by visitors and local residents.

In the year ahead we will continue to maintain and grow our dedicated membership base; serve as a source of information and resources for the local and traveling communities; work to strengthen our regional economy; and welcome visitors to the region through a dynamic campaign of promoting the very best the region has to offer. As ever, we are grateful for the support of Sugar Hill's residents and the Board of Selectmen.

Sincerely, Kevin Johnson Executive Director

NORTHERN HUMAN SERVICES WHITE MOUNTAIN MENTAL HEALTH 2024 Report

Northern Human Services is one of ten community mental health centers in New Hampshire that provides a comprehensive array of services to meet the mental health needs of all persons residing in an assigned geographic area. White Mountain Mental Health is Northern Human Services' community mental health center that serves Northern Grafton County and lower Coos County. As the safety net provider of mental health services for these geographic areas, White Mountain Mental Health strives to ensure that everyone in the community, regardless of income or insurance status, has access to high quality mental health services. These services include 24/7 emergency services, outpatient therapy for adults and children, psychiatric services for established clients, case management and functional support outreach services, Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) services, Supported Employment services, a 6-bed adult residential group home and three supported, short-term transitional beds available for clients in need of housing while awaiting stable, permanent, affordable housing. For those that are uninsured or underinsured, Northern Human Services offers a sliding fee scale as well as affordable payment plan options so necessary services are still accessible to individuals regardless of their ability to pay.

Demand for mental health services remains at an all-time high with demand exceeding capacity across both the state of New Hampshire as well as the rest of the United States. As of December I, 2024, White Mountain Mental Health has served 616 clients, with 193 adults and children on our wait list. Mental health related statistics are sobering. The National Alliance on Mental Illness New Hampshire (NAM! NH) reported in 2021 that 221,000 adults in New Hampshire had a mental health condition, 57,000 of which were diagnosed with a serious mental illness; 15,000 New Hampshire children between the ages of 12-17 were diagnosed with depression. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 49,000 lives nationally were lost to suicide in 2022. In New Hampshire, 247 lives were lost to suicide that same year. NAM! NH further reported that in 2020 more than half of the people with a mental health condition in the United States did not receive any treatment. Of the 70,000 adults in New Hampshire who did not receive needed mental health care, 41.7% did not because of cost. It is critical that all individuals have access to mental health services, particularly when in a mental health crisis. Providing emergency services is arguably our most important service while also being the most costly as this is often not a reimbursable service for many commercial insurances. We ask every town that we serve for funding to help offset the cost of emergency services so no one who is experiencing an acute psychiatric emergency has to worry about cost.

In Fiscal Year 2024, 4 Sugar Hill residents were clients of White Mountain Mental Health with I resident accessing emergency services. Despite the increase in the number of individuals accessing Mobile Crisis/Emergency Services and the rising cost of these services, we are requesting level funding from Sugar Hill. All funds received from Sugar Hill go directly to Sugar Hill residents that are uninsured or

underinsured and help us to provide the needed services for the residents of Sugar Hill.

We truly appreciate the support that we have received from Sugar Hill over the years and are thankful to the voters for recognizing the importance of timely access to mental health services, particularly Mobile Crisis/Emergency Services, for all Sugar Hill residents.

Warm Regards, Amy Finkle Director of Behavioral Health White Mountain Mental Health Northern Human Services

AMMONOOSUC COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES, INC.

Ammonoosuc Community Health Services, Inc. (ACHS) is requesting an appropriation of \$1250.00 from the **Town of Sugar Hill** for the year 2025. Your support will empower us to continue providing high quality affordable healthcare to our **200 Sugar Hill patients**, as well as extending our reach to serve even more residents in need. Support from the **Town of Sugar Hill** is crucial as we work to make accessible healthcare a reality for your community and the 26 rural towns we proudly serve.

ACHS has been dedicated to offering essential services, including preventive care, follow-up treatments, vaccinations, screenings, and crucial behavioral health support for people of all ages. Your ongoing support enables us to continue providing comprehensive healthcare to everyone, regardless of their financial situation. Our sliding fee scale ensures that individuals in need. To learn more about our sliding fee scale program, please visit our website at **Ammonoosuc.org**.

ACHS Services

- Medical: Patient-Centered Primary care for all ages
- Behavioral Health: Substance Use Disorder, Counseling, K-12 in school services.
- Patient Support: Assistance with financial, legal, social concerns
- Breast & Cervical Cancer Screening Program
- 340B Drug Pricing Program: Helps reduce the price of prescription drugs.
- Financial Services Sliding Fee Payment Scale, Low-Cost Vision Plan, Dental Voucher

ACHS Statistics Calendar Year - 2024

- Number of Unduplicated Clients Served: Medical 8,082, Behavioral Health 914, Enabling 91, Vision 81
- Number of Visits: Medical 24,948 Behavioral Health 6,725, Enabling 101, Vision 81
- Client/Payor Mix: Medicaid 15.77%, Medicare 36.20%, Uninsured 4.45%, Insured 43.58%
- Value of discounts provided in our Prescription Assistance Program: \$129,071
- Value of discounted health care services (Sliding-Fee) provided to our patients: \$222,218 total; Medical \$69,190 & Behavioral Health \$32,560, Pharmacy \$120,468:
- Value of free medications\$305.652

Town Statistics – Sugar Hill

- Total # of patients -200
- Total # of Medicaid Patients 4
- Total # of Medicare Patients-96
- Total # of Self-Paying Patients 8
- Total # of Sliding Fee Scale Patients -2

We appreciate your continued support. Be mindful, be active, and be well.

Edward D. Shanshala Chief Executive Officer Evelyn Hagan ACHS Board President

GRAFTON COUNTY SENIOR CITIZENS COUNCIL, INC.

Grafton County Senior Citizens Council, Inc. is a private nonprofit organization that provides programs and services to support the health and well-being of our communities' older citizens as well as adults with disabilities. GCSCC's programs enable community members to remain independent in their own homes and communities for as long as possible.

GCSCC operates eight senior centers located in Plymouth, Littleton, Canaan, Lebanon, Bristol, Orford, Haverhill, and Lincoln; and sponsors the Grafton County ServiceLink Resource Center and RSVP's Volunteer Center (an AmeriCorps Seniors project). Through GCSCC's network, older adults and their families take part in a range of community-based long-term services including home-delivered meals, community dining programs, transportation, outreach and counseling chore/home repair services, recreational and educational programs, and volunteer opportunities.

From October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024, 34 older residents of Sugar Hill were served by one or more of GCSCC's programs offered through the Littleton Area Senior Center. In addition, 15 residents were served through ServiceLink:

- Older adults from Sugar Hill enjoyed 1,283 meals prepared by GCSCC.
- Sugar Hill residents received wellness calls, assistance with problems, crises, or issues of long-term care through 4 contacts with trained outreach workers and 18 contacts with ServiceLink.
- Sugar Hill's citizens participated in 239 health, educational, or social activities.
- 175 door-to-door, on-demand bus rides were provided for Sugar Hill residents.

The cost to provide Council services for Sugar Hill residents in 2023-2024 was \$20,136.16.

Such services can be critical for older adults and adults with disabilities who want to remain in their own homes and out of institutional care in spite of chronic health problems and increasing physical frailty. Doing so saves tax dollars that would otherwise be expended for nursing home care. GCSCC's programs also contribute to a higher quality of life for older friends and neighbors. As our population ages, supportive services such as those offered by GCSCC are becoming even more critical.

GCSCC would very much appreciate Sugar Hill's support for our programs that enhance the independence and dignity of older adults and adults with disabilities. GCSCC enables our community members to meet the challenges of aging, while remaining in the security and comfort of their own communities and homes.

Kathleen Vasconcelos, Executive Director



2024 Annual Report

UNH Cooperative Extension provides outreach and resources from UNH to strengthen people and communities across New Hampshire. Through a partnership that began over 100 years ago with the county, state and federal government, and an office in each of New Hampshire's ten counties, Extension reaches people where they are, offering access to research-based solutions.

Throughout the year, Extension continued to be a partner in the Invest NH Municipal Planning and Zoning Grant program, working with towns to find ways to address the housing crisis by assessing needs, providing training and technical assistance, gathering ideas and creating solutions unique to each community. Due to the success of the program, it has been extended for two more years.

Healthy forest lands for wood products, recreation, wildlife habitat and water quality are very important to the way of life in New Hampshire. This year our Grafton County forester covered nearly 5,000 acres on woodlot visits and provided guidance to over 100 landowners, to help them achieve their land management goals.

The 4-H program takes pride in providing opportunities for youth and adults to work together, developing skills and growing confidence through experiential learning. This year, using the 4-H Global Gourmet curriculum and a collaboration with a local Chinese restaurant and community partners, youth were given the opportunity to learn about other cultures. Youth then presented their knowledge of cultural foods at the Grafton County 4-H Presents event in March.

Through the Nutrition Connections program, several 6-week youth-based nutrition education and physical activity lessons were taught. These lessons made use of the Collaborative Garden at the Whole Village Family Resource Center in Plymouth for hands-on activities and the opportunity for kids to see food they helped grow become a nutritious meal. Over 500 pounds of produce from the Collaborative Garden were delivered to local pantries and agencies. Several food pantries were also assisted with aspects of food distribution in their community.

This was the second year of a sweet potato variety trial, performed at the Grafton County complex and the UNH campus. Information was gathered on yield, quality, and disease and insect resistance, to find the varieties best suited for our region. (And taste good too!) The sweet potatoes were donated to local food pantries and senior centers.

The first hybrid Master Gardener training course was piloted in Grafton County this year, with eighteen participants completing the 12-week program in April. Master Gardener volunteers share their knowledge and enthusiasm for gardening in a variety of ways, including maintaining educational and production gardens in local communities.

Ensuring the safety of the food we purchase and consume is no small task. Presentations of farm food safety information to growers as part of Extension's New Farmer School and the Jumpstart Produce Safety program, along with training for staff and volunteers at NH retail food establishments and food pantries, are just some examples of how Extension is working to help minimize contamination and food-borne illnesses.

To learn more about programs and resources that are available, please visit extension.unh.edu.

Respectfully submitted by Donna Lee - UNH Extension Grafton County Office Administrator

CENTER FOR NEW BEGINNINGS

Thirty-nine years ago, The Center for New Beginnings was founded in Littleton to provide services mainly to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Today our nonprofit organization is dedicated to improving the lives of people who struggle with depression, anxiety, grief, trauma, marital problems, and many other difficulties. The children and teenagers we see come with a myriad of challenges that reflect the social, cultural, and economic struggles of our time. Our service area covers the northern third of New Hampshire, from the Kancamagus Highway north to the Canadian border, and northwest to the neighboring Vermont counties - in local terms, the White Mountains, Great North Woods, and Northeast Kingdom regions. However, we do not exclude clients outside our area who wish to travel to receive services at the Center.

We are often asked "what makes you different from Northern Human Services?" We are not a federally funded community mental health center. We are an independent non-profit. We provide short term care for acute issues, rather than long term care for more chronic cases. There is a significant need for both types of services. We both have substantial wait lists, and are continuously looking to add to our staff of qualified providers.

We are asking for your help to meet the needs of your community. The ever-increasing costs of overhead versus stagnant insurance reimbursements result in a continuous budget tightrope.

In 2024, The Center for New Beginnings provided services to <u>460 individuals</u>. <u>We logged 4800 patient appointments</u>. <u>Nine of our clients reside in Sugar Hill</u>. We are requesting \$500 from the town for the upcoming year. When we do have extra funds available, such as these town donations, we have the flexibility to assist our clients who have difficulty meeting their high deductibles or co-pays or a loss of insurance coverage.

When people are mentally healthy, they are better employees, more conscientious parents, and are able to positively contribute to their communities. Healthy children do better in school, control behaviors that are disruptive in class, and grow up to be resilient adults. Individuals who are mentally stable are much less likely to commit crimes or wreak havoc among their families, coworkers, and communities. Everyone benefits from a population that is mentally healthy.

Please contact us if you would like to learn more about the counseling services we provide for individuals and their families, or our Employee Assistance Program, a confidential counseling and referral resource program for employees and their family members to help them deal with personal and work-related issues.

Good work has always relied upon the generosity of good people. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely, Board of Directors The Center for New Beginnings

NORTH COUNTRY COUNCIL

The North Country Council (NCC) is one of nine regional planning commissions (RPC) in NH, covering 50 communities and 25 unincorporated areas in the state's northern third. Established by RSA 36:46, NCC advises local governments on coordinated planning, growth, in areas of land use, transportation, and community developmeny. Its staff offers services in transportation, economic development, GIS mapping, data analysis, grant writing, project management, and more. In 2024 North Country Council undertook the following activities in the region:

Collaborated with other RPCs via the NH Association of Regional Planning Commissions.

Supported efforts and attended the NH Planners Conference and NH Municipal Association Conference.

Bulk ordered and distributed Planning and Land Use Regulation books to municipalities (estimated savings of \$110 per book).

Transportation

Staff completed 159 traffic counts coordinated with NHDOT during the collection season. From May to July, staff solicited Ten-Year

Plan projects, submitting 19 projects for review. The projects submitted were from across the region, and scopes were on a variety of transportation topics such as sidewalks, bike lanes, pedestrian shoulders, and bridge replacements. The top three ranked projects were submitted to NHDOT in November.

The Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) held five meetings, reviewing and approving Ten-Year Plan projects, and discussing regional projects, safety, and local transportation concerns.

The Council supported two Regional Coordinating Councils (RCC). Carroll County RCC met six times and Grafton County RCC met four times throughout the year. Both RCC's worked to update bylaws and managed CDC COVID Disparity Grant funding by supporting the following:

- Vehicle Repair and Inspection Program (Coos and Carroll Counties)
- Carroll County ReCYCLed (Bicycle Co-Op)
- Marketing support for Advance Transit's expanded services in Grafton County
- Marketing support for Carroll County R.S.V.P in southern Carroll County

The Council was active with the statewide Complete Streets Advisory Committee (CSAC) where review and comments on the draft Complete Streets policy for NHDOT were provided. We also assisted with preparations for "Week Without Driving", October's CommuteSMART challenge.

The North Country Scenic Byways committee held a planning meeting in November. Staff reviewed and edited the draft update to the Corridor Management Plan that guides work on the four byways in the region.

Economic Development

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) committee grew to 27 members representing entities across the region. Staff coordinated 6 CEDS meetings held throughout the region. The big initiative for 2024 was to amend the CEDS to include an Industry Chapter highlighting manufacturing's role in the region.

The Council hosted a Webinar series, including topics on "Combating the Brain Drain" and "Supporting an Aging Workforce." The latter highlighted strategies for retaining older workers, with 37% of respondents aged 65-84 still employed, often in multiple jobs to meet living wages.

The Council worked with six communities to finalize deliverables and final reports for the InvestNH Housing Opportunity Planning (HOP) Grants. All six successfully submitted their materials on time and within their budgets. InvestNH released another round of HOP Grant Funds in the Summer. Staff assisted communities in the application for 2025 round InvestNH Funding.

Continued to assist the Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) & State of NH Bureau of Economic Affairs (BEA) in providing technical assistance to entities seeking to apply for NBRC funding. In 2024 the Council provided pre-project development coaching assistance to over 20 entities. Continued to assist Coos County with the Coos County Broadband Committee. During 2024, much of Coos County experienced the roll out of highspeed fiber internet.

Mapping and Data Analysis

NCC developed several surveys throughout the year that were analyzed to support projects including the Regional Plan survey and a Regional Transportation Safety survey. Surveys have also provided community members with the opportunity to take part in developing spatial data that has helped the Council understand regional needs by determining points of concern.

The Council provided mapping and data services to communities throughout the region in support of project development and funding opportunities. This includes community data snapshots that were updated for the year for community reference. Data snapshots provide data and demographics, housing, and affordability.

NCC continues to maintain the three ArcGIS Online Hubs to be a resource for the region. The Hubs are for Funding Opportunities, Data & Mapping Analysis, and Climate Resiliency which offer spaces to research funding opportunities, and data resources that are applicable to the North Country.

NORTH COUNTRY HOME HEALTH & HOSPICE 2024

North Country Home Health & Hospice Agency (NCHHHA), a 501 © (3) non-profit organization, proudly provides compassionate home health, hospice, and long-term care services across Coos and Grafton Counties. Serving approximately 76,000 residents across 2,705 square miles, our Mission as a proud affiliate of North Country Healthcare is to improve lives by supporting patients and families through their healthcare journey at home. For many rural residents, we are not just a healthcare provider-we are a lifeline.

In 2024, we made 53,162 visits across our two counties. Across our service area, we experienced an 11% increase in the number of patients served and a 14% rise in total visits, reflecting the growing reliance on our care. In 2024, for Sugar Hill we visited 104 patients 2194 times for home health, hospice, and long-term services. At the same time the complexity of care has risen with more patients facing higher-acuity conditions that require advanced clinical expertise. Despite the challenges of rising costs and reduced reimbursements from insurance companies, NCHHHA remains steadfast in our commitment to ensuring that no on in need goes without care, and we meet them wherever they might call home.

We provide a continuum of services designed to meet patients where they are in their healthcare journey. Our skilled nursing, rehabilitation, disease management programs allow individuals to heal and recover in the comfort of their homes, avoiding hospitalizations and staying connected to their loved ones. Hospice care ensures that patients and their families experience comfort and dignity during life's final stages, offering comprehensive support that addresses physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. Our long-term care services assist those who need help with daily tasks like bathing, dressing, and meal preparation, promoting independence while allowing individuals to age safely and comfortably in familiar surroundings. These services not only improve the quality of life for individuals but also reduce the strain on families and local healthcare facilities.

Your support of NCHHHA extends far beyond the patients we serve—it strengthens the entire community. Every home we visit in Sugar Hill represents a neighbor cared for, a family supported, and a community uplifted. By ensuring access to these essential services, you help create a healthier, more resilient town where people of all ages can thrive. Investing in NCHHHA is an investment in the well-being and independence of your friends, family, and neighbors.

The steadfast partnership between NCHHHA and Sugar Hill is vital to addressing the unique challenges of rural healthcare. Together, we can meet the growing demand for home-based care, adapt to changing needs, and continue to provide services that foster independence and dignity for all. Your unwavering support ensures that no one is left behind, and that compassionate, high-quality care remains accessible for years to come.

For more information, please visit <u>www.nchhha.org</u> or contact Ren Anderson directly at 603-444-8399. Thank you for partnering with us to improve lives across the North Country.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF THE NORTH COUNTRY

In preparation for the annual Town Meeting, the Boys and Girls Club of the North Country (BGCNC) respectfully requests that the Board include \$2,500 in the Town's budget to help cover our operating budget for the services we provide to your community and the North Country. We invest over \$5,000/year to transport Lafayette School members from school to the Club for the Afterschool program.

BGCNC merged with the BGC of Central NH in 2023, giving us access to a full back office of administrative and support teams which has allowed us to continue to grow and provide more services to our families. We have recently secured funding to renovate our building to add space for Early Childhood Care - to include infants, toddlers and pre-k. Of course, we must still raise the funds needed to operate our local afterschool and vacation camp programs. Our community's support is crucial in continuing our mission to provide a fun, safe, positive place for all the children of the North Country. We offer critical support to our members and their families that rely on us for academic support, mentoring, healthy snacks, and affordable fees.

We serve children from Bethlehem, Littleton, Lisbon, Landaff, Lyman, Franconia, Easton, and Sugar Hill, as well as several other communities in the greater North Country area. BGCNC's afterschool programs and vacation camps are, in many cases, the key to the development of these children and we strongly believe that we are preparing them for a happy and productive future. Of the 39 members currently in the afterschool program, 3 of them are from Sugar Hill, and 2 receive financial aid. Summer camp 2024 served 93 children, with no attendees from Sugar Hill. To be sustainable, we now charge \$30 per week for the After School Program which also includes Staff Development Days and select holidays. Vacation camps are \$145 per week and summer camp includes swimming lessons. Extensive financial aid options are available to all members that need assistance.

As is the case with most organizations that rely on fundraising and donations, raising the approximately \$500,000 per year required to operate the local Club has become increasingly difficult. We recognize that many of your taxpayers are feeling the same pressures that the Club is. However, it is important to keep in mind that the current economic times have most affected those very people who need the services that BGCNC provides. These families need our help now more than ever. Around 38% of our families fall below a \$40,000 income level and 44% qualify for free/reduced lunch.

Your support on this issue will be greatly appreciated and, although it cannot be specifically quantified, we strongly believe that a commitment by the Town to support our services represents an investment in the healthy future of Sugar Hill and surrounding communities, as the children we serve are the future of the North Country.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sandy Brackett Executive Director Erin Talcott Regional Dev. Assoc. **Tina Bedor**Board of Directors

MOUNT WASHINGTON REGIONAL AIRPORT COMMISSION

The Mount Washington Regional Airport had another busy and productive year in 2024. With increased air traffic, ongoing infrastructure improvements, and new initiatives to enhance services, our airport continues to thrive as an important enabler of the local economy. The stunning views and rich outdoor recreational opportunities make our airport a top destination in the Northeast for both business and leisure travelers.

Business travel remained a significant portion of our airport's traffic in 2024, complemented by a steady flow of vacationers, second-home owners, and outdoor enthusiasts. Past challenges with ground transportation have now been addressed through the addition of rental cars made available by a North Country business and this has already led to an uptick in visitors who contribute directly to the local economy. A family of four arriving in a small plane can spend upwards of \$1,500 over a weekend, while business jet passengers may spend five to ten times that amount. The airport's operational income benefits from fuel sales, transient aircraft parking fees, and landing fees for commercial aircraft. Privately owned hangars at the airport also generate property tax revenue for the Town of Whitefield.

Maintaining and improving our infrastructure remains a top priority. In 2024, we embarked on two significant projects almost entirely funded by the FAA through aircraft fuel tax revenues. One project focuses on clearing obstructions in the approach areas to enhance safety, while the other addresses failing pavement on two taxiways. These improvements ensure our airport remains safe, reliable, and attractive to visiting pilots. Pilots consistently remark on the quality of our facilities, which, combined with the airport's natural beauty, solidifies our reputation as one of the most appealing airports in the Northeast.

In 2024, we also launched a newly designed airport website (mtwashingtonairport.com). The updated website highlights many of the local area's activities and attractions, providing visitors with a comprehensive guide to our region. Additionally, the website makes it easier for visiting aircraft to pay their fees and access important airport information. This improvement aims to streamline the experience for pilots and promote our community's offerings. Demand for hangar space remains high, with all existing hangars occupied and growing private interest in constructing additional facilities. More individuals, including younger generations, are learning to fly, driven by local flight schools and programs. The local Civil Air Patrol (CAP) squadron continues to play a vital role in fostering the next generation of aviators. CAP's cadet program offers leadership development, STEM education, and flight training for youth ages 12 to 18. The CAP's involvement extends beyond education, providing emergency services such as search and rescue operations with their airport-based aircraft.

As we close another year, the Mount Washington Regional Airport Commission remains committed to its mission of enhancing the airport's role as an asset for our local economy. With the continued support of our member towns and community partners, we look forward to building on the successes of 2024, attracting more pilots and visitors, and ensuring that our airport remains a beacon for aviation in the Northeast.

REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE COUNCILOR CINDE WARMINGTON

It has been an honor to serve the people of your community and the 81 cities and towns across District 2 during calendar year 2024. The Executive Council was busy working throughout the year to actively administer the affairs to the State of New Hampshire. We held twenty-one meetings of the Governor & Council to vote on over 2,840 contracts and approved billions of dollars directed towards spurring economic growth, supporting environmental initiatives including many clean water projects, and expanding access to health care for all Granite Staters.

This year we approved the final remaining contracts arising from the federal Covid relief funds ensuring these dollars were put to the best possible use for the benefit of our state. To be certain no funds went unallocated, we took action at the end of 2024 to distribute any unobligated dollars to the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority for the purpose of addressing the pressing affordable housing crisis in our state.

In addition to the regularly scheduled meetings of the Council, we held 17 public hearings to hear testimony regarding nominations for 2 administrative agency leadership positions, one to confirm Stephanie L. Simek as the Executive Director of Fish & Game, and one to confirm Mark W. Dell'Orfano to serve on the Public Utilities Commission, and 15 judicial appointments including 12 circuit court justices and 3 superior court justices. The Council also confirmed hundreds of individuals to serve as notaries public, justices of the peace and as volunteers to serve on various New Hampshire boards and commissions.

As I complete my term on the Executive Council, I want to thank the people of District 2 for electing me to serve as your representative on the Executive Council these past 4 years. It has truly been an honor and a pleasure to work with all of you to help make state government more responsive to the needs of communities all across our District. As I step away from the Council, I welcome Executive Councilor-elect Karen Liot Hill into the role and urge you to contact her if you have any comments, questions, or concerns in the future.

Sincerely,
Cinde Warmington
Executive Councilor District 2

VALUATION OF TOWN EQUIPMENT FIRE DEPARTMENT

	Purchase	Book	Life in	Depreciation
Equipment	Price	Value	Years	For Year
	* * • • • • • • •			
2005 Motorola Radios Mobile (7)		\$ -0-	15	\$-0-
2006 Motorola Radios Portable (1		-0-	15	-0-
2007 Motorola Base Radio (1)	8,000.00	-0-	15	-0-
2022 Kenwood Radios	8,762.00	7,010.00	15	584.00
1939 Ford Antique Truck	1,000.00	-0-	10	-0-
2004 Ford Light Rescue Truck	105,000.00	21,000.00	20	4,200.00
2006 Sterling Fire Engine	175,000.00	49,000.00	25	7,000.00
2013 International – Fire Engine	254,000.00	142,240.00	25	10,160.00
2018 International – Fire Engine	375,000.00	270,000.00	25	15,000.00
Utility Box Trailer	3,700.00	-0-	20	-0-
4,000 ft. 4" Hose	20,000.00	-0-	15	-0-
Stationary SCBA Air Compressor	20,000.00	-0-	20	-0-
24 Sets of PPE	72,000.00	-0-	10	-0-
12 Sets PPE	36,834.00	25,785.00	10	3,683.00
10 SCBA with Spare Cylinders	50,000.00	-0-	10	-0-
Mobile SCBA Fill Station	10,000.00	-0-	20	-0-
SCBA Cylinders	26,760.00	19,624.00	15	1,784.00
Camera	2,800.00	560.00	5	560.00
30 Pagers	11,450.00	-0-	10	-0-
Portable Pump	4,000.00	-0-	15	-0-
Floating Portable Pump	2,500.00	-0-	15	-0-
Honda 6kw Generator	5,000.00	-0-	15	-0-
Light Tower – Rescue Truck	6,000.00	1,200.00	15	400.00
Portable Scene Lights	4,000.00	3,600.00	10	400.00
Fire Hose 2.5 – 400'	1,200.00	240.00	15	80.00
Rescue Chain Saw	2,195.00	409.50	10	219.50
Lockers	10,157.00	8,633.45	20	507.85
Miscellaneous Equipment	114,300.00	-0-	15	-0-
TOTAL \$	1,411,658.00	\$549,301.95		\$44,578.35

HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT

	Purchase	Book	Life in	Depreciation
Equipment	Price	Value	Years	For Year
1995 Brush Bandit Chipper	15,000.00	-0-	20	-0-
1996 Motorola Mobile Radio	600.00	-0-	20	-0-
Miscellaneous Mobile Equipment	45,000.00	-0-	20	-0-
2019 Sakai TW330 Roller	29,000.00	23,198.00	30	967.00
York Rake	3,000.00	-0-	20	-0-
Cold Patch Trailer	24,000.00	19,680.00	20	480.00
Culvert Thawer w/Trailer	4,500.00	-0-	10	-0-
2003 Sweepster Brom for 416 Cat	8,500.00	-0-	15	-0-
2004 Hudson Trailer 10 ton	8,900.00	-0-	20	400.00
2007 Komtsu Excavator	93,500.00	9,375.00	20	4,675.00
1985 Cat 130 Motor Grader	65,000.00	4,338.00	15	4,333.00
2012 John Deere Loader	106,400.00	42,560.00	20	5,320.00
2014 John Deere 310 SK Backhoe	67,500.00	54,000.00	10	6,750.00
2021 International Dump Truck	140,000.00	102,668.00	15	9,333.00
2022Ford F350 Pickup/sander	72,000.00	36,000.00	8	9,000.00
2017 Chevrolet Dump Truck	50,423.25	-0-	5	6,302.95
2018 Inter HV 10 Wheel Dump	180,000.00	96,000.00	15	12,000.00
2017 Fischer Sander	4,500.00	450.00	10	450.00
2017 Fischer Sander	4,500.00	900.00	10	450.00
2018 Atlas Copco Hammer	11,300.00	7,910.00	10	1,130.00
2023 Bomag Gas Compactor	8,500.00	6,120.00	10	765.00
TOTAL	\$942,123.25	\$403,199.00		\$62,355.953

BUILDING & GROUNDS

2024 Dodge 2500 Pick up	\$67,000.00	\$ 58,625.00	8	\$8,375.00
2023 JD Z930R ZTrak/Bag System	n 19,020.00	11,412.00	5	3,804.00
2000 PAS 65x14 Trailer	2,750.00	-0-	20	0.00
2020 Ariens 28 Snowblower	1,299.00	374.00	7	185.00
2016 Honda 21" Commercial Mow	ver 660.00	-0-	5	0.00
202 Honda 21" Commercial Mowe	er 650.00	-0-	5	130.00
TOTAL	\$91,379.00	\$70,411.00		\$12,794.00

POLICE EQUIPMENT

Equipment	Purchase Price	Book Value	Life in Years	Depreciation For Year
Equipment	THEC	v aluc	1 Cars	roi i cai
2023 Ford Explorer	\$59,277.90	35,566.74	5	11,855.58
2019 Ford Police Responder	28,187.35	-0-	5	5,074.00
Misc. Patrol Vehicle Equipment	3,000.00	-0-	5	-0-
Motorola Radio – Patrol Vehicle	(2) 2,800.00	-0-	6	-0-
Motorola Radios – Portables (4)	10,496.88	5,248.44	6	1,749.48
Motorola Consolette (1)	6,972.15	4,648.09	6	3,486.06
MPH Python 2 (2)	3,200.00	-0-	5	-0-
Radar Trailer	1,000.00	-0-	6	-0-
Axon Body Cameras (3)	2,625.00	-0-	5	-0-
Axon Body Cameras (3)	16,025.90	9,615.54	5	3,205.18
Zoll AED (1)	1,269.70	-0-	3	423.30
Office Equipment	5,684.00	-0-	3	-0-
Glock Handguns w/lights (4)	2,036.00	-0-	6	-0-
Benelli Shotgun (2)	900.00	360.00	10	90.00
Card Access System	4,000.00	800.00	10	400.00
Taser (X2) (3)	4,200.00	-0-	5	-0-
Taser (T7) (3)	10,260.00	6,156.00	5	2,052.00
Ruger AR 15 (2)	1,000.00	160.00	8	100.00
Sig Sauer MCX 300 (3)	12,600.00	11,025.00	8	1,575.00
Solar Traffic Lights	6,463.00	4,524.10	10	646.30
Base Radio Antenna System	3,337.00	2,669.60	10	333.70
TOTAL	\$182,433.88	\$80,773.51		\$30,990.60

BIRTHS REGISTERED IN THE TOWN OF SUGAR HILL, NH For the Year Ending December 31, 2024

Date of Birth	Name of Child	Name of Father & Name of Mother
04-21-2024	Hannah Eleanor Bradley	Sarah Jane Bradley
05-14-2024	Samuel Thomas Graziano	Tiffany Miller Graziano Alexander Thomas Graziano

DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE TOWN OF SUGAR HILL, NH For the Year Ending December 31, 2024

Date Of Death	Name Of Deceased	Name & Surname Of Father	Maiden Name Of Mother
01-07-2024	Claudette L. Chouinard	Lionel Poisson	Germaine Delorme
03-30-2024	Susan K. Meader	Eldon Dilocker	Mildred Orr
08/08/2024	Eric N. Lodge	Joseph Lodge	Marjoria Wiener
08/18/2024	Joan G. Way	Donald Givens	Vivian Valentine
11/14/2024	James J. Brown	Jasper Brown	Mary McKelvey
12/17/2024	Joseph P. Brown, Jr.	Joseph Brown	Ethel Welch

MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN THE TOWN OF SUGAR HILL, NH For the Year Ending December 31, 2024

Name and Surname Of Groom & Bride	Residence of Each At Time Of Marriage
Cawlin L. Clough	Manchester Sugar Hill
	Of Groom & Bride

I hereby certify the above information is correct, according to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Lissa Boissonneault Town Clerk

TOWN HOURS SELECTMEN'S OFFICE 603-823-8468

Website: www.sugarhillnh.org	E-mail: selectmen@sugarhillnh.org		
Monday	5:00 PM - 7:00 PM		
	9:00 AM - 2:00 PM		
TOWN CL	ERK'S OFFICE		
603-	823-8516		
Monday	3:00 PM - 5:00 PM		
Tuesday and Thursday	9:00 AM - 1:00 PM		
PLANN	ING BOARD		
First Wednesday of each month	5:30 PM		
ZONI	NG BOARD		
	5:30 PM		
TRANSE	ER STATION		
	823-5311		
(Closed or	n legal Holidays)		
Sunday	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM		
Monday	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM		
Tuesday, Wednesday	CLOSED		
	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM		
Saturday	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM		
RICHARDSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY			
	823-7001		
Tuesday	1:00 PM - 5:00 PM		
Thursday	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM		
Friday (Family Day)	1:00 PM – 5:00 PM		
Saturday	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM		
SUGAR HILL HI	STORICAL MUSEUM		
	823-5336		
	11:00 AM - 3:00 PM		
Saturday	11:00 AM - 3:00 PM		
TENTATIVE SEASON: May 23, 2025 - October 13, 2025			
Opening to be Announced			

FIRE, POLICE, LIFE SQUAD — EMERGENCY ONLY 911

Non-Emergency Police 603-823-8725 - Office 603-823-8123 - Dispatch Non-Emergency Fire Department 603-823-8415 - Station

603-823-8123 - Dispatch

Highway Department 603-823-8788 603-616-8467

Meetinghouse 603-823-7011



Before refrigeration blocks of ice were cut by hand from a near by pond



The blocks were delivered to your ice box