Regular Selectboard Meeting 18 October 2023 6:00 PM Town Office at Isle La Motte School and via Zoom

<u>In Attendance</u>: Mary-Catherine Graziano, Cary Sandvig, Mary LaBrecque, Peter Brzozowy, Travis Bruyette, Carmine Centrella, Mary-Brennan-Centrella, Robin Gutierrez, Deborah Spaulding, Rusty Spaulding, Allen Hall, Emily Klofft (via Zoom), Bobby Dean (via Zoom), Erin Gilligan (via Zoom), Michele Murray (via Zoom), Steven Reeve (via Zoom), Beth Meese (via Zoom), Alex Montagne (via Zoom), Matthew Pomerville (via Zoom), Andrea Carbone, and others who did not sign in at meeting or enter full names on Zoom

- 1. **Call to Order**: Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Board Chair Mary-Catherine Graziano.
- 2. Additions to agenda: The Board Chair began the meeting with a request to attendees to approach the podium when speaking to improve the interaction with both the Selectboard and the participants listening via Zoom. There were three additions to the agenda which were motioned for inclusion by Cary Sandvig, seconded by Mary-Catherine Graziano, all in favor.
  - Administration: Discuss providing the nominal Treasurer with bank account access in order to move funds from the credit card account to the checking account.
  - Administration: Discuss providing the NEMRC Bookkeeper with view-only access to bank accounts online.
  - Administration: Review and approve the proposal for safe combination reprogramming for the five units in the Town Office.

#### 3. Administration:

- Municipal Planning Grant Emily Klofft from the Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NRPC) joined the meeting via Zoom to overview the grant which is being applied for by the Town Planning Commission to offset the cost of NRPC's assistance in the preparation of the Town Plan. NRPC will be assisting with two community outreach events and drafting sections of the Town Plan at a projected expense of \$4,286, the grant which will cover 90% of the cost. A discussion of adding direct mail expense was considered but may be absorbed by the Town's budget for the Commission which will be included in the 2024 planning. Cary Sandvig will act as the Municipal Authorized Individual for the grant paperwork with Mary-Catherine Graziano as alternate, Carmine Centrella as Planning Commission Chair, and Marie D'Angelo will be asked to sign as grant administrator. Cary Sandvig motioned to approve the roles as discussed, seconded by Mary-Catherine Graziano, all in favor. A review of the grant resolution and good standing certification was conducted, a draft copy of each document will be included as exhibits to the minutes. Cary Sandvig motioned to execute both documents, seconded by Mary-Catherine Graziano, all in favor.
- Open Town Positions Vacancies remain for Tree Warden, Road Commissioner, and Selectboard Member.
  The Cemetery Commission vacancy will be filled during this meeting, with two candidates to be interviewed.
  Deborah Spaulding inquired as to the position of Treasurer, and the Selectboard announced that Marie
  D'Angelo had volunteered and had been interviewed for the position. Ms. Spaulding inquired as to the
  hourly rate that was being paid, which was announced as \$25.00 per hour; Mary LaBrecque noted that this
  was significantly more than the former Treasurer was compensated.
- Town Clerk Training + Assistant Town Clerk review/approve hourly rate It was announced that Donna Bohannon, Alburgh's former Town Clerk/Treasurer, had been contacted to provide onboarding assistance to Vickie Buswell, Isle La Motte's new Town Clerk. Robin Gutierrez strongly encouraged the Selectboard to speak with the current and former members of the Alburgh Selectboard prior to engaging Ms. Bohannon. A discussion of compensation which included comments by Ms. Gutierrez, Peter Brzozowy, and Mary LaBrecque culminated with the Selectboard's decision to set Ms. Bohannon's hourly rate at \$17.00 per hour for a maximum of eighteen hours plus mileage reimbursed at the current Internal Revenue Service rate. A motion to approve this compensation was made by Cary Sandvig, seconded by Mary-Catherine Graziano, all in favor. The Assistant Town Clerk position will be compensated at \$18.00 per hour, which is the rate Ms. LaBrecque was compensated as Assistant Town Clerk and has been budgeted for the remainder of the year. A motion to approve the Assistant Town Clerk compensation was made by Cary Sandvig, seconded by Mary-Catherine Graziano, all in favor.
- Bookkeeping work bid review/award There were no submissions made for the bookkeeping work other
  than the proposal provided by NEMRC. As such, the NEMRC proposal of \$110.00 an hour for a minimum of
  ninety-six hours was motioned for approval by Cary Sandvig, seconded by Mary-Catherine Graziano, all in
  favor. A copy of the proposal will be attached as an exhibit to the minutes.

- Transitional/Annual Audit bid scope review A review of the draft proposal was conducted, with Mary-Catherine Graziano stating she would seek NEMRC's opinion prior to finalizing the proposal. Cary Sandvig questioned a possible conflict of interest, and the Chair stated that as NEMRC does not provide audit services their insight on what areas of financial review should be included in the scope of work would prove valuable. The due date for proposals will be November 15, 2023, with an advertisement to be placed in The Islander for one week only. Cary Sandvig motioned to conditionally approve the bid for publication with minor changes by NEMRC, seconded by Mary-Catherine Graziano, all in favor. A copy of the draft bid will be attached as an exhibit to the minutes.
- Listers Errors + Omissions Mary LaBrecque presented to the Board for approval four cases, all involving campers and included seasonal removals and new or upgraded units. The Board approved and signed the required documents.
- Approve minutes from prior meetings
  - □ 3 October 2023 A motion to approve the prior Regular Selectboard Meeting minutes was made by Cary Sandvig, seconded by Mary-Catherine Graziano, all in favor.
  - 20 September 2023 A motion to approve the prior Liquor Control Board Meeting minutes was made by Cary Sandvig, seconded by Mary-Catherine Graziano, all in favor.
- Warrants for payroll & payables A copy of the warrants will be included as an exhibit to the minutes.
  - □ 5 October 2023 payroll for \$4,216.41; motion to ratify Mary-Catherine Graziano's signature was made by Cary Sandvig, seconded by Mary-Catherine Graziano, all in favor.
  - 5 October 2023 payroll transfer for \$1,244.07 for the Internal Revenue Service; motion to ratify Cary Sandvig's signature was made by Mary-Catherine Graziano, seconded by Cary Sandvig, all in favor.
  - 5 October 2023 payables for \$39,788.97, the majority of which had been reviewed in detail at the prior Selectboard Meeting and included snow removal, public area lawn mowing, and utility bills. A motion to ratify Cary Sandvig's signature was made by Mary-Catherine Graziano, seconded by Cary Sandvig, all in favor. Cary Sandvig noted work is progressing with Vermont Electric Cooperative on the lightbulb replacement project billings, though there has still been no progress on estimating when the bulbs will be paid off.
  - □ 11 October 2023 payroll for \$1,095.83; motion to approve was made by Cary Sandvig, seconded by Mary-Catherine Graziano, all in favor.
  - 11 October 2023 payroll transfer for \$248.46 for the Internal Revenue Service; motion to approve was made by Cary Sandvig, seconded by Mary-Catherine Graziano, all in favor.
- General Meeting Supplies Purchases Owl + Laptop Mary-Catherine Graziano stated that she is in discussion with a firm to upgrade the audio visual equipment in the multi-purpose room, but that the size of the room is proving to be an issue; Cary Sandvig will work with the provider to move the discussion forward. As well, Member Sandvig will investigate the Town's website which takes considerable time to reflect updates made to the Wordpress pages. Deborah Spaulding inquired about the Board of Listers purchasing a new computer, which has been budgeted, and Cary Sandvig motioned to approve the purchase upon receipt of a quotation, seconded by Mary-Catherine Graziano, all in favor.
- Cemetery Commissioner interviews The Selectboard conducted interviews for the open position on the Cemetery Commission, volunteers were Robin Gutierrez and Allen Hall. Ms. Gutierrez has previous experience as a Cemetery Commissioner in a former town of residence, while Mr. Hall's family has had a life-long hand in maintaining the cemeteries on the Island and his family has all been interred on Isle La Motte.
- 4. **Executive Session:** As the Cemetery Commissioner is an elected position, the candidate selection discussion is required to be conducted in public.

#### 5. Town Business:

- Cemetery Commission commissioner announcement Following the public interviews, Robin Gutierrez withdrew her candidacy in order for Allen Hall to assume the role as Commissioner. The Selectboard thanked Ms. Gutierrez for her interest in the position and for voluntarily stepping down. Cary Sandvig motioned to appoint Mr. Hall to the position of interim Cemetery Commissioner, seconded by Mary-Catherine Graziano, all in favor.
- Trimming of bushes at causeway park benches Mary-Catherine Graziano will see to the trimming of the overgrowth near the benches and touch base with the Isle La Motte Community Organization on the status of their planned work for the park.

- Tree Stand policy and signage status update Mary-Catherine Graziano reviewed the policy which was largely driven by the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Peter Brzozowy questioned if the document would be an ordinance or policy, and Ms. Graziano stated that it would be a policy which is permissible as it relates to Town Land; an ordinance would require enforcement. The signage that will be placed on Town Land will briefly recap the policy and possibly refer to the DEC statue. As well, as suggested by Allen Hall, permission of the landowner will also be placed on the signage. Cary Sandvig motioned to approve the policy with modifications as noted, seconded by Mary-Catherine Graziano, all in favor. A copy of the draft policy will be included as an exhibit to the meeting minutes.
- Private Roads Project + Town Survey public reminder The Selectboard provided an overview of the NRPC's road project which is open to residents on private roads; grant money is available for projects that will reduce hazardous runoff into Lake Champlain. A reminder to complete the Town Survey was also announced; the survey will be open through the end of the month.

#### 6. Contracts/Grants/Bids:

- Roadside tree trimming bid review One bid was received for the project from Bruyette's Tree Service in Swanton; the cost to complete the full scope of work was submitted at \$42,000. A copy of the bid will be included as an exhibit to the meeting minutes. This work is considered deferred maintenance and was not budgeted for in 2023 but was requested as the overgrowth resulting from the summer rain may hamper snow removal efforts this upcoming season. The Selectboard stated that \$4,500 budgeted for Tree & Brush Removal plus \$7,500 budgeted for grant projects that will be deferred until 2024 will be used to complete the trimming on Main Street only, a total cost of \$12,000. Cary Sandvig motioned to approve the work on Main Street, seconded by Mary-Catherine Graziano, all in favor. East and West Shore Roads will be budgeted for completion in future years, as will other areas of concern around the Island. The Selectboard requested that the work be completed as soon as possible, and Travis Bruyette stated he will schedule the trimming as quickly as his backlog of work permits. Several discussions and clarifications were made during the discussion and included:
  - Only dead limbs breaking the right of way will be removed, not an entire dead tree.
  - As suggested by Robin Gutierrez, wood collected will be offered back to the homeowner or reserved for the public, a collection location will need to be identified.
  - Rusty Spaulding inquired as to traffic control measures that will be in place and Mr. Bruyette advised that road signage will be used.
  - The start and end locations on Main Street will be provided to Mr. Bruyette prior to the beginning of the project.
- Outdoor Recreation Economy Grant The Board reviewed the grant which will be revisited once the Town Survey results have been compiled, as funding to enhance outdoor recreations for the Town may be considered. A copy of the grant announcement will be included as an exhibit to the meeting minutes.

#### 7. Emergency Management Department (EMD):

- Town Survey Update EMD Director and Town Planning Commission chair Carmine Centrella advised that to date fifty-five surveys have been completed and twelve are in progress. The survey will remain open until the end of October and results will be compiled in November.
- VT Alert 05463 The Town specific alert system is now online and there are currently 230 subscribers to the Isle La Motte alert system. Announcements about the alert system will be made via social media.
- E911 Signage Robin Gutierrez asked if the green alert signs, such as those installed in Alburgh, are available for Isle La Motte. Mr. Centrella will investigate the availability of the signs and advise.

#### 8. Isle La Motte School Transfer:

Action list post transfer - Cary Sandvig has conducted a walk-through of the building with the former
maintenance team and will distribute a report for reference. Chevalier Drilling has indicated that they would
like to evaluate the water treatment system which is being scheduled for the upcoming week.

#### 9. Animal Control:

New Animal Control Officer (ACO) Rabies Vaccination - A motion was made by Cary Sandvig to approve the
vaccination for Nancy Blaise, seconded by Mary-Catherine Graziano, all in favor. It was noted that the cost
of \$500 was already accounted for in the 2023 budget as vaccination had been planned for one of the
former animal control officers.

• Vicious Dog Incident Update - Deborah Spaulding voiced her continued concern over the status of the assessment of the dogs after the August incident near her home. Ms. Spaulding noted that this was the second hospitalization and fourth incident with these dogs and stressed that this is a serious public health issue. Board Chair Graziano indicated that the owners have been communicating progress with scheduling the assessment but have yet to set a date. Ms. Graziano noted that the new ACO will be brought up to speed on the situation and take over communication to ensure the matter is attended to as soon as possible. As well, the ACO will also provide a welfare check to ensure safety protocols are being maintained. Cary Sandvig suggested contacting the behaviorist directly to ensure communication is ongoing.

#### 10. Roadways:

- Current status report Mary-Catherine Graziano announced that a road work request system is being
  developed and that reports or complaints will be able to be processed online and in person in the coming
  weeks. As well, a more formal work order request will be prepared for these requests going forward.
- North Seawall damage assessment and repair The project, which was requested in July, will be discussed with NRPC in order to develop a scope of work for the repairs to be completed.

#### 11. Other Business:

- The Selectboard discussed the additions to the agenda noted at the start of the meeting:
  - The bank will be contacted to discuss proving the nominal Treasurer and the Bookkeeper limited access to the online banking accounts.
  - The reprogramming of the safes will cost \$510.00, the budget line item will be determined. A motion to move forward with the work was made by Cary Sandvig, seconded by Mary-Catherine Graziano, all in favor.
- Rusty Spaulding announced several questions for review:
  - Mr. Spaulding stated that it was reported to him that last Friday, 13 October 2023, the Town Office front door and safes were found ajar, and the alarm was not set; the date was then revised to 6 October 2023 to which the Selectboard had prior partial knowledge, though not of the front door being open. It was suggested to audit the alarm to find out who had last accessed the building.
  - Mr. Spaulding clarified that NEMRC will be paid \$110.00 per hour for their contracted bookkeeping work, which was confirmed. It was noted that no other bidders responded to the request for proposal issued for the work.
  - Mr. Spaulding asked if the Selectboard had been coding invoices and asked if any legal fees related to the deed research had been expensed to the school maintenance line; the Selectboard advised there have not.
  - Mr. Spaulding inquired if there had been complaints about the lights on the Town flags not working. The solar lights on the flags may not be providing adequate light to maintain the flags illuminated all night, which may need to be addressed next season.
- 12. **Adjourn:** Meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM, motioned by Cary Sandvig, seconded by Mary-Catherine Graziano, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted on 20 October 2023 - Andrea Carbone

Mary-Catherine Graziano

Cary Sandvig

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## FY24 Municipal Resolution for Municipal Planning Grant

	<b>EAS,</b> the Municipa	•		is applying for funding as ward of funds under said provisior	ne:					
and	ed for in the F124	budget Act and	i illay leceive all a	ward of furius under said provision	15,					
	EAS, the Departm ment to this Munic	_	•	evelopment may offer a Grant						
region	al planning purpos	ses or that the r		ovide local funds for municipal and oted at an annual or special meetir urposes,						
Now, T	HEREFORE, BE IT	RESOLVED								
1.	_	-	• •	rs into and agrees to the requirement commitment to match funds.	ents					
2.	That the Municipal Planning Commission recommends applying for said Grant;									
	(Name of Plannii	ng Commission	 Chair)	(Signature)						
За.	That (Name)		Title							
	Select Board Me is hereby designa Electronic Applic	mber, the Town ated to serve as ation and Repor	Manager, the City the Municipal/Au ting System (GEAF	defined by 10 VSA §683(8), or is a Manager, or the Town Administrate thorizing Official (M/AO) for the GRRS), and to execute the Grant necessary to secure these funds.	tor,					
3b.	(Alternate Author	rizing Official for	redundancy)							
	That (Name)		Title							
	Board Member, i hereby designate Electronic Applic	s the Town Mar ed to serve as th ation and Repor	nager, the City Mar ne Municipal/ Auth rting System (GEAF	defined by 10 VSA §683(8), or a S nager, or the Town Administrator, is norizing Official (M/AO) for the Gran RS), and to execute the Grant necessary to secure these funds.	S					
3c.	That (Name)		Title							
	Administrative re	esponsibility for	the Municipal Plar	he person with the overall nning Grant program activities relate ement provisions.	ted					
Passer	d this	•	. 5	·						

(For rural towns or consortia only) The regional planning commission will serve as agent for the municipality or consortium. (Check the box if the municipality authorizes its regional planning commission to prepare the application, support grant administration and be exempt from competitive selection if serving as project consultant.)										
	LEGISLATI	VE	BODY							
	(name)		(signature)							
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#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR RESOLUTION FORM

- A. The Legislative Body of the Municipality must adopt this resolution or one that will have the same effect. This Form may be filled in or the adopted Resolution may be issued on municipal letterhead, filling in the name of the municipality, the Legislative Body (e.g. Selectboard), and the name and title of the Municipal/ Authorizing Official(s) (M/AOs); and the Grant Administrator.
- B. Following formal adoption, a majority of the legislative body must sign the Resolution. The Chair of the Planning Commission must also sign upon endorsement by vote of the Planning Commission.
- C. This form must be either uploaded to the online application or grant, or mailed to:

Municipal Planning Grant Program

Department of Housing and Community Development

One National Life Drive, Sixth Floor

Montpelier, VT 05620-0501

- D. If mailed, an electronic copy of the submitted Resolution document will be uploaded by DHCD staff and available online.
- E. Please note that the designated Municipal/Authorizing Official(s) and Grant Administrator must also <u>register for an account</u> in the online grants management system, if they have not done so already, before the application can be considered complete.

**CONSORTIUM APPLICATIONS:** For a consortium, each municipality must complete a separate Resolution form. All municipalities in a consortium must designate the same Municipal/Authorizing Official(s) and grant Administrator.

## **Act 154 Good Standing Certification**

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Forms/Grant_Recipients/	FIN-Act_154_Section_13.pdf. Any
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	r the following reasons:
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	plementation of this State-funded
	at administering this State-funded Resources or the Agency of
	er quality standards issued by the with all federal and State water
The Applicant is not	of Natural Resources and the a named party in any administrative
	e with Act 154 of 2016, Section
	g" with the Agency of The Applicant is not ing to Vermont water and is in compliance agency or department Agency of Natural I prior to or during im "good standing" food and Markets for ficate or can be found at

This form must be completed and signed by an authorized official of the grant applicant organization.

#### Section 13 of Act 154 of 2016 – Certification for Grants

SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION; WATER QUALITY STANDARDS CERTIFICATION FOR STATE-FUNDED GRANTS; REPORT

- (a) As used in this section:
  - (1) "Applicant" shall include all entities, including businesses in which the applicant has a greater than 10 percent interest, or land owned or controlled by the applicant.
  - (2) "Good standing" means the applicant:
    - (A) is not a named party in any administrative order, consent decree, or judicial order relating to Vermont water quality standards issued by the State or any of its agencies or departments; and
    - (B) is in compliance with all federal and State water quality laws and regulations.
- (b) (1) The Secretary of Administration shall amend the Standard State Provisions for Contracts and Grants, referred to as Attachment C to Administrative Bulletin 5, to require an applicant for a State-funded grant to certify, under penalty of perjury, that the applicant is in good standing with the Agency of Natural Resources and the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets.
  - (2) The requirement under this subsection shall allow for an attachment or include space for an applicant who cannot certify under subdivision (1) of this subsection to explain the circumstances surrounding the applicant's inability to certify under subdivision (1) of this subsection.
- (3) At any time prior to the award of a State-funded grant or during implementation of a State-funded grant, an applicant shall notify the State agency or department administering the State-funded grant if the applicant is no longer in good standing with the Agency of Natural Resources or the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets.
- (c) A State agency or department may consider an applicant's certification or explanation under subsection (b) of this section in determining whether or not to award a State-funded grant to the applicant.
- (d) (1) If a State-funded grant applicant knowingly provides a false certification or explanation under subsection (b) of this section or fails to

- notify the State agency or department administering the State-funded grant if the applicant is no longer in good standing with the Agency of Natural Resources or the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets as required in subdivision (b)(3) of this section, the State or its agencies or departments may:
  - (A) seek to recover the grant award; and
  - (B) deny any future grant award to the applicant, based on the false certification or explanation or failure to notify, for up to five years.
- 2) In recovering a grant award under this section, the State or its agencies or departments shall be entitled to costs and expenses, including attorney's fees.
- (e) This section shall not apply to federally funded grants, contracts, or tax credits or federal or State loan programs.
- On or before January 15, 2021, the Secretary (f) of Administration shall submit a report to the House Committees on Fish. Wildlife and Water Resources and on Commerce and Economic Development and the Senate Committees on Natural Resources and Energy and on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs regarding methods to require all economic development assistance applications to include a certification that the applicant is not in violation of the requirements of programs enforced by the Agency of Natural Resources under 10 V.S.A. § 8003(a). The report shall also include information regarding any enforcement action taken by the State or its agencies or departments under subsection (d) of this section.





### **NEMRC Bulk Time Purchase Agreement.**

e Ne lowi	w England Municipal Resource Center (NEMRC) and the Town of Isle Ia Motte VT agree to the ng:
1)	Starting, 2023 NEMRC agrees to offer services to the Town of Isle Ia Motte as a reduced hourly rate of \$110.00. This is a reduction from our current normal hourly rate of \$145.00 plus travel expenses. Billing will take place weekly and will be billed based upon all hours expended by NEMRC personnel on Town of Isle Ia Motte projects (travel time will be billed at ½ this hourly rate).
2)	This will include any and all direct work by any NEMRC employee either on-site or off-site pertaining to the Town of Isle Ia Motte. This agreement does not cover the annual support fee, disaster recovery agreement, maintenance agreements, off-site seminars, or any supplies that the Town of Isle Ia Motte may purchase from NEMRC.
3)	The Town of Isle Ia Motte agrees to purchase a minimum of 96 hours within the year starting XX XX, 2023 and ending XX XX, 2024. There is no maximum on the number of hours that can be purchased at this reduced rate during this time period.
4)	The Town of Isle Ia Motte will be billed on XX XX, 2023 (at a rate of \$110.00/hour) for any unused hours that did not meet the minimum of 96 hours as agreed above.
Agı	reed to this XXnd day of XX 2023.
— Cyr	nthia Stoddard, Director of Support/Training NEMRC
	thorized Signature. Town of Isle la Motte

P.O. Box 2020 Georgia, VT 05468-2020

# REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS AUDIT SERVICES TOWN OF ISLE LA MOTTE, VERMONT

#### INTRODUCTION

The Town of Isle La Motte Vermont is requesting proposals from qualified firms of Certified Public Accountants to audit its financial statements for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023, with the option of auditing its financial statements for each of the two subsequent fiscal years.

Proposals are to be submitted by **DATE** to:

The Town of Isle La Motte Selectboard 42 School Street Ext. Isle La Motte, VT 05463

Please direct all questions regarding this request for proposals to NAMES

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Town of Isle La Motte has a population of 540. The Town provides the following services to its citizens:

- Public safety:
  - Police (contracted with county)
  - o Fire (volunteer)
  - Animal control (paid)
- Highways and streets (contractors)
- Recreation (volunteer)
- Planning (volunteer)
- General administrative services (paid)

The Town has a total payroll of \$70,000 covering approximately 11 part-time and paid volunteers. Approved budgets for the most recent fiscal year are \$324,258 for the General Fund, \$304,950 for the Highway Fund, including income.

The Town uses the following fund types in its financial reporting:

- General Fund
- Recreation Fund

- Lister Fund
- Special Revenue Funds (Records Restoration, ARPA, Lister Re-Eval)
- Highway Fund
- Ministerial Fund

The Town prepares its financial statements using the modified accrual basis of accounting. The Town's financial statements are prepared in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 34, Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments.

A copy of Isle La Motte's most recent audit report can be found at: https://islelamotte.us/

#### NATURE OF SERVICES REQUIRED

The Town of Isle La Motte, Vermont, desires the auditor to express an opinion on the fair presentation of its financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. The Town also desires the auditor to express an opinion on the fair presentation of the combining and individual fund financial statements and schedules in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

The audit shall be performed in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards as set forth by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants; the standards for financial audits set forth in the U.S. General Accounting Office's Government Auditing Standards; the provisions of the Single Audit Act and the Uniform Guidance; and the provisions of the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations.

The Town does anticipate spending in excess of \$50,000 in state awards.

The Town will draft the financial statements and submit them to the firm for final review within four weeks from the end of field work.

It is expected that in determining the extent of test procedures, full consideration will be given to the apparent effectiveness of the system on internal accounting controls. The feasibility of recommendations for improvements in the accounting system and internal controls will be discussed during the course of the engagement. In the required report on internal control, the auditor shall communicate any reportable conditions found during the audit. Reportable conditions that are also material weaknesses shall be identified as such in the report. Non-reportable

conditions discovered by the auditors shall also be reported in a separate management letter, which shall include all instances of noncompliance.

The auditor will print, bind and submit ten copies of the audit report to the Town as well as a PDF version of the report. Additional copies of the report shall be submitted to the federal cognizant audit agency and any agencies of the State of Vermont, as required.

At the conclusion of the audit, the auditor will meet with the Selectboard to discuss the results of the audit and review any findings that are included in the auditor's management letter.

All working papers and reports shall be retained for a minimum of three years, unless the firm is notified in writing by the Town of the need to extend the retention period.

The auditor's letter should be available for publishing in our Town Report for FY 2023 by the beginning of February.

### PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

Interested firms shall submit its proposal separated into two sections: the **technical proposal** and the **cost proposal**.

The purpose of the technical proposal is to demonstrate the qualifications, competence and capacity of the firms seeking to undertake the audit of the The Town of Isle La Motte in conformity with the requirements of this request for proposals. The technical proposal should demonstrate the qualifications of the firm and of the particular staff to be assigned to this engagement. It should also specify an audit approach that will meet the request for proposals requirements. The technical proposal shall provide the necessary information in the following sequence:

- Background of the firm: The proposer should state the size of the firm, the size of the firm's governmental auditing staff, and the number and nature of the professional staff to be employed in this engagement.
- Peer review report: The firm is required to submit a copy of its most recent peer review report. The firm shall provide information on the circumstance and status of any disciplinary action taken or pending against the firm during the past five years with state regulatory bodies or professional organizations.
- Partner, supervisory and staff qualifications and experience: The proposer should identify the principal supervisory and management staff who would be assigned to the engagement and disclose each person's government auditing experience.
- Similar engagements with other government entities: The proposal shall describe the five most significant engagements performed in the last five years that are similar to the

engagement described in this request for proposals. Indicate the scope of the work and the name and telephone number of the client contact.

• Specific audit approach: The proposal should set forth a plan of implementation, including an explanation of the audit methodology to be followed. The work plan should include a description of tasks, estimates of work effort, time budgets, and a detailed breakdown of responsibilities of all audit personnel.

The cost proposal should be structured as follows:

Financial Statement Audit and Single Audit:

- Total all-inclusive maximum price for the engagement for the year ending December 31, 2023, and for each of the two subsequent engagement years for which the Town has the option of continuing in this contract.
- Breakdown of costs by year by partner, supervisory and staff level. Estimated breakdown of hours and rates by partner, supervisory and staff level.
- Addendum A: Please provide a maximum price for the audit firm to prepare the financial statements in the event the Town no longer has staff available.

#### **EVALUATION CRITERIA**

There is no expressed or implied obligation for the Town to reimburse responding firms for any expenses incurred in preparing or presenting proposals in response to this request.

The initial evaluation is based upon the proposers' responses to the RFP and the selection committee's estimation of the quality of the proposers' services. The Town reserves the right to make a selection among proposers based directly on the proposal, to negotiate further with any proposer, or to reject any and/or all proposals. At the discretion of the Town, firms submitting proposals will likely be requested to participate in interviews as part of the evaluation process.

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following:

- Responsiveness to this RFP.
- Qualifications and experience of the firm and the personnel to be assigned to the engagement with respect to auditing, management, financial reporting, and experience with:
  - Local governments whose accounting statements conform to GASB statements (required).
  - Local governments with active TIF districts

- Quality and appropriateness of firm's work plan and audit techniques.
- Stability and reputation of the firm.
- Estimated cost of the engagement.
- Any other criteria the Town deems relevant and appropriate in the fulfillment of the performance of their duties and the evaluation of the responses.

Tł	ne tentative	schedule	for	consideration	of the	response to	this	RFP	is as	fol1	ows:
	ie celicaci i e	Delleagle	101	Combiacianion	OI UII	response to	ULLLD	111	ID at	1011	

Issue Date:
Due Date:
Selection:

Town of Isle La Motte Payroll
Check Warrant Report #18084
Check date 10/05/23 to 10/05/23

Employee												
Gross	Fringes	Reimburse	FWT	FICA	MEDI	SWT	SDI	Local	Oth Dedu	Net Amt	Elec Amt	Check No
CARBONE, ANDREA M.												
1212.50	0.00	0.00	73.00	75.18	17.58	34.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	1012.43	0.00	5523
CARBONE, AM	NDREA M.											
625.00	0.00	26.55	9.13	38.75	9.06	14.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	579.98	0.00	5522
To	otal of 2	items for	CARBONE							1592.41	0.00	
LABRECQUE,	MARY E.											
484.50	0.00	4.50	11.72	30.04	7.03	6.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	433.96	0.00	5525
LABRECQUE,	MARY E.											
1107.12	0.00	26.20	80.32	68.64	16.05	27.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	941.21	0.00	5524
To	otal of 2	items for	LABRMA							1375.17	0.00	
MANK, STEP	HEN P.											
1429.72	0.00	0.00	36.24	88.64	20.73	35.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	1248.83	0.00	5526
4858.84	0.00	57.25	210.41	301.25	70.45	117.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	4216.41	0.00	

To the Treasurer of Town of Isle La Motte
we hereby certify that there is due to the several persons whose
names are listed hereon the sum against each name and that
there are good and sufficient vouchers supporting the payments
aggregating \$ \*\*\*4,216.41

Let this be your order for the payments of these amounts.

Rustam Spaulding

10/05/2023 03:56 pm

# Town of Isle La Motte Accounts Payable Check Warrant Report # Current Prior Next FY Invoices For checks For Check Acct 01(General Fund) 10/06/2023 To 10/06/2023

Page 1 of 1

Clerk

					Purchase	Discount	Amount	Check	Check
	Vendor		Invoice	Invoice Description	Amount	Amount	Paid	Number	Date
	VTTAXES	VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF TAXES	PR-07/05/23	Payroll Transfer	55.11	0.00	55.11	E 10000	10/06/23
2	VTTAXES	VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF TAXES	PR-07/18/23	Payroll Transfer	50.91	0.00	50.91	E 10000	10/06/23
Q3	VTTAXES	VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF TAXES	PR-08/01/23	Payroll Transfer	58.98	0.00	58.98	E 10000	10/06/23
	VTTAXES	VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF TAXES	PR-08/15/23	Payroll Transfer	67.31	0.00	67.31	E 10000	10/06/23
	VTTAXES	VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF TAXES	PR-08/29/23	Payroll Transfer	57.95	0.00	57.95	E 10000	10/06/23
					Ch	eck Total	290.26		
10	2								
10/01	IRS	INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	PR-10/05/23	Payroll Transfer	953.81	0.00	953.81	E 10001	10/06/23
del	le								
CM.	60								
White is dull		Report To	otal		1,244.07	0.00	1,244.07		
•									

To the Treasurer of Town of Isle La Motte, We Hereby certify that there is due to the several persons whose names are listed hereon the sum against each name and that there are good and sufficient vouchers supporting the payments aggregating \$ \*\*\*\*\*1,244.07

Let this be your order for the payments of these amounts.

Selectboard

Mary Catherine Graziano

Rustam Spaulding

10/05/23 02:15 pm

### Town of Isle La Motte Accounts Payable Check Warrant Report # Current Prior Next FY Invoices For checks For Check Acct 01(General Fund) 10/05/23 To 10/05/23

Vendor		Invoice	Invoice Description	Purchase Amount	Discount Amount	Amount	Check Number	Check Date
BCLAND	B AND C LANDSCAPING LLC	6		1300.00	0.00	1300.00	5539	10/05/23
CA	CAI TECHNOLOGIES	17971	Tax Maps	400.00	0.00	400.00	5540	10/05/23
COMMBANK	COMMUNITY BANK, N.A.	10032023 10032023B	Credit Card 6182 Zoom subscription	14.50 57.97	0.00	14.50 57.97		10/05/23 10/05/23
				Cì	- heck Total	72.47		
COMSEP	COMPLETE SEPTIC SERVICES, LLC.		Porta Potty Porta Potty	145.00 145.00	0.00	145.00 145.00		10/05/23 10/05/23
				C	- heck Total	290.00		
CONSCOMM	CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS	10252023	October Bill	81.33	0.00	81.33	5543	10/05/23
GISD GISD	GRAND ISLE CO SHERIFF'S DEPT	FY24-08T FY24-13T	August Bill September	3295.50 3295.50	0.00	3295.50 3295.50	5544	10/05/23 10/05/23
				С	heck Total	6591.00		is a
IMPACT	IMPACT FIRE SERVICES LLC	25023743	Fire Ext maint	130.00	0.00	130.00	5545	10/05/23
YARATZ	JOHN YARATZ EXCAVATION LLC	20231001	October Bill	30000.00	0.00	30000.00	5546	10/05/23
NRPC	NW REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION	6297	Municiipal approp FY 24	566.00	0.00	566.0	5547	10/05/23
VMCTA	PATTI LEWIS, VMCTA MEMBERSHIP	20232024	23-24 Membership	35.00	0.00	35.0	0 5548	3 10/05/23
VTDEPTLAI	B VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF LABOR	09122023	Late penalty	100.00	0.00	100.0	0 5549	9 10/05/23
VTELEC	VERMONT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE,	308003102		36.59 21.37	0.00	36.5 21.3		0 10/05/23
VTELEC	VERMONT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE,	308017300		22.51	0.00	22.5		0 10/05/23
VTELEC	VERMONT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE,	3080211100		91.10	0.1	91.1		0 10/05/23
VTELEC	VERMONT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE,			20.80		20.8		0 10/05/23
VTELEC	VERMONT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE,			20.80		20.8	0 555	0 10/05/23
VTELEC	VERMONT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE,	23//30					_	
				(	Check Total	213.1	7	
VTLEAGUE	VERMONT LEAGUE OF CITIES & TO	W 2306	Training Dog Ctrl	10.00	0.00	10.0	0 555	1 10/05/23

## Town of Isle La Motte Accounts Payable Check Warrant Report # Current Prior Next FY Invoices

For checks For Check Acct 01(General Fund) 10/05/23 To 10/05/23

Purchase Discount Amount Check Check Date Amount Paid Number Amount Invoice Description Invoice Vendor 0.00 39,788.97 39,788.97 Report Total ---------

Selectboard

To the Treasurer of Town of Isle La Motte, We Hereby certify that there is due to the several persons whose names are listed hereon the sum against each name and that there are good and sufficient vouchers supporting the payments aggregating \$ \*\*\*\*39,788.97 Let this be your order for the payments of these amounts.

Rustam Spaulding

Employee

Gross	Fringes	Reimburse	FWT	FICA	MED:	swT	SDI	Local	Oth Dedu	Net Amt	Elec Amt	Check No
CARBONE, ANDREA M.												
1000.00	0.00	0.00	47.50	62.00	14.50	27.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	848.81	0.00	5557
COPPOLINO,	ALBERT L											
63.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.91	0.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	58.18	0.00	5558
D'ANGELO,	D'ANGELO, MARIE S.											
62.50	0.00	32.10	0.00	3.88	0.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	89.81	0.00	5559
LABRECQUE,	MARY E.											
85.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.27	1.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	78.50	0.00	5560
MCMAHON, I	EBORAH A.											
37.50	0.00	5.90	10.00	2.33	0.54	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.53	0.00	5561
1248.00	0.00	38.00	57.50	77.39	18.09	37.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	1095.83	0.00	
=======				=======			========	=======	=======	========		

To the Treasurer of Town of Isle La Motte
we hereby certify that there is due to the several persons whose
names are listed hereon the sum against each name and that
there are good and sufficient vouchers supporting the payments
aggregating \$ \*\*\*1,095.83

Let this be your order for the payments of these amounts.

Cary Sandois

Mary Catherine Graziano

Rustam Spawilding

## Town of Isle La Motte Accounts Payable Check Warrant Report # Current FY Invoices

Page 1 Clerk

All Manual\Direct Pays For Check Acct 01(General Fund) 10/11/23 To 10/13/23

Vendor		Invoice	Invoice Description	Purchase Amount	Discount Amount	Amount Paid	Check Number	Check Date
IRS	INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	PR-10/11/23	Payroll Transfer	248.46	0.00	248.46	E 10002	10/13/23
	Report T	otal		248.46	0.00	248.46		
						========		

To the Treasurer of Town of Isle La Motte, We Hereby certify that there is due to the several persons whose names are listed hereon the sum against each name and that there are good and sufficient vouchers supporting the payments aggregating \$ \*\*\*\*\*\*\*248.46

Let this be your order for the payments of these amounts.

Selectboard

Cary Sandwig

Rustam Spaulding

## Private Property & Hunting on Isle La Motte's Town-Owned Lands

- 1) No private property may be left overnight on any Isle La Motte Town Land (Town Lands)
- 2) Hunting is not permitted in Isle La Motte's Recreation Park (Veteran's Park) as per ordinance
- 3) Permanent tree stands and ground blinds are prohibited on any Isle La Motte Town Land
- 4) Temporary tree stands and ground blinds are permitted any Isle La Motte Town Land under the following conditions:
  - a) Tree stands and ground blinds may be erected and used without written permission from the Town during the time period from the third Sunday in August through the third Saturday in December annually, May 1 through May 31, all dates inclusive, or during any Youth Hunting Day or Weekend.
  - b) Tree stands and ground blinds may be erected and used at other times of the year with advance notice to, and written permission from the Town of Isle La Motte (Town).
  - c) Tree stands and ground blinds used on Town Lands must be constructed and erected in such a way that:
    - i) No damage is done to any living tree in erecting, maintaining, using, or accessing the stand or blind except that:
      - (1) Dead limbs, trees or shrubs may be removed as needed to erect and use the stand or blind, and;
      - (2) No live limbs, trees or shrubs may be cut for any purpose except those one inch or less in diameter at either ground level or from the main stem or branch of the tree where the stand or blind is located as appropriate (for guidance, a U.S. quarter is .9 inch in diameter), and;
      - (3) No nails, bolts, screws (including access steps), wire, chain or other material that penetrates through the bark and into the wood of live trees shall be used in erecting any stand or blind.
  - d) All tree stands or ground blinds used on Town Lands must be clearly and legibly marked with the owner's name and address. Marking shall be legible and placed in a manner that enables a person to conveniently and easily read it.

Any private property, including tree stands and ground blinds, that do not conform to this regulation are prohibited and may be confiscated and/or destroyed by the Town. Building, erecting, maintaining, using or occupying a non-conforming tree stand or ground blind is prohibited. Construction of any tree stand or ground blind does not confer exclusive use of its location to the person who built it. Any person may use that location for purposes consistent with this rule. Violation of this rule will result in revocation of private property owner's permission to hunt on Town Lands.

RI	M	F	M	0
	IAF	land .	IAF	

BID # 1010	
JOB Town of Iste La Motte DATE 10 19-23	9
ADDRESS OD BOX 250 Isle La Motte, VT 10-10-85	2: 11-
FIRM O MAN ( FAVIS	3 rujette
ADDRESS ADDRES	/
TYPE OF Que Transfer Trimming PHONE 802-868-21	1117
TYPE OF Roadside Tree Trimming 802-868 W	117

WORK INCLUDED	AMOUNT OF BID
Specification-A 3-east store Rel \$14,000	
Specification - C ] west shore Rd - \$16,000	
Specification - E) main street - \$12,000	
Travis Brugette	
TOTAL E	BID # 4/2 000

EXCLUSIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS								
30 years as Bruvette's Tree Service								
Eguipment used will be bucket truck/mobile								
30 years as Bruyette's Tree Service Eguipment used will be bucket truck/mobile Dump Truck+chipper and all misc Eguipment Herical Lift								
Approx - 6-8 weeks								

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ADDENDA:	TAX
DELIVERY	EXCLUDED
	INCLUDED
	RECEIVED BY:



### **CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE**

DATE (MM/DD/YYYY) 10/18/2023

THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AFFIRMATIVELY OR NEGATIVELY AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW. THIS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ISSUING INSURER(S), AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER, AND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER.

IMPORTANT: If the certificate holder is an ADDITIONAL INSURED, the policy(ies) must have ADDITIONAL INSURED provisions or be endorsed. If SUBROGATION IS WAIVED, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy, certain policies may require an endorsement. A statement on this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s).

tł	this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s).									
PRO	DUCER				CONTA NAME:	CT Robin Sw	eeney, ACSR,	CPIW		
123	Insurance, Inc.				PHONE (802) 524-0202 FAX (A/C, No): (802) 524-3029					
Par	n Parah Tobin Agency				E-MAIL Robin@123insurancevt.com					
	South Main St									
	Albans			VT 05478	INSURER(S) AFFORDING COVERAGE  INSURER A: The Burlington Insurance Company					NAIC #
INSU						Linited E				11770
""	Travis Bruyette				INSURER B:					11110
1	DBA: Bruyette's Tree Service				INSURE					
l	·				INSURE					
l	807 Frontage Road			\T. 05400	INSURE	ER E :				
<u> </u>	Swanton			VT 05488	INSURE	RF:				
_			_	NUMBER: CL231160803				REVISION NUMBER:		
	HIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE POLICIES OF I IDICATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUI									
	ERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY PERT									
_	XCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH PO			ITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN	REDUC					
INSR LTR	TYPE OF INSURANCE	INSD	WVD	POLICY NUMBER		POLICY EFF (MM/DD/YYYY)	POLICY EXP (MM/DD/YYYY)	L	IMITS	
	COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY							EACH OCCURRENCE	\$ 1,00	00,000
	CLAIMS-MADE X OCCUR					1		DAMAGE TO RENTED PREMISES (Ea occurrence)	s 100	,000
								MED EXP (Any one person)	\$ 5,00	00
А				807B004370		01/15/2023	01/15/2024	PERSONAL & ADV INJURY		00,000
	GEN'L AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PER:					)		GENERAL AGGREGATE	\$ 2,00	00,000
	PRO-					1		PRODUCTS - COMP/OP AG	Inch	uded
								PRODUCTS - COMPIOP AG	\$	
	OTHER: AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY							COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT	\$	
	ANYAUTO			11.0				(Ea accident) BODILY INJURY (Per person		000
В	OWNED SCHEDULED			02838537-7		01/15/2023	01/15/2024			
,	AUTOS ONLY AUTOS NON-OWNED			02030337-7		01/15/2023	01/15/2024	BODILY INJURY (Per accide: PROPERTY DAMAGE		
1	AUTOS ONLY AUTOS ONLY							(Per accident)	\$ 50,0	700
									\$	
	UMBRELLA LIAB OCCUR			3				EACH OCCURRENCE	\$	
	EXCESS LIAB CLAIMS-MADE	ļ						AGGREGATE	\$	
DED RETENTION \$								\$		
WORKERS COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ANY PROPRIETOR/PARTNER/EXECUTIVE								PER OTH STATUTE ER	1-	
		N/A						E.L. EACH ACCIDENT	\$	
OFFICER/MEMBER EXCLUDED? (Mandatory in NH)								E.L. DISEASE - EA EMPLOY	EE \$	
	If yes, describe under DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS below							E.L. DISEASE - POLICY LIM	T   \$	
	4									
DES	CRIPTION OF OPERATIONS / LOCATIONS / VEHICLE	S (AC	ORD 1	01, Additional Remarks Schedule,	may be a	ttached if more sp	ace is required)			
"All	Limits at Policy Inception" Tree Service									
CERTIFICATE HOLDER CANCELLATION										
CEF	THI IOATE HOLDER	_	_		CANC	ELLATION				
				SHO	III D ANY OF T	HE ABOVE DE	SCRIBED POLICIES BE (	ANCELLE	) REFORE	
Town of Isle La Motte				SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, NOTICE WILL BE DELIVERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY PROVISIONS.						
										PO Box 250
l A					AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE					
Isle La Motte						~ ×	84 - 6			



#### Selectboard Clerk <ilmvtselectboardclerk@gmail.com>

## Fwd: Governor Phil Scott Announces \$6 Million In Vermont Outdoor Recreation **Economy Grants**

1 message

Town Clerk <townofislelamotte@gmail.com>

Thu, Oct 12, 2023 at 11:36 AM

To: Selectboard - all <ilmvtselectboard@gmail.com>, Road Commissioner <ilmvtroadcommissioner@gmail.com>

Vickie Buswell Town Clerk

**Town of Isle La Motte** 42 School Street Extension Isle La Motte, VT 05463 802.928.3434 www.islelamotte.us

Notice: By Vermont's public records law, emails (and other documents) acquired/created by a government agency are considered public records and subject to disclosure, unless specifically excluded by the Public Records Act.

----- Forwarded message ------

From: AOT - Vermont Local Roads <AOT. VermontLocalRoads@vermont.gov>

Date: Thu, Oct 12, 2023 at 10:01AM

Subject: Governor Phil Scott Announces \$6 Million In Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economy Grants

To: <VT-LOCALROADS@listserv.vermontlocalroads.org>



#### State of Vermont

#### OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

#### For Immediate Release

Thursday, October 12, 2023

#### **Contacts**

Jason Maulucci, Press Secretary Office of the Governor

Jason.Maulucci@vermont.gov

Lauren Pyle, Outdoor Recreation Grants Manager

Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation

lauren.pyle@vermont.gov

## GOVERNOR PHIL SCOTT ANNOUNCES \$6 MILLION IN VERMONT OUTDOOR **RECREATION ECONOMY GRANTS**

Berlin, Vt. - Governor Phil Scott and the Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative (VOREC) today announced \$6 million in funding will be available to support communities across the state to strengthen their local outdoor recreation economies, including support for communities to recover flood impacted outdoor recreation resources and projects to expand outdoor equity.

The VOREC program – established by Governor Scott in 2017 and jointly led by the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation (FPR) and the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) - has opened the 2023 VOREC Community Grant Program and is now accepting applications.

"Vermont's outdoor recreation economy is one of our strongest assets and is a key component of our economy and brand," said Governor Scott. "These grants help us enhance Vermont's outdoor recreation opportunities and support the economic development in communities in all 14 counties."

"We are expanding the VOREC Community Grant Program to serve the needs of communities." said Becca Washburn, FPR's Director of Lands Administration and Recreation and chair of the VOREC Steering Committee. "From responding to the devastating flooding, to fostering innovative ideas for outdoor recreation and promoting inclusivity to access the outdoors, our goal is to build on the successes of past grants and continue to support the community-based outdoor recreation economy in Vermont."

Four grant tracks will broaden VOREC Community Grant Program opportunities. Municipalities and non-profit organizations are eligible to apply to all grant tracks. Businesses are eligible to apply for outdoor equity grants only.

#### These tracks include:

- Implementation: Backing innovative and cross-sector projects that are planned, permitted, and ready-to-go to enhance local outdoor recreation economies. \$50,000 minimum.
- Project Development: Supporting communities preparing to implement their great ideas through planning and scoping. \$20,000 minimum.
- Outdoor Equity: Focusing on reducing barriers and expanding opportunities for all people to access the outdoors with a particular emphasis on supporting BIPOC, LGBTQ+ individuals, those who speak languages beyond English, people with low incomes, and people with disabilities. No minimum.
- Flood Recovery: Aiding communities in rebuilding recreation infrastructure damaged during the devastating summer flooding, enhancing our outdoor economy resilience for the future. No minimum. Eligible expenses are reimbursable starting from July 11, 2023.

The Vermont Office of Racial Equity will collaborate on the administration of the Outdoor Equity track. Shalini Suryanarayana, Education and Outreach Associate for the Office said, "We are so pleased to see a focus on outdoor equity and the way equity considerations have been woven into all the other funding tracks. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to work together to change the landscape in Vermont in ways that can lift everyone up."

The online application portal is open through December 15, 2023, for all grant tracks. Projects should begin in summer 2024.

FPR is hosting a webinar on October 17 from 1 – 2 p.m. and will hold open office hours for interested applicants. To sign up for the webinar and to learn more, visit the VOREC Community Grant Program website.

###

109 State Street | The Pavilion | Montpelier, VT 05609-0101 | www.vermont.gov

TELEPHONE: 802.828.3333 | FAX: 802.828.3339 | TDD: 802.828.3345



To unsubscribe from the VT-LOCALROADS list, click the following link: http://listserv.vermontlocalroads.org/scripts/wa-VLRDS.exe?SUBED1=VT-LOCALROADS&A=1

