

***How is a municipality's restoration reserve fund affected by the increase in town clerk recording fees?***

Very little. Act 76 of the 2007 legislative session amended 32 V.S.A. § 1671(a)(6) to increase the fee for recording a public record, or for any certified copy of such document, from \$7.00 to \$8.00 per page, effective July 1, 2007. There has been no change to the restoration reserve fund statute, which enables local legislative bodies to create a restoration reserve fund by directing between fifty cents and one dollar of the per-page recording fee to the fund. 32 V.S.A. 1671 (c). This means that if the selectboard has created a restoration reserve fund, which is funded in part by directing fifty cents of every per page recording fee to the fund, after July 1, 2007 fifty cents would go to the restoration reserve fund and \$7.50 would accrue to the clerk or the municipality, depending on whether the clerk is compensated on fees or salary. All restoration reserve funds may only be used for restoration, preservation, and conservation of municipal records.

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