

Natural Disaster Reserve Fund

I. Purpose

The Selectboard of the Town of Waterbury believes that sound financial management requires that sufficient funds be maintained by the Town for the *training, equipment, infrastructure and personnel costs related to preparation and response to Natural Disasters.*

II. Objective

Upon recommendation of the Selectboard, on March 3, 2026, voters of the Town authorized establishment of a reserve fund in accordance with 24 VSA §2804. The Selectboard's objective is for adequate funds to be set aside in this reserve fund for the purposes above and that these moneys not be spent for regular Town expenditures or used to reduce property taxes.

III. Reserve Fund Expenditures

The reserve fund was established by the voters for the purpose of *training, equipment, and personnel costs related to preparation and response to Natural Disasters.* To this end, the Selectboard will only use the reserve fund to *assist in the preparation and response to natural disasters affecting the Town of Waterbury.* Any expenditure of the reserve fund by the Selectboard for such purposes shall require approval of a majority of Selectboard members at a duly warned Selectboard meeting. In accordance with 28 V.S.A. §2804(a), expenditure of the reserve funds for any other purpose shall require the authorization of a majority of the voters present at an annual or special town meeting.

IV. Use of the Fund

The Waterbury Natural Disaster Reserve Fund is designed to help the town prepare and respond to natural disasters. This includes but is not limited to training of volunteers and staff, helping cover the cost of personnel overtime, purchasing supplies and infrastructure repair and cleanup. The Town of Waterbury recognizes that not all costs are eligible to be covered by federal or state response funds and intends for this fund to help alleviate some of this burden on the Town taxpayers and allow Waterbury to respond promptly and efficiently should a disaster occur.

The foregoing Policy is hereby adopted by the selectboard of the Town of Waterbury, Vermont, this ___ day of _____ and is effective as of this date until amended or repealed.

Chairperson
