Annual Report

of the

Municipal Officers

for the

Town of Owls Head, Maine



Municipal fiscal year
July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

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This year's Annual Town Report is dedicated to Linda Post

Through the years Linda has worn many hats in serving her beloved town and community.

Linda is stepping down this year as a Select Board member for our town, a role in which she has proudly served the citizens of Owls Head for close to two decades.

Linda grew up in Spruce Head but has called Owls Head her home for most of her life. She prides herself on being a true "Mainer". Linda loves the outdoors. You can often find her tending her many vegetable and flower gardens or cycling around town on her recently acquired e-bike.

Linda has owned her own business, Computerized Services, for many years.

But her true passion has always been serving and giving back to her community. The list is long but in brief, Linda served as treasurer for Owls Head from 1990-1994 and then as treasurer for Knox County from 1994-2006. For the Town of Owls Head she has served as Animal Control Officer and Tax Collector. She served on the town's Select Board, Town Council, Planning Board, cemetery, budget and solid waste committees.

The citizens of Owls Head thank you Linda, for your dedication, wisdom and guidance!

General Information

Town Office Hours
Monday through Thursday
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Closed Fridays
Website: *owlshead.maine.gov*

Mailing Address:
Town of Owls Head
224 Ash Point Drive
Owls Head, ME 04854

Telephone: (207) 594-7434 Fax: (207) 594-7598

Town Administrator: *administrator@owlshead.maine.gov*
Town Clerk & Tax Collector: *townclerk@owlshead.maine.gov*
Treasurer: *treasurer@owlshead.maine.gov*
Administrative Assistant: *adminassistant@owlshead.maine.gov*

Meetings
Select Board: 1st & 3rd Monday of each month at 4 p.m.
Planning Board: 2nd Monday of each month at 6 p.m.
Zoning Board of Appeals: As needed, posted at least 10 days prior to start of meeting.

Owls Head Stump Dump
Open Wednesdays & Saturdays 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Closed from noon to 1 p.m. for lunch

Owls Head, South Thomaston, Thomaston Solid Waste Corporation
Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday
8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Telephone: (207) 594-0748
Meetings: 4th Thursday of each month at 7 p.m.

Elected Officials 2024-2025

Select Board, Assessors and Overseers
Mike Keating ’26 - Chair
mikekeating@owlshead.maine.gov
Linda Post ‘25
lindapost@owlshead.maine.gov
Pamela J. Holland ‘27
pamelaholland@owlshead.maine.gov

Town Council Members
Richard Carver ‘27
Jeff Smith ‘26
Lynn Chaplin ‘25

Harbor Master
Adam Philbrook ‘25

Deputy Harbor Master
Walter Wotton ‘25

Road Commissioner
William Leppanen ‘25

RSU #13 Representative
Sara Post ‘26
spost@rsu13.org

Appointed Officials 2024-2025

Town Administrator
Rodney Mason ‘25
administrator@owlshead.maine.gov

Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Registrar of Voters/
General Assistance Administrator
Eleanor Stone ‘25
townclerk@owlshead.maine.gov

Treasurer
Catherine Birmingham ‘25
treasurer@owlshead.maine.gov

Deputy Town Clerk/Deputy Treasurer/Deputy Registrar/Administrative Assistant
Christine Banach ‘25
adminassistant@owlshead.maine.gov

Assessor’s Agent
Murphy Appraisal Services Inc.
Joe Murphy ‘25/James Murphy ‘25
assessor@owlshead.maine.gov

Code Enforcement Officer/Local Plumbing Inspector
Rodney Mason ‘25
ceormason@owlshead.maine.gov

Deputy Local Plumbing Inspector
John Root

Fire Chief
Steven Hallett
firechiefhallett@owlshead.maine.gov
Deputy Fire Chief: Mike Root
Assistant Fire Chief: Jeff Benner

Animal Control Officer
Troy Peasley

State Legislature

State Senator

Anne "Pinny" Beebe-Center (D-Knox)
Mailing Address: 3 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333
State House: (207) 287-1515
Email: *anne.beebe-center@legislature.maine.gov*
Website: *mainesenate.org*
Legislative Service: Senate 131; House 127-129
Senate District 12
Committee Assignments:
Criminal Justice and Public Safety (Chair)
Marine Resources

State Representatives

Valli D. Geiger (D-Rockland)
Email: *Valli.Geiger@legislature.maine.gov*
House District 42
Cell: (207) 956-1565
Seat 93

Ann Higgins Matlack (D-St. George)
Email: Ann.Matlack@legislature.maine.gov
House District 43
Home: (207) 594-4831
Seat 113

Governor

Janet T. Mills

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.

Janet T. Mills, Governor

U.S. Senator

Susan M. Collins

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*.

Susan M. Collins, United States Senator

U.S. Senator

Angus S. King Jr.

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.

Angus S. King, Jr., United States Senator

Member of Congress

Chellie Pingree

As we welcome the New Year, I want to extend my sincerest well wishes for 2025: to you, your loved ones, and your community. I'd also like to share an update on what my team and I have been working on - and how we intend to continue serving Maine's First District in the next Congress.

One year ago, our state was reeling from a series of unprecedented winter storms. Thanks to the efforts of local, state, and federal officials, we're starting to rebuild. The Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Small Business Administration approved more than $10.7 million in federal assistance for Maine households, businesses, and homeowners in the months following the storms. In addition, Maine received a $69 million grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to support the climate-resilience goals outlined in *Maine Won't Wait.* More help is needed, no doubt, and I will continue to advocate for the support our state deserves. For more information about available resources, go to *Pingree.house.gov/disasterresources*.

In 2024, $1.7 billion in federal grant funding came to Maine - encompassing everything from conservation efforts and home-heating assistance to resilient infrastructure and affordable housing. My team was able to secure $1.4 million in refunds for Maine taxpayers, along with $639,000 in Social Security benefits. We also helped thousands of constituents file for work permits, veterans benefits, and passports, and wrote countless letters of support on behalf of our constituents.

I'm so proud of what we achieved in 2024, and I'm fully committed to building on those accomplishments in the 119th Congress. As ever, my team and I are ready to assist however we can. Please don't hesitate to reach out to my Portland office at (207) 774-5019, or by visiting *pingree.house.gov/contact*. We're also happy to provide information related to Congress's annual Community Project Funding (CPF) process, which allows nonprofits and local governments to apply for federal funding for specific projects. For more info, go to *Pingree.house.gov/communityprojectfunding*.

I'm deeply honored that voters have chosen me to represent them once again in the U.S. Congress. It is a responsibility I will never take lightly - and a privilege I will always cherish.

Chellie Pingree, Member of Congress

Boards & Committees

Airport Committee
Lauren Swartzbaugh, ’26
Nancy Jeffers, ‘26
Jeremy Shaw, ’25
Ian Luccier, ‘26
Carson Courchaine, ‘25

Audit Committee
William George
David Martz
Linda Post

Budget Committee
William George ’25
Robert Hirsch, ‘25

Cemetery Committee
William “Bill” Gay
Richard “Dick” Carver
Walter Guptill
Eleanor “Lea” Carver
Heather Almquist

Conservation Committee
Lauren Swartzbaugh ’26
Robin White, ‘26
Ken Wexler, ’27
Kathryn DerMarderosian, ‘25
Beth Long, ‘27

Harbor Committee
Adam Philbrook, Harbor Master
Mike Keating, ‘26
Robert O’Hara, ‘26
Steven Cook ’27 (Alternate)
Richard Carver, ‘25
Jeffrey Edwards, ‘25
Mike Gustin, ‘27

Planning Board
Robert Pratt, (Chair) ‘26
Stanley “Buddy” Carleton, ‘26
Maria Devery, ‘25
Susan Deutsch, ’25 (alternate)
William Leppanen, ‘27
Dale Martin, ‘27

Select Board
Mike Keating, (Chair) ‘26
Linda Post, ‘25
Pamela J. Holland, ‘27

Sewer Committee
Ron Murray
Doug Curtis
Charles Nelson

Solid Waste/Recycling Committee
Jeff Smith, ’25
Bruce Colson, ’25

Town Council
Lynn Chaplin, ‘25
Jeff Smith, ‘26
Richard Carver, ‘27

Zoning Board of Appeals:
Lynn Chaplin, ‘25
Jeff Smith, ’25
Russ Krauss, ‘27
Gordon Page, ‘27
David Martz, ‘27
Jon Jeffers, ‘27 (alternate)

Report of the Owls Head Select Board

Living in a small town comes with the unique privilege of knowing the people who surround us and experiencing the distinct offerings that make our community special. The character of a town is defined by its people—and it becomes a true community through the spirit of volunteerism. Many residents generously donate their time, and this commitment is a key reason our town continues to thrive.

Each year brings change, including new faces on the Select Board. This year, Pamela Holland was elected to replace long-time board member Tom Von Malder, who served with dedication for many years. We gratefully acknowledge Tom's contributions and welcome Pam, who has already proven to be a valuable asset and is serving the town well.

We would also like to recognize the town's dedicated staff for the many services they provide. Their daily work is carried out with professionalism and care, ensuring the town runs smoothly. Special thanks go to Town Clerk Eleanor Stone, Treasurer Catherine Birmingham, and Administrative Assistant Christine Banach for their commitment to setting up elections, scheduling events, and organizing countless meetings. They are truly the glue that holds the town office together.

This year, voters approved the hiring of a Town Administrator to oversee the day-to-day operations of the town office. This role carries the authority to address and act on important matters between Select Board meetings, allowing for more efficient and timely decision-making. The position has already proven to be a practical and effective solution for maintaining smooth operations.

Another important responsibility for the board this year was allocating federal ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds to projects that would benefit the town as a whole. Among the projects funded were:

- Installation of a generator at the town office
- Kitchen upgrades
- Drainage improvements
- Stump dump enhancements
- Cemetery fencing

The storms of recent winters reminded us of nature's power and the importance of being prepared. Holiday Beach Road was particularly affected, requiring extensive repairs and preventive measures to avoid future washouts. Voters approved funding for these critical upgrades, which were completed professionally

and on schedule. We extend our thanks to the local contractors who provided these much-needed services. We anticipate receiving partial reimbursement for the roadwork from FEMA.

Construction of the new educational center behind the town office is progressing well and is scheduled for completion this summer. This facility will permanently house important, historically significant items from Owls Head. The funding and support for this project reflect how deeply our town values its past.

We would also like to acknowledge the tremendous work of the Cemetery Association. The transformation of our town cemeteries has been remarkable and greatly appreciated.

In another development, voters approved up to $10,000 to fund a study on the feasibility of withdrawing from RSU 13. This initiative was sparked by concerns about what many consider to be unfair funding formulas set by the State. At the time of this report, the committee conducting the study has not yet shared its findings.

The Tax Assessor has been conducting a thorough town-wide revaluation of all properties to ensure fair and equitable assessments. Meanwhile, the Budget Committee has worked diligently to gather the necessary information to present the budget for the upcoming fiscal year. We thank them for their time, attention, and dedication.

Lastly, we want to express our sincere gratitude to all the individuals who serve on our many boards, committees, and commissions. Your hard work and commitment do not go unnoticed—thank you for everything you do for Owls Head.

To stay informed about what's happening in town, we encourage all residents to visit our website: *owlshead.maine.gov*.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Keating, Chair
Linda Post
Pamela Holland

Report of the Town Clerk

The Town Clerk's Office is responsible for accurately maintaining all town records (Birth, Death & Marriage), conducting elections in accordance with State Law, issuing state and town licenses, and providing information to both town officials and the public in a professional and confidential manner.

The following statistics and licenses were recorded in the Town of Owls Head for the year 7/01/2024 through 6/30/2025.

VITAL STATISTICS

Births - 10 • Marriages - 13 • Deaths - 23

Name	Age	Place and Date of Death
Cran, Susan Elizabeth	78	Owls Head 09/08/2024
Decker, Cheryl E	58	Rockport 07/08/2024
Gregory, Heather Marie	51	Owls Head 12/14/2024
Mills, Karen Bernadette	76	Rockport 09/16/2024
Nickles, Gage Burton	21	South Thomaston 11/22/2024
Schofield, Judith Annette	85	Owls Head 07/08/2024
Stokes, Rachel	65	Owls Head 12/08/2024
Thayer, Bessie Elizabeth	86	Rockport 07/07/2024
Thayer, Herman Gillis Jr	90	Owls Head 07/17/2024
Will, Michael Sutherland	81	Portland 11/14/2024
Wilson, Douglas Leroy	63	Owls Head 07/08/2024
Dennison, Glenda May	72	Rockport 01/11/2025
Mattner, Martina	59	Rockport 01/24/2025
Witham, Elmer Robert	85	Owls Head 03/03/2025
Ervin, Louise Frances	101	Owls Head 03/10/2025
Strickland, Dawn Michelle	51	Owls Head 03/26/2025
Oliver, Floyd Hartwell	79	Rockport 04/23/2025

HUNTING & FISHING LICENSES

- Combination Hunt/Fish 20
- Hunting 7
- Fishing 18
- Spring Fall/Turkey 3
- Expanded Archery 2
- Resident Archery 2
- Lifetime (over 70) 2
- Saltwater Fishing 14
- 1- or 3-day Fishing 1
- Non-Resident Fish Season 1
- Coyote Night Hunting 1

BOATS/ ATV/ SNOWMOBILES/MOORINGS

• Boats	211	
• Documented Boats	27	
• ATV	23	
• Snowmobiles	36	
• Moorings	158	$19,750

(Please note that all Documented boats must pay excise tax in the town of residence.)

DOG LICENSES

• New/renewals	225
• Kennel Licenses	2

The State of Maine requires all dogs to be licensed after six months of age or within 10 days of ownership. Licenses expire December 31st of each year. A mandatory late fee of $25.00 per dog will be charged after January 31st.

A Municipal Warrant will be issued to the Animal Control Officer by April 1st of each year listing the names and addresses of all owners or keepers of unlicensed dogs. Those owners will then be notified to obtain a license from the Municipal Clerk within seven days from the date of the demand and remit to the Clerk, plus a late fee of $25.00 for each dog. Proof of the current certificate of Maine

Rabies Vaccination MUST be shown at the time of licensing. If your dog has been spayed or neutered, you will need to show that certificate as well.

Dog License Fees:

- $11.00 Male/Female
- $6.00 Neutered/Spayed
- $42.00 Kennel 1-10 Dogs
- $1.00 Replacement License
- $1.00 Transfer License
- $25.00 Late Fee after Jan. 31st

To view the State Statutes on Dog Licensing, please visit the Maine Legislature for Animal Welfare at: Maine Legislature Statutes for Animal Welfare. Dog owners/keepers that are visiting Owls Head for longer than 10 days must license their dog with the town.

Registered Voters in Owls Head as of June 30, 2025

Democrat -	459
Republican -	408
Green Independent -	37
Libertarian -	2
Unenrolled -	403
No Label -	24
Total -	1,333

I would like to recognize the volunteers who helped us in past elections. Without your help none of this would be possible!

Election Clerks – Maria Devery, Nancy Mathieson Jeffers, Nancy Davis, John Jeffers, Janis Stone, Bob Banach, Nancy Eugley, Janet McElroy, Greg McElroy, Michelle Miller, Lynn Chaplin, Lynn Tierney, Cheryl Cash, Adra Lovley, John Root, & Mike Keating.

Democrat -	6
Republican -	7
Unenrolled -	3

Respectfully submitted,
Eleanor Stone, Town Clerk

2025 UNPAID REAL ESTATE TAXES
AS OF 06/30/2025
BEFORE INTEREST

NAME	BALANCE	
207 INVESTEMENTS LLC	$3,691.45	
36 LIGHTHOUSE ROAD LLC	$95.11	
45 SMITHS LANE, LLC c/o ADAMS, EBEN	$.08	
50 WESKEAG ROAD LLC	$8.52	
7 NORTH SHORE DRIVE, LLC	$0.82	
AMES ETHEL REV TRUST AMES, ETHEL C, TRUSTEE	$0.44	
BART, JOELLE	$.06	
BART, JOELLE L DAVIS, AARON C	$8.78	
BLACKMAN, CYNTHIA S BLACKMAN, RYAN S	$2,476.90	***
BLUELANE, LLC	$2,686.15	
BRACKETT, SHERRY L	$5.56	***
BROWN, TINA M	$1,126.99	
BURRILL, JAMES C BURRILL, DEBORAH E	$1,783.62	***
CLINTON INVESTMENT GROUP, LLC	$30.89	
CONDON, SUSAN J (J/T) CONDON, CHRISTOPHER (J/T)	$1,233.80	
CROCKETT, NANCY	$8,015.05	
CROCKETT, NANCY	$984.25	
CROCKETT, NANCY	$5,852.80	
CROCKETT, NANCY	$837.00	
CROCKETT, NANCY	$3,484.40	
CURTIS, ANDREW CURTIS, TIFFANY	$3,763.40	
CURTIS, PAUL MALAVE, CYNTHIA E	$2,859.75	
CURTIS, PETER	$1,353.15	
DELANEY, JILL L	$2,605.55	
DELGAZIO, JODY L	$0.25	
DYNAMITE BEACH PARTNERSHIP c/o HARE, PRISCILLA	$0.20	
EASTMAN (DECEASED-IN TRUST)	$483.60	
EATON, DAVID (J/T) PAINE, GORDON (J/T)	$2,331.20	
FAULKINGHAM, CHARLES S FAULKINGHAM, GERI	$4,733.70	
FAULKINGHAM, CHARLES S FAULKINGHAM, GERI	$699.05	
FEENER, JOSEPH A & CATHERINE D	$1,771.65	
FFEENER, RYAN J (TIC), CATHERINE (TIC) & FEENER, JOSEPH (TIC)	$1,122.20	

***paid after 06/30/2025
Amounts do not include interest and/or costs

2025 UNPAID REAL ESTATE TAXES (CONT'D)

NAME	BALANCE	
FIFIELD, WINSTON, HEIRS OF FIFIELD, TIFFANY, PR	$868.00	
FOWLES, LORRAINE	$4,022.25	
FREEMAN, RICHARD C	$3,228.65	
GALLAGHER, GREGG GALLAGHER, MICHELLE S	$13,543.90	***
GARRISON, KASEY L	$2,251.37	
GARRISON, KRISTI	$2,216.50	
GARRISON, ROBERT A GARRISON, BRENDA	$5,369.20	
GIBBS, BETH	$0.56	
GREEN, MELISSA	$0.60	
GREGORY, HEATHER M	$760.85	
GRINDLE, MELISSA	$2.27	***
HOLLAND, PAMELA	$2,367.20	***
KAMMERER, GLENDA MASON	$1,340.18	***
KEATING, DONALD R. & OLIVE; DEVISEES OF	$1,536.05	
KEATING, LARY S	$223.20	
KNIGHT, CHRISTOPHER C	$3,470.45	
KNOX COUNTY FLYING CLUB	$4.15	
LOUIS & AGNES LEACH IRREVOCABLE TRUST RULE, L & PROSSER, E	$358.05	
MASTERA, LINDA	$258.85	
MAUS, PAMELA WHELAN, PATRICIA	$344.33	
MCMAHAN, DONALD JR	$62.00	
MCNEILLY, JOSHUA D	$558.30	
MOODY, BREANNA	$229.40	
MUNSON, CALVIN	$429.35	
NM&N IRREVOCABLE TRUST DAVID F TAYLOR TRUSTEE	$5.04	
OLIVER, SHAWN-ELISE	$3,185.24	
OVERLOCK, PETER	$6,639.47	
OWLS HEAD USED MOBILE HOMES, LLC	$299.15	
PEMBERTON, ARCHIE W PEMBERTON, STEPHANIE B	$296.05	
PFEFFERKORN, LORAINE C, REV TR PFEFFERKORN, LORAINE C, TRUSTEE	$2,052.97	
PHILBRICK, BERT A PHILBRICK, JANICE P	$2,362.20	
PHILBROOK, ADAM PHILBROOK, TAYLER	$694.40	
PHILBROOK, ADAM H PHILBROOK TAYLER	$3,447.20	

***paid after 06/30/2025

Amounts do not include interest and/or costs

2025 UNPAID REAL ESTATE TAXES (CONT'D)

NAME	BALANCE
PHILBROOK, ADAM H (J/T) LORRAINE, TAYLER (J/T)	$609.15
PHILBROOK, JASON	$8,041.40
PHILBROOK, JUSTIN	$3,441.00
PITT, BRENDA S & PITT, DEVON S (JT)	$2,571.45
POLAND, MARK L & POLAND, ASTRID	$1,295.80
POST, JOHN R POST, LYNNE M	$873.27
REGULATORS, LLC	$1,417.47
ROCKETT, JONETTE	$4,239.25
ROCKLAND GROUP, LLC	$0.77
ROGERS, HELEN M	$1,439.95
ROOT, MICHAEL & ROOT, MELISSA	$1.00
SALO, DANIEL E	$623.26
SHAW, JEREMY B	$1,856.90
SILETTI, ARLENE B	$2,163.80
SILETTI, CHARLES F	$2,984.65
SISCO, STEN D SISCO, HYSEN	$6,234.10
SKRZYPCZAK, FRANK E & DENISE S	$3,064.35
SPEARING, CHARMEN M & SPEARING, JOSHUA S (JT)	$3,402.25
SPEARING, PHILLIP J & SPEARING, LINDSEY A (JT)	$1,844.50
STONE, CHARLES III STONE, ANNETTE	$1,899.52
STONE, CHARLES III STONE, ANNETTE	$54.25
STONE, TRAVIS	$2,765.20
SUTELA, RICHARD (TIC) SUTELA, MICHAEL; HEIRS OF	$248.00
TAYLOR, SANDRA J	$6.00
THE JANET L. HALL REVOCABLE TRUST	$2,003.65
THOMPSON, DAMIAN A & THOMPSON, CASSANDRA A (JT)	$517.70
WEISS, WILLIAM A & DONNA L & ANDREW C	$573.50
WILLEY, JEREMY L	$2,010.36
WILLIS, ALBERT D	$352.43
WILLIS, BRITTANY	$1.78
YATTAW, THOMAS (J/T) YATTAW, SEBASTIAN (J/T)	$381.30
YATTAW, THOMAS W YATTAW, SEBASTIAN T	$1,760.80

***paid after 06/30/2025
Amounts do not include interest and/or costs

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTIONS: The homestead exemption provides a reduction of up to $25,000 on the value of your home for property tax purposes. To qualify, you must be a permanent resident of Maine, the home must be your permanent residence, you must have owned a home in Maine for the twelve months prior to applying and an application must be filed on or before April 1 with the municipality where the property is located. The exemption applies to any residential property that is assessed as real property. For instance, a mobile home located on a rented lot may qualify for the exemption. Check your tax bill to be sure you have this exemption or call the Town Office if you have any questions.

2023-2024 ABATEMENTS

23-24 014	Town of Owls Head	RE 1435	$745.20

2024-2025 ABATEMENTS

24-25 001	Chase, Lynnette	RE 606	$271.25
24-25 002	Reed, Faith	RE 925	$336.35
24-25 003	DeRivera, Joseph	RE 260	$5,327.35
24-25 004	Owls Head Trans. Museum	RE 1360	$155.00
24-25 005	Webber, Sarah	RE 1186	$163.68
24-25 006	Horoszewski, Frank	RE 1196	$227.80
24-25 007	Nickles, Ronald	RE 65	$97.65
24-25 008	Shelley, Alden	RE 1004	$630.00

2024 UNPAID REAL ESTATE TAXES
AS OF 06/30/2025
BEFORE INTEREST

NAME	BALANCE
36 LIGHTHOUSE ROAD LLC	$4.44
DELANEY, JILL L	$2,001.69
EATON, DAVID (J/T) PAINE, GORDON (J/T)	$2,457.52
FAULKINGHAM, CHARLES S FAULKINGHAM, GERI	$4,924.62
FAULKINGHAM, CHARLES S FAULKINGHAM, GERI	$781.49
FIFIELD, WINSTON, HEIRS OF FIFIELD, TIFFANY, PR	$954.98
FOWLES, LORRAINE	$2,007.53
KNIGHT, CHRISTOPHER C	$3,608.74
MASTERA, LINDA	$269.77
PAUL, ROBERT T., JR	$0.46
PEMBERTON, ARCHIE W PEMBERTON, STEPHANIE B	$367.65
PHILBROOK, JASON	$8,239.13
SKRZYPCZAK, FRANK E & DENISE S	$1,762.02
SUTELA, RICHARD (TIC) SUTELA, MICHAEL; HERIS OF	$133.12

***paid after 06/30/2025
Amounts do not include interest and/or costs

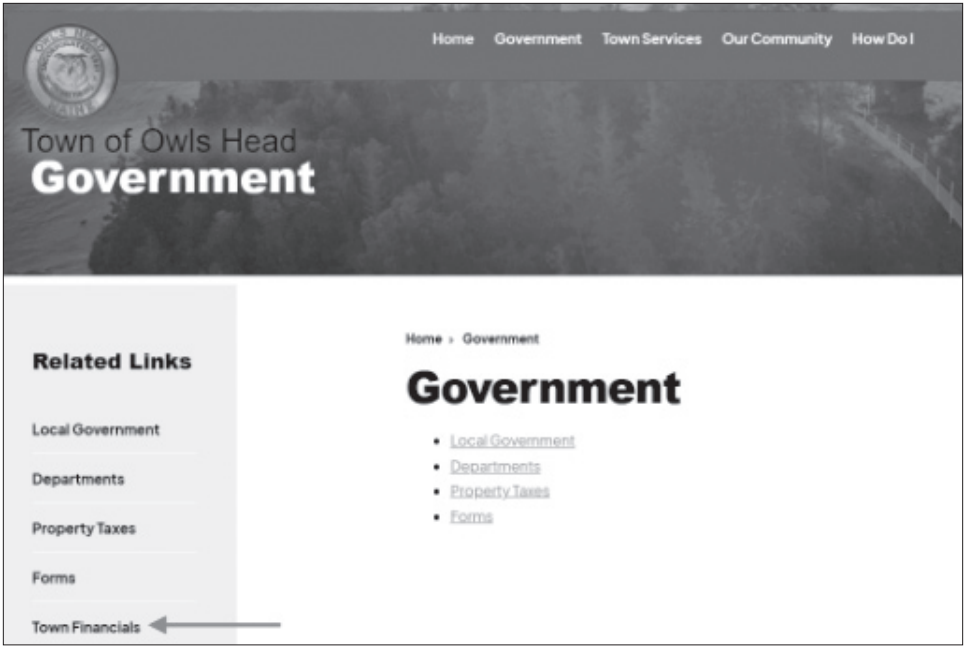
2004-2025 UNPAID PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES
AS OF 06/30/2025

NAME	BALANCE
ELLIOT, DANIEL (2025)	$10.07
EDWARDS, JEFFERY	$30.99
FOGG, CECIL (2025)	$47.28
GOEHRY, RICHARD (2022)	$39.60
GOEHRY, RICHARD (202 3)	$80.11
GOEHRY, RICHARD (2025)	$47.74
HOMESHARE INC (2024)	$3.78
LINDAHL, HENRY H JR (2022)	$27.72
LINDAHL, HENRY H JR (2023)	$26.46
LINDAHL, HENRY H JR (2024)	$27.75
LINDAHL, HENRY H JR (2025)	$22.79
NICKLES, DONALD JR (2023)	$113.40
NICKLES, DONALD JR (2024)	$118.58
NICKLES, DONALD JR (2025)	$97.65
NICKLES, RONALD (2023)	$113.40
OVERLOCK DWIGHT (2004)	$13,920.00
OVERLOCK DWIGHT (2005)	$2,775.00
OVERLOCK DWIGHT (2006)	$3,404.00
OVERLOCK DWIGHT (2007)	$3,444.00
OVERLOCK DWIGHT (2008)	$5,089.50
OVERLOCK DWIGHT (2009)	$5,589.15
OVERLOCK DWIGHT (2010)	$6,727.50
OVERLOCK DWIGHT (2011)	$5,449.28
OVERLOCK DWIGHT (2012)	$5,186.02
OVERLOCK DWIGHT (2013)	$5,186.02
OVERLOCK DWIGHT (2014)	$975.00
OVERLOCK DWIGHT (2015)	$960.00
OVERLOCK DWIGHT (2016)	$1,050.00
OVERLOCK DWIGHT (2017)	$1,060.00
OVERLOCK DWIGHT (2018)	$1,055.00
OVERLOCK DWIGHT (2019)	$1,075.00
OVERLOCK DWIGHT (2020)	$1,150.00
OVERLOCK DWIGHT (2021)	$1,200.00
OVERLOCK DWIGHT (2022)	$1,320.00
OVERLOCK DWIGHT (2023)	$1,260.00
OVERLOCK DWIGHT (2024)	$1,317.50
OWLS HEAD COTTAGES D/B/A	$29.84
WATKINSON, TERRY	$0.56

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

An independent audit of town financial statements is being performed for the year ending June 30, 2025, by the accounting firm of James W. Wadman, Certified Public Accountant, located at 295 Main Street Ellsworth, Maine.

Unfortunately, the audit was not completed before this report was sent to the printer. Once the audit is completed, the report and comments thereof, will be available for inspection at the Town Office during regular business hours, and will be posted to the town website: *www.owlshead.maine.gov*.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash balance July 1st, 2025:	**$1,456,219.00**
Administration:	
• Select Board:	$14,291.00
• Administrator/ Code Enforcement:	$52,953.00
• Town Clerk:	$53,837.00
• Treasurer:	$38,317.00
• Administrative Assistant:	$32,367.00
• Wood Dump Supervisor:	$13,855.00
• Fire Chief/ Fire Department:	$48,298.00
• Assessor Agent:	$31,250.00
• Janitorial:	$3,835.00
• Animal Control:	$5,094.00
• Road Commissioner:	$5,161.00
• Harbor Master:	$5,657.00
Reflects amount spent from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025	
TOTAL:	**$287,968.00**
General:	
• Property Taxes:	$5,690,047.00
• Personal Property Tax:	$43,700.00
• Bank Interest:	$30,498.00
• Agent Fees:	$10,178.00
• Vehicle Excise Taxes:	$452,232.00
• Boat Excise Taxes:	$6,745.00
• Tax/Lien Interest:	$10,298.00
• Tree Growth Reimbursement:	$1,612.00
• Homestead Reimbursement:	$117,916.00
• Municipal Revenue Sharing:	$185,740.00
• Local Road Assistance:	$26,248.00
• Veterans Reimbursement:	$1,803.00
• Snowmobile Refund:	$238.00
• Mooring Fees:	$18,900.00
• Dog License Fees/Fines:	$1,299.00
• BETE Reimbursement:	$7,701.00
• Room Rentals:	$4,250.00
• Wood Dump Usage:	$19,044.00

TREASURER'S REPORT (CON'T)

• Building Permits:	$13,388.00
• Plumbing Permits:	$188.00
TOTAL:	**$6,642,025.00**

Knox County:	**$639.634.00**
RSU #13:	**$4,576,271.00**
TOTAL:	**$5,215,905.00**
Cash balance ending June 30th, 2025:	**$1,457,418.00**

Catherine Birmingham,
Treasurer

Assessor

The duty of the assessors' agent is to assess all land and buildings within the town of Owls Head in accordance with just value. Each year the assessor will conduct a sales ratio study which compares current home values with sales from recent years. In addition to valuing a property, the assessor is responsible for following up on building permits with a site visit, determining the exemption status of a property, and determining classification status of a property such as Tree-Growth, Farm Space, or Open Space.

PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS AND PROPERTY TAX RELIEF

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

Homeowners whose principal residence is in Maine are entitled to up to a $25,000 reduction in valuation (adjusted by the community's ratio of valuation to actual market sales). To qualify, homeowners must fill out a simple form declaring property as their principal residence by April 1 in the tax year claimed. Once the application is filed, the exemption remains until the owner sells or changes their place of residence. Forms are available in the Town Office.

VETERANS EXEMPTION

Any person who was in active service in the armed forces of the United States during a federally recognized war campaign period and, if discharged or retired under honorable conditions, may be eligible for $6,000 reduction in valuation (adjusted by the community's ratio of valuation).

The Veteran must have reached age 62 or must be receiving a pension or compensation from the United States Government for 100% disability, either service or non-service connected.

Applications forms can be obtained in the Town Office and must be filed with military discharge documentation on or before April 1st of the year it will go into effect.

BLIND EXEMPTION

Residents of Owls Head who are certified to be legally blind by their eye care professional are eligible for a partial exemption from taxes on their primary residence in the town.

Sincerely,

Joe Murphy, CMA
Murphy Appraisal Services INC

Code Enforcement Officer & Licensed Plumbing Inspector

The CEO received the following applications between the dates of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025:

Building/Use

56 Building Permit Applications
36 Shoreland Building Permit Applications

Total Building Permits 92 (down from 96 in 2023/24)

Total Revenue $13,515 (up from $13,347in 2023/24)

Plumbing/SSWD

59 Internal Plumbing Permit Applications
31 SSWD (Septic System) Permit Applications

Total Plumbing Permits 90 (up from 38 in 2023/24)

Total Revenue $8,512 (up from $4,760 in 2023/24)

Respectfully submitted:

Rodney Mason, CEO/LPI

Office of the Fire Chief

483 North Shore Drive
Owls Head, ME 04854

Dear Residents of Owls Head,

I want to share some significant achievements over the past year. We are committed to ensuring our fire department operates effectively, with the highest training standards, and efficiency. Our goal is to have the best-trained firefighters equipped with the safest and most reliable equipment.

This past year, we successfully secured $25,000 through a private grant, allowing us to purchase essential new equipment. This funding freed up resources in our existing equipment budget to address much-needed maintenance on our fire trucks. Our fleet includes four trucks, with all but one being over 15 years old, and two exceeding 20 years. Given that the typical service life of a fire truck is approximately 25 years, depending on condition and usage, we prioritized getting all our trucks inspected, serviced, and repaired this year. All our trucks and equipment are now up to date on their service, and we can maintain this schedule moving forward.

We also welcomed two new firefighters to our team this year. By the time you receive this, both will have completed their rigorous county training and achieved full national certification. These dedicated individuals are Owls Head residents and are committed to serving our community for the long term. Our recruitment efforts are ongoing, and we plan to seek a couple more dedicated individuals this year to join our ranks.

Up until May, we had ten Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), which are critical for our firefighters' safety in hazardous environments. These units cost around $8,000 each to replace. Our existing SCBAs were approximately 30 years old, and no longer supported by the manufacturer, making repairs challenging. Consequently, four of our ten units were out of service. While our FEMA grant application to replace these units is pending due to funding limitations, our Assistant Fire Chief Jeff Benner contacted the Bristol Fire Department who had recently upgraded their SCBAs. They generously donated their replaced units to us – like-new SCBAs that are about 15 years old. We now have 17 fully operational, relatively new air packs in service on our trucks, significantly enhancing our firefighters' safety. While we continue to pursue funding for brand new equipment, this donation is a tremendous asset.

As residents, I want to assure you that we are working diligently to provide the best possible service. However, to keep pace with modern standards, we need to update our fire department. A visit to our station reveals a building dating back to the 1950s, and our frontline engine is now 25 years old. To address these needs, we are requesting a 20% budget increase this year, and I sincerely hope for your support. Looking ahead, our town needs to consider two significant investments: either an addition and renovation of our current fire station, or the construction of a new facility. Additionally, we will need to plan for the replacement of our Engine 2.

As always, we are honored to serve you and look forward to another year of dedication to the Owls Head community.

Respectfully,

Steven Hallett, Fire Chief

Total Calls	Call Type
1	Aircraft Emergency
3	Ambulance Assist
7	Car Accident
1	Car Fire
1	Chimney Fire
4	CO Alarm
10	Fire Alarm
1	Flooded Basement
1	Oil Spill
8	Mutual Aid Call
5	Outside Fire
1	Propane Incident
2	Structure Fire
5	Utility Problem
50	**Total Calls**

By the Numbers:

Total Budget 2024 -	$120,109
Cost per Call -	$2,402
Cost per Taxpayer -	$79.85

Office of the Health Officer

Dear Owls Head Residents:

The Local Health Officer (LHO) monitors his or her community through identifying and/or responding to immediate trends in health risks to individuals or the community through town resident queries of the LHO.

In the 2024 – 2025 year for Owls Head, we had no incidents that required the health officer.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven (Skip) Hallett, Local Health Officer



New Town Administrator Rodney Mason getting sworn into office by Treasurer Catherine Birmingham. Voters approved a new Town Administrator position in 2024/2025.

Owls Head Bulk Waste Transfer Station

Big, Huge, Giant changes at the Owls Head Bulk Waste Transfer Facility, AKA "Stump Dump" over the last year thanks to ARPA grant money. We have gotten a new 12 foot by 28 foot building which serves as an office/work area and a reuse-repurpose-recycle shop that we have tentatively named "Andy's Shop" after a past attendant and fire police officer, who unexpectedly passed away. Both myself and the Select Board over the years have wanted to add a reuse shop to the facility but could not build it for lack of the money. The building, built by Shed Solutions, has a 10' X 12' office that is insulated with 2 inches of foam in the floor, walls and ceiling for heating and air conditioning. There is a 12' X 18' uninsulated, unheated shop area.

We save items that are too good to throw away and put them up for sale at very reasonable prices. We try to check, clean, and if needed, do repairs. Furniture, power tools, lawn care, household items, fishing rods & reels, light & electrical fixtures, construction materials, plumbing pipe, generators, air compressors, safes, bird houses & feeders - you name it we may have it! We even sold a kayak! The money from sales goes to support the facility and keeps them out of a landfill. For the time being we are using the old building for storage of larger items we plan to restore and sell in the shop but the building is in really bad condition and will need to go bye bye sometime in the future.

In addition we have also gotten an electrical power supply line run to the building with ARPA grant money. Since the facility opened, we have no power or have used a small 1,900 watt Honda generator that, when retired, had tens of thousands of hours more than it was ever designed to run for. And while it still runs well, it could never run lights and power tools at the same time. We needed more power to maintain the facility: to reduce the size of large items for deposit in the containers; to clean and repair items we are now selling in the shop; to operate a small electric space heater for days when the wood stove is too much heat; to keep the building above freezing in winter, and to operate a refrigerator for cold drinks on top of "Hot Top Hill."

Our Maine DEP inspections have all passed with flying colors and we are awaiting testing of our burn pile ash to have it removed. I have updated the operators/emergency manual and I have taken two additional Maine DEP courses to be completely up to date as a certified facility operator.

When bringing items to the facility, please see an attendant so we know what you have and can determine a fair disposal price for both you and the town, and to ensure

you put the material in the proper place. Remember, by law, you are responsible for the proper disposal of your waste. We want to help you do that. When bringing in wood for the burn pile please reduce the size to that which can be easily handled, no longer than 6 feet and shorter for large wood. We have to move it when the pile is burned. Place brush and wood ON the pile. There is an extra $20 fee if you do not help to defer tractor piling & stacking costs.

When bringing material for the compost pile, please make sure there are no plastics, wood, sticks, etc. in it. We want to make compost people want to use. As always finished compost is FREE. When bringing items in for the containers they need to be no longer than 6 feet so they do not clog the containers. Large items need to be broken down. Long and large items that are not broken down cost the town more money because the containers go out with large voids. You may be charged extra for those items. Full sheets of old plywood need to be cut at least in half, we may find uses and new homes for good plywood. Cabinets and furniture that have or create large voids need to be broken down, legs removed and drawers removed, drawers and cabinets broken down.

We cannot take trash or garbage of any kind, bags will be opened to check. We cannot accept creatures that are or were alive or remnants of them. No liquids of any kind, not even water unless you're willing to take a swig of it. No pesticides or herbicides. No asbestos, tiles, sheets, insulation or siding. We cannot take electronics, stereos, TV's, etc. with lead or mercury, or items containing refrigerants like air conditioners, refrigerators or dehumidifiers. No fluorescent tubes or ballasts. Most of these items can go to the OHSTT facility, except asbestos and pesticides. I do have some numbers for places to get rid of asbestos and rechargeable batteries. For pesticides/herbicides watch for annual collection of that kind of material by Maine DEP. We can take tires but I guarantee you will not like the price. The OHSTT facility does take tires at much less of a cost.

Please know there is a fee for everything coming into the facility. There is an extra charge if we have to hunt you down to pay so see an attendant before leaving without paying. We have cameras in use to collect license plate numbers.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank E. Ross, Facility Supervisor

Animal Control Officer

In 2024 the Town of Owls Head had 40 calls for service. Dog-related calls: 24, wild animal/bird calls: 11, and cat-related calls: 5. Most calls were for loose or lost dogs, or dog welfare complaints. There were two dog bite calls, one involving a delivery driver and one person bitten in their own home by their family dog. A couple of loose dogs were taken to Pope Memorial Animal Shelter. A few deceased animals were picked up for disposal.

The town's Havahart Live Cage Trap was used several times to try to catch missing cats. Three people were warned about a dog at large. Several people were reminded to license their dog(s). One annual dog kennel inspection was completed. Two cats, one dog and a chinchilla were taken to the animal shelter after the owners were evicted and the animals left behind. There were no rabies cases reported in Owls Head in 2024.

The Animal Control Officer only responds to calls involving domestic animals-pets or farm animals. All wild animal calls go to the Maine Game Warden Service. If you catch a skunk or wild animal in a cage trap it is your responsibility to release the animal or hire a professional. I can refer you to the proper agencies with contact information for calls involving wild animals.

All water animal calls go to Maine Marine Patrol. All bird calls go to Avian Haven located in Freedom, Maine, who have volunteers in the area. One person called regarding rats in their house. If you have rats, please do not call the ACO; either buy your own rat traps or hire a professional pest exterminator. Again, you may contact me egarding contact information for these agencies.

Respectfully submitted,

Troy Peasley, ACO

Road Commissioner's Report

Dear Owls Head Residents:

This year we paved Shell Street and Smalls Lane. Hopefully by the time you read this we will have paved part of Bayside West too.

Repairs to areas damaged by the big storms have been completed. Wilson Construction finished rip rapping Holiday Beach this spring. Hopefully FEMA has reimbursed us for it.

Another great year to be in Owls Head!

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Leppanen

Cemetery Committee

It has been another busy year for the Owls Head Cemetery Committee with progress made on many fronts. Here are some highlights.

Two Cemeteries Conserved

In September the Owls Head Cemetery Committee (OHCC) was able to conserve not one but TWO cemeteries. Both the Merriman (aka Lighthouse) Cemetery and Cooper Cemetery on Oak Run now look fantastic. In addition to all five OHCC members on the project and Grave Stone Matters owner/conservator Joe Ferrannini, we were extremely fortunate to have three Maine Old Cemetery Association trained volunteers join us; Lee Harvey (S. Portland), Dave Simmons (Sargentville) and Ted Brooks (Florida). Details of these conservation efforts are as follows.

Merriman Cemetery

This cemetery has sixteen headstones and one monument. Most of those buried there are members of Nathaniel Merriman's (1776-1821) family. The others were likely neighbors. All the stones were cleaned and six headstones that were broken and lying on the ground were repaired and reset. Two had extreme damage from lying broken in the soil for decades, but they were conserved, nonetheless. Only one, for six-year-old Mary Frances Merriman, was damaged beyond repair. However, she is memorialized on her parents' monument. A post and rope fence will be installed along the road in front of the cemetery this summer.

Cooper Cemetery

At this cemetery, we cleaned away debris and repaired and reset six stones, including five marble mortise and tenon stones and one granite three-piece. By probing, we were able to find missing bases and footstones. All buried here are members of George Cooper's (1789-1858) family. He was a veteran of the War of 1812 and owned the land where the graveyard sits. Prior to the project, all six stones were lying on the ground. Two were severely damaged. Each stone was painstakingly hand-dug out of the compacted soil and carefully cleaned. One needed to have a new base made. The stones were then reset and last of all, cracks were filled in. The transformation of this little cemetery is remarkable. The new cemetery sign will be placed at the front of the cemetery, rather than on the street.

Ash Point Cemetery Fence Replaced

On December 16, 2024, the town Select Board approved our proposal to use ARPA funding to replace the roadside section of fence at Ash Point Cemetery. The old chain link fence had fallen into disrepair and become an eyesore, and the committee had received complaints about it. With the ARPA funds, we were

able to employ Tom Fence Co., which installed a new black metal fence on the same footprint as the old fence in March. Many thanks to Dick Carver for putting together the proposal and to the Select Board for approving the request!

Marker for Norwood Placed

A new United States Lighthouse Society marker for Capt. L. S. Norwood was installed at Merriman Cemetery on September 15, 2024. It was donated by Bob Trapani and family of the American Lighthouse Association and Owls Head Light gift shop. The American Lighthouse Foundation will provide a headstone, which will also include Norwood's wife's name. W. E. Dornan & Son in Thomaston is charging for materials only. The generosity of the Trapani family and W. E. Dornan & Son is much appreciated!

Revised Cemetery Ordinance Approved

The committee spent considerable time this year updating the cemetery ordinance. The last update was made in 2017 and dealt primarily with the Owls Head Cemetery. The revised ordinance covers all Owls Head cemeteries and includes policies on lot sales, use of fees, interments and disinterments, monuments, markers and more. It was approved at the town meeting on August 26, 2024 and can be found on the Town website, under Our Community, Cemetery Committee.

Veterans Recognized

The committee continues to purchase aluminum veteran medallions/flag holders to replace the aging plastic markers currently in use. The new markers are conflict-specific, and we have now completed the War of 1812 and Spanish American War markers and have begun purchasing Civil War markers. It will take several years to purchase all the markers.

In addition, we are working to obtain headstones for those veterans buried in Owls Head without stones. Heather Almquist is currently working with family members of Duane Barron Ames (1945 - 2019), an Air Force veteran buried in Ash Point Cemetery, to complete an application to the VA. Heather is also putting together an application for a headstone for Alden W. Dyer, a Civil War veteran buried at Holiday Beach Cemetery. Dyer was a Corporal in Co. I, 19th Maine Infantry. He was wounded at Gettysburg, taken prisoner on 22 Jun 1864 at Jerusalem Plank Road, VA, and held at Andersonville. Dyer was discharged on 12 June 1865.

Lea Carver Selected For State Commission

In February, the Maine Old Cemetery Association (MOCA) selected Lea Carver from a pool of qualified candidates to serve as one of its two representatives to the Maine State Cemetery Preservation Commission (MSCPC). The other MOCA representative and chair of the Commission is Helen Shaw of Rockport. The MSCPC is an independent commission created to provide advice and education

to local units of government and members of the public on preserving cemeteries and burying grounds. The appointment term will run through December 31, 2026. Congratulations Lea!

Skull Mystery Solved

After consulting with the Office of Chief Medical Examiner (OCME), we sent the skull and fragments described in our 2023 report back to Augusta for reassessment. Finally, in August of 2024 the OCME related the following; "It was determined by an anthropologist that this skull was native and historical. It is believed that they were a young to middle aged adult of indeterminate sex but more likely male than female. The date of death could be over a century ago. Because these remains are native, extensive testing is not performed." Ultimately, the OCME will deliver the remains to the Maine Tribal Council for repatriation.

Green Burial Presentation

On May 21st, Midcoast Maine Green Burial gave a presentation to the OHCC and the public at the Owls Head Town Office Conference Room. Approximately 25 people were in attendance. The audience appeared receptive to the idea of green burials. The committee agreed to pursue a green burial option in Owls Head. We will assess geographic and legal constraints related to various possible sites and propose the necessary amendments to the Cemetery Ordinance during the coming year.

Final Notes

It takes a village, as they say, and we are thankful for the help of so many who make our work possible. Among them, we wish to thank Joe Ferrannini, Bob Trapani, W. E. Dornan & Son, Michael and Kermit Voncannon, Lee Harvey, Dave Simmons, and Ted Brooks. We also owe a special thank-you to Terry Morang for keeping our cemeteries looking so nice!

Respectfully submitted,

William Gay
Walter Guptill
Lea Carver
Dick Carver
Heather Almquist
Owls Head Cemetery
Committee



Owls Head Conservation Commission

OHCC MISSION STATEMENT

The Owls Head Conservation Commission seeks to preserve and protect the natural resources of Owls Head and to advise, educate, and make recommendations to its residents and to the Town's governing bodies. The commission works to create opportunities for residents to interact with the natural world, thus fostering life-long stewardship.

IN KEEPING WITH OUR MISSION: Your Conservation Commission has been hard at work!

Outreach - As part of ongoing engagement and outreach to our community and neighboring towns, the OHCC partnered with South Thomaston to sponsor a series of Planetarium presentations to the students of Ash Point School. A 30'x30'x18' mobile planetarium was set up in the gymnasium where four presentations were made to groups of students throughout the day. Being enveloped by stars and learning more about our wondrous skies garnered much awe and appreciation from kids and faculty alike.



Students created over 100 artworks inspired from their celestial experience. This work will culminate as a pop-up Art Show at South Thomaston's Gilford Butler Community Center which will be open to the public this Summer.

In partnership with neighboring Conservation Commissions, we sponsored a presentation and film screening of "Defending the Dark" at the Camden Public Library. This documentary underscores the importance of protecting the dark sky regions of Maine and is a guide for individuals and communities to better preserve our starry night views.

Plaisted Preserve - We were pleasantly surprised in October by a crew of Maine Conservation Corps volunteers who reached out to dedicate their day to help out with trail maintenance and tree clearing at Plaisted. We couldn't have been more grateful as this was much needed and overdue work.



Many hands certainly made for lighter work!

While Georges River Land Trust holds the easement for Plaisted, the property is owned by the Town and belongs to the citizens of Owls Head. The Town is responsible for the care and maintenance of Plaisted Preserve. If you enjoy the beauty of this wondrous place, please consider contributing, in some way, towards the ongoing efforts to keep it so.

Halloween Pumpkin Walk - This event at Plaisted Preserve has become a much loved and anticipated community event! We were quite grateful for some extra help this year. A heartfelt THANK YOU to those who hosted carving parties, donated pumpkins or assisted with the event itself. From pumpkins being donated by area businesses or individuals, to the carving, to the clean up, this is an involved endeavor.

Our community coming together and the participation of volunteers ensures the Pumpkin Walk can continue! Those wishing to see this magical event happen this year and continue in the future, ***please***, **add your name to the volunteer list** at the Town Office or on the OHCC webpage.

Midcoast Council of Governments - The Conservation Commission maintains a presence at MCOG's 'round-table' style meetings which are attended monthly by members of area Conservation Commissions. These sessions generate insightful conversations in efforts to create actionable plans to support communities in reaching greater climate change resilience in the future.

A Climate to Thrive (ACTT) - The havoc most of us witnessed during the storms in January prompted OHCC's Chair to enroll in a 5-week ambassadorship program organized by ACTT. This is a 501(c)3 organization based in Bar Harbor creating and supporting community-driven, equitable climate solutions. Their objective is to implement and support climate resiliency initiatives. The program promotes collaborations to more effectively meet the challenges of climate change, sea-level rise and improved resiliency across communities.

When the OHCC reconvenes in September, we will discuss potential public presentations or workshops as opportunities to learn more how we, individually and as a community, can be more proactive in addressing these challenges.

In closing… a heartfelt Thank You to our members ~ Kathryn DerMarderosian, for her dedicated and valiant tenure as Chair, Beth Long, Stuart Rich, Jim Devery, and Robin White. You have dedicated much time and effort to the work of the Conservation Commission and you are sincerely appreciated! Stuart and Jim stepped down this year and we welcomed Ken Wexler and Russ Krauss to the Commission.

We extend enormous gratitude to Robin White for her service and stewardship as our Treasurer. Robin is also stepping down to shift time and attention to other endeavors. That being said… **we are in need of a Treasurer and YOUR interest in Membership!** Programming, outreach, and events cannot happen without our Members, individual donations and the support of volunteers.

To all who contribute towards making this important work possible ~ *Thank you!*

With gratitude,

Lauren Swartzbaugh

Georges River Land Trust

Dear community members and friends:

Our team at Georges River Land Trust (GRLT) is grateful for the opportunity to conserve and care for the lands and waters that sustain our communities. For nearly forty years, we have worked with community members throughout the 19 towns in our service area to protect 5,350 acres of land with extraordinary conservation value across 21 preserves and 56 easements.

We believe that healthy ecosystems and opportunities to get outside help ensure we have a healthy and thriving community. With our network of 150+ volunteers, we steward the lands we hold and maintain our network of 73 miles of hiking trails to ensure year-round community access to nature and outdoor recreation areas. We offer free community programs across the watershed that build community, reconnect people with nature, and provide environmental education.

This year was a big year for us, thanks to our growing staff and volunteers. We are thrilled that Searsmont native Natalie Curry joined us as our Stewardship Manager. Natalie and her team of volunteers assessed and advanced plans to safeguard our 56 easements and addressed large swaths of invasive plants, such as multiflora rose, barberry, and Norway maple. We are also delighted that Linnea Patterson joined our team as Land Conservation Manager, working to protect ecologically significant areas of our watershed and collaborate with community members to protect lands with significant public benefit. Linnea also worked with Natalie to fully integrate GIS, a software tool for geospatial analysis, so that we can swiftly map critical habitat corridors and incorporate ecological values, such as soil type, water resources, and wetlands into our analysis and conservation work. Please contact Natalie and Linnea if you would like to learn more!

The town of Owls Head and its community are vital partners in the work we do. Georges River Land Trust maintains Ash Point Preserve, which sits on the southern coast of Owls Head and boasts over 2,000 feet of granite coastline. Here you can explore 34 acres of beautiful spruce forests, wave-fed tidepools, and trails through moss-covered rocks and bearded lichens. This preserve was initially protected through a conservation easement and was then opened to the public in 2016.

We also partner with the Town on Plaisted Preserve, where we hold the conservation easement to protect this beautiful property from development. We also hold additional conservation easements with private landowners that protect

nearly 200 acres of sensitive habitat in Owls Head. Many of our 1,000+ members and our 150+ volunteers are Owls Head residents. Please join us in helping protect and care for our local watershed and expand community access and opportunities for public recreation. Reach us at 207-594-5166 or *georgesriver.org* to get involved.

See you on the trails,

Georges River Land Trust Team

Owls Head Kitchen Committee

The OHKC has been working to update the downstairs community room and kitchen.

Through a grant we have purchased additional tableware (dishes, bowls and glasses) to be able to serve 100 people from the kitchen. The cupboards have been rearranged and labeled. Serving dishes have been procured as well. The old refrigerator has been replaced, and a new cart has been purchased to carry some of the tables.

The wallpaper in the kitchen has been stripped and the whole room repainted. The bathrooms have also been painted. A new set of cabinets has been installed in the bathrooms. The large black storage cabinet for cleaning supplies has also been supplied and labeled.

We are redesigning our presence on the town website. All this is to entice more people to use this space for their own events. We are the least expensive venue available to rent in the area. Tell your friends and family!

We have discussed a possible community dinner/meet the people event to be held in the fall. The goal is to introduce the people who have been chosen to help run the Town of Owls Head. They will be available to meet and talk about what they do from Select Board to Animal Control Officer. Each will have a seat at the table and will be able to use whatever aids they want to present. This event will include all clubs and organizations as well. Of course, this will be another occasion to celebrate with a free meal presented by the OHKC. Please consider signing up to be represented at this celebration. “Our Town, Owls Head, at its Best!”

Thank you for your continuing support.

Owls Head Kitchen Committee,

Deena C.
Beth L.
Carolyn P.
Frank R.
Kirsten

Owls Head Village Library Association

Among the Owls Head Village Library Association's key goals in FY 2025 were to continue the long tradition of being an important part of Owls Head, and to strengthen our outreach to the community, especially children. To that end, we:

- Staffed a Library table at the Historical Society's Community Picnic
- Staffed a Library table at the Halloween Trunk or Treat (distributing pencils, miniature notebooks, and PlayDoh as treats), and helped clean up after the Conservation Commission's Pumpkin walk
- Partnered with Ash Point Community School to invite Maine author and illustrator Cassie Sano to spend the first three periods of the day with students, using her books to teach water coloring, block painting, and story-telling
- Hosted Owls Head children's author and illustrator Annie Higbee for a reading and creative event at the Library
- Strengthened our alignment with the Owls Head Book Club, purchasing the books that Club members have selected for the year, and providing the Library Zoom account for Book Club monthly meetings
- Used a grant from the American Library Association to make the library more accessible to readers of all ages and abilities – paving and marking a handicap parking space; adding audio/visual equipment, including reading magnifiers to lend; and adding sturdier and more comfortable armchairs.
- Coordinated with Knox County MCH Meals-On-Wheels to deliver a flier describing our book and DVD delivery service to shut-ins
- Now act as a distribution point for AIO's weekly free meal kit summer program for children

For the first 11 months of FY 2025, the Library has:

- Had 645 patron and guest visits (561 adult and 84 young reader visits)
- Circulated 679 books (571 adults and 108 young readers) and 67 DVDs. Two patrons borrowed reading magnifiers
- Issued 22 library cards to new and returning patrons
- Ordered over 100 new books, and accepted over 50 donations, of bestsellers and current works; books by Maine authors and about Maine and Mainers; local histories; and beginning readers, chapter books, and young adult books for our young readers

The funds that the Town generously provides has consistently covered 30% of the Library's total expenses, the largest of which are technology-related, insurance, utilities, and book purchases. Fundraisers and donations large and small that we receive from caring members of the community make up the remaining 70%. Gifts to the Library in FY 2025 include:

- The Pantalena Book Fund, established to defray our book purchase costs over a five year period
- CLYNK reimbursements directed to us by several patrons and friends
- A new "Open" flag to replace one that was in hard shape
- Book donations from authors and patrons, including an interesting and fun collection of books about pirates
- Many works of art for our end-of-summer art auction, and a variety of goods for our bake sale
- Twenty unsolicited contributions and responses to our year-end appeal

Special thanks to Pastor Oakes and our neighbors at the Owls Head Baptist Church for generously sharing their parking lot, and seeing that our small patch of grass is mowed.

The OHVLA will continue to work hard to be an important part of the community, earn the right to be included in the annual budget warrant, and be good stewards of the funds the Town provides us.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorrie Butterfield
Alice Crouch
Pat Martin
Greg McElroy
Janet McElroy
Kelly Migliori

Mussel Ridge Historical Society

The MRHS board of directors meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 9:30 at the Community Center. Everyone is welcome.

This has been an exciting year for us. We co-hosted the Community Picnic at the Homestead. We had guests on some Wednesday afternoons at the Homestead in the summer: a music ensemble of recorders and a bassoon, a fiddler, a cornhusk doll maker and we wound up the season with a cider pressing event. Of course we had our Election Day bake/food sale and published our quarterly newsletter.

But the biggest event in our collective life is the new learning center. We finished working on the final drawings with our architect, Chuck Campbell and we worked with the Select Board on final details.

As usual — it seems — the start of construction was delayed, but we seem to have caught up. By summer (hopefully!), you'll be able to visit the town's new historical center!

DM&J Waste, Inc.

2024 Year-End Waste Totals

In 2024, we hauled, disposed of, and/or received the following tons of material from you:

Demolition Debris = 299.82 tons (84 loads)

Wood Ash = 7.88 tons (1 load)

Best Regards,

Tracy Trecartin
Admin Assistant
DM&J Waste Management, Inc.

d/b/a DM&J Waste
d/b/a Ellsworth Waste Services
Main Office: (207) 223-4112
Main Fax: (207) 223-5411



Crescent Beach photo by Cali Montes

Regional School Unit 13

This is the annual report to the citizens served by RSU 13 concerning the conditions and progress of the public schools in the municipalities of Cushing, Owls Head, Rockland, South Thomaston and Thomaston.

RSU 13 is governed by the School Board. These individuals are elected by their city/town and serve all five municipalities as Directors of the Regional School Unit.

The members of the RSU 13 Board are:	**Term Ending**
Kelli McCannell, Chair Rockland	2027
Jessie Davis, Vice Chair Rockland	2025
Kali Ausplund Rockland	2026
Brad Choyt South Thomaston	2025
Paul Coster Rockland	2025
Samantha Jones Cushing	2027
Sarah Post Owls Head	2026
Katrina Saucier Rockland	2027
Kashia Shepard Thomaston	2025
Gary Upham Thomaston	2025

Maine State statutes outline the specific duties and responsibilities of the Board of Directors. They are responsible for policy development and approval, finances, evaluation, public relations, personnel, negotiations, and the selection and employment of the Superintendent. Each of these roles is very time consuming and directors give freely of their time to ensure that school programs provide students with the best educational programs and services within the District's means.

SCHOOLS

Ash Point Community School serves children in grades Pre-K-5 from Owls Head and South Thomaston. Enrollment is 164 students. Ben Tripp is the Principal.

Cushing Community School serves children in grades K-5 from Cushing. Enrollment is 75 students. Dawn Jones is the Principal.

South School serves children in grades Pre-K-5 from Rockland. Enrollment is 327 students. Hillary Arroyo is the Principal and David (Jake) Carlson is the Assistant Principal.

Thomaston Grammar School serves children in grades Pre-K-5 from Thomaston, as well as a regional Special Education program in life skills. Enrollment is 162 students. Ainslee Riley is the Principal.

Oceanside Middle School serves students in grades 6-8 from all five towns. Enrollment is 315 students. Shelby Biddy is the Principal and Darren Randall is the Assistant Principal.

Oceanside High School serves students in grades 9-12 from all five towns. Enrollment is 478 students. Jesse Bartke is the Principal. Joanna Hall and Nicole Hatch are the Assistant Principals.

In October 2024, Adult Education moved from its location at McLain School to its new building on the Oceanside High School campus.

In April 2025, RSU 13's District offices and services will be moving to 100 Holmes Street in Rockland, which is at the South School campus. McLain School will be returned to the City of Rockland.

SCHOOLS OF OUR FUTURE

In the Fall of 2015, we unveiled our plans to improve the efficiency of our schools and improve our school learning environments and student performance. We have in place a 9-12 high school in Rockland, a 6-8 regional middle school in Thomaston and K-5 or Pre-K-5 elementary schools in Cushing, Owls Head, Rockland, and Thomaston. We also partnered with Siemens Energy to make improvements in our facilities in areas such as heating, lighting, ventilation, and a portion of window replacements at OHS. We continue to work with Siemens to plan a number of renovation and construction projects. These projects were partially financed through capturing energy savings and the cost savings of reducing the number of facilities we maintain. In 2016, RSU 13 closed the Lura Libby School in Thomaston and transferred ownership to the town. The RSU has also turned over the Gilford Butler School to the Town of South Thomaston.

Our newest elementary school, Ash Point Community School, opened in the Fall of 2018. The school, located in Owls Head, serves students in grades Pre-K through 5 from the Towns of Owls Head and South Thomaston. Renovations to Oceanside High School in Rockland and Oceanside Middle School in Thomaston are complete. Each facility has a new cafeteria and increased and updated classroom spaces. Oceanside High School has renovated locker rooms and a new fitness space. Moving forward, **Schools of Our Future 2.0** will provide students with options for studies in multiple pathways that will provide them with opportunities for learning within the classroom setting and beyond the classroom. Instruction will instill Critical Skills needed for success in continuing education and the modern workforce as well as content knowledge in the core subjects and opportunities for electives. Our focus on supporting the student as a whole beyond just academic achievement will continue, with our belief that positive relationships are key to successful, engaged learning and success in life.

PLANS FOR UNIVERSAL PRE-K

In the Fall of 2025, RSU 13 plans one additional Pre-K classroom in Cushing: this will complete the RSU 13 school board goal of universal preschool for the District. This additional classroom will increase the available Pre-K classrooms/ partnerships to 6 in RSU 13, or space for about 100 students. The phasing in of this program over the past three years, coupled with financial incentives from the Maine Department of Education, has resulted in a minimal effect on our budgets but will provide a much needed and very promising program for our earliest learners.

BUILDING PROJECTS

In the Fall of 2024, RSU 13 opened a new building on the Oceanside Middle School Campus. This facility houses RSU 13's Information Technology Department and Middle School Alternative Education, and other programming. On the Oceanside High School Campus, two new buildings opened in the Fall of 2024. One building houses Adult Education and the other, the High School Alternative Education program along with other programming. Both projects were paid for with COVID Relief Funds (ESSER) and had a minimal impact on the local budget due to additional costs related to the buildings' construction. These facilities will serve the school community for many years to come and will allow us to move the Superintendent's Office and Business Office to relocate to South School in the Spring of 2025. This move will reduce our operational costs by approximately $140,000 per year. Beginning in the School year 2025-2026, RSU 13 will begin a partnership with Siemens Corporation to begin an Energy Conservation Project, which, among other things, will bring solar electricity generation to our District. This project will virtually eliminate our electricity bills upon completion.

RSU 13 FINANCES

RSU 13 has worked diligently over the past three years to improve its cash position and maintain a school budget that provides adequate funding for the students of the District while maintaining its fiduciary responsibility to the towns and taxpayers. COVID 19 presented many uncertainties and the District projected expenditures to the best of its ability to ensure we stood ready for any social and economic impact the pandemic could present. As a result, we stand in the best cash position we have seen in the past eight years with a recent revision to our S&P debt rating outlook to stable. We currently stand with close to 1mm in restricted and undesignated fund balances and have not been reliant on TRAN funds to cover any operational expenditures for the fiscal year. RSU 13 has $6,191,559 in bonds payable as of June 2024.

As with any business, labor costs impact RSU 13's expenditures more so than any other cost center and FY 2025 has been no exception. Staffing and benefits account for roughly 80% of the District's annual general fund budget. Our teachers and support staff each receive annual cost of living and salary step increases per contract that contribute to an average increase of 4-5 % to our staffing budget. This coupled with increasing insurance premium costs, increased enrollment in our benefit plans and consistent increases to workers compensation rates have raised RSU 13's total salary and benefit costs on average by 6.82% over the past five years. Energy costs remain an area of concern with market volatility being caused by several factors. Fed interest rate hikes, the Ukraine conflict, bank failures and concerns of diplomatic escalations with China have destabilized markets. RSU 13 is in the process of investigating the feasibility and benefits of a switch to solar power to help offset the anticipated electricity rates hikes for the Fiscal Year 2026 budget.

Pandemic relief funds assisted the District in maintaining high quality education through a turbulent two years. However, beginning in the Fall of 2025, these funds were expended, and, thanks to proactive work by the District to start absorbing the federally funded positions into the general fund beginning in FY 2023, RSU 13 has been able to avoid a "funding cliff" for future budgets. The District absorbed $355k in FY 2025 to stabilize the impact of rolling these expenditures and positions into our general operating budget without an impact to local jobs. In FY 2026 the District will absorb another $200K. RSU 13 is proposing an estimated 7.67% overall increase to the District budget FY 2025 over FY 2024 with staffing, Special Education contingency, the Maine Paid Leave Act benefit and insurance consisting of approximately 97% of the additional requested funds.

Apart from budgetary needs, RSU 13's Business Office's financial position and philosophy remains unchanged. We continue to look towards the future, ensuring a strong financial position that will form the bedrock of educational success for the students of RSU 13. We accomplish this by forecasting our expenditures as best as possible and ensuring every dollar is spent with intention and with the best interests of our student body and our taxpayers in mind. We will continue to look for capital projects that add value, security and long term returns for our students and the community. We will continue to invest in our curriculum, assessments, and technology to ensure we out-perform neighboring districts in student achievement and progression while being fiduciarily responsible to our tax base. RSU 13 remains committed to continuing a strong and consistent partnership with our community and we welcome as much participation, engagement and communication with our local officials and residents as possible.

CONCLUSION

RSU 13's professional staff and service personnel strive to serve our communities' students and to ensure that the best use is made of tax dollars. Audits are on file at the Office of the Superintendent, 28 Lincoln Street, Rockland, Maine and available on the website at *www.rsu13.org/audit*.

The RSU 13 Adult Education program continues to thrive and provide a variety of programs and opportunities to adults and children in our region. We urge all citizens to take advantage of the many listings in the program guide that is provided at the beginning of each semester. While our free classes in college preparation remain open to the public, and are well attended, it is the diversity of offerings in vocational enrichment and life-long learning that truly reminds us that, at any age, education is the heart of our community.

We invite you to visit our website, *www.rsu13.org*, or Facebook page, for more information about all of our schools and District programs. Those interested may also review district-wide assessment results by clicking on 'Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment' under the 'Central Office' website banner. We also remind people that our budget meetings are the place to be if you want your voice to be heard in shaping the school budget - please attend!

On behalf of the staff, a sincere "thank you" is extended to the citizens of our five municipalities, to parents and to our students for your continued support. Your interest and cooperation greatly assists us in carrying out our responsibilities to RSU 13 children. If there are any questions concerning this report, please do not hesitate to call our office or any of the schools.

John C. McDonald,
Superintendent of Schools

June 11, 2025

Motion to Approve Assessment Warrants and Installment Schedules

Motion: I move that the Warrant for Assessment of Tax and the Assessment Schedule and Notice of Installments for each member municipality prepared by the Treasurer for fiscal year **2025-2026** be approved and be issued in form presented to this meeting; and that the Treasurer be authorized and directed to deliver to each member municipality its Warrant for Assessment of Tax and its Assessment Schedule and Notice of Installments.

A true copy as adopted by a majority of the School Board, attest:

John C. McDonald, Secretary

SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATION

I certify that the June 20,2024 meeting of the Regional School Unit No. 13 School Board was conducted through telephonic, video, electronic, or other similar means of remote participation, and that the Board's vote on the matter attested to above was taken by roll call as follows:

BOARD MEMBER	PARTICIPATION			VOTE		
	Physically Present	Attending Remotely	Not Attending	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Kellie McCannell	X			✓		
Jessie Davis						
Brad Choyt						
Katrina Saucier	X			✓		
Kali Asplund	X			✓		
Samantha Jones	X			✓		
Paul Coster						
Sarah Post						
Gary Upham	X			✓		

Date: June 11, 2025

John C. McDonald, Secretary
Regional School Unit No. 13

STATE OF MAINE
WARRANT FOR ASSESSMENT OF TAX – OWLS HEAD
Regional School Unit No. 13

To the Assessors of the **Town of Owls Head**, in the **County of Knox** (the "Town"):

Under and by virtue of the provisions of, as applicable, 20-A M.R.S. §§ 1301-1315, 1451-1512, 1701-1706, the School Board of Regional School Unit No. 13 (the "RSU"), organized in pursuance thereof, hereby issue their warrant for the assessment of taxes on the Town for the year covering the period of **2025-2026** (the "Fiscal Year Period").

Whereas, the citizens of the RSU, at budget proceedings duly held, voted to raise the following sums for the Fiscal Year Period:

Budgetary Revenue Category	Approved to be Raised
EPS Required Local Contribution	$16,216,678.03
Debt Service for non-State funded School Construction	$2,636,268.12
Additional Local Funds	$11,430,097.70
Adult Education	$308,959.96
School Nutrition	$300,000.00
Total:	$30,892,003.82

Whereas, the School Board has determined that the total school operating budget, school nutrition program, and adult education program, minus all anticipated revenues, requires the sum of **$30,892,003.82** to be assessed against the member municipalities of the RSU, for the Fiscal Year Period and;

Whereas, the School Board, on June 11, 2025, ordered that warrants be issued forthwith and sent out for assessing the towns comprising the RSU their proportionate shares, said share being in accordance with existing statutes and the method of sharing costs among the member municipalities of said RSU, and for paying the same to the Treasurer of the RSU.

Now, therefore, agreeable to the provisions of 20-A M.R.S. § 1489, you are hereby required, in the name of the State of Maine and the RSU to assess the sum of **$4,906,619.57** upon the taxable estates within the Town according to the provisions of law for the assessment of taxes; and in making said assessment, you are required to add the sum aforesaid to the amount of state, county and town taxes to be by you assessed.

And you are alike required to pay or issue your warrants to the several constables or collectors of said Town requiring them respectively to levy and collect the sum of **$4,906,619.57**, and to pay to the Town treasurer the aforesaid sum set against said Town, to be paid by said Town treasurer to the treasurer of the RSU in twelve equal monthly installments on or before the 20th of each of the months during the Fiscal Year Period.

Given under our hands this June 11th, 2025 :

A majority of the School Board of Regional School Unit No. 13

Attest:
John C. McDonald, Treasurer

STATE OF MAINE
ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE AND NOTICE OF INSTALLMENTS OF TAX – OWLS HEAD
Regional School Unit No. 13
Town of Owls Head

To the Treasurer of the **Town of Owls Head,** in the **County of Knox** (the "Municipality"):

Under and by virtue of, as applicable, 20-A M.R.S. §§ 15691 and 15691-A, the School Board of Regional School Unit No. 13 (the "RSU") presents the following Assessment Schedule based on the budget and amounts approved at budget proceedings of the RSU for **fiscal year 2025-2026** (the "Fiscal Year Period"):

Municipality	EPS Required Contribution	Local Only Debt Service	Additional Local Funds	Adult Ed	School Nutrition	Total Municipal Assessment
Cushing	2,412,753.33	369,275.26	1,601,070.94	43,277.57	42,022.50	4,468,399.60
Owls Head	2,557,863.03	421,929.44	1,829,364.28	49,448.42	48,014.40	4,906,619.57
Rockland	6,246,603.33	1,034,294.98	4,484,404.52	121,215.19	117,699.90	12,004,217.92
South Thomaston	2,193,966.67	337,553.04	1,463,532.56	39,559.85	38,412.60	4,073,024.73
Thomaston	2,805,491.67	473,215.40	2,051,725.40	55,458.93	53,850.60	5,439,742.00
Totals:	16,216,678.03	2,636,268.12	11,430,097.70	308,959.96	300,000.00	30,892,003.82

Under and by the virtue of the provisions of section 1489(3) of Title 20-A of the Maine Revised Statutes, as amended, you are hereby notified that the following monthly installments are payable by the Municipality to the Treasurer of the RSU for the Fiscal Year Period and that each such monthly installment is due on or before the 20th day of each month, commencing July 20th, of the Fiscal Year Period, as follows:

July 20	$ **408,884.97**
August 20	$ **408,884.97**
September 20	$ **408,884.97**
October 20	$ **408,884.97**
November 20	$ **408,884.97**
December 20	$ **408,884.96**
January 20	$ **408,884.96**
February 20	$ **408,884.96**
March 20	$ **408,884.96**
April 20	$ **408,884.96**
May 20	$ **408,884.96**
June 20	$ **408,884.96**
Fiscal Year Period Total	**$4,906,619.57**

Given under our hands this June 11th, 2025:

A majority of the School Board of Regional School Unit No. 13

Attest:
John C. McDonald, Treasurer

TOWN WARRANT

TO: Frank Ross, resident in the Town of Owls Head, in the County of Knox

Greetings:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Owls Head, qualified by law to vote on this town's affairs, to assemble at the Owls Head Community Building on the 11th day of August 2025, at 6:00 PM, to act upon the following articles:

ARTICLE 1 – To choose a Moderator to preside over the meeting.

ARTICLE 2 – To choose a Select Board member for a three-year term.

ARTICLE 3 – To choose three Assessors for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 4 – To choose three Overseers for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 5 – To choose a Road Commissioner for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 6 – To choose a member for the Town Council for a three-year term.

ARTICLE 7 – To choose a Harbor Master for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 8 – EXPENSES
To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate for each of the following general government activities:
Recommendation:

Select Board Chair	$5907
Select Board Member	$4442
Select Board Member	$4442
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	$56529
Town Administrator	$41400
Administrative Assistant	$38160
Treasurer	$40067
Assessor's Agent	$31200
Code Enforcement Officer	$37855
Health Officer	$387
Janitor	$3505
Payroll Taxes Expense	$25121
Re-Assessment	$10000

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Utilities (Community Building)	$5009
Heat	$2400
Telephone	$1500
Water	$600
General Expense	$600
Dues/Fees	$6000
Harris Trio	$22000
Ardiah Fees	$13000
Comprehensive Plan	$1500
IT Equip/Supplies	$17500
Postage	$6700
Supplies	$3200
Tax Bills/Map	$3000
Office Equipment	$15000
Updated Maps	$2000
Ads/printing	$1000
Lien discharge	$1500
Audit	$21500
Town Report	$2100
Repair/Maintenance	$11400
Temp. Help	$400
Elections	$2500
Legal	$10000
Reimburse Vehicle Use	$1250
Insurance General	$28594
Health Insurance	$56139
Unemployment Insurance	$4804
FMLA	$3284
Total General Government	**$543,495**

ARTICLE 9 – PUBLIC SAFETY

To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate for each of the following safety activities:

A. Fire

1. Payroll	$64924
2. Heat	$4200
3. Fuel	$1500
4. Signs	$500
5. Supplies	$4400

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6. Equipment	$19850
7. Repair/Maintenance	$29050
8. Training	$3800
9. OSHA Exams	$125
10. Ambulance/1st Aid	$121657
11. 911 Address	$631
12. EMA Director	$2000
13. Assistant EMA Director	$1000
13. Fire Warden	$606
14. General Expense	$9876
15. Dues/Fees	$400
Total Fire	**$264,519**
B. Animal Control Officer	$5330
• Animal Control Expense	$2600
C. Streetlights	
• Electricity	$11365
• Hydrants	$21362
Total	$40657
Total Public Safety	**$305,807**

ARTICLE 10 – PUBLIC WORKS

To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate for each of the following public work's activities:

A. Town Roads	$131422
B. Town Road Supplies	$5510
C. Snow Removal	$133625
D. Salt/Sand	$50000
E. Wood Dump Attendant	$14231
• Expenses	$85000
F. Transfer Station	$205000
G. Harbor Master	$5855
• Harbor Expense	$4900
H. Road Commissioner	$5342
I. Septic Waste	$2400
J. Cemeteries Expense	$9425
• Lawn Care	$16700
K. Conservation Commission	$2000
Total Public Works	**$671,410**

ARTICLE 11 – HUMAN SERVICES

To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate for human services:

A. General Assistance	$750
B. Donation Requests	$4000
C. Library	$3000
D. Kitchen	$2000
E. Garden Club	$1000
Total Human Services	**$10,750**

ARTICLE 12 – MISCELLANEOUS

To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate for unclassified expenses:

A. Volunteer Reimbursement	$250
Total Miscellaneous	**$250**

Expense totals for Warrant Articles 8 through 12	**$1,531,081**

ARTICLE 13 – To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the following funds to reduce the Town's 2025-2026 tax commitment:

TOWN OF OWLS HEAD REVENUE BUDGET	
BETE Reimbursement	$8000
State Revenue Sharing	$186454
Lien Cost Reimbursement	$2500
Vehicle Excise Tax	$445000
Agent Fees	$11000
Bank Interest	$31000
NSF Collection Fee	$50
Boat Excise Tax	$7000
Tax Interest	$10000
Local Road Assistance	$26500
Mooring Fees	$18000
Homestead Exemption	$118000
Dog License Fees	$650
Dog Fines	$600
Room Rental	$4250
Copier Use	$50
Wood Dump	$20000
Building Permits	$13500

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Parks/Recreation Reimbursement	$2700
Cable Contract	$5800
Donations\In Lieu of Taxes	$2400
Snowmobile Refund	$250
Tree Growth	$1600
Plumbing Permit	$6000
Total	**$921304**

ARTICLE 14 – To see if the Town will vote to raise from general property taxes the amounts voted in the preceding Articles 8-12 inclusive to be reduced by the amounts voted in Article 13.

ARTICLE 15 – To see if the Town will vote to accept the categories of funds listed below as provided by the "Maine State Legislature"; State Revenue Sharing; Education, Certification Block Grant; Urban Rural Initiative Program (Local Road Assistance); Tree Growth Refund; Park Fee Sharing; Veterans Exemption Reimbursements; Snowmobile Registration; General Assistance; Library; and any and all kinds of property tax relief.

ARTICLE 16 – To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to negotiate and sign contracts as necessary for budgeted services.

ARTICLE 17 – To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to transfer funds from unexpended balances and surplus if necessary.

ARTICLE 18 - To see if the Town will vote to appropriate up to $200,000 from the unassigned Fund Balance to be used to reduce the 2026 Tax Commitment.

ARTICLE 19 – To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept the payment of taxes not yet assessed.

ARTICLE 20 – To see if the Town will vote to adopt the following regarding the collection of taxes; the first installment will become due and payable October 06, 2025, and interest will be charged at 7.500% annually on all accounts unpaid after November 03, 2025. The second installment will become due and payable March 09, 2026, and interest will be charged at 7.500% annually on all accounts for the second installment unpaid after April 06, 2026. Delinquents will be dealt with pursuant to the order signed by the Select Board on 01/04/10.

ARTICLE 21 – To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board on behalf of the Town to dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes thereon, on such terms as they may deem advisable, except for property tax-acquired from certain senior, low-income taxpayers who qualify for the special sale process required pursuant to 36 M.R.S. § 943-C, and to execute quit-claim deeds for such property. Property which, in the opinion of the Select Board, best serves the interest of the Town by remaining Town-owned property need not be sold.

ARTICLE 22 – To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to sign quitclaim property deeds for properties that the Town does not claim as tax-acquired property and for which the Town has no record of taxes being owed, but on which there are no discharged municipal tax liens. The purpose of said quitclaim deeds would be to clear the title only.

ARTICLE 23 – To see if the Town will vote to accept and appropriate for the purposes of which they are received the proceeds of all grants made to the Town during the Town's fiscal year by the federal or state government, their agencies and authorities; and to see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers on behalf of the Town to apply for such grants, provided that any necessary matching funds be appropriated by Town Meeting and that any substantive conditions, other than standard grant conditions regarding spending only for the purpose for which the grant is made, be approved by Town Meeting. Nondiscrimination, payment of prevailing wages, and similar administrative matters, must also be approved and accepted by the Town Office.

ARTICLE 24 - Shall an amended ordinance entitled "Zoning Ordinance" for the Town of Owls Head be enacted with the following additions and changes in order to comply with the State of Maine LD 2003.

Change to Land Use Table, P. 13

Land Uses	Rural Residential I & II	Rural Residential I & II Overlay	Resource Protection	Commercial
ADU (Accessory Dwelling Unit) (X)	CEO	CEO	NO	PB

continued next page

X. ADU Requirements

a. If a property (lot) has a single-family dwelling unit, a single Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) is allowed.
b. No additional parking for the ADU,
c. No additional lot size
d. All dimensional requirements apply (Setbacks, height, lot coverage).
e. All Plumbing, water, and sewer laws apply,
f. All Shoreland requirements apply.
g. All Subdivision requirements apply.
h. Both units must have common ownership.
i. An accessory dwelling unit must meet a minimum size of 190 square feet. If the Technical Building Codes and Standards Board under Title 10, section 9722 adopts a different minimum size, that standard applies and a maximum of 800 square feet or smaller than the primary structure, whichever is smaller.

7.2 Definitions

ADU (Accessory Dwelling Unit): Smaller, independent residential dwelling unit located on the same lot as a single-family dwelling. One Accessory Dwelling Unit is allowed on an existing lot within the existing dwelling unit, inside or attached to the existing unit or as a new structure.

The following minimum number of spaces shall be provided and maintained:

ADU (Accessory Dwelling Unit) No additional Parking Required

ARTICLE 25 - To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to place the proceeds of the sale of the Grange Hall ($49,000) into a single reserve fund for the benefit of the buildings and infrastructure of the Town of Owls Head to be expensed as necessary at the direction of the Select Board.

ARTICLE 26 - To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to place previously appropriated funds (left over held in reserve) from the account originally designated for the construction of the Salt/Sand Shed (Balance as of 06-30-2025 - $10,558) into a reserve fund for the benefit of the buildings and infrastructure of the Town of Owls Head to be expensed as necessary at the direction of the Select Board.

ARTICLE 27 - To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to place previously appropriated funds (left over held in an individual bank account) from the account originally designated for the construction of the Ingraham Sewer Upgrade (balance of $2,883.09 as of 06-30-2025 plus accrued interest as of date of transfer) into the Sewer Savings Account.

ARTICLE 28 - To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to remove previously appropriated funds (left over held in an individual bank account) from the account originally designated for Property Tax Relief (balance of $6,063.44 as of 06-30-2025 plus accrued interest as of date of transfer) and apply to reduce property tax.

The Select Board gives notice that they will be in session at the Owls Head Community Building alongside the Registrar of Voters for the purpose of accepting and correcting the voting list polls on Monday, August 11, 2025, 6:00 p.m. You must be a registered Owls Head voter to vote at the Town Meetings.

Given under our hands on this 21 day of July 2025

A true copy of the warrant

Attest: _____
Eleanor Stone, Town Clerk

Select Board, Town of Owls Head

Mike Keating
Linda Post
Pamela Holland

~ Notes ~

~ Notes ~