



Town of Searsport

2024 Annual Report

Cover Photo provided by Rolf E. Olsen of Searsport

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY NINTH

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE**

**MUNICIPAL OFFICERS
OF THE**

**TOWN OF SEARSPORT
MAINE**

FISCAL YEAR 2024

2024 REPORT DEDICATIONS

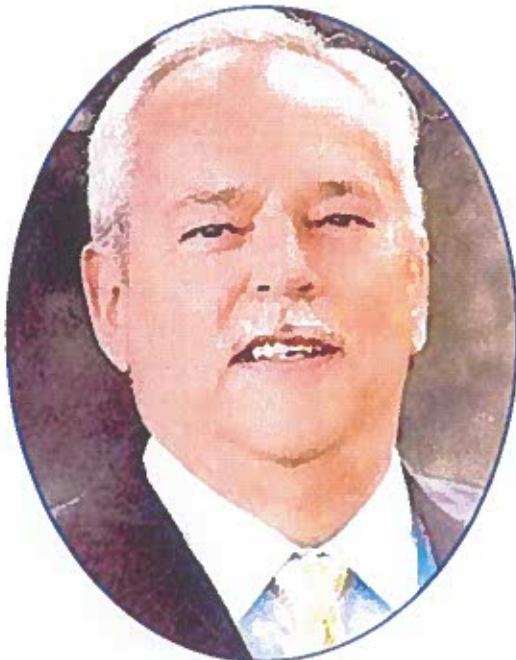
William “Bill” Shorey

Waldo County Commissioner Bill Shorey passed away at his home in Searsport in December 12, 2024. Bill loved Searsport and dedicated most of his life to serving our community and the communities of Waldo County. Bill served several years on our planning board and after that served on the MSAD 56 School Board and was its Chair for two years. He was appointed by the Selectboard to serve on the Searsport Water District and did so for 31 years. Twenty-nine of those years as the Chair. He was elected to be County Commissioner of our district in 2008 and started serving that role in 2009. He was instrumental in developing the Waldo County Garden Project. Aside from his public service, Bill dedicated 36 years supporting our community in the Lions Club. He served in all of the local leadership posts and his efforts lead him to be elected to the post of Vice-District Governor and then Governor of Lions District 41-I. After his term as Governor of that organization he was elected to be Council Chairman of Multiple Lions District 41 with oversight of District Governor in Maine and Canada. Bill's service both civic and public is inspirational and he is greatly missed.



Richard “Dick” Desmarais

Richard Desmarais, died on October 25, 2024. He lived at 6 West Main Street for over 25 years. While there he ran a successful woodworking business known as Searsport Landing. He later ran a second business from the location called Searsport Flags for 10 years selling and distributing a variety of US and other flags to towns and organizations around New England and throughout Maine. He looked forward to watching the annual Wreaths Across America Honor Fleet pass by his home on Main Street as it carried veterans' wreaths down to Arlington, Virginia every December. After serving in Vietnam as a dog handler, Dick worked at Pratt & Whitney for 31 years. He was an EMT and CPR instructor. He served on many Searsport town committees. He was a town Selectman and author of the "Radio Searsport" newsletter for 15 years, and volunteered for the Searsport Fire Department. He served on the Penobscot Council of Governments and was instrumental in advocating for the naming of the Penobscot Narrows Bridge to promote the Penobscot River and Bay region.



2024 REPORT DEDICATIONS

Joseph A. Perry



Joseph A. Perry died on January 26, 2024. Joe was a very quiet man who kept much of his personal experiences to himself. He moved to Searsport in the 1990's and lived on East Main Street. He was very active in politics serving as the Waldo Democrat Committee Chair for several years. Joe first entered the local governmental ranks when he volunteered for the Board of Appeals and the Budget Advisory Committees in 1999. After one year of service on each he decided to run for a seat on the Board of Selectmen for the town. He was elected to the board in 2000 and was immediately voted by his fellow board members to be the vice-chairman and then chairman a few years later. He guided our town through some rough times in the early part of this decade with many personnel and management changes. He left the board in 2016. While selectman, he served on many committees within town representing and acting as liaison for the selectmen. In 2002 and 2003 he served on the Sears Island Alternative Uses Committee for the town.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Legislative Contact Addresses	1
Letter from Senator Susan Collins	3
Letter from Senator Angus King	4
Letter from Congressman Jared Golden	5-6
Letter from Governor Janet Mills	7
Letter from State Representative Chip Curry	8
Letter from State Representative Regan Paul	9
Letter from Waldo County Sheriff's Office	10-11
Letter from Superintendent Chris Downing	12
Spirit of America Award	13
2025 Important Dates	14
Holidays / Transfer Station	15
Town Contact Information	16
Selectboard / Town Staff	17
Board and Committee Chairs	18
RSU 20 Board of Directors / Searsport Water District	19
 Manager's Report	20-22
Town Clerk's Report & Registered Voter Information	23-24
Planning Board Report	25
Assessor's Report	26
Police Chief's Report	27-28
Ambulance Report	29
Fire Chief's Report	30
Code Enforcement's Report	31
Harbormaster's Report	32
Shellfish Management Report	33-34
Carver Memorial Library Report	35-36
Historic Preservation Commission Report	37-38
Mosman Memorial Park Report	39
Water District Report	40-42
Swan Lake Dam Committee Report	43
Real Estate Uncollected Taxes	44-55
Personal Property Uncollected Taxes	56
Motor Vehicle Transactions & Dog Licenses	57
Hunting, Fishing, and Shellfish Licenses / Registered Voters	58
Births, Deaths, and Marriages	59-60
Auditors' Report	61-65
Town Warrant	66-80

Special Thanks and Credits

Cover Photo

Report Layout and Design - James Gillway

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Maine Congressional Delegation

United States Senator:

Washington Address:

413 Dirksen Senate Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20510-1904

Tel. (202) 224-2523

www.collins.senate.gov

Susan Collins

District Office:

202 Harlow Street

Suite 20100

Bangor, ME 04401

Tel. (207) 945-0417

Fax: (207) 990-4604

United States Senator:

Washington Address:

188 Russell Senate Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20510-1904

Tel. (202) 224-5344

Fax: (202) 224-1946

www.king.senate.gov

Angus King

District Office:

202 Harlow Street

Suite 20350

Bangor, ME 04401

Tel. (207) 945-8000

Representative to Congress:

Second District

Washington Address:

1710 Longworth HOB

Washington, D.C. 20515

Tel. (202) 225-6306

Fax: (202) 225-2943

www.golden.house.gov

Jared Golden

District Office:

6 State Street

Suite 101

Bangor, ME 04401

Tel. (207) 249-7400

Legislative Representatives:

Maine Legislature Website: <https://legislature.maine.gov/>

State Senator:

District 11

Home Address:

13 Parkside Lane

Belfast, ME 04915

Chip Curry

Capitol Address:

3 State House Station

Augusta ME 04333-0003

Tel. (207) 287-1515

Fax: (207) 287-1585

Email: chip.curry@legislature.maine.gov

State Representative

District 37

Home Address:

815 North Main Street

Winterport, ME 04496

Tel. (207) 944-8033

Email: reagan.paul@legislature.maine.gov

Reagan Paul

Capitol Address

2 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333-0002

Tel. (207) 287-1440

SUSAN M. COLLINS
MAINE

413 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904
(202) 224-2923
(202) 224-2993 (FAX)

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904

COMMITTEES
APPROPRIATIONS
VICE CHAIR
HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS
SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE

Dear Friends:

It is an honor to represent Maine in the United States Senate, and I welcome this opportunity to share several key accomplishments for our state from the previous year.

As Vice Chair of the Appropriations Committee, I have secured nearly \$580 million for 230 projects across all of Maine's 16 counties to promote job creation, workforce training, and economic development; expand access to health care; support law enforcement; improve public education and infrastructure; and protect our environment. As the new Congress begins, I am honored to be taking the helm of the Committee, the first Mainer to do so in nearly a century, and I remain committed to ensuring that federal spending produces real results for our state and nation.

Maine has the oldest average age in the country, which is why I have long prioritized health-focused legislative efforts. There were more than 1,860 health care bills introduced during the 118th Congress. Only 15 health care bills were signed into law, and I was a lead sponsor of five of them. These bills will enhance care for individuals with Alzheimer's, autism, and substance abuse issues through improved research funding, strengthened public health programs, and increased support for rural first responders.

Another important bill that I coauthored was the *Social Security Fairness Act*. Since 2003, when I led the first-ever Senate hearing on the Windfall Elimination Provision and the Government Pension Offset, I have sought to end these provisions of the *Social Security Act* that unfairly reduce the Social Security benefits that public employees or their spouses have earned. I am pleased to say that with the passage of my bill, the *Social Security Fairness Act*, in December, public sector retirees will now receive the full Social Security benefits they have earned.

When the Maine way of life was under threat, I was certain to defend the interests of our state. I worked to protect Maine's potato farmers when the Department of Agriculture tried to reclassify the potato from a vegetable to a grain. I thwarted efforts to consolidate USPS mail operations at the Hampden postal facility, which would have disrupted mail delivery throughout our state. I sounded the alarm with leaders at the FBI and Departments of State and Treasury on the spate of illicit marijuana growing operations that are destroying properties and providing refuge to foreign criminals in our state. Following damage to our working waterfronts after last winter's storms, I secured \$15 million to help fishing communities recover. I championed funding to support the Maine Air National Guard base, Bath Iron Works, and Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

As of last December, I have cast more than 9,100 consecutive votes, continuing my record of never missing a roll-call vote since my Senate service began in 1997. My ranking as the most bipartisan Senator reflects Maine's tradition of working with a spirit of cooperation and respect.

My highest priority as a Senator is to ensure that Maine's needs are met. If ever I can be of assistance to you, please contact one of my state offices or visit my website at collins.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins
United States Senator

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 1, 2025

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
CHAIRMAN, STRATEGIC FORCES
SUBCOMMITTEE
ENERGY AND
NATURAL RESOURCES
CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL PARKS
SUBCOMMITTEE
INTELLIGENCE
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Dear Friends,

Each year comes with renewed hope – to celebrate each other’s successes and care for each other in times of need. I am thankful to each town in Maine for their commitment to their communities, to their citizens, and to this country. We always work together to get things done. This past year was no different.

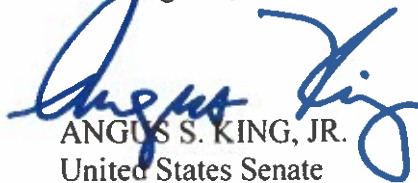
First, it was a true honor to be reelected to the United States Senate for another six-year term. Throughout my travels around the state, I heard many concerns about the cost of living and affordability of housing. Many of you also shared your concerns about access to medical and mental health services. The *Inflation Reduction Act* has been incredible for older people in Maine – Medicare is finally negotiating lower prices for prescription drugs, on top of the \$35 per month cap for insulin that took effect in 2023. We have an opportunity to build on what we have in common and do what Maine people do best; we will continue to help each other and lead through example.

I have also been consistently working to help our veterans. My team has repeatedly been successful in securing long-overdue recognition of military medals for many of Maine’s combat veterans and working to resolve issues with claims, travel pay, and access to healthcare and benefits our veterans earned through their selfless service to our country. I have also worked with my Veterans Affairs and Defense partners in Washington to successfully pass a national defense bill that strengthens our national security, takes care of our service members, and supports Maine businesses from Aroostook to York County.

I am also thankful to have such an incredible team across Maine available to you for hurdles you may face with the federal government. Whether it be veteran issues, social security problems, student loans, immigration, IRS and more, please never hesitate to reach out to my offices in Presque Isle, Bangor, Augusta, Portland, or Biddeford and allow us the chance to be part of your solutions.

Together, over the next six years, I know we can continue to build a stronger, brighter future for our great state. Thank you for being one of the reasons Maine is so special; it is not only a pleasure to serve you — it is a pleasure to know you. Mary and I wish you a happy and safe 2025.

Best Regards,



ANGUS S. KING, JR.
United States Senate

AUGUSTA
40 Western Avenue, Suite 412
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(207) 622-8292

BANGOR
202 Harlow Street, Suite 20350
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BIDDEFORD
227 Main Street
Biddeford, ME 04005
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PORTLAND
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Portland, ME 04101
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PRESQUE ISLE
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Washington Office
1710 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone: (202) 225-6306
Fax: (202) 225-2943
www.golden.house.gov



Committee on Armed Services
Committee on Small Business

Jared Golden
Congress of the United States
2nd District of Maine

Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you well. It's an honor to continue serving as your representative in Congress, and I take the responsibility very seriously. Thank you for the opportunity to share an update on the work I've been doing for the people of the Second Congressional District.

Fisheries: This spring, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) announced a gauge increase for lobsters caught in the Gulf of Maine beginning in January 2025. Maine fishermen warned that this decision is founded on incomplete and inaccurate data. Additionally, this gauge increase could put Mainers at a competitive disadvantage to Canadian fishermen with looser regulations. That's why I sent a [letter](#) to the ASMFC urging them to delay their decision until they can evaluate data with fishermen, whose proactive stewardship provides invaluable insight. I have also submitted an amendment to this year's funding bill that would block federal funding from being used to implement and enforce a gauge increase. Because of these efforts, the ASFMC made the decision to delay the implementation of this new requirement. I'll always stand with Maine lobstermen against unfair, unnecessary regulations that threaten their livelihoods and industry.

Veterans: The first meeting I attended as an elected official was with a large group of veterans and the former Director of the Maine Bureau of Veterans Services. We discussed a lot, but one issue rose above the rest: how little was being done for Maine veterans who needed treatment for mental health issues or substance use. At the time, there were no in-patient treatment beds in Maine, so veterans had to wait for a bed to open up at an out-of-state facility. Fast forward 10 years, through unending red tape, and I'm delighted to report we just broke ground on a treatment facility at the Togus VA Medical Center in Augusta. This was the direct result of the tireless advocacy of veterans from across our state — this win is theirs.

Postal Service: This spring, the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) announced plans to consolidate and move some processing operations from the Eastern Maine Processing & Distribution Center in Hampden to Scarborough. This would have caused significant mail delivery delays that disproportionately harm rural communities. That's why I introduced the *Timely Mail Delivery and Postal Services Protection Act*, which would have halted this planned consolidation across

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Bangor, ME 04410
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7 Hatch Drive, Suite 230
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Phone: (207) 492-6009

179 Lisbon Street
Lewiston, ME 04240
Phone: (207) 241-6767



the country. Following these efforts, the USPS announced they have scrapped their plan entirely. While this is a win for Maine, it is also evidence that we cannot become complacent. That's why I recently introduced the bipartisan *Postmaster General Reform Act*, which would establish term limits for the United States Postal Service's (USPS) postmaster general and require nominations to be confirmed by the Senate.

Regardless of the year, one of my top priorities is ensuring I'm accessible to you. My staff and I can help navigate federal programs; find resources in Maine; and resolve issues with Medicare, Social Security, the VA, and other federal agencies and programs. We are here to help:

- **Caribou Office:** 7 Hatch Drive, Suite 230, Caribou, ME 04736. Phone: (207) 492-6009
- **Lewiston Office:** 179 Lisbon Street, Lewiston, ME 04240. Phone: (207) 241-6767
- **Bangor Office:** 6 State Street, Suite 101, Bangor, ME 04401. Phone: (207) 249-7400

I wish you a healthy and prosperous year to come.

Respectfully,



Jared Golden
Member of Congress

6 State Street, Suite 101
Bangor, ME 04401
Phone: (207) 249-7400

7 Hatch Drive, Suite 230
Caribou, ME 04736
Phone: (207) 492-6009

179 Lisbon Street
Lewiston, ME 04240
Phone: (207) 241-6767



Janet T. Mills
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0001

Dear Maine Resident:

I have always been guided by the belief that to strengthen our state, we have to invest in our greatest asset: the people of Maine. With the support of the Legislature, my Administration has been investing in what people need to succeed, like job training, child care, health care, education, broadband, and housing.

We are seeing results — small businesses are expanding their operations; people are moving here to work and raise their families; and graduates are staying in Maine to pursue rewarding, life-long careers. These are all encouraging signs that are reflected in the strength of our economy. In fact, Maine has one of the best rates of economic growth in the nation.

That's good news, but I know that not everyone is feeling the benefits of our strong economy. The cost of living in Maine, as in much of America, is too high. The price of fuel, the cost of supplies, utilities and labor have driven up expenses for families across the country and impacted the budgets of towns, counties and nearly every state, including Maine.

I want everyone to benefit from the availability of good jobs, a good public education, and good health care in our state. That is why I have put forward a balanced budget proposal that proposes some savings and certain targeted revenue increases to maintain things we all support, like the state paying 55 percent of the cost of education and 5 percent municipal revenue sharing, to keep all these costs from being passed along to property taxpayers.

We have made good progress over the past six years to ensure that every person in Maine can find a good-paying job in a rewarding and stable career; go to the doctor when they feel sick because they have health insurance; and have the peace of mind that their children are safe at home and at school.

I look forward to working with communities and citizens across the state to solve problems, manage our finances, and keep our people healthy and safe.

Sincerely,

Janet T. Mills
Governor



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER



Glenn "Chip" Curry
Senator, District 11

THE MAINE SENATE
132nd Legislature

3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

February 20, 2024

Dear Friends and Residents of Searsport,

Thank you for once again placing your trust in me as your State Senator. With the First Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature now underway, I'm excited to share updates on our work in Augusta, including my new committee assignments.

I have been appointed to serve as Senate Chair of the newly formed Housing and Economic Development Committee. This committee merges the roles of the previous Joint Select Committee on Housing and the Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business Committee — reflecting how closely housing opportunities, affordability, and economic growth are intertwined. Our goal is to address Maine's ongoing housing challenges, expand economic innovation, and ensure that every Mainer has a safe, secure place to call home.

I am also pleased to serve on the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee, where I will continue working to keep our communities safe and well-served. Drawing from my experiences on the Blue Ribbon Commission on Emergency Medical Services and the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission, I'm eager to support the crucial work of first responders and strengthen our public safety infrastructure across the state.

In the coming months, my colleagues and I will tackle a wide range of issues, including cost-of-living concerns, child care needs, and critical workforce initiatives. Throughout these discussions, I will keep Waldo County's unique needs at the forefront of my priorities.

Please remember that I am here to help. If you need assistance connecting with a state agency, have questions about legislation, or wish to share your thoughts, feel free to reach out at Chip.Curry@legislature.maine.gov or call my legislative office at (207) 287-1515. I look forward to continuing our work together to build a stronger future for our district and all Mainers.

Thank you again for the privilege of serving as your State Senator.

Sincerely,

Chip Curry
State Senator, District 11
Representing the twenty-six rural, coastal, and island communities of Waldo County

*Chair, Housing and Economic Development Committee * Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee
State House (207) 287-1515 * Fax (207) 287-1585 * Toll Free 1-800-423-6900 * TTY 711
Chip.Curry@legislature.maine.gov * legislature.maine.gov/senate*



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002
(207) 287-1440
TTY: (207) 287-4469

Reagan Paul

815 North Main Street
Winterport, ME 04496
Home Phone: (207) 944-8033
Reagan.Paul@legislature.maine.gov

January 2025

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

We are just beginning the first year of the 132nd Legislative session and I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you once more as your State Representative.

I am pleased to announce that I have again been appointed to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities, and Technology in the Maine State Legislature. This committee is responsible for overseeing energy policy, and I will advocate for energy generation that is clean, reliable, affordable, and secure. The committee also addresses issues in telecommunications, broadband, and utilities.

As your Representative, I will work to ensure that Maine's energy policies support economic growth while also protecting the pocketbooks of Mainers. I will focus on promoting responsible energy development, increasing energy efficiency, and maintaining a market-driven approach that keeps costs low and encourages innovation. It is important that we provide reliable and affordable services to Maine residents and businesses while ensuring a stable and competitive energy landscape. I look forward to working on solutions that meet the needs of our communities, promote economic opportunity, and safeguard our future.

Please know that your voice is valuable to me. I encourage you to contact me with questions, comments, or concerns about state government. I can be reached at Reagan.Paul@legislature.maine.gov.

Again, thank you for giving me the honor of serving you at the State House and may you all have a safe and blessed 2025.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Reagan Paul".

Reagan Paul
State Representative

WALDO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

**6 Public Safety Way
Belfast, ME 04915**

SHERIFF
Jason W. Trundy

Administrative Offices
207-338-6786
Fax
207-338-6784

CHIEF DEPUTY
Matthew C. Curtis

Citizens of Waldo County,

The Members of the Waldo County Sheriff's Office are proud to provide law enforcement, correctional and civil paperwork services to the citizens of our great county and we want to thank the members of the public for their continued support.

In 2024, our patrol division handled 7,536 calls for service. These calls included all types of incidents from domestic violence, robberies, burglaries, thefts, child abuse, sexual abuse, drug overdoses, and much more. During 2024, to increase traffic safety, the Sheriff's Office shifted greater focus on traffic safety, including the assignment of a deputy sheriff specifically to traffic enforcement. The increased focus on traffic safety resulted in a significant increase in traffic stops from an average of around 1,500 stops annually to 2986 stops in 2024.

Our corrections division finished its fifteenth year in the operation of our 72-hour intake and the Maine Coastal Regional Re-entry Center. The seventy-two-hour holding and booking facility processed 835 people who were arrested in Waldo County by all the law enforcement agencies serving our County.

In 2024, the participants of the reentry provided 3,375 hours of community service throughout Waldo County. This translated to a savings in labor costs of \$49,443 to citizens and non-profit agencies. Residents also provided more than 32,000 pounds of fresh vegetables to local food pantries and those in need from the County's Garden Project. The residents also paid \$10,566 in room and board to the County and \$5,799 toward their fines and restitution.

Our Civil Service Division served 1,123 sets of legal paperwork all over the county in 2024.

It has been an honor for all of us to be of service to the citizens of Waldo County in 2024. It is my goal as Sheriff to focus the resources of the Sheriff's Office on enhancing traffic safety, addressing substance abuse, and identifying operational efficiencies and cost savings in our correctional services. These issues are critical to the quality of life of everyone in Waldo County. We look forward to providing the citizens of Waldo County with professional law enforcement services based on our core values of Integrity, Teamwork and Compassion. We wish everyone a safe and productive 2025.

Respectfully,

Sheriff Jason W. Trundy



Waldo County Sheriff's Office

• 6 Public Safety Way Belfast Maine 04915 •
• 207-338-2040 •



Total Number of Complaints received in 2024 for Searsport

<u>Nature of Call</u>	<u>Total Calls Received</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
911 Disconnect	8	3.81%
911 Misdial	5	2.38%
911 Open Line	3	1.43%
Abandoned Vehic	1	0.48%
Agency Assist	63	30.00%
Alarm	8	3.81%
Assault	1	0.48%
Car/Deer PD	2	0.95%
Civil	3	1.43%
Crim Mischief	1	0.48%
Crim Trespass	2	0.95%
Detail K-9	6	2.86%
Detail Misc	1	0.48%
Detail Radar	3	1.43%
Disorderly	1	0.48%
Disturbance	3	1.43%
Domestic	3	1.43%
Electronic Mon	4	1.90%
Found Property	1	0.48%
Friendly Caller	1	0.48%
Harassment	4	1.90%
Information	8	3.81%
Intoxication	1	0.48%
Late 10-55	1	0.48%
MV Complaint	21	10.00%
Mental Medical	2	0.95%
Missing Person	1	0.48%
Motorist Assist	4	1.90%
OUI	2	0.95%
Officer Complt	1	0.48%
PD Accident	3	1.43%
PI Accident	3	1.43%
Public Assist	1	0.48%
Reported Death	1	0.48%
Service PO	3	1.43%
Suspicious	7	3.33%
Theft	4	1.90%
Traffic Offense	6	2.86%
Unsecure Premis	1	0.48%
Veh Off The Rd	1	0.48%
Wanted Person	9	4.29%
Welfare Check	6	2.86%

Total Complaints Reported: 210

Total Traffic Stops: 73

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT #20

Searsport · Stockton Springs

Office of the Superintendent
6 Mortland Road
Searsport ME 04974

Telephone: 207/548-6643

Fax: 207/548-2310

February 27, 2025

Dear Citizens of Searsport and Stockton Springs,

Regional School Unit #20 has moved into our tenth year and will be looking forward to our eleventh. We, the Board of Directors, administration and staff want to express our sincere gratitude for your continued support and the continued support of our children's educational programs.

RSU #20 will continue to provide an educational experience based upon curriculum as well as the social, emotional and mental health learning affecting our students. RSU #20 will continue to bridge the upcoming needs of our students with experiences from the past few years. The team work of staff within the school community and the continued support from our citizens within the communities have led and will continue to lead to success.

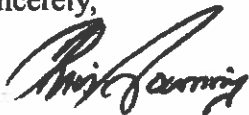
We have begun preparing our 2025 -2026 budget and will adhere to a team approach: RSU #20 (Searsport and Stockton Springs) will work together to provide an education that provides the best for all students. RSU #20 students depend on your support to allow all students to reach their goals.

As stated in past years, we will again be faced with challenges: (a) state funding impact that in turn affects local funding decisions - based on required local and additional local assessments; (b) budgetary considerations based upon numerous variables and needs and (c) assessments to towns, and in turn, taxpayers dealing with many variables and needs as well. We will need to face and answer the challenges in order to provide the education our students deserve while balancing the needs of our taxpayers. Together, we will maintain our focus and make decisions within the framework of the budget process based foremost on education.

Throughout the budget process, RSU #20 will provide information to the citizens of Searsport and Stockton Springs in order for you to make informed decisions. Current budget information will be posted on our website at www.rsu20.org or our Facebook page, as well as dates of Board workshops, Board meetings, and informational meetings. Information from local, state, and federal resources will also be available from the RSU #20 Board, administration and staff.

With your support, the students and staff of RSU #20 will be provided the best educational opportunities. We will continue to face our challenges head-on and we are seeing positive results. Our lights are bright as the RSU #20 teams will succeed together.

Sincerely,



Chris Downing
Superintendent of Schools, RSU #20

TOWN OF SEARSPORT

Spirit of America Award

2025

Priscilla King

Searsport Spirit of America

Honor Roll

2011 – Searsport Animal Fund Endowment (SAFE)	2018 – Sandra Otis-Anderson
2012 – Searsport Beautification Committee	2019 – Ralph & Joyce Harvey
2013 – William Terry	2020 – Jayne Snowdale
2014 – Bob Ramsdell	2021 – Dr. Karen Kelley
2015 – Don and Faith Garrold	2022 – John Moran
2016 – George Kerper	2023 – Charlene Knox Farris
2017 – Almond “Bud” Rivers	2024 – Richard Desmarais

Spirit of America Foundation is a 501(c)(3) public charity established in Augusta, ME in 1990 to honor volunteerism.

The Spirit of America Foundation Tribute is presented in the name of Maine municipalities to local individuals, organizations and projects for commendable community service.

Since Alma Jones received the first Spirit of America award from Augusta Mayor William Burney in November 26, 1991, the tribute has been presented in over 400 ceremonies.

Searsport has participated in the Spirit of America Award Recognitions since 2011 in an effort to recognize the many people and organizations that give so much of themselves back to our community.

2025 IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

January 1st	Fiscal Year Begins
February 1st	Late fees begin for Dog Licenses
March 4th	Municipal Election at the Searsport Community Building from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
March 8th	Annual Town Meeting at Union Hall at 9.am.
April 1st	All property, both real and personal, assessed to the owner of record as of April 1st. Owners must bring a list of property to the Assessor to be eligible to make a claim for Abatement.
May 28th	RSU # 20 Budget Meeting at Searsport High School Cafeterium, 7:00 p.m.
June 10th	RSU #20 Budget Vote from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
June 30th	ATV and Snowmobile registrations expire
July 31st	Tax Bills are mailed
September 5th	Taxes are due and payable.
October 10th	7% Interest begins to accrue on all unpaid Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes.
October 15th	2026 Dog License tags available
November 4th	General Election at the Searsport Community Building 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
December 1st	2026 Hunting and Fishing Licenses are available
December 31st	2025 Dog Tags and Boat Registrations Expire. End of Fiscal Year.

2025 TOWN CONTACT INFORMATION

EMERGENCY (Police/Fire/Ambulance.....)911

PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE TOWN OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY DISPATCH.

North Fire Station (Non-Emergency).....	548-6262
Ambulance/Fire (Non-Emergency).....	548-2302
Police (Non-Emergency).....	548-2304
Waldo County Communications (Public Safety Non-Emergency).....	338-2040
Town Garage.....	548-2301
Carver Memorial Library.....	548-2303
Wastewater Treatment Plant.....	548-6320
Town Office.....	548-6372
Town Manager.....	Ext. 106
Town Clerk.....	Ext. 100
Deputy Clerk.....	Ext. 101
Finance Director.....	Ext. 102
Code Enforcement.....	Ext. 104
Assessing.....	Ext. 103
Town Office Fax.....	548-2305

Town Address and Wastewater Billing:

1 Union Street
P.O. Box 499
Searsport, ME 04974-0499

Town Office Hours:

Monday through Friday, 8:30am to 4pm

Town E-mail Addresses:

Town Manager (James Gillway) manager@searsport.maine.gov	Town Clerk (Jennie Damon Gulya) clerk@searsport.maine.gov
Code Enforcement (Victor Mazza) codeenforecement@searsport.maine.gov	Deputy Clerks-(Ashley Curtis) deputy@searsport.maine.gov
Finance Director (Sarah Hopkins) bookkeeper@searsport.maine.gov	(Wendy Rogers) deputyclerk@searsport.maine.gov
RJD Assessing / Assessor (Jay Frye) assessor@searsport.maine.gov	

Town Website (www.searsport.maine.gov):

The Town website includes important town information such as: ordinances, directions, Board/Committee directories, and a town calendar that details events and meeting times. The website is currently being updated with a new format. It will include updated content when completed this Spring.

HOLIDAYS	DAY/DATE OBSERVED
New Year's Day	Wednesday – January 1, 2025
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Monday – January 20, 2025
Washington's Birthday / President's Day	Monday – February 17, 2025
Patriot's Day	Monday – April 21, 2025
Memorial Day	Monday – May 26, 2025
Juneteenth	Thursday – June 19, 2025
Independence Day	Friday – July 4, 2025
Labor Day	Monday – September 1, 2025
Indigenous Peoples Day	Monday – October 13, 2025
Veterans Day	Tuesday – November 11, 2025
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday – November 27, 2025
Thanksgiving Day After	Friday – November 28, 2025
Christmas Day	Thursday – December 25, 2025

Holidays that fall on Saturday are observed on the proceeding Friday: holidays that fall on Sunday are observed the following Monday.

EMERGENCY & STORM CLOSURES WILL BE POSTED ON MAJOR NEWS NETWORK.

TRANSFER STATION

Hours of Operation: Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
The Transfer Station is closed for the above holidays.

You will need a Transfer Station Permit for each vehicle entering the Transfer Station. There is a \$1.00 fee for vehicle permits and they can be picked up at the Town Office during regular business hours.

Please see the Transfer Site Recycling Guidelines pamphlet (available at the Town Office and on the Town Website) for current regulations and costs. Each 30-gallon bag must have a trash sticker. These stickers are available at Town Office, Edwards Brothers Market, and Hamilton Marine at the cost of \$2.00 each.

DO NOT DEPOSIT REFUSE AT THE TRANSFER STATION OUTSIDE OF THE OPERATING HOURS LISTED ABOVE.

Searsport Selectboard

Doug Norman, Chair	Term Expires 2027
Mark Bradstreet, Vice Chair	Term Expires 2025
Steven Tanguay	Term Expires 2026
Sandra Otis-Anderson	Term Expires 2026
Wesley Norton	Term Expires 2027

2025 Town Staff

James S. Gillway	Town Manager
Jennie Damon Gulya.....	Town Clerk
Jennifer Rich	Registrar, Deputy Clerk
Ashley Curtis	Deputy Clerk
Wendy Rogers	PT Deputy Clerk
Sarah Hopkins	Finance Director
RJD Appraisal	Assessor's Office Contractor
Brian Lunt	Public Safety Director
Mike Rolerson	Police Sergeant
Colby Leavitt	RSU 20 Resource Officer
Brian Lunt	Chief of Police
Arthur J Koch Jr.	Interim Fire Chief
Brian Lunt	Emergency Management Director
Gayle McKeige	Deputy Emergency Management Director
Robert Seekins	Public Works Director
Mike Kinney	Public Works Crew
Josh Pedrick	Public Works Crew, Part-Time
Adam Lockhart	Public Works / Physical Plant
Dan Sylvester	Transfer Station Operator
Dan Knox	Assistant Transfer Station Operator
Keith Drago	Library Director
Emily Baer	Assistant Librarian
Rhonda Nichols	PT Assistant Librarian
Michelle Milligan	PT Assistant Librarian
Howard Clark	Wastewater Chief Operator
Daniel Smith	Wastewater Operator
Victor Mazza	Code Enforcement Officer
Wayne Hamilton	Harbormaster
Travis Otis	Assistant Harbormaster
James Gillway	General Assistance
Dave Walsh	Public Health Officer
Steve Shea	PT Recreation Director
VACANT	Animal Control Officer

Boards & Committee Chairs

	Term Expires
<u>Board of Appeals</u>	
Jon Moran	2027
<u>Board of Assessment Review</u>	
Roland LaReau	2027
<u>Budget Advisory Committee</u>	
Arthur J. Koch Jr.	2025
<u>Cemetery Committee</u>	
James Gillway	Contact Person
<u>Historic Preservation Commission</u>	
Lin Calista	2027
<u>Mass Communications Committee</u>	
Doug Norman	2026
<u>Planning Board</u>	
Peter Nowell	2029
<u>Recycling/ Conservation Committee</u>	
James Gillway	Contact Person
<u>Shellfish Management Committee</u>	
Steve Tanguay	2027

R.S.U. # 20 Board of Directors

Sabrina DeTurk	Searsport	Term Expires 2025
Denise Dakin	Stockton Springs	Term Expires 2026
Kris Braga	Stockton Springs	Term Expires 2027
Ruth Fethke	Searsport	Term Expires 2026
Julie Page	Searsport	Term Expires 2027

Regional School Unit # 20

6 Mortland Road
Searsport, ME 04974
(207) 548-6643

RSU # 20 Searsport Area School Telephone Numbers

Searsport High School	(207)548-2313
Searsport Middle School	(207)548-2311
Searsport Elementary School	(207)548-2317

Searsport Water District

46 Prospect Street, Searsport, ME. 04974
Phone: (207) 548-2910 Fax:(207) 548-6719
Email: info@searsportwater.org

Trustees

Chairman- Vacant
Bruce Mills- Treasurer
Larry Clark- Clerk

Employees

Brenda Corbin- Office Manager
Timothy Wilson- Service Foreman
Harold Porter- Service Technician
Kyle Benson- Office Assistant
Herb Kronholm- Superintendent

Business hours are Monday- Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

*In case of an emergency during non- business hours, please call
Waldo County Dispatch Center at 1-800-660-3398*

2024 Manager's Report

It has been an incredibly busy and, in many ways, difficult year for Searsport. The busy reference is relating to managing four major infrastructure projects. The Wastewater Treatment Plant rebuild, The Route One re-build project, and two FEMA disaster application projects. The difficult is also related to one of these projects. The Route One rebuild created major disruptions to our community. I worked with the Maine Department of Transportation for years prior to the start of the project to mitigate the disruptions. This included the identification of detour routes. This was a big aggravation to the home owners and also created great difficulty as business suffered from it. As soon as it was identified that the bypass was creating problems for business, we invested in additional signage directing motorists to our downtown businesses. Even with that addition, our businesses saw a decline in patronage. The contractor did help with this by selling the granite curbing and committing \$10,000 dollars to the downtown businesses. That granite did belong to the Town and as soon as I learned that they were selling it, I questioned the sale but when I discovered the plan to help businesses, I agreed with the plan. The contractor delivered some granite from a job they are doing in a different community to the town as a show of support. It was kind of a win-win for Searsport.

The Wastewater Treatment Plant project will be finished in March. This was a two-year effort. We received a very generous grant/loan package from USDA Rural Development and additional grants from Maine DEP and finally a million dollars in grant from Northern Borders. Our plant is state of the art and will treat waste by three different methods before sending it into the environment. The treated sludge will go by container to landfill and the liquid will go to the Penobscot bay. Both the sludge and the liquid will be very clean and mostly clear of contaminants and chemicals. Prior to this rebuild, we were not able to meet the new EPA standards for treatment and after we will exceed them. Our Engineers, Woodard and Curran and the contractors at Apex construction have been wonderful to work with and have done an excellent job.

The downtown re-build should also finish early this year. Although the contractor, Gordon Construction, is allowed to work on the project until the late fall of 2025, they are almost done. They will be here when the weather warms to do additional paving, sewer line cleaning and pressure testing, along with other minor construction items. The town looks amazing!

Our three major projects this summer should include the Hamilton Wharf rebuild, the re-building and replacement of seawalls at Mosman Park and the Hamilton Wharf Parking lot, and rebuilding Cottage Street. We have secured funding from FEMA for the replacement of the seawall at Mosman Park and the re-building of Hamilton Wharf's seawall. I did receive two million dollars in the Federal Budget for work on Hamilton Wharf and I am awaiting an answer from FEMA for additional funds for this project. I expect that we will receive as much as \$750,000 dollars from that fund. Cottage Street is a little more difficult from a funding standpoint. We did receive around \$40,000 dollars from FEMA for Cottage Street; however, this is not nearly enough to improve the road to resist storm damage in the future. We will be seeking additional grants for this. This project may involve some improvements this year for safety and comfort and a larger project next year.

I said this in my past reports but it is worth repeating. Unfortunately, one thing that we can count on every year is personnel changes. I have spoken with other town managers, Maine Municipal and others about the latest trend we are seeing with staff turnovers. Since COVID it has been difficult to keep people. Municipal government is no exception to this. In 2024 town clerk Lynn Roberts left after about two months working for us and Deputy Clerk Jill Riley left after working for us for about a year. We hired Jennie Damon Gulya as clerk and Ashley Curtis as Deputy Clerk in 2024. Jennie comes to us with experience as a Deputy Clerk in Blue Hill. Ashley had no municipal experience but showed great skills and a capacity and desire to learn. Both of these women have done a great job over the past eight month and fit very well into our

organization. Prior to the big presidential election, we added Jennifer Rich to the team as registrar of voters, deputy clerk, and grant specialist. This addition came at the perfect time and the election ran smoothly with Jennie as clerk and Janine Laveway as election warden. Our office team is complete with Wendy Rodgers as part-time deputy clerk and Sarah Hopkins, Finance Director. I do want to thank both of them for the incredible work they performed in 2024. Several weeks we were short handed and even needed to modify the office schedule for a while to adapt. With their support we kept the office running.

In Public Safety, Officer/Detective James Greeley and Officer Dustin Hedgpeth both left our department to work at Rockport Police Department late in the year. We are currently looking for replacements. Chief Brian Lunt, Sergeant Mike Rolerson, School Resource Officer Colby Leavitt and part-time officers Chris Therrien and Eric Bonney are doing their best to fill shifts but we are depending on the State Police and Waldo County Sheriff's deputies for assistance. We have had no major changes to Ambulance personnel in 2024. Many drivers attended EMT classes and licensed. A couple of Basic EMTs on the service licensed up to Advanced level service providers. We have an excellent crew. We have not filled the Emergency Management Directors position and myself and Public Safety Director Brian Lunt are filling the role. Fire Chief Antonio Rivera left his position in 2024 to work full-time at Bangor Fire. His position is being performed by Interim Chief Arthur Koch Jr.

In public works long-time employee Ricky Lanphier left us before the plowing season to work at RSU 20 as a bus driver. During the summer we hired Joshua Pedrick to care for the cemeteries and he has been filling in for Rick's position. The director Bob Seekins, mechanic/driver Mike Kinney, driver/laborer Adam Lockhart, transfer station attendant Dan Sylvester and part-time attendant Danny Knox are all doing well.

The wastewater plant work is coming to a competition. Howard Clark and Dan Smith have done a great job operating the system around the contractors over the past two years. With deep regret I report that part-time operator Bob Bouchard lost his life in 2024 due to a tragic accident at home. He was a person who would help no matter what. He retired prior to the construction beginning in Searsport and when we unexpectedly became shorthanded, he gladly reported to duty to help us out. He is very much missed.

At the Library, Sue McClintock resigned after six years with the town to pursue a career away from library science. We wish her the best of luck. We are very fortunate to have found Keith Drago to come in as Library Director. He comes to us with a great educational background in the field and experience in a couple of libraries in the region. We did hire a part-time librarian, Emily Baer. Prior to Sue leaving and along with Ronda Nichols and Michelle Milligan they did a great job together while we searched for a new director and were shorthanded. All together we have a very professional group of dedicated individuals providing excellent services.

I want to acknowledge and thank our amazing committees and boards because without their knowledge and efforts we would not be able to accomplish all of the work we have been doing. I especially want to thank the Searsport Selectboard. They are constantly looking for ways to save you money and improve services. We received a lot of comments about the taxes this past year. In 2024 we did have a small overall increase to our budget mostly related to inflation but actually cut the operating side of our budget. The Waldo County budget and the school budget made up the lion share of increases. For 2025 we are presenting a budget that is increased due in part to inflation and some to Ambulance operations; however, we are increasing the amount of surplus funds used to lower impacts by \$200,000 dollars and increasing the expected revenue to the budget by \$181,220 dollars. These two measures will put the town expenses below last year's total town budget. The other factor in taxes that we can do to lower taxes is the homestead exemption. Due to the increase in home values in Searsport over the past eight years our valuation fell from 100 percent to around 70 percent. Homestead exemption is calculated based on the community's valuation. Last year our homestead exemption fell from the maximum of \$25,000 dollars to \$18,500 dollars. To help this situation we have hired RJD assessing to do a market adjustment. This will not be a full re-

valuation but instead will capture new un-permitted construction and improvements. With this we should increase the value of town and also increase the amount of homestead exemption the taxpayers of Searsport receive, in turn, lowering taxes from the town side.

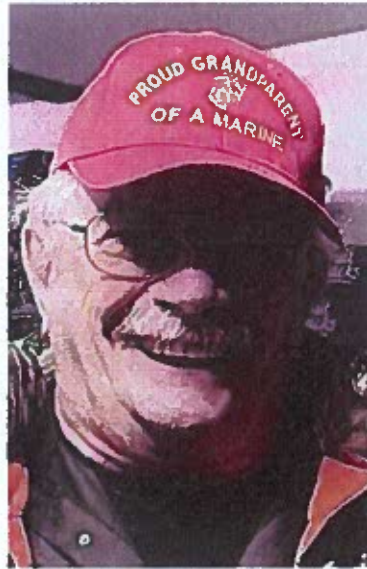
Lastly, I want to acknowledge a couple of people who worked for the town and passed away in 2024. I aforementioned Bob Bouchard. He was a very good friend and an employee who always went the extra mile to help people. He had great mechanical skills and could fix almost anything at the wastewater treatment plant. He was hired temporarily in 2003 to fill in for an employee who was away serving in the National Guard. That post became permanent when the service member retired before coming back to work here. Bob retired from full-time status in 2015 and continued to work part-time as needed. He is greatly missed. The second individual I want to acknowledge is former Town Manager, Don Grant. Don worked for the town for ten years in the 1980's to early 1990's. During his tenure with the town, he initiated a lot of programs and initiatives to improve the working environment including writing our policy book and initiating several ordinances that would be passed by the town. He also laid out the plan and funding to build the wastewater treatment plant. His service to the Town of Searsport was truly impactful.

Respectfully yours,

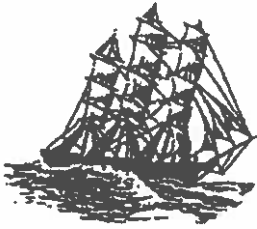
James S. Gillway
Town Manager



Donald Grant



Robert Bouchard



Town of Searsport

P.O. Box 499
Searsport, Maine 04974
Phone 548-6372 Fax 548-2305

Town Clerk's Report

Dear Searsport Residents,

I hope this letter finds you all in good spirits and health. I have so enjoyed meeting you when you've come into the office, and have loved exploring this special town. Everyone has been very welcoming and I thank you all for that!

2024 was a busy year, again full of change. We welcomed some new faces, including our new Deputy Clerk, Ashley Curtis, our new Election Clerk/ Deputy Registrar and Grant Supervisor, Jennifer Rich, along with myself, Jennie Damon Gulya as the new Town Clerk and Registrar. We have all adjusted nicely, and wish to say a special thanks to Wendy Rogers, Deputy Clerk, and Sarah Hopkins, Financial Director for all the amazing work they did and continue to do in the office. We would be lost without them.

Our town office handles many daily tasks, from vehicle registrations, ATV, boat, and snowmobile registrations to Hunting and Fishing Licenses, even Dog licensing from October 15th to January 31st. Taxes, vital records, including the issuance of vital records such as Birth Certificates, Death Certificates, Marriage Licenses. Many of the services done in the Town Office are available online through the Town's website: www.searsport.maine.gov. The website also serves as the primary hub for information regarding Town meetings, events, and announcements. The Clerk's office is responsible for administering Town, State, and Federal Elections and maintaining voter records. In 2024 we held three elections in Searsport.

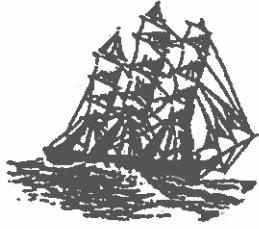
- Annual Election March 5, 2024 saw voter participation at 546 residents.
- Runoff Election/ RSU # 20 Budget Election June 11, 2024 saw voter participation at 272 residents.
- General Election/ Presidential Election November 11, 2024 saw voter participation at 1726. It was the highest voter turnout for the past 3 Presidential Elections. Jennifer Rich was an invaluable asset to myself and to the Presidential Election.

	Voter Status	2024	2020	2016
Registered Voters	Active	1,945	1,680	1,426
	Inactive	542	539	534
	TOTAL	2,487	2,219	1,960
Voter Participation		1,726	1,641	1,579
Voter Participation Rate		69%	74%	80%

Prepared by: J. Rich, 11/06/2024

I look forward to continuing to serve you all in 2025. Please feel free to reach out with any comments, questions or concerns. The office is now fully staffed and open normal business hours 8:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Monday through Friday. Closed all Federal Holidays.

Respectfully yours,
Jennie Damon Gulya
Town Clerk, Searsport Maine



Town of Searsport

P.O. Box 499
Searsport, Maine 04974
Phone 548-6372 Fax 548-2305

2024 Planning Board Report

The Planning Board approved the establishment and expansion of four local businesses in 2024: Ana's Doggie Daycare, H&H Mercantile, Sundog Solar's E-V charging facility, and allowing food trucks at Mainepoint Brewing Company. The Board also approved up-dates by Verizon Wireless to the cell tower located on Sears Island and the establishment of a solar farm by Sol America located on Turnpike Road.

At the 2025 Annual Town Meeting voters will be asked to approve Ordinance language related to CEO's ability to seek Planning Board review/approval related to applications at his/her discretion, clarification of language related to the Home Occupation Ordinance, and the addition of Ordinance compliance language through the establishment of fine enforcement.

The Board would like to recognize the knowledge, guidance, and efforts put forth by retired members Keith Ritchie and Celine Kelly who devoted their time and helped to make the Board a coherent and accessible entity for the town of Searsport.

Planning Board meetings are held the second Monday of each month at Union Hall 6:00 PM. The agenda for each meeting is available through the town website Searsport.Maine.Gov.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Nowell, Arnaud Lessard, Janine Laveway, Norris Staples, A J Koch, Travis Otis

TOWN OF SEARSPORT

In accordance with Title 36, MRSA Section 706, the Assessor of the Municipality of Searsport, Maine hereby gives notice to all persons liable to taxation in said municipality that the Assessor's Agent RJD Appraisal is in the office three times a month. Please call the office at 548-6372 or email us at assessor@searsport.maine.gov and we will schedule a time to meet with you for the purpose of revising lists of estates taxable in the Town of Searsport.

All inhabitants of the Municipality of Searsport, Maine and all Administrators, Executors, trustees, non-residents, etc., all estates taxable in said municipality or such persons hereby notified to **MAKE AND BRING INTO THE ASSESSOR TRUE AND PERFECT LISTS OF ALL THEIR ESTATES, REAL AND PERSONAL**, not by law exempt from taxation, of which they were possessed on the **FIRST DAY** of April 2025 and be prepared to make oath to the truth of the same and to answer all proper inquiries in writing to the nature, situation and value of their property liable to be taxed.

2024 SEARSPORT ASSESSOR'S REPORT

2024 was a busy year in the Assessor's office, though we have had less volume of home sales than the last few years, the sales prices continue to exceed our current assessed values in most cases. In 2024 the mil rate had an increase of \$2.70 cents over 2023 to \$22.90 per 1,000 dollars of valuation. The mil rate breaks down as follows:

Waldo County - 11.00%
Municipal - 28.80%
School - 60.20%

The amount of new construction in the Town of Searsport both residential and commercial areas continue to show improvement. The CEO, Victor Mazza and I are working together to assure that all new construction and building permits are visited and re-assessed in the spring. I would like to thank all of our residents and business owners for their cooperation when there are site visits to your home and/or business.

All Searsport residents with a primary residence here are reminded of the Homestead Exemption of up to \$25,000 off your assessed value. There is also a Veterans Exemption, and Blind Exemption if you qualify. To find out about these exemptions please contact the assessor's office. The Maine Property Tax Fairness Credit is still available through the Maine Revenue Services Offices in Augusta. Please call them directly at 626-8475 with any questions.

Respectfully,
Robert Duplisea CMA
Jay Frye CMA
RJD Appraisal

Searsport Police Department ANNUAL REPORT 2024

Mission: To lead the citizens of the Town of Searsport in a partnership dedicated to the protection of life and property, and the advancement of peace, prosperity, and community. The genesis of our efforts is the values of respect, fairness, and integrity.

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>NAME</u>
Chief of Police	Brian Lunt
Police Sergeant	Michael Rolerson
Police Detective	Vacancy
Patrol Officer (School Resource Officer)	Colby Leavitt
Patrol Officer	Vacancy
Reserve Officer	James Gillway Sr.
Reserve Officer	James Porter
Reserve Officer	Eric Bonney
Reserve Officer	Chris Therrien
Reserve Officer	Vacancy
Animal Control Officer	Vacancy
Assistant Animal Control Officer	Vacancy

During 2024, the Police Department had another busy year serving the Town of Searsport. In 2024, the Searsport Police Department responded to 3445 calls for service. This number is up slightly compared with 2756 calls for service in 2023.

Sgt. Rolerson has over thirty years of experience working in law enforcement and is a great asset to the Searsport Police Department. Sgt. Rolerson works patrol shifts as well as performing supervision of department operations, training and firearms qualifications.

Officer Leavitt continues to work as the School Resource Officer in the Searsport School District. Officer Leavitt has done many positive things at the school over the past three years and continues to do so. The school officials that I have met with over the past few years have very positive things to say about the SRO program and are happy with the service Officer Leavitt provides to the schools. Officer Leavitt is also a field training officer.

Detective Greeley and Officer Hedgpath have left the Police Department and have taken new jobs with the Rockport Police Department as a Patrol Officers. We wish them the best in the future.

Due to having two open positions in the police department for full time officers, we have begun to advertise and started recruitment efforts for new hires. We are hoping to fill these positions as soon as possible.

In closing, as I begin my third year as your Director of Public Safety / Police Chief / EMS Chief, I look forward to meeting and helping out more of the great people of Searsport. Thank you for allowing me to serve your community.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Lunt

Town of Searsport

Director of Public Safety

Chief of Police / EMS Chief / Paramedic / Firefighter

SEARSPORT AMBULANCE

ANNUAL REPORT

2024

It's been an exciting year for Searsport Ambulance. We have been able to recruit many excellent providers and have had successful retention. We have hired 2 new per diem Paramedics. Our schedule has been filled for all shifts using very little overtime. We have had a 24% increase in calls. The total calls in 2024 were 610, up from 490 in 2023. We were able to bill 467 of our calls.

The Searsport Ambulance Service is staffed with a group of professional providers. We have 4 Paramedics, 3 Advanced EMT's, 6 Basic EMT's and 5 Drivers. We have been able to cover all shifts with 24-hour coverage 7 days a week as well as having a Paramedic on many shifts. The Paramedics have also been able to cover 7 ALS Back Ups to our neighboring towns.

Over the past year we have started the Searsport EMS Association. We have done a fund-raising event at Fling Into Fall. We sold hot chocolate, as well as cookies and candy. We were able to raise a small amount of money so we considered it a win for the association. We are looking forward to expanding the association to where we can raise money to purchase things like jackets for our members.

We did have our problems in 2024. While transporting a patient to Bangor a large log truck turned into the side of the ambulance causing reportable damage. The ambulance had to be taken to the ambulance dealer for body work and replacing damaged parts.

Overall, we had a good 2024. We have recruited and retained many valuable staff members; our ambulance calls increased by 24% and we are billing 33% more calls than we did in 2023.

Searsport Ambulance has goals for the service in 2025. We would like to acquire a Lucas Device. We will be looking for grant money to buy this piece of equipment. This will make CPR easier for the providers and more efficient delivery of care for the patient.

Respectfully Submitted

Mike Sealy, Paramedic

Assistant EMS Chief

Town of Searsport



SEARSPORT FIRE DEPARTMENT

P.O. Box 1065
Searsport, ME 04974

South Station - 548-2302

North Station - 548-8082

To the residents of Searsport,

2024 is now behind us, it was an 'average' year for the fire department in regards to call volume at 189 calls for the year. This is down from 2023; however we did not have the amount of storm related calls in 2024. This past year we had several members complete training to enhance their qualifications including, firefighter 1&2, EMT-B, basic fire school and basic pump operator. In 2025 we already have members enrolled in fire related training and we're looking forward to new classes being offered by the Waldo County Firefighter's Association as well as Maine Fire Service Institute.

In 2023 we had applied for a grant to replace two pieces of our apparatus with one piece; we did not receive that grant. We did apply to and receive the Stephen and Tabitha King foundation grant to replace one set of our Jaws of Life. This grant allowed us to purchase a set of battery operated tools, these will be a game changer for us as it will allow us to do more work with fewer people. In 2025 we have already re-applied for the federal AFG grant for a piece of apparatus, a grant from the Maine Forest service for forest fire related equipment (which we have already received), along with two safety grants from Maine Municipal Association. These grants will help us get the equipment that we need at little to no impact to you, the tax payer.

All of our in service apparatus are running and operating well, the four engines all passed their annual pump testing with flying colors at the end of 2024. The 1989 tanker that has been housed at Station 1 has been out of service for a period of time due to a failed inspection; due to the age of this piece it has been hard to find a shop that is able to get all the required parts. Irving Oil is working on getting new foam to replace the foam on our AR-AFFF trailer that contains PFAS, this will be replaced and disposed of at their cost and not to the tax payers.

In closing, I'd like to thank the members of the Searsport Fire Department that took time away from their families to help protect their neighbors and the hundreds of hours they spent training over the last year. If you'd like to see what we're about and join our well trained men and women, please stop by the public safety building and grab an application.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aj Koch
Interim Fire Chief

With Love & Gratitude

**Annual Code Enforcement Office
Report
2024**

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the Town of Searsport. We have seen a steady growth in new buildings and renovations over the past twelve months. Here are some stats for the 2024 year.

Single Family Dwelling's	16
Additions	10
Garages	4
Renovations	12
Mobile Homes	4
Accessory Structures	26
Demolitions	5
Signs	4
Solar Arrays	6
Junkyard	4
New Addresses	27
Violations	11

There has been a steady growth in our community. There have been many inquiries concerning what can be done with properties, and what is allowed in the district that they are located in. I urge those that are considering a project of any kind to call and see what codes will or could have an effect on their project. I would also like to welcome those that have moved to Searsport this year, many of whom I had the pleasure of speaking with and meeting before they purchased their new homes. If you have any questions concerning code related issues or projects, please call my office, and I will do all I can to answer your questions or connect you with people who can. It is my pleasure to serve the Town of Searsport, and I look forward to the coming year and many after.

Respectfully Submitted



Victor Mazza
Code Enforcement Officer
911 Addressing Officer

2024 Harbormaster Report

2024 started with a bang, the historic back-to-back storms left not only our waterfront facilities, but also the entire coast of Maine in a state of disrepair. The damage was enough to warrant a change in how the dock was configured to best serve the mariners who use it. Repairs were conducted throughout the season.

During the 2024 season, there were a total of 14 resident and 3 non-resident mooring owners, who paid \$1430.00 in mooring fees, \$500.00 in dinghy fees and \$2845.50 in boat excise tax. There are currently no outstanding fees owed to the town for moorings in the harbor.

The Harbormaster department responded to several incident during the boating season. The calls included sinking vessels, boats adrift, disabled vessels, vessels hard aground requiring assistance, as well as a water rescue with a person in the water. Multiple calls for general assistance were also answered with the nature of those calls not being as severe – towing, dead batteries, entanglement, etc. No serious injuries or fatalities were recorded for the 2024 season.

The fishing from the dock was great for the 2024 season having several striped bass coming over the rail, the menhaden were again thick within Searsport Harbor with the various schools breaching the water, much to the delight of fishermen. Our lobstering community had strong participation this season with both commercial and non-commercial fishermen working the bay. Our local fishermen once again did a great job helping to keep our facility clean and in welcoming visitors to the dock.

Wayne and Travis attended the 39th Annual Harbormaster Association Training Program in March which was held in Castine. Wayne was reelected to serve on the MHMA Board of Directors. Travis completed the training for the Civil Emergency Response Team as well as attending the Offshore Safety and Survival Training Course. Travis also obtained his Drill Conductor Certification and renewed his First Aid and CPR Certifications.

Due to various circumstances, the 4th of July Rowboat races had to be postponed and will return for 2025.

We would like to thank the Town Manager, his staff, Searsport Ambulance, the Fire, Police, Public Works Departments, and the Beautification Committee for the continued support and assistance. We would like to express our thanks and appreciation to everyone who assisted Wayne and Travis throughout the year. We love our town and are glad for what we have been able to achieve together with the community and look forward to helping advance it into the future.

Wayne Hamilton
Harbormaster

Travis Otis
Deputy Harbormaster

2024 Shellfish Management Committee Report

Members: Steve Tanguay (chair), David Bond, Jay Economy, Travis Otis (Shellfish Warden), Ed Upham, Michael Bowe, Carleton Wiggin, Danny Piper.

Biologist consultant: Hannah Annis

During the spring of 2024 volunteers uncovered the netting from four, 14 by 30 foot areas with softshell nursery clams and quahogs, and posted this area from digging. This should allow the clams to reach harvestable size by the summer of '25. The nets were trenched in around each seeded area to help with predator control and spat collection (green crab and milky ribbon worm, which have decimated soft-shell clam populations in Maine over recent years). These clam nurseries were sited in areas that proved to be more productive than other areas tested in years past.

This past spring we had 100 Searsport students join us on the flats to help plant out 60,000 baby clams along the Stockton side of the causeway. The volunteers placed netting for six, 14 by 30 foot areas over softshell nursery clams and quahogs, and posted this area from digging.

This should allow the clams to reach harvestable size by the summer of '26. The nets were trenched in around each seeded area to help with predator control and spat collection (green crab and milky ribbon worm, which have decimated soft-shell clam populations in Maine over recent years). These clam nurseries were sited in areas that have proven to be more productive than other areas tested in years past.

That was a fun, educational and somewhat crazy day. We can't wait to do it again this spring! Anyone willing to help on that day please contact Steve. 930-5920. Never enough hands for this project.

The shellfish committee evaluates the number of diggers that the flats can sustain by conducting annual clam & invasive species surveys. Searsport has 5 ½ miles of tidal flats currently open to recreational digging.

As a result of the 2024 clam survey, the committee chose not to sell any commercial licenses in the coming year. The Shellfish Committee ran a daily monitor program, checking the flats at low tide to gather data for our State Annual Report.

Searsport has been approved for the following shellfish license allocations, 2025

Recreational Resident- 65, \$20.00

Recreational Nonresident- 15, \$30.00

Recreational Senior Resident- 30, \$0.00

Recreational Senior Nonresident- 3, \$0.00

Recreational Other (72 hour)- No Limit Set, \$15.

Licenses will be issued starting June 2, 2025 at 9AM. The sand bar in front of Kidder Point will be closed to all shellfish harvesting in 2025 due to a large juvenile clam reseeding project the committee is undertaking.

Maine's harvest of soft-shell clams has been near a one hundred year low over the last few harvest seasons. Our largest challenge in coming years will be to manage this declining resource. Mussel populations in the Bay are also in dramatic decline. Since the 1980s, as water temperatures have warmed, statewide soft-shell clam landings have declined by 75% (Beal et al., 2016). The committee will continue working with Dr. Brian Beal and Hannah Annis, the area's municipal shellfish manager.

In 2025 the Shellfish committee members are again reaching out to local schools to help conduct simple research with intertidal sediment samples, installing a few Beal Boxes for collecting spat. plant seed and net 60,000 juvenile soft-shell clams and quahogs in 8 open areas. This work will begin at low tide on Tuesday, April 29th starting at 10AM.

The committee members will also be working to improve signage around the flats in Searsport to delineate the areas that are open for clamming from the areas closed from harvest.

Please contact anyone in the committee or town office if you are willing to help in any way, we need you. Free license and other incentives available for new committee members. Our committee members would like to thank our regional marine biologist's advisor, Hannah Annis. And I would like to thank our dedicated committee members and the town office for all of the work they put in throughout the year to help improve our shellfish resources along the shore.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Tanguay
Searsport Shellfish Management Committee, Chair

*Note: The Town of Searsport's Cleanup Day is on Saturday, April 26th starting at 9AM (coffee and donuts). Hope everyone can join in to help spruce up our beautiful town. Free lunch at noon when we're all finished up! Collection bags will be provided for those that need them.

Carver Memorial Library Association 2024 Report

I had the privilege of becoming the director of the Carver Memorial Library in December, 2024. This library, the material, the staff, and the building itself, is a treasure for the community of Searsport, and I am excited for the potential we have with this institution as we start 2025.

This library would not be where it is today without the dedicated service of the previous director, Sue McClintock, who served as director from September, 2018 to September, 2024.

In 2024 the library welcomed Emily Baer as our new Library Assistant. She has been a fantastic asset for our community helping catalog our materials and keep our website up to date. She was integral to the library's daily operations during the absence of a director. She also introduced tech help hours where community members can come and receive assistance with questions about phones, computers, and more.

Michelle Milligan, our Youth Services Librarian, has kept families of all ages entertained with programs such as Reading Dragons and Lego Club. She also has taken the lead of organizing our interlibrary loans, which are materials we request from other libraries. We received 2,085 items in 2024, and Michelle kept this complicated process organized.

Ronda Nichols, our Children's Librarian, has offered an incredible variety of programming. She reads stories, sings, plays instruments, entertains, and teaches. She has done outreach throughout the community as well. In total, 1,911 individuals attended children's events in 2024, a metric that shows the immense impact she has in fostering education and curiosity amongst the youngest in our community.

We also so lucky to have a wonderful group of volunteers who help shelve, cover books, proofread our shelves, serve as trustees, and offer programming. Two of our volunteers, Zora and Nick Lyking, started a chess club in 2024 that continues to grow in popularity. All of our volunteer's hard work is appreciated, and without their support, the library would not be able to offer the variety of services it does.

In 2024 we collaborated with community groups such as the Friends of Sears Island, the Penobscot Marine Museum, and other local businesses.

Leading up to the solar eclipse we gave out over 500 glasses and shared info with community members.

In total, we offered 217 programs and events and had 2,815 attendees. We gave out 2,035 activity kits, including kids Take and Makes and adult/teen DIY kits.

In total, 11,085 people visited our library and we recorded 1,805 questions answered.

Carver borrowers saved over \$263,006 in 2024 compared to buying those books and materials. In addition, they borrowed 1,003 downloadable eBooks and audiobooks.

Carver Memorial Library is a collaboration between the Town of Searsport and the Carver Memorial Library Association and we rely on the Town and the community for their support.

Respectfully submitted,



Keith Drago, Library Director
and the Trustees of Carver Memorial Library Association

Carver Memorial Library Association – 2024 Financial Report

ASSETS as of 12/31/24

Cash	Checking Account	\$ 59,173
	Certificate of Deposit #1	\$ 20,359
	Certificate of Deposit #2	\$ 42,283
Trusts*	Joshua Curtis Fund	\$ 17,099
	Richard Beglin Fund	\$ 7,933
	Carver Memorial Library Fund	\$ 399,684

TOTAL ASSETS **\$ 546,531**

INCOME / EXPENSES

INCOME

Donations	\$ 11,402
Trust Fund Income	\$ 29,404
Grants	\$ 0
Fundraising	\$ 4,881
Operations	\$ 7,116

TOTAL INCOME **\$ 52,803**

EXPENSES

Books/Loanable Products	\$ 12,951
Business Expenses	\$ 10,877
Program Expenses	\$ 2,135
Fundraising Expenses	\$ 69
Grant Expenses	\$ 8,096
Management & Staffing Exp.	\$ 1,272
Technology & Equip. Exp.	\$ 6,067

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$ 41,467**

Surplus \$ 11,336

*These are the agency trusts of which Carver Memorial Library is the sole beneficiary. Carver also receives annual income from the Robert and Muriel List Fund and the James Nichols Trust, but these are not assets.

Historic Preservation Commission

2024 Report

In 2024 we continued with our historic projects and explored some new ones.

Sandy Cirillo and Janine Carpenter continue to work with several others on the Shipyard Signs for different locations such as Josh Toothaker (Searsport High School principal), the Penobscot Marine Museum, Mosman Park Association, Hamilton Wharf, Navy Street, and Mechanics Hollow. They will be consistent with the informational signs at Sears Island, 24" by 36". The signs are planned to show the public exactly where the 11 shipyards of Searsport were located, adding facts that applied to each one.

There is more interest in the Historic House Plaques. Janine Carpenter works tirelessly doing research to help homeowners with information about their homes. Thus far this year we have added about a dozen new plaques. Please contact someone from our commission if you would like one.

We are still investigating how we can improve the historic cottage used as the business information booth in town. We have had several carpenters review it and we should be able to do work on it this spring. A new location is being discussed and considered so we can make it a stopover for tourists with picnic benches, porta potties, a car charging station, and internet.

Selectman, Steve Tanguay, came to our meeting in March and suggested some changes to Granite Grange Park in the center of town. It seemed to us they were good ideas but needed the approval of the Select Board.

In June, we were invited to take a tour of the historic Captain Sweetsers Inn. The innkeepers, who offer a full, made to order breakfast, showed us through the restored mansion and gave us a peek into the rich history of the building. We enjoy learning about these homes first hand.

As part of the Fling into Fall event in October, Historic Preservation offered breakfast sandwiches at the Information booth to call attention to the work needed and raise some funds toward the repairs. Chef Mike Pelillo was at the grill and we raised \$200. We also hosted our annual Historic Poker Run of historic properties in the afternoon. A Bingo Night is planned for the winter.

Steve Tanguay let us know that the Wabanaki tribe has obtained a grant to explore water access for fish. He would like to see alewife travel up Mill River to the pond as it once did. We will look into that.

We are also working on locating private cemeteries and deciding what should be done to protect them in Searsport.

Our 2024 calendar continues to be popular with history buffs of the town. The calendars contain interesting facts about the buildings shown. We sell them at the town office, the library, Anodyne Book Shop, the Historical Society meetings, and many town events. Thanks to Black Printing, we are able to keep the price to \$10. This enables us to work on historic town projects.

During the year we approved signs for several new businesses. We were disappointed and objected to the old barn that was torn down and burned on Main Street without our knowledge and special permits. It was the site of a popular antique store for many years. After the barn was destroyed, the house was inspected by our code enforcement officer declared "condemned".

We'd like to remind the citizens of Searsport that it is our job to uphold the laws of our town when it comes to historic buildings so we may keep the charm and history alive. Please meet with our code enforcement officer before any exterior renovations to any of our buildings built over 75 years ago.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lin Calista, Mary Brann, Sandy Cirillo, Steve Bulloch, Mark Bradstreet and alternates, Mayo Bulloch, Janine Carpenter and Karen Kelley

**MOSMAN MEMORIAL PARK ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 12, SEARSPORT, MAINE 04974**

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2024

The officers and trustees of Mosman Memorial Park Association continue to use our mission statement as a guide to all we do "To maintain Mosman Park in order to provide recreational and leisure opportunities to all people in a safe and enjoyable environment."

Mosman Park continues to be a vital part of the Searsport community utilizing this wonderful Park in many ways including the many picnic tables, the Picnic Pavilion used for meetings and special gatherings such as birthday celebrations, weddings, business meetings, book club meetings, anniversary parties, baby showers and Memorials. The Pavilion may be reserved by calling Park manager Don Wiggin at 207-322-1770. The Gazebo which has seating undercover on all 8 sides may also be reserved.

A major project of a dedicated Walkway was completed in mid-July to great acclaim. It was professionally constructed by Patterson Trucking Company with 8 inches of compacted stone and 4 inches of compacted crusher dust. It is perfect for walking, jogging, wheelchairs and walkers. Being six feet wide makes it comfortable for several people to use at once. We are pleased to see the tremendous amount of use the Walkway is getting. The Associations' Annual meeting was in late August at which time we had a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Walkway and to my great amazement and surprise, the Trustees dedicated the Walkway to me with a rectangular granite stone with etched words "The Jim Rose Walkway". What a great honor this is. I am still overwhelmed and humbled.

The big project this year is to dig up all the many years of non-splintering wood chips on the playground "floor" which has become unstable. We will put a new base and many truckloads of new chips. This will be done in the spring when the rainy season is over and should take no more than two weeks.

The Recreation department of the school and town headed by Steve Shea gets great use of the park for T-Ball and especially the Soccer program which uses the Park for practice and games with more than 80 kids in the program. Also, there are Karate classes that Steve puts on. There are often dozens of parents and grandparents who are seen in the park watching the games. We are pleased to provide this kind of use for our beautiful park.

We were sad to see some significant erosion to the bank along the bay side of the park due to two major storms; one in late 2023 and another in early 2024 which also wiped out much of the Seawall. The town is working with FEMA on the Seawall aspect of the damage. After that is replaced the Park Association will see what options we have for replenishing the bank erosion. The stairs also had to be replaced and with the new design we are hoping for more stability in such storms.

The Trustees and Officers of the Park appreciate the citizens' continued support of all we do in the park to keep it clean and safe for all users.

Sincerely,
Jim Rose,
President

Searsport Water District 2024

*In dedication to and in the memory of:
William "Bill" Shorey
December 11, 1940 - December 12, 2024*



It is with great sorrow to report the passing of longtime Trustee and Chairman of the Board William "Bill" Shorey. Bill was appointed to the Board of Trustees in March 1993 and in 1995 the Board of Trustees voted to elect Bill as their Chairman of the Board, which is a position he gladly accepted each year thereafter. Bill's 32 years as a Trustee of the Searsport Water District made him the longest serving Trustee in its history.

Bill was committed to assuring that all customers of the Searsport Water District had access to some of the best drinking water in the State of Maine while keeping water rates as affordable as possible. Over Bill's 32 years of service the district invested approximately \$28 million dollars into making necessary upgrades to the system with approximately \$14 million of those dollars coming from various State and Federal grant/forgiveness programs together with private investment funds from the Maine Port Authority and Irving Oil Terminals. Over those 32 years we have seen the district's customer base increase from approximately 850 customers to over 1,150 to this date.

The aging system, which was first built in 1906, expanded throughout the years and now consists of approximately 34 miles of water mains, 197 fire hydrants, 6 pumping stations, and 3 in-ground concrete reservoirs with a combined total water storage capacity of 1,550,000 gallons for both fire and domestic purposes.

During Bill's first year on the Board of Trustees the district was preparing to replace its problematic water supply at Half Moon Pond with a more reliable groundwater supply located along Route 1A in Stockton Springs and Prospect. In 1994 construction began and the new groundwater supply went online in August 1995. Since then, the process of replacing the aging water main infrastructure continued along with adding additional pumping and flow control stations throughout the system. Most recently the district also purchased nearly 90 acres of land around the groundwater aquifer for the purpose of protecting it from future development and potential contamination. This was a mission that Bill, along with the other Trustees, took very seriously, and should also be the mission for all of whom the aquifer serves.

Prior to Bill's death we worked on closing the final loan for the replacement of many water mains in Searsport together with necessary work related to the MDOT Route 1 revitalization project in Searsport. This was the last planned project as the district does not anticipate replacing any additional water mains until the next large bond payment is paid in full in 2033. With all the goals met we must thank Bill and his colleagues for committing themselves to seeing them through while keeping rates as low as possible and providing an excellent supply of water in both quality and quantity for current and future customers of the Searsport Water District. Job well done Bill and mission complete, and for that we thank you.

2024 REPORT COVERING CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATIONS

SWD Construction Projects: In 2024 the MDOT Route One road reconstruction project finally began. The employees of the water district were very involved with lowering and raising the 90+ water main gate valves throughout the project area. At times the new underdrain and storm drainage pipes together with the catch basins, came very close to the Searsport Water District's water mains. The contractors, engineers, and inspectors worked very closely with us and were able to adjust the drainage system structures to avoid any unnecessary relocation of the water mains. Moving water mains is not only a difficult task to take on, but an expensive one as well. All said and done, we are very proud of our efforts and are thankful to the contractor for working along with us throughout this project.

This project was part of the water main replacement projects that the district completed in 2023. With the water portion of the MDOT project now complete we were able to close the loan associated with these projects. Total funding and costs breakdown for these projects is as follows: Total project budget was \$3,434,000.00. The final costs of all associated projects came in at \$3,156,743.98 which was \$277,256.02 less than the budgeted amount. The district received \$995,000 in grant from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), \$425,236.66 in Forgiveness funds from the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund program (DWSRF), and \$25,000 from the Town of Searsport towards fully repaving the Elm Street portion of the project. The total amount of the grants, forgiveness, and towns contributions was \$1,445,236.66 equaling 55% of the total project costs. The Maine Municipal Bond Bank Taxable Bond totaling \$1,736,507.32 is a 30-year bond with an interest rate of 1.1% and closed on January 10, 2025.

Source Water Protection: In 2024 the district acquired an additional 45-acre parcel of land adjacent to the district's existing property surrounding its production well. This property was a critical purchase as Carley Brook, which runs very close to the production well, runs directly through this 45-acre parcel. The total costs including legal, appraisal, and other fees came in at \$59,196.26 which qualified the district for \$20,000 in forgiveness funds from the Drinking Water SRF Source Water Protection Program. The district's final cost was \$39,196.26 and was bonded through MMBB for 10 years at an interest rate of 1%. We have been working hard to protect the aquifer for future generations to come and this transaction goes a long way in doing just that.

Operations: In 2024, the district pumped a total of 119,903,000 gallons of water. This amount is an increase of 5,407,000 gallons from the previous year. The major contributors to the excess usage was due to main breaks, undetected service leaks, and flushing hydrants throughout the system. Flushing hydrants alone takes large volumes of water to complete and is necessary to maintain the water quality and to assure the hydrants are operating properly. The average daily pumping rate was 327,604 gallons per day or 228 gallons per minute. This amount is 51.47% of the total daily safe yield based on our calculated safe yield of 636,500 gallons per day or 232,322,500 gallons per year. Total water sold to our 1,150 +/- customers during 2024 was 67,736,636 gallons. This amount is a decrease of 1,616,428 gallons as compared to the 69,353,064 gallons sold in 2023.

In 2024 the district replaced a 2015 F250 and a 2016 F350 Utility Truck as our practice is to replace our primary vehicles every 8 years as we have found that we receive a higher resale value and that our fleet remains in excellent shape as we need these vehicles in a moment's notice when an issue arises within the system. The F250 was sold to the Town of Searsport and should serve them well for several more years.

New Billing System Coming Soon: We have been waiting very patiently for our billing software vendor to finalize the migration of our current billing data to their new cloud invoice system. This process has taken much longer than originally anticipated, however they appear to be making much progress and have scheduled our onboarding with the new system in August of 2025. We will do our best to keep you posted as we work our way through this process.

Meter Upgrade Program: Over the past several years we have continued the tedious task of replacing the water meters within each of our customers' homes and/or businesses. At present we have replaced approximately 688 meters throughout the system and have approximately 323 remaining. As we continue the process of completing this task, we encourage our customers who have not had their meter replaced to contact us to make an appointment to do so. This will help us speed up the process of replacing the meters and will allow us to read the meters remotely via our radio read system. The radio reading system significantly reduces the amount of time it takes to read the water meters by eliminating the need to visit the customers' location to simply read the water meter. Also, once a new meter is installed, we will then move those customers over to our monthly billing cycle which

has several benefits as follows: 1.) You will receive a smaller monthly bill rather than a larger quarterly bill. 2.) It will significantly reduce the risk of getting a higher bill due to something as simple as a leaking toilet as we will be able to detect higher usage in 30 days or less rather than 90 days or less as with quarterly bills. 3.) Higher water usage can also increase your wastewater bill as well if you are on the wastewater system in Searsport. 4.) If you have a private septic system, the extra water can put a load on your leach field which could possibly reduce the life expectancy of the leach field.

Please note: The Maine Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) requires us to replace the older meters every 8 years and the new meters we are currently installing are approved to remain active for 20 years. Now that our major construction projects have been completed, we can now put extra effort into finishing the meter replacement program, which we plan on doing in 2025 once all the snow is gone. When replacing the water meter, we will inspect the plumbing around the water meter location and will install a backflow prevention device to ensure the water within your internal plumbing can't flow back into the Searsport Water District's system. Backflow preventors are mandated by the Maine Drinking Water Program and must be installed at the time the meter upgrade occurs. We urge our customers to take advantage of this one-time offer as we will only bill you for the parts used as we will not charge you for labor. Again, for those of you who have not been contacted to have your water meter replaced please contact us at (207) 548-2910 to schedule a time for our technicians to visit your site to complete this task. We understand the difficulty some may have with scheduling however we will do our very best to accommodate you.

In Closing: We here at the Searsport Water District would like to thank all of you for your support and we have greatly appreciated your cooperation and patience over the past several years while we worked to make necessary improvements to the water distribution system. Please remember that we work in some very harsh and dangerous conditions and can be found making repairs, locating water mains and services, and working on hydrants. When you see us out there, please slow down when you see our emergency lights on or when we are at an active construction site. Route 1 is especially dangerous as the speed limits are 50 MPH and more if you're a speeder. At the end of the day, we all want to arrive home safely to see our loved ones. Always remember, if you are one of the good ones out there who slows down at a construction site then you just did us a big favor, as everyone following behind you will have to slow down too. For that we would like to thank you, and you are very much appreciated.

Should you need emergency assistance after hours please call the emergency number listed below. You can also find us on the web at www.searsportwater.org or follow us on Facebook at Searsport Water District for periodic construction updates, etc. Should you have any other questions or concerns please call our office at (207) 548-2910 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. or email us at info@searsportwater.org. Thanks again for your support.

Sincerely,

Herb Kronholm

Herb Kronholm, Superintendent
Searsport Water District

Trustees

William Shorey, Chairman
Bruce Mills, Treasurer
Larry Clark, Clerk

Employees

Herbert Kronholm, Superintendent
Brenda Storey, Office Manager
Kyle Anne Manzie, Office Assistant
Timothy Wilson, Foreman
Harold Porter, Service Technician

Phone: (207) 548-2910 Fax: (207) 548-6719 email: info@searsportwater.org

Business hours are Monday – Friday 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

In case of an emergency during non-business hours please call the

Waldo County Dispatch Center @ 1-800-660-3398

To: Taxpayers and citizens of Swanville, Searsport, and Frankfort
From: The Swan Lake Dam Committee
January 19, 2025

I am pleased to report that folks around Swan Lake enjoyed the most consistent water levels seen in many years thanks to the dam and gate repairs and the constant monitoring of the level by dam steward, Tracey Hartford. We were able to retain water when there was little rain and lower the water more quickly when there was too much rain. Our stated goal before the repairs was to be able to maintain a more consistent water level and it seems to be working.

During 2024, some of the items completed include:

- the security fencing
- the addition of two gates on the lake side of the security fence to allow for rack cleaning
- annual gate inspection on June 18th
- the property survey
- clean up of the area around the dam in conjunction with the Swan Lake Association on June 22nd.

As we move into 2025, it has been recommended by the State Dam inspector that we take a look at surfacing the top of the dam to prevent water from getting into the interior of the dam structure and then freezing. We are also looking at ways for the public to more easily be able to view the water level.

Finally, many thanks to the members of the dam committee. They are: Bruce Mailloux, chair, Duncan Brown, vice chair, Nate Howard secretary, Chris Dupuis, Charles Plourde, Wayne Tripp, and alternate as well as dam steward, Tracey Hartford.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Mailloux
Chairperson

2022 UNCOLLECTED REAL ESTATE TAXES

ADAMS, MARY JANE, RICHARD E. ADAMS, (ETAL)	\$482.91	
ASHEY, LELAND	\$4.22	
BENISSAN, MESSAN	\$3,379.21	
BERGERON, JESSICA	\$1,684.24	
BORMET, WILLIAM II	\$362.28	
CARCHIDE, APRIL A	\$398.17	
CARROLL, DOROTHY A., ROSS PHILLIP	\$589.58	
CARTER FARM REALTY TRUST	\$729.71	
CARTER FARM REALTY TRUST	\$4,176.98	
CARTER FARM REALTY TRUST	\$1,069.99	
COBB, JONATHAN	\$121.17	
COBB, JONATHAN	\$219.79	
COBB, JONATHAN	\$188.81	
CROSBY, ROBERT &	\$1,528.71	
ELY, SCOTT	\$202.77	
FAIRBROTHER, ADAM	\$174.85	
FLAGG, SARAH	\$1,568.20	
FRENCH, DANIEL C	\$440.04	
GEORGE JORDAN LAND TRUST	\$2,645.30	
GRANT, KIRK	\$1,355.24	
GROVE, HAROLD BRIAN	\$557.61	Paid to date
GROVE, HAROLD BRIAN	\$232.86	Paid to date
GROVE, HAROLD BRIAN	\$1,290.89	
HANSON, MICHELLE L	\$2,812.94	
HARRIMAN, ANGEL	\$188.81	
HARRIMAN, SANDRA K (HEIRS)	\$424.22	
HOOLEY, PAUL	\$10,054.65	
KILBY, LAURA K	\$683.30	
LABATE, HILLARY LYNN	\$2,531.65	
LETOURNEAU, JESSE D	\$3,265.40	
LOCKE, ROBIN	\$440.04	
LUCAS, MICHELLE ANN	\$583.60	
MARTINEAU, ROBERT	\$848.62	
MARTINEAU, ROBERT	\$811.22	
MERRY, DENNIS W	\$898.64	
MERRY, DENNIS W	\$719.19	
MOULTON, DARREN	\$344.33	
MOULTON, MICHAEL SCOTT	\$440.04	
MOULTON, STEPHEN K SR	\$344.33	
NICKERSON, PHILIP	\$99.17	
NOYES, SCOTT-ESTATE	\$146.94	
POMEROY, HUGH A., JR. heirs	\$595.57	
POMEROY, SHERYL	\$992.35	
POMEROY, STEVE	\$238.66	
RADIO TELEPHONE OF ME	\$47.57	
REDMOND, SCOTT L	\$394.66	
REMILLARD, CHERYL	\$2,362.16	

2022 UNCOLLECTED REAL ESTATE TAXES

RESH, CYRUS H	\$319.07
RICHARDSON, TARA CRONIN &	\$7.11
RIPLEY, TERRY	\$304.21
ROBBINS, CINDY VIRGINIA	\$665.35
SANTOS, TANYA	\$51.78
SEAMANS, LUANN ET AL	\$2,451.89
SEARSPORT BROADCASTING INC	\$501.85
SEEKINS, SHAWN	\$966.43
SEEKINS, VICKI	\$603.54
STIRLING, NICHOLAS	\$216.72
SWEENEY, ANNA	\$45.32
TRAVIS, SANDI B	\$166.88
TRIPP, DENNIS JR	\$559.68
WARREN, GLORIA	\$127.75
WELLS, MELISSA	\$1,646.35
WHITCOMB, RODNEY M	\$204.71
WING, PETER E	\$1,438.19
YOUNG, ROBERT (HEIRS)	\$559.68
YOUNG, ROBERT (HEIRS)	<u>\$1,939.46</u>

TOTAL UNPAID TAXES	\$66,447.56
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2023 UNCOLLECTED REAL ESTATE TAXES

140 MT EPHRAIM, LLC	\$2,279.43	
ADAMS, KENNETH	\$615.15	
ADAMS, MARY JANE, RICHARD E. ADAMS, (ETAL)	\$1,678.71	
ASHEY, LELAND	\$1,359.05	
BENISSAN, MESSAN	\$3,594.56	
BERGERON, JESSICA	\$1,843.91	
BORMET, WILLIAM II	\$357.14	
BRAGDON, DALE	\$374.69	
BRAGDON, STEPHEN E	\$932.51	
BROTHERS FIELD ENTERPRISES, LLC	\$12.13	
CALLAWAY, JENNY D	\$1,974.03	Paid to date
CANAL FARM LLC	\$6,602.42	
CARCHIDE, APRIL A	\$339.98	
CARCHIDE, APRIL A	\$395.76	
CARCHIDE, RICHARD A	\$599.57	
CARR, CINDY L	\$2,694.60	
CARROLL, DOROTHY A., ROSS PHILLIP	\$666.08	
CARTER FARM REALTY TRUST	\$734.73	
CARTER FARM REALTY TRUST	\$4,345.45	
CARTER FARM REALTY TRUST	\$2,045.58	
CASSIDY, JAMES W	\$30.40	Paid to date
CLEMENTS, STEPHEN	\$0.51	
COBB, JONATHAN	\$88.96	
COBB, JONATHAN	\$279.91	
COBB, JONATHAN	\$170.49	
COTTRELL, DALE C	\$859.43	
CROSBY, ROBERT &	\$1,665.46	
DRINKWATER, BRIAN	\$40.97	
DYER, CATHY A	\$230.14	
ELY, SCOTT	\$185.51	
FAIRBROTHER, ADAM	\$155.47	
FLAGG, SARAH	\$1,384.79	
FRENCH, DANIEL C	\$440.81	
GEORGE JORDAN LAND TRUST	\$2,813.63	
GORDON CUNNINGHAM FARM	\$533.06	
GRANT, KIRK	\$1,466.32	
GRINDEL, ANDREW II	\$449.39	
GROVE, HAROLD BRIAN	\$711.13	
GROVE, HAROLD BRIAN	\$378.59	
GROVE, HAROLD BRIAN	\$1,462.03	
HANSON, MICHELLE L	\$3,049.63	
HARRIMAN, ANGEL	\$170.49	
HARRIMAN, SANDRA K (HEIRS)	\$893.49	
HATCH, APRIL E	\$41.77	
HECHT, KATHERINE C	\$293.46	
HERSOM, HEATHER	\$829.13	
HOOLEY, PAUL	\$10,785.97	
HUSTUS, DALE, JR. (HEIRS)	\$917.09	
HUSTUS, PAUL	\$530.92	
JOHNSON, ROMAINE	\$237.00	

2023 UNCOLLECTED REAL ESTATE TAXES

KILBY, LAURA K	\$766.91	
KIMERY, TRUMAN A. &	\$1,898.59	
KNOWLES, PAULINE MWING	\$0.32	
KOCH, ARTHUR J SR	\$1,421.26	
KRIENKE, NAIOME E	\$2,246.53	
LABATE, HILLARY LYNN	\$2,691.35	
LANDRY, DEBORAH JO S	\$15.28	
LETOURNEAU, JESSE D	\$3,480.86	
LOCKE, ROBIN	\$440.81	
LUCAS, MICHELLE ANN	\$595.28	
LUCE, BRITTANY L	\$598.87	
MARTINEAU, ROBERT	\$2,498.26	
MARTINEAU, ROBERT	\$919.24	
MARTINEAU, ROBERT	\$681.10	
MATTHEWS, DANIEL	\$1,953.32	
MCCLOSKEY, KATHLEEN	\$666.08	
MCKEIGE, GAYLE K	\$852.88	
MERRY, BRITTANY L	\$667.54	
MERRY, DENNIS W	\$934.26	
MERRY, DENNIS W	\$623.17	
MITCHELL-TWEEDIE, INC.	\$5,849.39	
MOODY, ANDREA (HEIRS)	\$895.36	
MOODY, CAROL	\$1,741.29	
MOULTON, DARREN	\$337.83	
MOULTON, KEVIN	\$490.57	
MOULTON, MICHAEL SCOTT	\$440.81	
MOULTON, STEPHEN K SR	\$402.19	
NEVILLE, AARON L	\$833.09	Paid to date
NICKERSON, PHILIP	\$131.87	
NOYES, SCOTT-ESTATE	\$125.44	
ORESTIS, CARLA M	\$245.18	
PIKE, FREDERICK E	\$2,236.52	
POMEROY, ELLERY &	\$706.84	
POMEROY, HUGH A., JR. heirs	\$608.15	
POMEROY, SHERYL	\$1,099.45	
RADIO TELEPHONE OF ME	\$6.44	
RARICK, JOHN R., KIM A., & DEVIN I.	\$1,918.96	
REDMOND, SCOTT L	\$440.81	
REMILLARD, CHERYL	\$2,487.53	
RESH, CHARLES A W	\$483.72	
RESH, CYRUS H	\$483.72	
RICHARDSON, TARA CRONIN &	\$457.97	
RIPLEY, TERRY	\$1,959.76	
RIVERS, PAUL M	\$2,989.56	
ROBBINS, CINDY VIRGINIA	\$696.12	
ROBBINS, SHANNON LYNN	\$784.07	
ROBERTS, GARY	\$1,612.20	
ROBERTSON, ROGER	\$231.39	
RUSSELL, GILMAN	\$1,326.79	
RUSSELL, GILMAN R	\$864.54	
RUSSELL, GILMAN R	\$999.10	
SANTOS, TANYA	\$10.73	

2023 UNCOLLECTED REAL ESTATE TAXES

SAVAGE, ELMER L	\$2,841.52
SAVAGE, ELMER L	\$704.70
SEAMANS, LUANN ET AL	\$2,669.89
SEARSPORT BROADCASTING INC	\$507.32
SEEKINS, SHAWN	\$1,007.20
SEEKINS, VICKI	\$616.74
SPAULDING, BRUCE	\$3,064.65 Paid to date
STEMP, SHAWN F	\$2,616.50
STIRLING, NICHOLAS	\$200.53
SWEENEY, ANNA	\$917.09
TALGO, AARON S	\$1,648.68
TALGO, GREG	\$337.83
TRAVIS, SANDI B	\$146.89
TRIPP, DENNIS JR	\$569.54
VILES, LAURIE A	\$63.22
WARREN, GLORIA	\$228.42
WEAVER, RICKY A. (HEIRS) &	\$45.27
WEBSTER, ANDREW D	\$2,672.04
WELLS, MELISSA	\$1,803.15
WENZ, WILLIAM	\$1,198.14
WHITCOMB, RODNEY M	\$3,234.13
WING, PETER E	\$1,298.98
YORK, WINSTON	\$670.37
YOUNG, ROBERT (HEIRS)	\$569.54
YOUNG, ROBERT (HEIRS)	\$1,529.38
YOUNG, ROBERT (HEIRS)	<u>\$2,054.16</u>
TOTAL UNPAID TAXES	\$155,606.61

2024 UNCOLLECTED REAL ESTATE TAXES

140 MT EPHRAIM, LLC	\$2,459.12
142 MT. EPHRAIM, LLC	\$1,072.52
384 MAIN PROPERTIES, INC.	\$4,010.66
8 MOSMAN STREET, LLC	\$2,591.74
ADAMS, KENNETH	\$658.40
ADAMS, MARY JANE, RICHARD E. ADAMS, (ETAL)	\$1,807.70
ALLEN, B. TRUST & J. ALLEN TRUST	\$938.36
ANDERSON, FLOYD	\$95.39
ANNIS, LEON & ALLYSON PLACE	\$665.38
ARMSTRONG, KARRAH	\$318.73
ARSENAULT, ALLEN	\$667.71 Paid to date
ASHEY, LELAND	\$1,542.48
BAILEY, LINDSAY M.	\$1,020.90
BALVAIRD TRUST	\$0.59
BEAN, DONNA	\$251.26
BECKELHEIMER, JOHN JAY	\$770.08 Paid to date
BELFAST AREA APARTMENTS LLC	\$3,278.06
BEMELA, INC	\$5,895.38
BENISSAN, MESSAN	\$3,885.28
BERG, DAVID	\$5,790.69
BERGERON, JESSICA	\$2,068.27
BIDDLE, ANNE S	\$8,860.10
BIRGFELD, GREGORY	\$43.43
BISHOP, YVONNE C	\$541.61
BLETHEN, AARON	\$614.20 Paid to date
BLETHEN, EVA RIVERS	\$2,466.10
BOEHMER, KRISTIAN L	\$4,395.80
BOISCLAIR, PAUL R	\$877.10
BORMET, WILLIAM II	\$374.57
BORRUSO, ROBERT	\$937.58
BRAGDON, DALE	\$802.65
BRAGDON, STEPHEN E	\$1,328.44
BRAZIER, JEFFREY	\$2,105.49 Paid to date
BRAZIER, JEFFREY	\$1,381.95 Paid to date
BROTHERS FIELD ENTERPRISES, LLC	\$3,650.30
BROWN, LAURENCE E	\$4,178.42
BUDEN, DEAN W., SR.	\$1.04
BURNHAM, EMILY STODDARD	\$988.82
BUTLER, WESLEY	\$69.80
CALLAWAY, JENNY D	\$2,724.35
CANAL FARM LLC	\$7,647.25
CARCHIDE, APRIL A	\$437.38
CARCHIDE, APRIL A	\$416.45
CARCHIDE, DANIEL	\$32.57
CARCHIDE, RICHARD A	\$718.89
CARR, CINDY L	\$4,113.27
CARROLL, DOROTHY A., ROSS PHILLIP	\$791.01
CARTER FARM REALTY TRUST	\$2,075.25
CARTER FARM REALTY TRUST	\$784.03
CARTER FARM REALTY TRUST	\$581.63
CARTER FARM REALTY TRUST	\$4,699.56

2024 UNCOLLECTED REAL ESTATE TAXES

CARTER FARM REALTY TRUST	\$2,205.53	
CASSIDY, JAMES W	\$18,598.14	Paid to date
CIOFOLO, THOMAS A	\$16.95	
CLAPPER, JOSEPH	\$518.81	
CLARK, GRAHAM	\$428.08	
CLARK, PATRICIA	\$2,726.67	
CLARK, SHANNON	\$735.18	
CLEMENTS, STEPHEN	\$772.40	
COBB, JONATHAN	\$83.75	
COBB, JONATHAN	\$290.81	
COBB, JONATHAN	\$172.16	
Cole, Dorothy B	\$7,448.03	
CONANT, CHERYL L ROBERTS	\$2.20	
CONANT, CHERYL L. ROBERTS &	\$7.00	
CONNOR, CAROLINE M	\$2,266.02	Paid to date
CONNOR, RYAN A	\$1,465.70	
COOK, RONALD A	\$1,067.87	
CORRIVEAU, GREGORY	\$528.12	Paid to date
COTTRELL, DALE C	\$3,350.18	
CROSBY, ROBERT &	\$1,886.80	
CRYER, MARC T.	\$0.18	
CURTIS, ASHLEY	\$1,015.94	
CURTIS, RAINER T	\$246.33	Paid to date
DAKIN, SCOTT & NICHOLAS PROPERTY LLC	\$4,915.92	
DAKIN, SCOTT & NICHOLAS PROPERTY LLC	\$6,323.46	
DAKIN, SHEILA J	\$3,031.45	
DAVIS, MATTHEW	\$453.67	
DAVIS, MATTHEW	\$1,109.75	
DAVIS, MATTHEW	\$846.85	
DAVIS, MATTHEW	\$179.14	
DEYOUNG, ANN G	\$7,412.27	
DICKEY, MARY LOU	\$739.83	
DODZWEIT, LLC	\$2,966.30	
DOUCETTE, AIMEE J	\$2,109.14	
DRINKWATER, BRIAN	\$939.91	
DYER, CATHY A	\$1,188.85	
EARLS, MARY ANN	\$4,906.62	
ELLIS HOLDINGS, LLC	\$846.85	
ELY, SCOTT	\$188.45	
ENTRUST FREEDOM, LLC	\$3,817.81	
FAIRBROTHER, ADAM	\$155.88	
FAWCETT, FREDERICK JOHN, 3RD &	\$4,932.21	
FETHKE, AARON	\$3,019.81	
FINNIE, MARY PATRICIA BRENNAN	\$2,323.71	
FLAGG, SARAH	\$1,570.40	
FLINT, JANET LOUISE	\$54.57	
FRANCIS-MEZGER, NORIKA	\$367.51	
FRASER, BRADLEY L	\$9.65	Paid to date
FRENCH, DANIEL C	\$465.30	
FRENCH, GERALD M., JR. & BETH L.	\$3,278.06	
FRETZ DESIGN, LLC.	\$2,263.61	
GANGITANO, FRANCES	\$8,494.10	

2024 UNCOLLECTED REAL ESTATE TAXES

GENTHNER, DEBBY	\$2,587.08
GEORGE JORDAN LAND TRUST	\$3,038.43
GILMORE, DIANE	\$1,495.95
GOGUEN, MICHAEL	\$288.49
GOLDSCHMITT, DAVID A	\$5,727.87 Paid to date
GORDON CUNNINGHAM FARM	\$565.34
GOULD, ROBERT H	\$3,399.04
GRAHAM, TINA	\$33.88
GRANT, JANET	\$167.51
GRANT, KIRK	\$1,635.54
GRANT, NICHOLAS D	\$1,019.01
GRAY, AARON WYATT	\$3,386.37
GRAY, LAURA L	\$69.80 Paid to date
GRIFFIN, CLINT CHRISTOPHER	\$692.46
GRIFFIN, CLINT CHRISTOPHER	\$663.83
GRINDEL, ANDREW II	\$556.04
GROVE, HAROLD BRIAN	\$758.44
GROVE, HAROLD BRIAN	\$397.83
GROVE, HAROLD BRIAN	\$1,572.72
GULLIVER, KEVIN	\$1,167.91
HALF WAY CREEK, LLC	\$294.64
HALF WAY CREEK, LLC	\$4,030.10
HANSON, DOUGLAS S	\$1,689.05
HANSON, MICHELLE L	\$3,375.77
HARRIMAN, GERALD R., JR.	\$1,290.77
HARRIMAN, SANDRA K (HEIRS)	\$1,037.62
HASSAPELIS, CHRISTINA M.	\$2,747.61
HATCH, APRIL E	\$114.00
HAYWARD, KAREN	\$653.75
HECHT, KATHERINE C	\$858.48
HENDRICKSON, JUDITH A	\$337.69
HERSOM, DAVID G. II &	\$1,228.59
HERSOM, HEATHER	\$886.40
HILL, JOANIE MARIE WHITCOMB	\$795.67
HOOLEY, PAUL	\$11,683.75
HOPKINS, SCOTT	\$2,983.36
HUSTUS, DALE, JR. (HEIRS)	\$981.79
HUSTUS, JEFFREY	\$2,970.96
HUSTUS, PAUL	\$644.44
HUTCHINS, FREDERICK D	\$1,602.97
JOHNSON, ANDREW A	\$5,541.75 Paid to date
JOHNSON, ROMAINE	\$325.71
KELLEY, CAROL	\$1,005.93
KENNEY, ROBERT	\$60,240.40
KENNEY, ROBERT NEIL	\$6,116.40 Paid to date
KERPER, GEORGE B.,JR. &	\$1,537.82
KILBY, LAURA K	\$900.36
KIMERY, TRUMAN A. &	\$2,133.41
KNOWLES, PAULINE MWING	\$134.94
KOCH, ARTHUR J SR	\$1,528.52
KOSLOUSKI, GUY P	\$2,118.18
KPINK, LLC	\$4,762.37

2024 UNCOLLECTED REAL ESTATE TAXES

KPINK, LLC	\$6,009.38	
KRIENKE, NAIOME E	\$2,568.47	
LABATE, HILLARY LYNN	\$2,905.81	
LABOMBARDE, WAYNE &	\$2,463.78	Paid to date
LAHAYE, YVETTE	\$2.03	
LANDRY, DEBORAH JO S	\$749.14	
LANE, HANNAH R	\$351.20	
LANPHER, WARREN E	\$125.16	
LARRABEE, APRIL DAWN	\$646.77	
LARRABEE, CHARLES	\$1,640.19	
LESLIE, MICHAEL ET AL	\$3,195.82	
LETOURNEAU, JESSE D	\$3,761.97	
LITTLEFIELD, RUTH B	\$2,205.53	
LITTLEFIELD, SHARON E	\$1,626.45	
LOCKE, ROBIN	\$465.30	
LOCKHART, ADAM	\$2,234.52	
LUCAS, MICHELLE ANN	\$632.81	
LUCE, BRITTANY L	\$649.10	
LUCE, DALE	\$767.75	
MAHONEY, SHAWN T	\$2,563.82	
MALONE, ASHLEY J	\$30.63	Paid to date
MALOON, BRIAN S	\$204.93	
MARRINER, DARRIN T	\$4,769.35	Paid to date
MARSHALL, FRED	\$516.49	Paid to date
MARTINEAU, ROBERT	\$2,696.43	
MARTINEAU, ROBERT	\$984.11	
MARTINEAU, ROBERT	\$725.87	
MATTHEWS, DANIEL	\$2,186.92	
MCAVOY, MICHELLE	\$13.96	
MCAVOY, MICHELLE	\$937.58	
MCCLOSKEY, KATHLEEN	\$709.59	
MCGLAUFILIN, DANIEL J. &	\$5,627.83	
MCI SEARSPORT MHP, LLC	\$315.76	
MCI SEARSPORT MHP, LLC	\$2,134.05	
MCI SEARSPORT MHP, LLC	\$3,187.93	
MCI SEARSPORT MHP, LLC	\$863.62	
MCI SEARSPORT MHP, LLC	\$362.43	
MCI SEARSPORT MHP, LLC	\$292.42	
MCI SEARSPORT MHP, LLC	\$112.05	
MCI SEARSPORT MHP, LLC	\$292.41	
MCI SEARSPORT MHP, LLC	\$292.42	
MCI SEARSPORT MHP, LLC	\$292.42	
MCI SEARSPORT MHP, LLC	\$318.72	
MCI SEARSPORT MHP, LLC	\$292.42	
MCI SEARSPORT MHP, LLC	\$318.72	
MCI SEARSPORT MHP, LLC	\$318.72	
MCI SEARSPORT MHP, LLC	\$478.91	
MCI SEARSPORT MHP, LLC	\$158.71	
MCI SEARSPORT STORAGE, LLC	\$9,438.27	
MCINTIRE, CHASE	\$772.40	
MCINTIRE, REBECCA I	\$2,505.65	
MCKEIGE, GAYLE K	\$2,182.27	

2024 UNCOLLECTED REAL ESTATE TAXES

MEHUREN, JERRY	\$1,660.51	
MELLITZ, EDWARD B. &	\$1,988.00	
MERRY, BRITTANY L	\$2,715.04	
MERRY, DENNIS W	\$1,000.40	
MERRY, DENNIS W	\$663.06	
MIDCOAST VENTURES, LLC	\$1,019.45	
MITCHELL-TWEEDIE, INC.	\$6,330.44	
MOODY, ANDREA (HEIRS)	\$986.44	
MOODY, CAROL	\$1,991.49	
MORAN, MARK J	\$2.72	
MORGAN, JOHNNIE M	\$3,708.46	
MOULTON, DARREN	\$353.63	
MOULTON, KEVIN	\$977.14	
MOULTON, MICHAEL SCOTT	\$465.30	
MOULTON, STEPHEN K SR	\$504.85	
MOZDEN, MARTHA S	\$78.30	
NADEAU, GLENN M	\$0.27	
NEVILLE, AARON L	\$2,007.78	Paid to date
NICKERSON, FRANCIS J-HEIRS	\$2,375.37	
NICKERSON, PHILIP	\$130.28	
NICKERSON, SARAH	\$1,044.60	
NICKERSON, SARAH R	\$744.48	
NOWELL, PETER	\$2,194.64	Paid to date
NOWELL, PETER &	\$2,923.69	Paid to date
NOYES, SCOTT-ESTATE	\$123.31	
O'DONNELL, LORRI A	\$525.79	Paid to date
O'KEEFE, HEATHER	\$3,073.32	
ORESTIS, CARLA M	\$1,107.42	
ORESTIS, CARLA M	\$407.14	
PEACH, SAMANTHA	\$435.15	
PEARSON, BENJAMIN	\$2,012.43	
PIKE, FREDERICK E	\$2,494.02	
PLESSNER, CHRISTIAN	\$288.39	
POMEROY, AUDREY S	\$362.94	
POMEROY, AUDREY S	\$942.24	
POMEROY, ELLERY &	\$835.22	
POMEROY, HUGH A., JR. heirs	\$646.77	
POMEROY, SHERYL	\$825.91	
PRO CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT LLC	\$1,612.27	
PRO CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT LLC	\$2,387.00	
RADIO TELEPHONE OF ME	\$6.98	
RARICK, JOHN R., KIM A., & DEVIN I.	\$2,729.00	
REDMOND, SCOTT L	\$465.30	
REED, WENDY	\$458.70	
REMILLARD, CHERYL	\$2,661.53	
RESH, CHARLES A W	\$511.83	
RESH, CYRUS H	\$511.83	
RICHARD, MARILYN	\$4,266.82	
RICHARDS, JOHN SR	\$509.51	Paid to date
RICHARDS, JOHN SR	\$486.24	Paid to date
RICHARDS, JOHN SR	\$483.91	Paid to date
RICHARDS, JOHN SR	\$965.50	Paid to date

2024 UNCOLLECTED REAL ESTATE TAXES

RICHARDSON, TARA CRONIN &	\$483.91
RIPLEY, TERRY	\$2,193.90
RIVER RUN PARTNERS, LLC	\$3,795.77
RIVERS, PAUL M	\$3,310.63
ROBBINS, BRENDA	\$2,333.49
ROBBINS, CINDY VIRGINIA	\$728.20
ROBBINS, SHANNON LYNN	\$837.54
ROBERTS, GARY	\$1,817.01
ROBERTS, LINDA (ESTATE)	\$2,943.04
ROBERTSON, RICHARD (ESTATE)	\$432.73 Paid to date
ROBERTSON, ROGER	\$542.08
ROBERTSON, TIFFANY	\$304.75 Paid to date
ROGERS, CHRISTOPHER	\$1,566.36
ROSIKIEWICZ, JOANN	\$1,665.78
RUSSELL, GILMAN	\$1,426.15
RUSSELL, GILMAN	\$998.07
RUSSELL, GILMAN R	\$1,065.54
RUSSELL, GILMAN R	\$209.99
RUSSELL, GILMAN R	\$1,079.50
RUSSELL, JANE F	\$4,106.30
RYAN, KENNETH W., JR.	\$960.85
SAMSARA MEMORIAL TRUST UNDER	\$1,060.89
SAVAGE, ELMER L	\$3,068.67
SAVAGE, ELMER L	\$751.46
SCHALLER, RAYMOND	\$2,768.01 Paid to date
SEAMANS, LUANN ET AL	\$2,963.98
SEARSPORT BROADCASTING INC	\$537.42
SEARSPORT REALTY TRUST	\$83.47
SEEKINS, BEAU	\$649.10
SEEKINS, BONNIE	\$898.03
SEEKINS, LEROY, JR.	\$67.47
SEEKINS, SHAWN	\$1,079.50
SEEKINS, TRAVIS A.	\$658.40 Paid to date
SEEKINS, VICKI	\$656.08
SEIDL, SHEILA	\$1,440.47
SMALL, PATRICIA	\$948.71
SMALL, PATRICIA	\$467.87
SMITH, DAVID(HEIRS)	\$1,444.76
SPAULDING, BRUCE	\$3,310.63 Paid to date
SPRAGUE, ROBERT S. &	\$1,716.97 Paid to date
STEMP, SHAWN F	\$5,269.55
STIRLING, NICHOLAS	\$204.73
STONE, DONALD	\$537.42 Paid to date
SULLIVAN, WILLIAM	\$1,116.73
SULLIVAN, WILLIAM	\$3,728.93
SUNSET LH TRUST	\$3,375.22
SWEENEY, ANNA	\$981.79
SWEET, VERNA M(DEVISEES)	\$51.31 Paid to date
TAFOYA, MATTHEW N	\$495.55
TALGO, AARON S	\$2,114.80
TALGO, GREG	\$435.06
TAMMEN, CRAIG M-ESTATE	\$337.34

2024 UNCOLLECTED REAL ESTATE TAXES

THE PETER TABER LIVING TRUST	\$3,326.91	
THOMPSON, ROBERTA G	\$2,754.59	
TRAVIS, SANDI B	\$146.57	
TRIPP, DENNIS JR	\$604.89	
TUPPER, STEPHEN A	\$4,727.47	
VILES, LAURIE A	\$137.26	
WARD, CLARENCE	\$570.00	
WARD, CLARENCE, III & JAMIE	\$1,461.05	
WARD, NOEL	\$1,847.92	
WARDWELL, DANA M JR	\$2,491.28	
WARGO, JONATHAN K	\$1,466.67	
WARREN, GLORIA	\$316.41	
WARREN, JOSEPH C	\$1,471.98	
WEAVER, RICKY A. (HEIRS) &	\$1,893.78	
WEBSTER, ANDREW D	\$2,884.88	
WEHNKE, RICHARD	\$3,180.34	
WELLS, MELISSA	\$2,024.07	
WENZ, WILLIAM	\$1,367.99	
WHALEN, ROGENA	\$111.67	
WHITCOMB, RODNEY M	\$3,575.85	
WHITE, SHARON	\$288.25	
WILLEN, JESSICA &	\$656.08	
WILLIAMS, ROSE	\$140.46	
WINCHESTER, JAN	\$553.71	
WING, PETER E	\$1,447.09	
WORKMAN, JUANITA	\$778.19	Paid to date
WRIGHT, AMY D	\$948.24	
YARBROUGH, JERRY O	\$476.71	
YORK, WINSTON	\$714.24	
YOUNG, ROBERT (HEIRS)	\$604.89	
YOUNG, ROBERT (HEIRS)	\$2,205.53	
YOUNG, ROBERT (HEIRS)	\$2,214.84	
	<hr style="border: 1px solid black;"/>	
TOTAL UNPAID TAXES	\$640,261.93	

2024 UNPAID PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX

BV MANOR, LLC	\$42.40
DAKIN, SCOTT & NICHOLAS	\$370.98
FIRSTLIGHT FIBER, INC	\$109.92
GRAY, LISA & WILLIAM	\$84.73
HERETAKIS, JOHN	\$66.41
KENNEY, ROBERT & SHIRLEY N.	\$229.00
MITCHELL-TWEEDIE, INC.	\$65.03
ONE EYED CAT, LLC	\$0.91
SMITH, MERRILL	\$107.63
WEBSTER, ANDREW	\$148.85

TOTAL 2024 **\$1,225.86**

2023 UNPAID PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX

WEBSTER, ANDREW	\$155.54
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TOTAL 2023- **\$155.54**

2024 Motor Vehicle Transactions (by Plate)

	<u>Plate Type</u>
Agriculture	38
Animal Welfare	45
Antique	37
Black Bear	25
Breast Cancer	35
Barbara Bush	25
Bus	1
Combination	5
Commercial	142
Conservation	65
Disability	25
Disabled Veteran	5
Firefighter	7
Farm	2
Lobster	66
Lighthouse	15
Motorcycle	83
Motor Home	15
Passenger (chickadee)	1622
Special Equipment	4
Street Rod	1
Support Wildlife	67
Trailers	252
Support The Troops	8
University of Maine	3
Veteran	79
	2672
Total Vehicle Registrations	2672

Local Fees Collected:

Excise Tax:	\$521,549.62
Agent Fees:	\$15,209.25
Total	\$536,758.87

Dog Licenses in 2024-

Males/ Females (Intact)	24
Males/ Females (spayed and neutered)	198

State Fees Collected **\$993.00**

2024 Resident Hunting/ Fishing Licenses

1-Day Fishing-	0
3-Day Fishing-	0
Archery	3
Bear-	0
Coyote Night Hunting-	1
Crossbow-	0
Fishing-	44
Hunting-	15
Hunting/ Fishing Combo-	19
Junior Hunting –	7
Lifetime Fishing-	7
Muzzleloader –	3
Saltwater Registry-	11
Spring/Fall Turkey-	4
Super Pack-	1

2024 Non-Resident Hunting and Fishing Licenses-

Non-Resident 7-Day Fishing-	1
Non-Resident Fishing-	3
Non-Resident 15-Day Fishing-	<u>0</u>

TOTAL LICENSES ISSUED- 119

Inland Wildlife and Fisheries Registrations-

Boats-	134
Snowmobiles-	35
ATV's-	56
	<u>225</u>

SHELLFISH LICENSES-

There were 110 Shellfish Licenses allowed in 2024, beginning June 1st. These were issued on a first come first serve basis. 15 non-resident licenses were available in this total. There was an unlimited amount of 72-hour licenses available.

Fees are as follows:

Resident (over 10 & under 65)	\$20.00
Non-Resident (any age)	\$30.00
72-Hour (any age)	\$15.00

Registered Voters by Party Affiliation:

Republican	669
Democrat	651
Unenrolled	636
Green Independent	77
Libertarian	8
No Labels	<u>53</u>

Total Voters- 2094

2024 Resident Births

In 2024 Searsport had 15 resident births. Maine State Law prohibits the Town from reporting the names of people born as this is protected information.

2024 Resident Deaths

Alling, Morton David III	79	1/4/2024
Belden, Maurice Howard Jr.	71	7/30/2024
Chambers, Jean Alison	81	8/24/2024
Cotter, James Michael Jr.	86	10/8/2024
Curtis, Kenneth	59	8/22/2024
Curtis, Meldon Giles	69	11/19/2024
Curtis, Regina Lee	74	12/13/2024
Desmarais, Richard	82	10/25/2024
Farrar, Natalie	96	01/12/2024
Graisbary, Pauli	91	5/22/2024
Hart, Franklin Avery	76	12/16/2024
Hayden, Barbara Ellen	61	8/2/2024
Hills, Jeffrey Allen	53	8/3/2024
Howard, Norma	91	9/19/2024
Kennedy, George H. Jr.	82	1/16/2024
Labbe, Jimmy	76	12/1/2024
LaRue, Howard Arlen	94	1/11/2024
Leeman, Elizabeth A.	85	10/27/2024
Littlefield, Larry M.	58	2/1/2024
Maloon, Brian Sterling	51	6/28/2024
Miller, Ellen K.	81	3/4/2024
Monlina, William J.	50	2/2/2024
Moody, Paul L.	75	12/29/2024
Mouton, Michael Scott	56	5/29/2024
Mucci, Jennifer	48	5/24/2024
Newton, Cynthia L.	66	5/22/2024
Page, Cecil Ernest Jr.	92	12/7/2024
Resh, Charles Alden	24	10/1/2024
Rooney, Ashley Leroy	77	12/2/2024
Seekins, Burton Leroy	82	4/5/2024
Shorey, William D.	84	12/12/2024
Short, Constance B.	91	8/31/2024
Sprague, Karin	68	7/5/2024
Stacey, Patricia D.	78	11/14/2024
Swift, Dana L.	66	12/23/2024
Timchak, William J.	87	10/15/2024
Whited, Robert S.	80	11/29/2024
Whiting, Lucy A.	87	1/17/2024
Wood, Moris Stanley	100	2/19/2024

2024 Resident Marriages

<u>NAMES-</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Hutchins, Taylor & Carranza, Ileana	11/17/24
Raven, Ryan & Roberts, Chelsea	09/28/24
Hathaway, Joseph & Tripp, MyKenzie	8/13/2024
Evans, Dean & Alberts, Brooklyn	9/9/2024
Allshouse, Robert & Doyle-Jaroche, Helen	9/14/2024
Evans, Christopher & Clarke, Hannah	6/22/2024
Bradstreet, Buddy & Whitcomb Hill, Shylynn	5/5/2024
Labombarde Jr., Wayne & Albanese, Celina	4/17/2024
Seekins, Logan & Philbrook, Makayla	3/14/2024
Smith, Roger Wesley & Howard, Jessica	2/4/2024
Splaine, Ryan & Stilson, Chaya	1/6/2024

2024 Non-Resident Marriages

Mosher, Nicholas & Shavalier, Shelby	10/12/2024
Olmstead, Scott & Silberman, Allison	10/19/2024
Craton, Robert & Li, Hu	2/27/2024

2024 Municipal Audit Report

We do not have the 2024 annual audit at this point. Similar to last year, we report another unusual year for producing the audit. In 2023 and 2024 our auditors were not able to complete the annual audit before our annual meeting. The delay has more to do with scheduling the time of the audit and not any issues with operations. Our auditors have produced the audit schedules and they are included in this edition. When the audit is complete it will be added to the final book for record keeping purposes. Once complete the annual audit is always available at the Town office for viewing. We have been assured and are confident that our audit firm will produce the complete audit by the end of March. As stated last year, the attorneys at Maine Municipal Association confirm that we can have our annual business meeting before the audit is complete. Maine Municipal Association reports that many municipalities are in our position. There are few audit firms doing municipal audits and the workload is heavy. The Maine Municipal attorneys recommended that we move forward with the meeting as last year due to the fact that we only authorized the expenditure of 3/12ths of the budget be spent in 2025 before the annual business meeting. In other words, we have to meet to approve an annual budget in order to do business this year. I have included the 2023 Financial schedules in this Annual Report to give an update on schedules and a snapshot of the town's financial condition. I confidently report that 2024 saw no anomalies in expenditures and receivables. As soon as the audit is complete, I will add it to the annual report for future record keeping and consistency.

TOWN OF SEARSPORT
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

	ORIGINAL BUDGET	FINAL BUDGET	ACTUAL
REVENUES:			
Property Taxes	\$ 5,747,438.13	\$ 5,747,438.13	\$ 5,681,849.40
Excise Taxes	445,000.00	445,000.00	500,543.80
Intergovernmental Revenues	1,047,734.67	1,047,734.67	1,049,309.83
Recreation and Cultural	8,461.00	8,461.00	2,263.00
General Government	70,902.00	70,902.00	90,774.58
Public Assistance	15,000.00	15,000.00	26,252.17
Public Works	51,000.00	51,000.00	56,916.00
Public Safety	175,500.00	175,500.00	262,352.77
Miscellaneous	115,052.00	115,052.00	201,907.10
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 7,676,087.80</u>	<u>\$ 7,676,087.80</u>	<u>\$ 7,872,168.65</u>
EXPENDITURES:			
Education	\$ 3,744,642.30	\$ 3,744,642.30	\$ 3,744,642.30
General Government	727,998.00	727,998.00	739,895.07
Public Assistance	47,978.00	47,978.00	47,544.98
Public Works	538,806.00	538,806.00	576,257.88
Public Safety	1,240,841.00	1,255,241.00	1,340,468.87
Recreation and Cultural	173,816.00	173,816.00	175,620.68
Special Assessments	694,793.88	694,793.88	694,793.88
Miscellaneous	262,130.00	472,667.54	451,024.66
Debt Service	18,000.00	18,000.00	20,575.12
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 7,449,005.18</u>	<u>\$ 7,673,942.72</u>	<u>\$ 7,790,823.44</u>
Excess of Revenues Over Expenditures	<u>\$ 227,082.62</u>	<u>\$ 2,145.08</u>	<u>\$ 81,345.21</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):			
Operating Transfers - In	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 104,280.02	\$ 104,280.02
Operating Transfers - Out	(574,423.22)	(574,423.22)	(574,423.22)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>\$ (568,423.22)</u>	<u>\$ (470,143.20)</u>	<u>\$ (470,143.20)</u>
Excess of Revenues and Other Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Uses	<u>\$ (341,340.60)</u>	<u>\$ (467,998.12)</u>	<u>\$ (388,797.99)</u>
Fund Balance, January 1	<u>1,514,001.51</u>	<u>1,514,001.51</u>	<u>1,514,001.51</u>
Fund Balance, December 31	<u>\$ 1,172,660.91</u>	<u>\$ 1,046,003.39</u>	<u>\$ 1,125,203.52</u>

TOWN OF SEARSPORT
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN UNAPPROPRIATED SURPLUS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

Unappropriated Surplus, January 1, 2023		\$ 1,508,951.51
INCREASE:		
Operating Account Balances Lapsed - Net (Schedule B-3)		169,951.56
Decrease in Deferred Property Taxes		
Total Available		\$ 1,678,903.07
DECREASE:		
Appropriated at Town Meeting	\$ 410,000.00	
Appropriated at Special Town Meeting December 19, 2023	106,657.52	
Increase in Deferred Property Taxes	58,380.03	
		575,037.55
Unappropriated Surplus, December 31, 2023		\$ 1,103,865.52

TOWN OF SEARSPORT										Schedule B-3
STATEMENT OF DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS										
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023										
	BALANCE FORWARD 1/1/23	APPROPRIATIONS	CASH RECEIPTS	OTHER CREDITS	TOTAL	CASH DISBURSED	OTHER CHARGES	UNEXPENDED (OVERDRAFT)	BALANCE FORWARD 12/31/23	
SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS:										
Education	\$ -	\$ 3,744,642.30	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,744,642.30	\$ 3,744,642.30	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
County Tax		618,166.72			618,166.72	618,166.72				
Overlay		48,659.40			48,659.40			48,659.40		
TIF Financing		177,550.38			177,550.38	76,627.16	100,923.22			
	\$ -	\$ 4,589,018.80	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,589,018.80	\$ 4,439,436.18	\$ 100,923.22	\$ 48,659.40	\$ -	
GENERAL GOVERNMENT:										
Selectmen	\$ -	\$ 9,257.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,257.00	\$ 10,199.74	\$ -	\$ (942.74)	\$ -	
Manager		125,051.00			125,051.00	125,519.36		(2,468.36)		
Administration		377,797.00			377,797.00	388,510.68		(10,713.68)		
Code Enforcement		45,837.00	10,589.18		56,426.18	61,846.34	6,500.00			
Physical Plant		16,150.00			16,150.00	3,386.06		12,763.94		
Insurance/Legal		89,034.00			89,034.00	100,442.00		(11,408.00)		
Shellfish		3,450.00	2,450.00		5,900.00	3,450.00		2,450.00		
Animal Control		7,500.00	1,251.00		8,751.00	5,170.75	3,000.00	580.25		
Town Office		14,822.00			14,822.00	16,868.26		(2,046.26)		
Assessor		37,800.00			37,800.00	24,803.21		12,996.79		
Miscellaneous			29,702.41		29,702.41	56,302.00		(26,599.59)		
Homestead			269,148.83		269,148.83	267,632.02		1,516.81		
State Revenue Sharing			509,777.00		509,777.00	509,777.00				
Planning Board		3,300.00	2,274.75		5,574.75	3,148.67		776.08		
Abatement and Supplemental Taxes			44,507.24		44,507.24	7,208.70		(7,208.70)		
Interest			270,384.00		270,384.00			44,507.24		
BETE	\$ -	\$ 727,998.00	\$ 361,158.58	\$ 778,925.83	\$ 1,868,082.41	\$ 739,895.07	\$ 1,125,845.37	\$ 2,341.97	\$ -	
PUBLIC SAFETY:										
Police	\$ -	\$ 434,993.00	\$ 37,503.84	\$ 10,899.05	\$ 483,395.89	\$ 507,013.55	\$ 29,800.00	\$ (53,417.66)	\$ -	
Public Safety Building		23,000.00			23,000.00	29,105.28		(6,105.28)		
Fire Department		98,216.00	1,392.70		99,608.70	100,529.69	200.00	(1,120.99)		
Street Lights		15,000.00			15,000.00	9,645.08		5,354.92		
Hydrant Rental		241,548.00			241,548.00	241,548.00				
Emergency Management		36,195.00		6,000.00	42,195.00	27,381.97	6,000.00	8,813.03		
Ambulance	\$ -	\$ 406,289.00	\$ 151,004.92	\$ 61,552.26	\$ 618,846.18	\$ 425,245.30	\$ 145,500.00	\$ 48,100.88	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ 1,255,241.00	\$ 189,901.46	\$ 78,451.31	\$ 1,523,593.77	\$ 1,340,468.87	\$ 181,500.00	\$ 1,624.90	\$ -	
PUBLIC WORKS:										
Highways and Streets	\$ -	\$ 509,706.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 509,706.00	\$ 545,920.54	\$ -	\$ (36,214.54)	\$ -	
Harbor Master		26,100.00	2,728.00		28,828.00	29,498.99		(3,670.99)		
State Highway Funds			54,188.00		54,188.00	48,000.00		6,188.00		
Road Book		3,000.00			3,000.00	838.35		2,161.65		
	\$ -	\$ 538,806.00	\$ 56,916.00	\$ -	\$ 595,722.00	\$ 576,257.88	\$ 51,000.00	\$ (37,723.88)	\$ 6,188.00	

TOWN OF SEARSPORT STATEMENT OF DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023										Schedule B-3 (Cont'd)	
	BALANCE FORWARD 1/1/23	APPROPRIATIONS	CASH RECEIPTS	OTHER CREDITS	TOTAL	CASH DISBURSED	OTHER CHARGES	UNEXPENDED (OVER/DRAFT)	BALANCE FORWARD 12/31/23		
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE											
General Assistance	\$ -	\$ 47,005.00	\$ 21,158.27	\$ 5,093.90	\$ 73,261.17	\$ 47,544.98	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 10,716.19	\$ -		
Health Officer	\$ -	969.00			969.00			969.00	\$ -		
	\$ -	\$ 47,974.00	\$ 21,158.27	\$ 5,093.90	\$ 74,230.17	\$ 47,544.98	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 11,685.19	\$ -		
RECREATION AND CULTURAL											
Recreation	\$ -	\$ 40,871.00	\$ 2,263.00	\$ -	\$ 43,134.00	\$ 37,074.41	\$ 8,461.00	\$ (2,401.41)	\$ -		
Library	\$ -	132,195.00			132,195.00	137,348.02		(5,153.02)	\$ -		
Pitsovic Preservation	\$ -	750.00			750.00	1,198.25		(448.25)	\$ -		
	\$ -	\$ 173,816.00	\$ 2,263.00	\$ -	\$ 176,079.00	\$ 175,620.68	\$ 8,461.00	\$ (6,002.68)	\$ -		
DEBT SERVICE											
Interest on Tax Anticipation Notes	\$ -	\$ 18,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 20,575.12	\$ -	\$ (2,575.12)	\$ -		
MISCELLANEOUS											
Wireless Broadband	\$ -	\$ 195,917.54	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 195,917.54	\$ 223,062.20	\$ -	\$ (27,144.66)	\$ -		
Community Building	\$ -	9,250.00	4,775.00		14,065.00	12,340.11		1,724.89	\$ -		
Cemetery Lot Sales	5,050.00		100.00		5,150.00				5,150.00		
Mosman Park	\$ -	3,000.00			3,000.00	4,440.80		(1,440.80)	\$ -		
Holiday Decorations/Events	\$ -	6,300.00			6,300.00	5,000.00		1,300.00	\$ -		
Video System	\$ -	32,052.00	31,399.43		63,451.43	25,399.88	35,052.00	2,999.55	\$ -		
Contingency	\$ -	50,000.00			50,000.00	2,240.00		47,760.00	\$ -		
Trafalgar Station	\$ -	125,571.00	116,614.30		242,185.30	133,309.67		28,875.63	\$ -		
Excise Taxes	\$ -	600.00			600.00	295.00		305.00	\$ -		
Economic Development	\$ -	8,000.00			8,000.00	8,000.00			\$ -		
Septage	\$ -	10,000.00			10,000.00				10,000.00		
Tennis Courts	\$ -	31,937.00			31,937.00	36,937.00			\$ -		
Social Service Agencies	\$ -	5,000.00	5,000.00		10,000.00				\$ -		
Sale of Tax Requiring	\$ -	31,673.06	31,673.06		63,346.12	36,937.00			26,409.12		
Snowmobile	\$ -	12,345.31	12,345.31		24,690.62				24,690.62		
	\$ 5,050.00	\$ 472,667.54	\$ 201,907.10	\$ 500,543.80	\$ 1,180,168.44	\$ 451,024.66	\$ 560,052.00	\$ 12,345.31	\$ 15,150.00		
CAPITAL RESERVES											
Ambulance	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ -		
Ambulance Equipment	\$ -	500.00			500.00				500.00		
Public Works	\$ -	10,000.00			10,000.00				10,000.00		
Road Maintenance	\$ -	375,000.00			375,000.00				375,000.00		
Fire Department	\$ -	15,000.00			15,000.00				15,000.00		
Police Cruiser	\$ -	20,000.00			20,000.00				20,000.00		
Property Revaluation	\$ -	1,000.00			1,000.00				1,000.00		
Cemetery Equipment	\$ -	500.00			500.00				500.00		
Building Repair	\$ -	4,000.00			4,000.00				4,000.00		
Computer	\$ -	500.00			500.00				500.00		
Sidewalks	\$ -	500.00			500.00				500.00		
Public Safety Building Repair	\$ -	1,000.00			1,000.00				1,000.00		
Library	\$ -	15,000.00			15,000.00				15,000.00		
Retirement Fund	\$ -	500.00			500.00				500.00		
Wharf Fund	\$ -	20,000.00			20,000.00				20,000.00		
Solar Energy Reserve	\$ -	98,280.02			98,280.02				98,280.02		
	\$ 5,050.00	\$ 8,797,025.34	\$ 833,304.41	\$ 1,461,294.86	\$ 10,596,674.61	\$ 7,790,823.44	\$ 2,614,561.61	\$ 169,951.36	\$ 21,338.00		

Warrant Articles

For the Annual Town Meeting to be held on March 8, 2025

To: Brian Lunt, a Constable of Searsport, in the County of Waldo, State of Maine.

GREETINGS:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Searsport, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the Searsport Community Building/Lions Club Building, 42 Prospect Street, starting at 8:00 A.M. on Tuesday the fourth day of March, AD 2025, the One Hundred and Eightieth Anniversary of the Town of Searsport, The Two Hundred and Fifth Anniversary of the State of Maine and the Two Hundred and Forty Ninth Anniversary of the United States of America, there and then to act upon Articles 1 and 2. AND to notify and warn said voters to meet at the Searsport Town Office/Union Hall at 1 Union Street at 9:00 A.M. on Saturday, the eighth day of March, AD 2025, there and then to act upon Articles 3 through 21 inclusive.

ARTICLE 1. To choose Moderator to preside at said Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 2. Elect one (1) Selectboard Member and Board of Overseers for a three (3) year term; one (1) Regional School Unit 20 Board Member for a three (3) year term, and nine (9) Budget Advisory Committee Members for two (2) year terms.

ARTICLE 3. To see what sum the Town shall vote to raise and appropriate from 2024 taxes and/or appropriate from general revenues; state or federal grants or subsidies; fund balances; and/or excise taxes for the following municipal accounts for fiscal year 2025.

2025 Appropriate Request	Raised By Taxes	REVENUE	EXCISE TAX	2024 Appropriated
<i>SELECTBOARD</i>				
\$11,181	\$11,181			\$9,831
Raise and Appropriate \$11,181				
Selectboard: 4-0-0 BAC 10-0-0				
<i>TOWN MANAGER</i>				
\$132,601	\$112,711	\$19,890		\$125,947
Raise \$112,711 and Appropriate \$132,601				
Selectboard: 4-0-0 BAC: 10-0-0				
<i>ADMINISTRATION</i>				
\$524,882	\$405,882	\$44,000	\$75,000	\$425,597
Raise \$405,882 and Appropriate \$524,882				
Selectboard: 4-0-0 BAC: 9-0-1				

2025 Appropriate Request	Raised By Taxes	REVENUE	EXCISE TAX	2024 Appropriated
<i>ASSESSOR</i>				
\$27,000	\$27,000			\$27,000
		Raise and Appropriate \$27,000		
		Selectboard: 4-0-0	BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE INTEREST</i>				
\$30,000	\$30,000			\$25,000
		Raise and Appropriate \$30,000		
		Selectboard: 4-0-0	BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>SELECTBOARD'S CONTINGENCY</i>				
\$40,000	\$40,000			\$40,000
		Raise and Appropriate \$40,000		
		Selectboard: 4-0-0	BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>INSURANCE/LEGAL</i>				
\$134,512	\$134,512			\$133,223
		Raise and Appropriate \$134,512		
		Selectboard: 4-0-0	BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>TOWN OFFICE</i>				
\$18,300	\$18,300			\$17,800
		Raise and Appropriate \$18,300		
		Selectboard: 4-0-0	BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>POLICE DEPARTMENT</i>				
\$587,594	\$557,794	\$29,800		\$542,863
		Raise \$557,794 and Appropriate \$587,594		
		Selectboard: 4-0-0	BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>ANIMAL CONTROL</i>				
\$13,500	\$10,500	\$3,000		\$13,500
		Raise \$10,500 and Appropriate \$13,500		
		Selectboard: 4-0-0	BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>SHELLFISH WARDEN</i>				
\$3,450	\$0	\$3,450		\$3,450
		Raise \$0 and Appropriate \$3,450		
		Selectboard: 4-0-0	BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT</i>				
\$648,321	\$428,321	\$220,000		\$406,289
		Raise \$428,321 and Appropriate \$648,321		
		Selectboard: 4-0-0	BAC: 9-0-1	

2025 Appropriate Request	Raised By Taxes	REVENUE	EXCISE TAX	2024 Appropriated
<i>GENERAL ASSISTANCE</i>				
\$62,009	\$30,509	\$31,500		\$47,009
	Raise \$30,509 and Appropriate \$47,009			
	Selectboard: 4-0-0		BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>RECREATION</i>				
\$35,600	\$30,600	\$5,000		\$32,773
	Raise \$30,600 and Appropriate \$35,600			
	Selectboard: 4-0-0		BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>SEARSPORT COMMUNITY BUILDING</i>				
\$12,950	\$9,450	\$3,500		\$12,950
	Raise \$9,450 and Appropriate \$12,950			
	Selectboard: 4-0-0		BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>WIFI SITES (Wireless)</i>				
\$5,380	\$5,380			\$5,380
	Raise \$5,380 and Appropriate \$5,380			
	Selectboard: 4-0-0		BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>CARVER MEMORIAL LIBRARY</i>				
\$191,680	\$191,680			\$160,855
	Raise and Appropriate \$191,680			
	Selectboard: 4-0-0		BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>PLANNING BOARD</i>				
\$5,300	\$3,300	\$2,000		\$3,800
	Raise \$3,300 and Appropriate \$5,300			
	Selectboard: 4-0-0		BAC: 8-0-2	
<i>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE</i>				
\$100	\$100			\$100
	Raise \$100 and Appropriate \$100			
	Selectboard: 4-0-0		BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER</i>				
\$50,259	\$38,259	\$12,000		\$50,259
	Raise \$38,259 and Appropriate \$50,259			
	Selectboard: 4-0-0		BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>BOARD OF APPEALS</i>				
\$100	\$100			\$100
	Raise and Appropriate \$100			
	Selectboard: 4-0-0		BAC: 9-0-1	

2025 Appropriate Request	Raised By Taxes	REVENUE	EXCISE TAX	2024 Appropriated
<i>COMMUNITY HEALTH OFFICER</i>				
\$969	\$969			\$969
Raise and Appropriate \$969				
		Selectboard: 4-0-0	BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>MOSMAN PARK</i>				
\$5,500	\$5,500			\$4,500
Raise and Appropriate \$5,500				
		Selectboard: 4-0-0	BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>HOLIDAY SPECIAL EVENTS</i>				
\$6,000	\$6,000			\$6,000
Raise and Appropriate \$6,000				
		Selectboard: 4-0-0	BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>HOLIDAY DECORATIONS</i>				
\$1,500	\$1,500			\$1,500
Raise and Appropriate \$1,500				
		Selectboard: 4-0-0	BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>HISTORIC PRESERVATION</i>				
\$750	\$750			\$750
Raise and Appropriate \$750				
		Selectboard: 4-0-0	BAC: 10-0-1	
<i>VIDEO SYSTEM</i>				
\$32,052	\$0	\$32,052		\$32,052
Raise \$0 and Appropriate \$32,052				
		Selectboard: 4-0-0	BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>CAPITAL & SPECIAL PROJECTS- ROAD BOOK/G.I.S.</i>				
\$1,500	\$1,500			\$1,500
Raise and Appropriate \$1,500				
		Selectboard: 4-0-0	BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>AMBULANCE RESERVE</i>				
\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000		\$20,000
Raise \$0 and Appropriate \$20,000				
		Selectboard: 4-0-0	BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>PUBLIC WORKS EQUIPMENT RESERVE</i>				
\$15,000	\$15,000			\$10,000
Raise and Appropriate \$15,000				
		Selectboard: 4-0-0	BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>ROAD MAINTENANCE RESERVE</i>				
\$275,000	\$143,200	\$54,800	\$77,000	\$375,000
Raise \$143,200 and Appropriate \$275,000				
		Selectboard: 4-0-0	BAC: 10-0-0	

2025 Appropriate Request	Raised By Taxes	REVENUE	EXCISE TAX	2024 Appropriated
<i>FIRE DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT RESERVE</i>				
\$15,000	\$15,000			\$15,000
Raise and Appropriate \$15,000				
Selectboard: 4-0-0 BAC: 10-0-0				
<i>PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING REPAIR RESERVE</i>				
\$1,000	\$1,000			\$1,000
Raise and Appropriate \$1,000				
Selectboard: 4-0-0 BAC: 10-0-0				
<i>POLICE CRUISER RESERVE</i>				
\$20,000	\$20,000			\$20,000
Raise and Appropriate \$20,000				
Selectboard: 4-0-0 BAC: 10-0-0				
<i>WHARF REPAIR RESERVE</i>				
\$500	\$500			\$500
Raise and Appropriate \$500				
Selectboard: 4-0-0 BAC: 10-0-0				
<i>SIDEWALK REPAIR RESERVE</i>				
\$500	\$500			\$500
Raise and Appropriate \$500				
Selectboard: 4-0-0 BAC: 10-0-0				
<i>PROPERTY REVALUATION RESERVE</i>				
\$3,000	\$3,000			\$1,000
Raise and Appropriate \$3,000				
Selectboard: 4-0-0 BAC: 10-0-0				
<i>LIBRARY CAPITAL RESERVE</i>				
\$5,000	\$5,000			\$10,000
Raise and Appropriate \$ 5,000				
Selectboard: 4-0-0 BAC: 10-0-0				
<i>CEMETERY EQUIPMENT RESERVE</i>				
\$500	\$500			\$500
Raise and Appropriate \$500				
Selectboard: 4-0-0 BAC: 10-0-0				
<i>BUILDING REPAIR RESERVE</i>				
\$1,000	\$1,000			\$4,000
Raise and Appropriate \$1,000				
Selectboard: 4-0-0 BAC: 10-0-0				

2025 Appropriate Request	Raised By Taxes	REVENUE	EXCISE TAX	2024 Appropriated
<i>TOWN HALL COMPUTER RESERVE</i>				
\$1,000	\$1,000			\$1,000
Raise and Appropriate \$1,000				
		Selectboard: 4-0-0	BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>AMBULANCE EQUIPMENT RESERVE</i>				
\$26,000	\$21,000	\$5,000		\$500
Raise \$21,000 and Appropriate \$26,000				
		Selectboard: 4-0-0	BAC: 12-0-0	
<i>SOLAR ENERGY RESERVE</i>				
\$20,000	\$20,000			\$20,000
Raise and Appropriate \$20,000				
		Selectboard: 4-0-0	BAC: 10-0-0	
<i>RECREATION INFRASTRUCTURE RESERVE</i>				
\$20,000	\$20,000			\$20,000
Raise and Appropriate \$20,000				
		Selectboard: 4-0-0	BAC: 10-0-0	

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Municipal Officers to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the 2025 annual budget during the period from January 1, 2026 to the completion of the 2026 Town Meeting, except those costs associated with the Public Works Winter Road Maintenance Program which may, if necessary, exceed this amount.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept and pay no interest on prepaid taxes not yet due or assessed.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to determine when the 2025 taxes shall be due and payable.

RECOMMENDED DUE DATE: September 5, 2025

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to set the interest rate to be paid by the Town on abated taxes at **7%** for the fiscal year 2025. The maximum State rate is 7.5%.

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to charge interest on the 2025 taxes remaining unpaid after a certain date. If so, what rate of interest and what due date?

RECOMMENDED: 7% Annual (.583 Monthly) interest starting October 10, 2025.

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to expend funds from any Town Reserve account for the following purposes: (NOTE: "major" is defined as any cost not included in a corresponding operating budget).

Ambulance Reserve – purchase of a vehicle or major repairs to existing vehicles.

Public Works Equipment Reserve – purchase of vehicles or equipment, or major repairs to existing vehicles or equipment.

Road Maintenance Reserve – costs associated with the rebuilding, resurfacing and major repair of Town roads and shoulders.

Fire Department Equipment Reserve – purchase of vehicles or equipment, or major repairs to existing vehicles or equipment.

Public Safety Buildings Reserve – major repair/renovation of or upgrade to the Town Public Safety Building and North Fire Station.

Police Cruiser Reserve – purchase of vehicle or major repairs to existing vehicle(s).

Wastewater System Reserve – addition to or repair/replacement of the wastewater system structures, equipment, sewer lines, or anything appurtenant thereto.

Dredging Reserve – dredging of Searsport Harbor or harbor related projects.

Transfer Station Reserve – purchase or repair of disposal related vehicles, equipment, or structures; costs associated with any reconfiguration of the Transfer Station site, or relocation to a different site if required; and any other costs associated with bringing the site into compliance with Town/State/Federal regulations.

Wharf Repair Reserve – major repairs/replacement of the Town Wharf, floats, or portions thereof.

Sidewalk Repair Reserve – major rebuilding/extension or resurfacing of Town sidewalks.

Property Revaluation Reserve – costs associated with the revaluation of real and personal property within the Town.

Library Capital Repair Reserve – major repairs/renovation of the Carver Memorial Library.

Cemetery Equipment Reserve – purchase of capital equipment or major repairs to existing equipment.

Building Repair Reserve – major repair/renovation of Town buildings.

Computer Capital Reserve – purchase or upgrade of Town computer equipment, peripherals and software necessary to Town operation.

Economic Development Reserve – for Economic Development projects and to print a business and visitors guide as needed.

TIF Revenue Reserve – Tax Increment Financing revenue to be used on approved Economic Development projects for the Town.

Police Personnel Reserve – for purpose of depositing funds refunded to the Town when a trained officer leaves Searsport to take a position with another department. These funds are only to be used for the purpose of training and equipping replacement officers as needed.

Ambulance Equipment Reserve – for the purpose of depositing funds to buy specialized equipment for the Ambulance Department.

Solar Energy Reserve – for the purpose of depositing funds to purchase the solar field equipment in the future.

Recreation Facilities – for the purpose of repairing public recreation infrastructure including the seawall at Mosman park, repairs to the community building, establishing walking trails and other projects related to recreation as determined by the Searsport Selectboard

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to dispose of surplus equipment or vehicles, crediting the respective department reserve with any proceeds.

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to dispose of Town-owned personal property, not otherwise addressed in Article 10, with a sale value of \$3,000 or less, upon such terms and conditions as the Selectboard shall deem advisable.

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to contract for necessary services, as appropriated, under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to expend funds from the Selectboard’s Contingency Account to meet unbudgeted, necessary expenses, or to meet an unexpected need for additional money to fund an expenditure previously authorized.

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town of Searsport will appropriate up to \$ 75,000 from the 2025 Imery’s Clay (formerly PPSA-OV) tax revenue to fulfill the year twenty (20) requirement of the Town of Searsport’s Credit Enhancement Contract with Imery’s Clay (formerly PPSA-OV) for Tax Increment Financing to the following: Sixty-five percent of the amount will be returned to Imery’s Clay formerly PPSA-OV and thirty-five percent will be placed in the Town of Searsport TIF Reserve Account.

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to accept the following sums to be paid, in trust, for cemeteries. The investment income is to be used toward the perpetual care cost of the cemetery lots designated to the following:

2023/2024			
DONOR	AMOUNT	CEMETERY	LOTS
George Kerper (2023)	\$225	Elmwood	Range 3 - Lot 260 (2)
Benjamin Bucklin	\$550	Elmwood	Range 3 – Lot 267 (1-4)
Laurie Bernosky	\$225	Village	Lot 324-1
Patricia Tibbets & Randy Fish	\$225	Evergreen	Range 3 – Lot 153 (8)
Carl Norman Jr & Kathy Norman	\$550	Gordon	Range 1 – Lot 45 (1-4)

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to appropriate up to \$600,000.00 from surplus to fund items within the 2025 municipal budget that would otherwise be raised by taxes.

Selectboard: 4-0-0

BAC: 12-0-0

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to accept the following streets and ways located within the town as public ways: Spruce Knoll Lane, and a section of Trout Brook Lane for turning plow vehicles and to take any and all action required to accept said streets and ways.

Spruce Knoll Lane – 1,430 feet long 24 feet wide. Starting at a point from Route 1, Lat: 44°25’59.96” N - Lon: 68°57’20.38” W. Continuing in a northerly direction to a point, Lat: 44°26’13.62”N - Lon: 68°57’24.06”W.

Trout Brook Lane – 50 feet long 24 feet wide. Starting at the intersection of Spruce Knoll Lane in a generally easterly direction. Lat: 44°26’12.77” N - Lon: 68°57’23.57” W. Continuing in an easterly direction to a point, Lat: 44°26’12.92”N - Lon: 68°57’22.93”W

ARTICLE 18. To see what sum the Town shall vote to raise and appropriate from 2025 taxes for the out of house accounts for fiscal year 2025 and the distribution plan to use. In the 2020 Town Meeting, voters approved a 1% of the previous years operating budget cap of funds available for "Out of House" accounts. That only allows \$30,143 dollars to be available in 2025. The Selectboard and the Budget Advisory Committee have voted on the same distribution plan for the funds as follows:

OUT OF HOUSE ACCOUNTS PLAN			
Organization	Last Year Amount	Request	Approved
Searsport Historic Society	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,959
Friends of Sears Island	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,959
Swan Lake Association	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,175
Head of the Bay Business Assoc.	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,959
Waldo County Woodshed	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 979
Lifeflight	\$ 662	\$ 662	\$ 648
Waldo CAP	\$ 14,423	\$ 29,994	\$ 14,128
Spectrum Generations	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,050	\$ 979
Waldo Hospice Volunteers	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,469
New Hope for Woman	\$ 1,590	\$ 1,745	\$ 1,557
YMCA	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,100	\$ 1,959
Maine Youth Alliance/Game Loft	\$ 400	\$ 500	\$ 392
SSASM	\$ 500	\$ 1,060	\$ 490
Waldo County Pet Food Pantry	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 490
TOTAL	\$ 30,775	\$ 47,611	\$ 30,143

Selectboard: 4-0-0 BAC: 10-0-0

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to approve up to \$125,000 to cover budget overages for the Searsport Ambulance service for 2024. The funds for this to come from surplus funds.

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to approve a Local Food and Community Self-Governance Ordinance as follows:

LOCAL FOOD AND COMMUNITY SELF-GOVERNANCE ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE TO PROTECT THE HEALTH AND INTEGRITY OF THE LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM IN THE TOWN OF SEARSPORT, WALDO COUNTY, MAINE

Section 1: Title

This ordinance, adopted by the town of Searsport (hereinafter "the Town"), shall be known and may be cited as the "Local Food and Community Self-Governance Ordinance."

Section 2: Preamble

We, the People of the Town have the right to produce, process, sell, purchase and consume local foods thus promoting self-reliance, the preservation of family farms and local Food traditions. We recognize that family farms, sustainable agricultural practices and food processing by individuals, families and non-corporate entities offer stability to our rural way of life by enhancing the economic, environmental and social wealth of our community. As such, our right to a local food system requires us to assert our inherent right to self-government. We recognize the authority to protect that right as belonging to the Town.

We have faith in our citizens' ability to educate themselves and make informed decisions. We hold that certain federal and state regulations unnecessarily impede local food production and constitute a usurpation of our citizens' right to foods of their choice. We support food that fundamentally respects human dignity and health, nourishes individuals and the community and

Sustains producers, processors and the environment. We are therefore duty bound under the Constitution of the State of Maine to protect and promote reasonably unimpeded access to local foods.

All individuals have a natural, inherent and unalienable right to acquire, produce, process, prepare, preserve and consume the food of their own choosing for their own nourishment and sustenance. Furthermore, all individuals have a right to barter, trade and purchase food and to save and exchange seed from the sources of their own choosing for their own physical health and well-being. Every individual is fully responsible for the exercise of these rights, which may not be infringed.

Section 3: Purpose

It is the policy of this State to encourage food self-sufficiency for its citizens. The purpose of the Local Food and Community Self-Governance Ordinance is to :

- I. Through local control, preserve the ability of individuals and communities to save and exchange seed, to produce, process, sell, purchase and consume locally produced foods;
- II. Ensure the preservation of family farms and traditional food ways through small-scale farming, food production and community social events;
- III. Improve the health and well-being of citizens of this State by reducing hunger and increasing food security through unimpeded access to wholesome, nutritious foods by encouraging ecological farming;
- IV. Promote self-reliance and personal responsibility by ensuring the ability of individuals, families and other entities to prepare, process, advertise and sell foods directly to customers intended solely for consumption by the customers or their families;
- V. Enhance rural economic development and the environmental and social wealth of rural communities; and
- VI. Protect access to local food through direct producer-to-consumer transactions.

Section 4: Definitions

As used in this ordinance, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the meanings stated below:

- A. **COMMUNITY SOCIAL EVENT:** An event where people gather as part of a community for the benefit of those gathering or for the community, including, but not limited to , a church or religious social, school event, potluck, neighborhood gathering, library meeting, traveling food sale, fundraiser, craft fair, farmers' market, agricultural fair and other public events.
- B. **DIRECT PRODUCER -TO-CONSUMER TRANSACTION:** An exchange of local food within a local food system between a producer or processor and a patron by barter, trade or purchase on the property or premises owned, leased or rented by the producer or processor of the local food, at roadside stand, fundraisers, farmers' markets and community social events, or through buying clubs, deliveries to community supported agriculture programs, herd share agreements and other private arrangements.
- C. **LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM:** A food system that integrates food production, processing, consumption, direct producer-to-consumer transactions and traditional foodways to enhance the environmental, economic, social, and physical health of the municipality and its residents.
- D. **LOCAL FOOD:** Any food or food product that is grown, produced, processed or prepared by individuals who exchange that food directly with patrons.
- E. **PATRON:** An informed individual who acquires local food directly from a processor or producer.
- F. **PROCESSOR:** An individual who processes or prepares products of the soil or animals for food or drink.
- G. **PRODUCER:** A farmer or gardener who grows or raises any plant or animal for food or drink.
- H. **TRADITIONAL FOOD WAYS:** The cultural, social and economic practices related to the production and consumption of food and the conveying of knowledge regarding food production and preparation.

Section 5 : Authority

The ordinance is adopted and enacted pursuant to the inherent, inalienable and fundamental right of the citizens of the Town to self-government and under the authority recognized as belonging to the people of the Town by all relevant state and federal laws including, but not limited to the following:

The Declaration of Independence of the United States of America, which declares that governments are instituted to secure peoples' rights and that government derives its just powers from the consent of the governed.

Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, which declares *inter alia*: "all power is inherent in the people; all free governments are founded in their authority and instituted for their benefit. (and that) they have therefore an unalienable and indefeasible right to institute government and to alter, reform or totally change the same when their safety and happiness require it."

Article VII, Part Second of the Constitution of the State of Maine, which establishes Home Rule: "The inhabitants of any municipality shall have the power to alter and amend their charters on all matters, not prohibited by Constitution or general law, which are local and municipal in character."

Section 1-A of Title 7 of the Maine Revised Statutes, which states *inter alia*: "The survival of the family farm is of special concern to the people of the State and the ability of the family farm to prosper, while producing an abundance of high-quality food and fiber, deserves a place of high priority in the determination of public policy. For this purpose, there is established the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Conservation."

Section 1-B of Title 7 of the Maine Revised Statutes, which states *inter alia*: The {...} preservation of rural life and values in the State {is} to be the joint responsibility of all public agencies, local, state and federal, whose policies and programs substantially impact the economy and general welfare of people who reside in rural Maine, such as the development and implementation of programs that assist in the maintenance of the family farms {...} and improve health and nutrition.

Section 284 of Title 7, Chapter 8-F, Maine Food Sovereignty Act, which states *inter alia*: "a Municipality may adopt ordinances regarding direct producer-to-consumer transactions and the State shall recognize such ordinances by not enforcing those state food laws with respect to those direct producer-to-consumer transactions that are governed by the ordinance."

Section 3001 of Title 30-A of the Maine Revised Statutes, which implements Home Rule and grants municipalities all powers necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Town where those powers have been conferred on the towns by the Legislature or not otherwise limited.

Section 6 : Statements of Law

- A. Right to Self-Governance.** Citizens of the Town have the right to a form of governance which recognizes that all power is inherent in the people, that all free governments are founded on the people's authority and consent.
- B. Right to Acquire and Produce Food.** Citizens of the Town possess the right to save and exchange seed and to produce, process, sell, purchase and consume local foods of their choosing.
- C. Exemption from Licensure and Inspection.** The producers and processors of local food intended for direct producer-to-consumer transactions in the Town governed by this ordinance shall be exempt from state licensure and inspection. In accordance with Section 284 of the Maine Food Sovereignty Act, the State of Maine shall not enforce those state food laws, rules or regulations with respect to those transactions as defined in Section 4. The transactions enumerated in Section 4 are governed by this ordinance and provide the context otherwise indicated as stated in Section 282 of the Maine Food Sovereignty Act.
- D. Meat and Poultry.** This ordinance is not applicable to any meat or poultry that are required to be produced or processed in compliance with the Maine Meat and Poultry Inspection Program.

This ordinance *is applicable* to shared animal ownership agreements in compliance with the federal acts as defined in Title 22, Chapter 562-A, Section 2511 of the Maine Revised Statutes and similar private contractual agreements, herd share agreements and buying clubs.

- E. **Liability Protection.** Producers and processors of local food may enter into private agreements with patrons to waive any liability for the consumption of local food.

Section 7 : Civil Enforcement

Any individual citizen of the Town shall have standing to enforce any rights secured by this ordinance which have been threatened or contested by any person, whether natural or juridical and may seek relief both in the form of injunctive and compensatory relief from a court competent jurisdiction.

Section 8 : Effect

This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon its enactment.

Section 9 : Severability Clause

To the extent any provision of this ordinance is deemed invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such provision will be removed and the balance of the ordinance shall remain valid.

Section 10 : Repeller

All inconsistent provisions of prior ordinances adopted by the Town are hereby repealed, but only to the extent necessary to remedy the inconsistency.

Section 11 : Human Rights and Constitutionality

Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed as authorizing any activities or actions that violate human rights protected by the United States Constitution or the Constitution of the State of Maine.

Section 12 : Mutual Recognition and Inter-Municipal Government Collaboration

The Town hereby recognizes producers and processors of local foods in other municipalities that have also adopted a Local Food and Community Self-Governance Ordinance. Those producers and processors of local foods from other municipalities operating under a similar ordinance may also operate under this ordinance.

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will amend the Land Use Ordinance for the Town of Searsport as follows:

B. SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

Sub-Section 3. HOME OCCUPATIONS

- a. The home occupation shall be principally carried on within the dwelling or accessory structure **and be limited to 30% or less of the primary residence or not to exceed 600 Sq. Ft. total in the primary residence or one secondary structure on the same property.**

SECTION IX: DEFINITIONS

Sub-Section B. Definitions

Code Enforcement Officer: A person appointed by the Select Board to administer and enforce this Ordinance **having the right to seek Planning Board review/approval at his/her discretion at any time..**

The Polls for voting on Articles 1 and 2 will be open at 8:00 a.m. in the morning and will close at 8:00 p.m. in the evening of March 4, 2025 at the Searsport Community Building at 42 Prospect Street, Searsport, ME.

The Registrar of Voters will be in session on Tuesday, March 4, 2025, for the purpose of revising and correcting the list of voters.

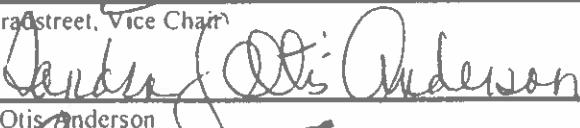
Given under our hands at Searsport, Maine, the 4th day of February, 2025.




Doug Norman, Chair



Mark Bradstreet, Vice Chair



Sandra Otis Anderson



Steven Tanguay

Wesley Norton

CONSTABLES RETURN

I certify that I have notified and warned the voters of Searsport of the time and place of the Annual Town Meeting by posting an attested copy of the within warrant at Town Office, Carver Memorial Library, Searsport Public Safety Building, Edward's Market, and the Post Office, all being conspicuous places within the Town of Searsport, on or before February 24, 2025, which is at least 7 days prior to the Annual Town Meeting.



Brian Lunt, Constable

I, Jennie Damon Gulya, Town Clerk of Searsport, attest that this is a true copy of the 2025 Annual Town Meeting Warrant of the Town of Searsport.



Jennie Damon Gulya, Town Clerk