



**Q1 2024 Clerk's Report**  
**January – March 2024**  
**Submitted 04/03/2024**

Recording and Restoration revenue: \$6,678 (at \$15 per page, \$11 per page to the general fund and \$4 per page to Fund 45 – Restoration and Digitization.)

Deed Copies: \$447 (at \$1 per page)

Research Time: \$104 (at \$4 per hour)

Dog Licenses issued: 303

Marriage Licenses issued: 2

Deaths: – 2 - Deaths of Norwich residents that occur outside of Vermont are not reported to the Clerk.

Births: 1 – Births of Norwich residents that occur outside of Vermont are not reported to the Clerk.

Hunting and Fishing Licenses Issued: 5

Land Postings recorded: 2

Green Mountain Passports issued: 0

**Clerk's Office Updates:**

Running a successful election takes months of preparation and the dedication of numerous volunteers. We had 30 people volunteer for four-hour shifts on election day; the counting and clean up crew didn't get to leave Tracy Hall until just about 11pm. Many thanks to everyone who volunteered, but Assistant Clerk Judy Trussell and Board of Civil Authority chair Linda Gray deserve a particularly loud round of applause. From answering my numerous election-related questions to pre-processing ballots to helping at the polls, they helped ensure that everything ran smoothly. Ben Trussell also deserves commendation for working long hours between set-up and clean up. We have two more elections coming up this year – the State Primary August 13<sup>th</sup> and the General Election on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

Our biggest election day issue was the slowness of our only tabulator, which led to long lines as people had to wait an extra couple of seconds between feeding ballot pages in. It turns out that clerks state-wide experienced slower than usual tabulators (coupled with multi-page ballots). Most towns, like Norwich, ended up giving voters the option of putting their ballots into a



separate box to be fed into the tabulator by poll workers as time allowed; volunteers spent about 90 minutes after the polls closed finishing up feeding all those ballots in.

In non-election news, Lily attended the International Institute of Municipal Clerks' Region I conference in Springfield, MA March 24-26. The theme of the conference was resiliency and the cultivation of a growth mindset, and 63 clerks from New England and New York attended. Presentations by professors from Central Connecticut State University spanned two very long days. Clerks spent a third day discussing leadership lessons that can be drawn from the writings of Theodor Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss (a native of Springfield).

Between January 1 and April 3<sup>rd</sup> the Clerk's office issued 370 dog licenses, well ahead of the 176 we had licensed at this time last year. I expect to license about 550 dogs this year. Penalties are now in effect, so licensing fixed dogs costs \$11 and intact dogs are \$17.

Finally, the eight marriage books we sent up to Kofile in October of last year have been conserved and returned to us. While there are state-level electronic systems for clerks to access birth and death certificates, access to marriage certificates requires us to dive into the vault. It's critical that these records are well preserved, and Kofile did a beautiful job of encasing each marriage certificate and its associated documents in archival sleeves.

