

ANNUAL REPORT

2024





Town of Starks

www.starksme.com

P 207.696.8069 F 207.696.8201 57 Anson Road, Starks, ME 04911

COVER PHOTO CONTEST

Please submit original photographs of or in Starks to townofstarks@gmail.com with the date, and location it was taken, along with a title for your photo.

Cover Photo: Summer Rain

Taken by: Danielle Pressey



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DEDICATION

Linda LaRose

With heartfelt gratitude and admiration, we dedicate this year's annual report to Linda, a true pillar of Starks. Linda LaRose's story is one of dedication, passion, and a deep-rooted love for community, especially the town of Starks, Maine. Born in Bridgton, Linda spent her childhood on a small farm in Denmark, Maine with her parents and four siblings, attending a small school much like the old Starks school for kindergarten. Her educational journey took her briefly to North Anson and then to Madison, where she graduated with honors in 1968, recognized as the "most studious" and earning a scholarship from the Starks Grange.

Her pursuit of knowledge led her to the University of Maine at Farmington (UMF), where she graduated in 1972. While at UMF, Linda showcased her initiative by creating and launching the "Creative Play" children's program. Her academic excellence was further recognized by her inclusion in Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities for two years and her membership in Kappa Delta Pi, the education honor society. A true testament to her passion for learning, she designed her own major and several courses, focusing on special education and liberal arts. Linda's dedication to education continued, culminating in a Master's degree in 1991 in the Program of Exceptionalities. She became a certified special education consultant and teacher of gifted and talented, embodying the spirit of a lifelong learner by consistently taking and teaching courses.



We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.

-WINSTON CHURCHILL

Linda's teaching career spanned from 1980 to 2022, primarily in MSAD #59, with three years in MSAD #74. She taught students of all ages, from preschool to high school, leaving a lasting impact on countless lives. Concurrently, she shared her expertise as an adjunct instructor at both KVCC and UMF, teaching undergraduate and graduate special education courses from approximately 1997 to 2017.

Her connection to Starks, however, goes beyond her teaching career. Linda's first public school teaching experience was as a substitute at the old Starks School in the early 1970s, a memory she cherishes. She later taught part-time and then full-time at Starks Elementary, becoming deeply involved in the school's life, including its renovation and transition to a community center. Alongside Rick Fayen, she helped establish the center's Christmas program, which she continued after his passing, enlisting the help of Joe McCarthy and others to create a beloved annual tradition.

Linda's commitment to Starks extended to serving on the library board, where she helped organize numerous programs for children and adults. She also played a key role in the 2011 Open House and Reunion at the community center, bringing together past students, teachers, and community members. Her contributions to Starks are numerous – from painting playground equipment and cleaning trails to working in the community garden, helping with grant applications, and participating in Pumpkinfest. She was also a member of SEEdS and served on the EPHM board, but one of Linda's largest recent contributions to Starks was the creation and implementation of the SummerKids program that she ran for many years.

Linda's connection to Starks is deeply personal. She and her husband, Bert, purchased land in Starks in 1975, drawn to its beauty. They built their current home in 1987. From her early days subbing at the Starks School to her tireless work at the community center, Linda's heart has always been in Starks. She always took a moment to express her gratitude for the school and the community, a practice she continues to this day. Her story is a testament to the power of community, collaboration, and a lifelong commitment to education and service..



MUNICIPAL OFFICERS TERMS

Selectmen - 3 year		Town Report Admir	ietrato	r
<u> </u>	0.0005	Erin Norton	3-2025	
David Taylor	3-2025	Lilli Norton	0-2020	,
Joseph Hayden	3-2026	Animal Control Office	cor - 1 v	oar.
Ernest Hilton	3-2027	Danielle Pressey	3-2025	
A 2		Danielle i Tessey	0-2020	,
Assessors - 3 year	2 2025	CEO/Health Officer	- 3 vear	•
Maryanne Gawlinski		Terriann Lamontagne		=
Joseph Hayden	3-2026	remain Lamontagne	, 0-2020	,
Byrne Wright	3-2027	Building Superinter	dent -	1 vear
Tay Callagtar 2 year	O.F.	William Pressey	3-2025	<u></u>
Tax Collector - 3 yes		vimani i roccoy	0 2020	•
Jenn Zweig Hebert	3-2027	Town Sexton - 1 yea	ar	
Town Clerk - 3 year		Danielle Pressey	 3-2025	5
Jenn Zweig Hebert	3-2025	,		
Jeilii Zweig Hebert	3-2023	Warrant Officer - 3	vear	
Registrar of Voters	- 2 year	William Pressey	3-2026	3
Jenn Zweig Hebert	1-2027	,		-
ocilii Zweig i lebert	1 2021	RSU # 9 School Boa	ard Dire	ctor - 3 year
<u>Treasurer - 3 year</u>		Katie Martikke	7-2027	
Erin Norton	3-2026	A		
2	0 2020	Appeals Board - 5 y		_
Planning Board - 5	vear	George Martikke	9-2025	
Gwen Hilton	4-2025	Sara Brusila	9-2025	
Ken Lust	4-2027	Carol Coles	9-2027	
Tiffany Bellefleur	4-2028	Maryanne Gawlinski Jared Norton		
Claire Nelson	4-2028	Jared Norton	9-2028)
Joe Hartigan	4-2029	Budget Committee	_ 1 voai	.
Bryne Wright (Alt)	4-2026	Paul Frederic	3-2025	_
		Ken Lust	3-2025	
Plumbing Inspector	<u>- 3 year</u>	Kevin McGillicuddy	3-2025	
Ed Avery	3-2027	Jodi O'Connor	3-2025	
		Charlene Pressey	3-2025	
Fire Chief		onanche i ressey	0 2020	,
Robert Pressey, Jr.		Water District - 3 ye	ar	
		Joe Hartigan	<u>u. </u>	Operator
Town Fire Warden -	1 year	Ashley Hayden		11-2025
Carl Irvine, Jr.	3-2025	Anna Matilda Simone	;	11-2025
		Robin Melancon-Quir		11-2025
GA Administrator		Jared Norton	· J	11-2026
Jenn Zweig Hebert	3-2025	Erin Norton		11-2026



Town of Starks

57 Anson Road Starks, ME 04911 207.696.8069(o) 207.696.8201(f) townofstarks@gmail.com

OFFICE OF THE SELECTBOARD

March 8, 2025

2024 was a busy year. Most notably extensive road work was done on that portion of the Sawyers Mills Road extending from the top of the hill beyond the Mayhew Road to the end of pavement at the Sterry Hill road. The work consisted of replacing culverts, grinding all the pavement in place, putting down cloth and covering it with twelve inches of new gravel. We have now converted to gravel road all of that portion of the Sawyers Mills Road which had been paved. As director of Public Works, Joe Hayden performs a Herculean effort and does it well.

We put in a proposal for another culvert replacement grant, this time to replace steel culverts at the foot of Sterry Hill with a concrete arch similar to the project at Watson Corner. This stream drains into Lemon Stream. Unfortunately our application was denied, apparently because of the extensive damage from the storm of December 2023 which diverted grant funding to other needs. We're going to holdoff on further culvert applications for a few years.

Many of you may realize a not-for-profit group has acquired rights to remove the dam on Lemon Stream in the village. This would further fish passage for brook trout and a variety of anadramous and catadramous fish.

We are also embarking on "Resilience" grants. This is a state-wide effort to build greater climate resilience into our communities to save energy, reduce the town's carbon footprint and save tax dollars. The three major culverting projects we've done over the last six years have been climate resilience projects, all completed at little or no cost to the Town. Among possible projects will be extensive insulation and energy conservation efforts at the town garage, the fire station and the Community Center. There is grant funding available for much of this effort.

In 2022 the Town set aside about \$30,000 towards a complete overhaul of the HVAC control system at the Community Center. We were unable to get the work done this past year due to a lack of contracting capacity. We are recommending the funds be rolled over into the new year.

We completed the purchase of a used 2006 Volvo wheeler plow truck as an auction item from the Dep't of Transportation. The truck came complete with a head frame and side tower, a nose plow and wing as well as a stainless steel sander. The purchase price was \$10,000 as compared to \$250,000 as the cost of the package new. We plan to invest an additional \$15,000 in upgrades and maintenance of the truck to assure its long-term usefulness to the town. This represents the third DOT Volvo wheeler plow truck (others were vintage 2003 and 2004) the town has acquired and is

the last one for a while. Those together with an International wheeler represent a major asset to the town.

The NECEC 320 kV, 1200 MW DC line is nearing completion. As of January 1st, poles had been set as far west as the Mayhew Road and wire had been hung to the west edge of Rick Gray's field off Rt 43. NECEC has indicated the project will be completed and operational by the fall of 2025.

The Board is proposing the Town acquire a new rubber mounted excavator to be used for ditching and other construction work. Such an item would have been of immense benefit in doing the culvert replacements over the past few years, including the culvert replacement near Williamson Corner on the River Road this past summer. As we look at our roads and the need for additional ditching and further construction, it becomes apparent leasing excavators is an overly expensive way to get much of this work done. It'll be on the agenda for discussion at town meeting.

The Town's over 25-year involvement with First Park, a business park located at the I-95 exit in Oakland, continues. When formed, the premise of the Park was that the member towns would make investments for a few years then start receiving payoffs of net operating funds as lots sold, and were improved and jobs created. Thus far it hasn't worked out that way. We've been encouraging the Executive Board of First Park to modify the business plan for the Park to enable it to get the lots out into the market sooner and thereby start paying tax benefits to member towns. They did sell four lots to a solar developer in April 2022 and later that year a couple of lots were sold to an investment company from Ohio, but this latter sale was a buy-sell of two lots with no net benefit. The effectiveness of the overall sales effort is very poor. There has been no net sale within the business purposes of the Park since May of 2013, nearly 12 years ago. Given that the purpose of the Park isn't to generate profit, but is to instead generate real estate tax income and jobs, we have proposed simply giving the lots away to qualified developers.

As all of you realize by now, Consolidated Communications (CCI) through its subsidiary Fidium Fiber constructed a fiber line throughout town this past year and has hooked up many of you.

As in the past, members of the Board are active in a number of other municipal or quasi-municipal organizations. We're all on the board of AMS (the local ambulance board), and KVRWC (the recycling operation) of which Joe oversees the day-to-day operation. In addition, Ernie works with Ken Lust on the First Park board. And the Town is involved with the local Kennebec Valley Council of Governments, KVCOG.

We generally meet every first and third Monday evenings in the Town Office at the Community Center (including some holidays) at 7 PM and welcome people coming in with their questions, comments and concerns.

Ernie	-		α
1711116			

Joe Hayden

Dave Taylor

FROM THE DESK OF THE TOWN CLERK

Thank you to the townspeople of Starks! My 14th year as Town Clerk was a busy one.

The Community Center has become a hub of activity. There's been a few library events, the once-amonth Saturday Mug Up is more fun than ever and the Fire Department hosted the best Family Fun Day yet. Remember, the gym is available for rent for private parties or groups. Call the Town Office during our scheduled hours if you are interested in renting the gym for your event.

Our mobile friendly website, www.starksme.com - is packed with an amazing amount of information related to our town. Everything from paying your taxes online, re-registering your cars, trucks and trailers, dog licenses, ATV, snowmobile and boat re-registrations, hunting and fishing licenses, tax maps, the annual town report, town adopted ordinances, and planning board activities to upcoming events/deadlines is at your fingertips. Check it out

Other ways we try to help you stay informed of town happenings is the official Town of Starks Facebook page, the casual Facebook group "ALL THINGS STARKS" (not town affiliated) and a town wide email list. If you haven't utilized these great ways to keep in touch, check out the Facebook pages, and/or send an email to townofstarks@gmail.com and request to be added to receive town wide emails.

This was an intense election year with the Presidential Primary in February, municipal elections in March a State Primary/School Budget Election in June and the General Election in November. Some new election workers joined our stalwart team of experienced Election Workers and got us through the long days with grace and efficiency. I want to thank the following election workers: Valerie Comstock, Ann Cole, Philip Cole, Carol Coles, Maryanne Gawlinski, Debra Mazzoli, Erin Norton, Charlene Pressey, Danielle Pressey, Vicki Stevens, and Barbara Vischer. Kudos to Bill Pressey as well for all the extra time spent setting up and cleaning.

Thank you to the Select Board, **Joe, Dave** and **Ernie** for their hard work and dedication to running the town successfully. And, as always, A *SPECIAL THANK YOU* goes to my office mate **Erin Norton**.

Vital records for 2024 were as follows:	<u>Births</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Marriages</u>
	6	Q	5

Town office hours are **Mondays 10 am-2 pm, Wednesdays 3pm-7pm, and the first Saturday of the month 8 am -11 am**. I understand these limited hours can be frustrating for some – so I am willing to help folks (in a pinch) during off hours. Call me (578-0341) or email me at mthungermaine@gmail.com and I will do my best to accommodate your needs.

I am honored to be working as the Clerk for the Town of Starks. I hope to continue to serve you well.

Respectfully submitted, Jennifer A Zweig Hebert

			Original	Payments/	Amount
Status	Acct	Name	Tax	Adjustments	Due
	1	Abbott, Brandi S	\$922.90	- \$3.24	\$926.14
	10	Adams, Kaitlyn N	\$100.80	- \$0.35	\$101.15
	330	Albertson, Laura	\$1,852.56	<i>-</i> \$6.50	\$1,859.06
	711	Ashby, Deborah	\$265.25	-\$0.93	\$266.18
	577	Bavolar, James R	\$576.00	-\$2.02	\$578.02
	629	Bellefleur, Eileen M	\$384.34	- \$1.35	\$385.69
	324	Bellefleur, Sarah	\$411.26	- \$1.44	\$412.70
	52	Benton, Jonathon A	\$1,073.81	- \$3.77	\$1,077.58
	74	Berto, Daniel A	\$1,036.22	-\$3.63	\$1,039.85
	561	BICKFORD, DALE J	\$787.10	\$17.19	\$769.91
**	60	Boucher, Douglas A	\$798.19	\$0.00	\$798.19
**	331	Boucher, Douglas A	\$185.18	\$0.00	\$185.18
	634	Brockett, Cameron	\$214.27	\$208.98	\$5.29
	791	Brown, Steven E Jr	\$708.19	-\$2.48	\$710.67
**	479	Bucciano Daniel	\$588.53	\$0.00	\$588.53
	702	Bushey, Jason B	\$809.42	-\$2.84	\$812.26
D	82	Chick, Freeman T	\$94.75	\$91.74	\$3.01
	120	Chretien, Nathen	\$301.39	\$0.04	\$301.35
D	87	Churchill, Caleb	\$566.78	- \$1.99	\$568.77
*	89	Churchill, William CSr	\$2,252.45	\$119.80	\$2,132.65
	70	CLARK, ARNOLD J	\$618.05	<i>-</i> \$2.17	\$620.22
	416	Clark, Kelly D	\$638.35	-\$2.24	\$640.59
	98	Colburn, Gary	\$1,176.62	-\$4.13	\$1,180.75
	111	Costigan, Julie L	\$598.75	\$0.94	\$597.81
	409	Costigan, Kenneth	\$538.56	<i>-</i> \$1.89	\$540.45
	118	Crockett, Stephen	\$760.03	-\$2.67	\$762.70
**		CZARNECKI, BRAD	\$4,421.81	\$0.00	\$4,421.81
D	136	Deming, Roi A	\$793.87	-\$2.78	\$796.65
)	153	Derian Jr., Joseph A	\$638.93	-\$2.24	\$641.17
	455	Donovan, Gregory J	\$511.78	<i>-</i> \$1.79	\$513.57
	123	DUBOIS, ANTHONY P	\$929.52	<i>-</i> \$3.26	\$932.78
10000000000000000000000000000000000000	169	Duhaime, Deanne	\$478.66	- \$1.13	\$479.79
	176	Dyke et Al, Darrell A.	\$1,610.50	\$531.23	\$1,079.27
**	179		\$241.92	\$0.00	\$241.92
	283	Esposito, Maureen H	\$1,281.46	-\$4.49	\$1,285.95
		Esposito, Robert M	\$2,512.22	-\$8.81	\$2,521.03

^{**} Indicates Paid in Full after December 31, 2024

^{*} Indicates Partial Payment after December 31, 2024

Status	Acct	Name	Original Tax	Payments/ Adjustments	Amount Due
**		Farrell, Donna M	\$1,390.18	\$0.00	\$1,390.18
	190	Fellman, Carl	\$742.03	-\$2.60	\$744.63
	194	Field, Robert J	\$848.30	-\$2.97	\$851.27
	749	Fields Jr., Bruce W	\$237.60	-\$0.83	\$238.43
	680	Fleetwood, George	\$278.06	-\$0.98	\$279.04
	157	Forever Green MP Homes	\$1,168.13	-\$4.10	\$1,172.23
	201	Frederic, Joseph W	\$1,604.30	\$0.00	\$1,604.30
	832	FREDERIC, PAUL B	\$1,553.04	-\$5.45	\$1,558.49
	205	Friend, Tara M	\$830.88	-\$2.91	\$833.79
	209	Gaeta, Lorraine A	\$680.83	-\$2.39	\$683.22
	210	Gaeta, Lorraine Ann	\$426.82	-\$1.50	\$428.32
	460	GIGUERE, RAYMOND R	\$642.10	-\$2.25	\$644.35
	826	Gilbert, Austin	\$186.62	-\$0.65	\$187.27
	503	GORDON, ROBERT B JR	\$1,745.28	\$1,690.90	\$54.38
**	619	Gower, Charie A	\$2,372.69	\$0.00	\$2,372.69
	224	Graef, Adriane H	\$701.57	-\$2.46	\$704.03
	737	Gray, Richard E	\$48.67	-\$0.17	\$48.84
	231	Greenleaf, Scott	\$331.78	-\$1.16	\$332.94
	419	Haley, Ryan M	\$297.22	-\$1.04	\$298.26
	238	HALL, MARCIA	\$803.95	-\$2.82	\$806.77
Di	240	Hamilton, Thomas H	\$144.58	\$30.22	\$114.36
	241	Hand, Roger	\$556.56	-\$1.95	\$558.51
	245	Harris, Nelson N	\$294.34	-\$1.03	\$295.37
	249	Hartigan, Dennis P	\$806.54	-\$2.83	\$809.37
	257	Hayden Family Trust	\$686.02	-\$2.41	\$688.43
D.	735	Hayden, Joseph P.O.	\$430.27	-\$1.51	\$431.78
	258	Hayden, Joseph Paul	\$1,598.26	-\$5.60	\$1,603.86
	280	Hogg, Mark E	\$761.47	-\$2.67	\$764.14
	281	Holmes, Eric G	\$831.17	\$0.00	\$831.17
	38	HOPKINS, STEPHEN J	\$2,589.55	-\$9.08	\$2, 598.63
	285	Horelick, Estate of, Walter	\$597.89	\$10.75	\$587.14
**	811	HORNER, JOSEPH C	\$200.45	\$0.00	\$200.45
	207	HOWTON, ANNA	\$297.22	-\$1.04	\$298.26
	299	Irvine, Carl H Jr	\$263.66	-\$0.92	\$264.58

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^{*} Indicates Partial Payment after December 31, 2024

Status	Acct	Name	Original Tax	Payments/ Adjustments	Amount Due
		Jacyssin, Kyle E	\$255.74	-\$0.90	\$256.64
		Jacyssin, Kyle E	\$1,071.36	-\$3.76	\$1,075.12
		Johnson, Christopher	\$578.59	-\$2.03	\$580.62
		KONOPKA, DANIEL E	\$760.32	-\$2.67	\$762.99
**	327	KREBS, DAVID S	\$3,468.53	\$2,372.94	\$1,095.59
	424	Lagin-Nasse, Julianna &	\$526.90	-\$1.85	\$528.75
		Lane, James	\$228.10	-\$0.80	\$228.90
**	339	Larouche, John G	\$1,402.13	\$1,000.00	\$402.13
**	609	LEMAY FAMILY IRREVOCABLE TRI	\$862.27	\$531.76	\$330.51
	315	Lemay Trapper C.	\$2,488.46	\$0.15	\$2,488.31
		Lemay, George E Jr	\$2,189.52	-\$7.68	\$2,197.20
		LEMAY, TRAPPER C	\$516.82	-\$1.81	\$518.63
	733	Lessard, Allen	\$186.62	-\$0.65	\$187.27
	332	Lessard, Allen R	\$416.45	-\$1.46	\$417.91
	365	Locke Hill Land Trust	\$520.42	-\$1.83	\$522.25
	23	Lounder, David R., JR	\$320.11	-\$1.12	\$321.23
	574	LUKER, GAIL CHRISTINA	\$257.18	-\$0.90	\$258.08
	368	Mansfield, Kelly Jayne	\$929.52	\$1.66	\$927.86
		Mansfield, Kelly Jayne	\$42.91	-\$0.15	\$43.06
	389	Martikke, George	\$603.07	-\$2.11	\$605.18
	390	Martikke, George F	\$953.71	-\$3.34	\$957.05
		Mccarten, Michael P. &	\$297.22	-\$1.04	\$298.26
**		McDowell, Ronald J	\$180.43	\$0.00	\$180.43
**	404	McLaughlin, Chris	\$1,825.49	\$1,000.00	\$825.49
		MCMURROUGH, BRYAN S	\$885.60	-\$3.11	\$888.71
	405	McPherson, Wayne	\$226.66	-\$0.79	\$227.45
	505		\$836.35	-\$2.93	\$839.28
	529		\$949.25	-\$3.33	\$952.58
	518	Miller, Joseph	\$739.44	-\$2.59	\$742.03
	171	Napoleon, Alexander G	\$421.63	-\$1.48	\$423.11
	524	NEAL, JAMES	\$473.47	-\$1.66	\$475.13
	429	Newsom, John	\$373.10	-\$1.31	\$374.41
	430	Newton, Kirt	\$1,410.91	-\$4.95	\$1,415.86
	675	Nichols, Michael A	\$1,022.26	-\$3.58	\$1,025.84

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^{*} Indicates Partial Payment after December 31, 2024

Status	Acct	Name	Original Tax	Payments/ Adjustments	Amount Due
		Nichols, William L	\$390.53	-\$1.37	\$391.90
**	520	Norton, Erin	\$504.58	\$0.00	\$504.58
**	690	Norton, Erin E	\$2,944.37	\$1,200.00	\$1,744.37
	261	Norton, Jared M	\$287.57	-\$1.01	\$288.58
	565	Norton, Jared M	\$400.18	-\$1.40	\$401.58
**	436	NORTON, JORDAN D	\$200.45	\$0.00	\$200.45
	439	O'Donald, Melissa	\$255.60	-\$0.90	\$256.50
	456	Osgood, Wanda	\$1,055.09	-\$3.70	\$1,058.79
	466	Patenaude, Alan	\$207.36	-\$0.73	\$208.09
	465	Patenaude, Alan T	\$527.90	-\$1.85	\$529.75
	497	PEDERSEN, RONALD	\$1,812.10	\$1,023.97	\$788.13
	480	Peppermint, Cary	\$1,118.59	\$1.79	\$1,116.80
	452	Perrone, John	\$857.66	-\$3.01	\$860.67
	492	Piche, Bradley M	\$426.82	-\$1.50	\$428.32
	32	POIRIER, JARED	\$502.42	-\$1.76	\$504.18
**	498	Prescott, Daniel E	\$978.34	\$0.00	\$978.34
	762	Prescott, Gerald S	\$334.51	-\$1.17	\$335.68
	778	Pressey, Heirs of Ruby	\$442.37	-\$1.55	\$443.92
	499	Pressey, Robert M	\$966.67	-\$3.39	\$970.06
	500	Pressey, Ruby, Heirs Of	\$564.05	-\$1.98	\$566.03
		Quimby, Francis J	\$1,020.38	-\$3.58	\$1,023.96
	502	Quimby, Glenda	\$1,847.95	-\$6.48	\$1,854.43
**	197	R. J. Fortier Hydropower, Inc.	\$732.53	\$0.00	\$732.53
		RAINVILLE, MICHAEL S	\$295.34	-\$1.04	\$296.38
	517	Randall, Lewis G., Randall Barbara J,	\$559.01	-\$1.96	\$560.97
	9	Riley, Megan	\$241.78	-\$0.85	\$242.63
		Rioux Family Revocable Trust	\$149.62	\$47.17	\$102.45
	530	Robinson, John	\$2, 330.06	-\$8.17	\$2,338.2 3
		Rosie, Nathanial	\$765.65	-\$2.69	\$768.34
	777	Ross, Jon A	\$1,482.62	\$2.51	\$1,480.11
	538	Russo, Diane M	\$432.00	-\$1.51	\$433.51
	665	Russo, Diane M	\$1,261.58	-\$4.42	\$1,266.00
	666	Russo, Diane M	\$22.18	-\$0.08	\$22.26

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^{*} Indicates Partial Payment after December 31, 2024

Status	Acct	Name	Original Tax	Payments/ Adjustments	Amount Due
		Savage, Robert A	\$298.66	-\$1.05	\$299.71
		Sheen, Jada F	\$525.31	\$1.62	\$523.69
		Sherrer, Charles R	\$1,038.38	-\$3.64	\$1,042.02
		Sherrer, Earskin Estate of	\$269.57	-\$0.95	\$270.52
**	562	Sherrer, John	\$280.66	\$0.00	\$280.66
**	563	Sherrer, Lucy Geneva	\$399.31	\$0.00	\$399.31
**	31		\$1,125.65	\$0.00	\$1,125.65
**	114	Smith, Perry	\$629.86	\$0.00	\$629.86
**		Smith, Perry	\$400.90	\$0.00	\$400.90
	421	Sommers, Benjy C	\$1,913.76	-\$6.71	\$1,920.47
	521		\$724.90	-\$2.54	\$727.44
	593	Sterry Earl R. Jr.	\$451.01	-\$1.58	\$452.59
	691	Stevens, Charles L	\$803.09	-\$2.82	\$805.91
	722	Swisher, John R	\$228.10	-\$0.80	\$228.90
	602	Tanner, Richard A	\$286.85	\$0.46	\$286.39
	605	Taylor, David E	\$1,291.97	-\$4.53	\$1,296.50
	615	Thayer, Erika L	\$1,165.54	-\$4.09	\$1,169.63
	613	Thayer, James	\$1,264.03	-\$4.43	\$1,268.46
	617	Theberge, Andre	\$3,022.13	-\$10.60	\$3,032.73
	754		\$677.66	-\$2.38	\$680.04
	627	Tracy, Alice C	\$158.40	-\$0.56	\$158.96
	393	Tracy, Joseph S	\$515.09	-\$1.81	\$516.90
		Tracy, Trista A	\$237.60	-\$0.83	\$238.43
	628	Tracy, Truman G	\$351.50	-\$1.23	\$352.73
	631	Tutt, Dawn	\$1,302.77	\$105.99	\$1,196.78
	282	Viant, Jules	\$517.54	-\$0.71	\$518.25
	639	Vincent, Edward B	\$197.71	-\$0.69	\$198.40
**	640	VOGEL, JENNIFER L	\$2,096.93	\$0.00	\$2,096.93
	410	Vomorde, Carson C	\$1,391.76	-\$4.88	\$1,396.64
	512	WADE, JACOB C	\$858.82	\$831.89	\$26.93
	822	Waite, Katrina	\$324.86	-\$1.14	\$326.00
	181	Waite, Nicholas P	\$1,777.39	-\$6.23	\$1,783.62
	352	Webber, Archie L	\$200.45	-\$0.70	\$201.15
	782	Welcome, Cordell	\$64.80	-\$0.23	\$65.03

⁻⁻⁻⁻⁻

^{**} Indicates Paid in Full after December 31, 2024

^{*} Indicates Partial Payment after December 31, 2024

Status	Acct	Name	Original Tax	Payments/ Adjustments	Amount Due
	781	Welcome, Jeffery	\$1,307.95	<i>-</i> \$4.59	\$1,312.54
	467	Whipple, Charles Bruce	\$1,429.20	-\$5.01	\$1,434.21
	659	Whipple, Charles Bruce	\$918.14	-\$3.22	\$921.36
Diameter Control	660	White, Stephen	\$578.02	-\$2.03	\$580.05
	580	Whitmore, Robert	\$442.51	- \$1.55	\$444.06
	676	Worthley, Melinda	\$698.54	-\$2.45	\$700.99
0	677	Worthley, Melinda	\$182.45	-\$0.64	\$183.09
**	663	Wright, Albert	\$520.27	\$300.00	\$220.27
	516	WRIGHT, BYRNE MADDOC	\$1,012.75	-\$3.55	\$1,016.30
n.	746	Wyman, Joseph	\$953.86	-\$3.35	\$957.21
	748	Wyman, Joseph	\$452.74	-\$1.59	\$454.33
D1			\$187.00		
		Total for 182 Accounts:	\$148,056.24	\$10,783.20	\$137,273.04

^{**} Indicates Paid in Full after December 31, 2024

^{*} Indicates Partial Payment after December 31, 2024

Non Zero Balance on All Accounts Tax Year: 2023

As of: December 31, 2024

Status	Acct	Name	Original Tax	Payments/ Adjustments	Amount Due
Status		Ashby, Deborah	\$290.07	-\$5.31	\$295.38
	577		\$647.64	-\$13.33	\$660.97
*		Bengal, Carrie M	\$371.20	\$0.00	\$371.20
		Bushey, Jason B	\$860.89	-\$17.90	\$878.79
		Churchill, Caleb	\$638.13	\$315.35	\$322.78
*		CLARK, ARNOLD J	\$458.18	\$297.10	\$161.08
		Clark, Kelly D	\$711.93	-\$14.77	\$726.70
		Costigan, Kenneth	\$571.90	-\$11.63	\$583.53
	455	Donovan, Gregory J	\$563.65	-\$11.01	\$574.66
		Field, Robert J	\$900.99	-\$18.80	\$919.79
*	205	Friend, Tara M	\$532.04	\$191.67	\$340.37
n	209	Gaeta, Lorraine A	\$755.74	-\$15.76	\$771.50
	210	Gaeta, Lorraine Ann	\$493.80	-\$9.88	\$503.68
	241	Hand, Roger	\$600.15	-\$12.05	\$612.20
	245	Harris, Nelson N	\$320.07	\$190.49	\$129.58
	386	Johnson, Christopher	\$617.99	-\$12.67	\$630.66
	792	KONOPKA, DANIEL E	\$837.60	-\$17.59	\$855.19
j	330	Krebs, Dennis	\$1,964.00	-\$42.88	\$2,006.88
b	708	Lane, James	\$288.89	-\$5.28	\$294.17
	574	LUKER, GAIL CHRISTINA	\$212.44	-\$3.56	\$216.00
h	405	McPherson, Wayne	\$287.40	-\$5.25	\$292.65
	529	Merrill, Danielle L	\$995.40	-\$21.14	\$1,016.54
h	1 <i>7</i> 1	Napoleon, Alexander G	\$488.46	-\$9.76	\$498.22
	430	Newton, Kirt	\$90.99	-\$0.84	\$91.83
**	436	NORTON, JORDAN D	\$270.05	\$0.00	\$270.05
	456	Osgood, Wanda	\$1,114.22	-\$23.59	\$1,137.81
j		Pressey, Heirs of Ruby	\$509.83	-\$10.24	\$520.07
b		Pressey, Robert M	\$1,013.37	-\$21.54	\$1,034.91
0	500	Pressey, Ruby, Heirs Of	\$598.19	-\$12.22	\$610.41
	517	Randall, Lewis G., Randall Barbara J,	\$592.99	\$89.73	\$503.26
	38	Renner, Trustee, Leslie	\$2,733.64	-\$59.93	\$2,793.57
nh	9	Riley, Megan	\$265.88	-\$4.76	\$270.64
*	558	Sherrer, Charles R	\$945.02	\$192.09	\$752.93
	521	Sours, Shane L	\$556.85	-\$11.22	\$568.07
	605	Taylor, David E	\$1,348.80	-\$29.07	\$1,377.87
	615	Thayer, Erika L	\$1,255.55	-\$26.97	\$1,282.52

^{**} Indicates Paid in Full after December 31, 2024

^{*} Indicates Partial Payment after December 31, 2024

Status	Acct	Name	Original Tax	Payments/ Adjustments	Amount Due
Otatus		Tracy, Howard S	\$584.82		\$596.74
		Tracy, Truman G	\$634.31	\$500.59	\$133.72
	639	Vincent, Edward B	\$257.55	-\$4.58	\$262.13
5	410	Vomorde, Carson C	\$1,451.70	-\$31.38	\$1,483.08
5	467	Whipple, Charles Bruce	\$1,527.44	-\$33.08	\$1,560.52
	659	Whipple, Charles Bruce	\$1,000.44	-\$21.25	\$1,021.69
**		Worthley, Melinda	\$241.82	\$153.43	\$88.39
		Wyman, Joseph	\$1,046.94	-\$22.08	\$1,069.02
		Wyman, Joseph	\$530.21	-\$10.48	\$540.69
5		Total for 45 Accounts:	\$32,979.17	\$1,346.73	\$31,632.44

Non Zero Balance on All Accounts

Tax Year: 2022 As of: December 31, 2024

Status	Acct	Name	Original Tax	Payments/ Adjustments	Amount Due
	711	Ashby, Deborah	\$236.80	-\$9.30	\$246.10
	455	Donovan, Gregory J	\$478.07	\$4.44	\$473.63
	209	Gaeta, Lorraine A	\$673.58	-\$31.59	\$705.17
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	210	Gaeta, Lorraine Ann	\$459.74	-\$19.80	\$479.54
	241	Hand, Roger	\$501.67	-\$22.81	\$524.48
	708	Lane, James	\$261.95	-\$10.58	\$272.53
	529	Merrill, Danielle L	\$858.70	-\$41.03	\$899.73
	456	Osgood, Wanda	\$963.49	\$853.86	\$109.63
	778	Pressey, Heirs of Ruby	\$456.76	-\$20.52	\$477.28
	499	Pressey, Robert M	\$874.54	-\$41.84	\$916.38
	500	Pressey, Ruby, Heirs Of	\$508.48	-\$23.16	\$531.64
D	615	Thayer, Erika L	\$1,114.27	-\$54.07	\$1,168.34
	393	Tracy, Howard S	\$522.88	\$166.03	\$356.85
	639	Vincent, Edward B	\$234.32	-\$9.17	\$243.49
	467	Whipple, Charles Bruce	\$1,353.98	-\$7.81	\$1,361.79
	659	Whipple, Charles Bruce	\$889.33	-\$42.60	\$931.93
		Total for 16 Accounts:	\$10,388.56	\$690.05	\$9,698.51

^{**} Indicates Paid in Full after December 31, 2024

^{*} Indicates Partial Payment after December 31, 2024

Non Zero Balance on All Accounts Tax Year: 2021

As of: December 31, 2024

			Original	Payments/	Amount
Status	Acct	Name	Tax	Adjustments	Due
	241	Hand, Roger	\$533.34	-\$76.25	\$609.59
	778	Pressey, Heirs of Ruby	\$494.91	-\$70.82	\$565.73
	500	Pressey, Ruby, Heirs Of	\$540.80	-\$77.31	\$618.11
	639	Vincent, Edward B	\$251.27	-\$36.39	\$287.66
	658	Whipple, Charles Bruce	\$183.44	-\$26.80	\$210.24
	659	Whipple, Charles Bruce	\$1,216.1 0	-\$172.75	\$1,388.85
		Total for 6 Accounts:	\$3,219.86	<i>-</i> \$460.32	\$3,680.18

Non Zero Balance on All Accounts

Tax Year: 2020 As of: December 31, 2024

			Original	Payments/	Amount
Status	Acct	Name	Tax	Adjustments	Due
	241	Hand, Roger & Carolee	\$605.59	\$262.33	\$343.26
	778	Pressey, Heirs of Ruby	\$563.09	\$497.62	\$65.47
	500	Pressey, Ruby, Heirs Of	\$621.95	- \$168.19	\$790.14
	639	Vincent, Edward B.	\$282.09	-\$72.92	\$355.01
	658	Whipple, Charles Bruce	\$202.46	-\$50.60	\$253.06
		Total for 5 Accounts:	\$2,275.18	\$468.24	\$1,806.94

Non Zero Balance on All Accounts

Tax Year: 2019 As of: December 31, 2024

			Original	Payments/	Amount
Status	Acct	Name	Tax	Adjustments	Due
	500	Pressey, Ruby, Heirs Of	\$678.55	-\$210.57	\$889.12
	639	Vincent, Edward B.	\$255.63	\$124.68	\$130.95
		Total for 2 Accounts:	\$934.18	-\$85.89	\$1,020.07

Non Zero Balance on All Accounts

Tax Year: 2018
As of: December 31, 2023

			Original	Payments/	Amount
Status	Acct	Name	Tax	Adjustments	Due
	500	Pressey, Ruby, Heirs Of	\$616.70	-\$230.12	\$846.82
		Total for 1 Account:	616.7 0	-230.12	846.82

^{**} Indicates Paid in Full after December 31, 2024

^{*} Indicates Partial Payment after December 31, 2024

STARKS, ME



EST. 1795

From the Treasurer's Desk

Greetings friends!

I'm excited to update you on the Town's finances and some important projects that have been underway. In early January of this year, we met to begin the process of creating the budget and warrant for the annual Town Meeting. I was excited to see a few new faces at our early budget meeting. We understand the importance of fiscal responsibility and are always working diligently to keep costs as low as possible while still maintaining the essential services the community relies on. We know that every dollar counts, and we are committed to using your tax dollars wisely. We love it when residents join us for financial planning! I am pleased to report that we received the final reimbursement from FEMA in June for expenses related to the declared storms we all remember. The total for the last installment was \$24,397.22. These funds have been allocated in the public works article to help reduce taxation on the warrant.

You'll see an article at the beginning of the warrant requesting that Treasurer, Tax Collector and Clerk move from elected to appointed positions. This is a trend we've been seeing for years in other communities as the positions should really be held by someone with the appropriate qualifications given the complexity and responsibility of the roles. Jenn and I have no current plans to move on, but we want to look out for the future of the Town.

There is also an article on the warrant to procure financing for a new excavator. This will be a savings to the town in the long run and we'll do our best to secure good terms and rates at the time of financing. As many of you are aware, we have been in the process of completing the town-wide revaluation. This project was a huge undertaking for the Town and spanned two years. Significant delays due to unforeseen IT issues and an extension requested by KRT, forced us to commit taxes with our old values in 2024. The Assessors are committed to having fair and equitable updates to valuation before we commit taxes with the reval. We are excited to put this big project behind us.

On a personal note, I took advantage of a few refresher training opportunities last year and am excited to continue learning and growing in my role in 2025. My position and the level of responsibility have increased exponentially since I began serving as your Treasurer in 2008, and I am dedicated to staying upto-date on best practices in municipal finance.

Finally, I want to express my sincere gratitude to the residents of Starks for your continued support. I also want to thank Jennie (who keeps our Town afloat), Bill Pressey, Danielle Pressey, Maryanne Gawlinski, Byrne Wright, the Select Board, and all the other town employees for their hard work, collaboration, and dedication to the residents of Starks. It is a privilege to work alongside all of them.



2024 FUND BALANCES

	BALANCES		
2024 Town of Starks	As of 12/31/23	As of 12/31/24	
Skowhegan Savings Primary Checking Account	654,456.71	606,911.76	
General Fund Sweep Account	100,000.00	100,000.00	
Total	\$ 754,456.71	\$ 706,911.76	

	BALANCES		
2024 Reserve Funds	As of 12/31/23	Due To/Due From	As of 12/31/24
Local Roads Assistance	33,678.70	33,528/67,678	-471.30
Re-Valuation Account	41,241.66	41,241.66	0.00
Capital Roads Reserve	367.44	0.00	367.44
Capital Improvement Reserve	36.21	15,000/10,000	5,036.21
Fire Department Capital Reserve	45,000.00	11,000.00	56,000.00
BIF - Building Improvement Fund	124,989.73	705/8,154.59	117,540.14
Helen Reed Scholarship Fund	4,610.97	0.00	4,610.97
Locke Cemetery Assoc. Perpetual Care	17,354.27	26.10	17,380.37
American Rescue Act (ARPA)	20,950.57	20,950.57	0.00
Total	288,229.55	60,259.10/138,024.82	200,463.83

<u>Due to / Due From Summary</u>

LRAP - \$33,528 Revenue received from DOT 67,678 2024 Appropriation

Re-Val - \$41,241.66 to KRT for town-wide reval porject

Capital Improvement - \$15,000 2024 Town Meeting Approp/ \$10,000 New Truck

Fire Department - \$10,000 2024 Appropriation from Taxation \$1,000 from Restitution

BIF - \$615 Rental Income \$90 Donation \$8,154.59 Reval Expense 2023 Appropriation

Helen Reed Scholarship - Adopted by the Town in 2017

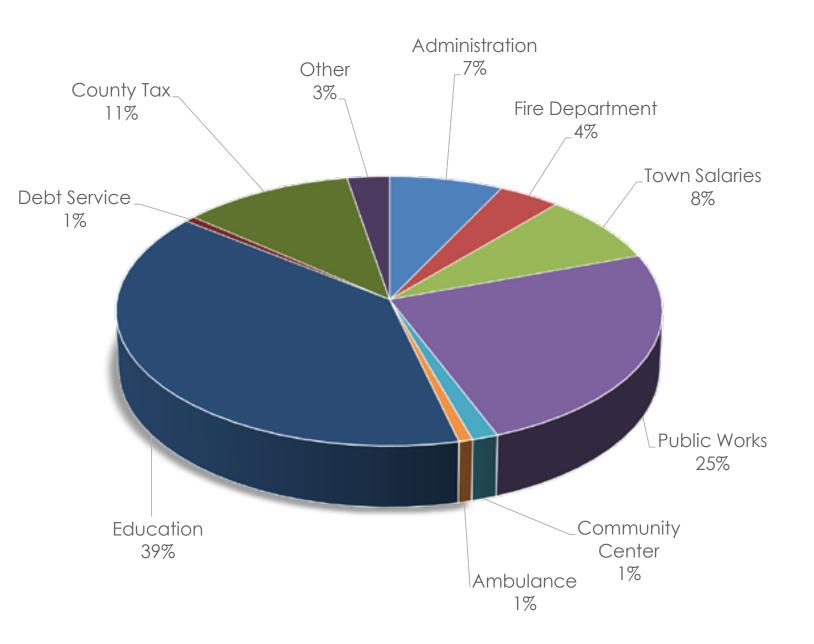
Locke Cemetery - \$26.10 CD Interest 2024

American Rescue Act - \$20,950.57 KRT Re-val

	BALANCES			
Bank of America / US Trust Account	As of 10/31/23	Gain / Loss	As of 10/31/24	
John W Higgins Trust Fund Market Value	216,652.48	43,999.77	260,652.25	

Expense Report 2024

Article #	Description	Budget	Expended	Balance	% Spent
9	Administration	\$127,281.00	\$107,816.85	\$19,464.15	84.71%
10	CEO Legal	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	0.00%
11	CEO Salary	\$8,300.00	\$8,300.00	\$0.00	100.00%
11	Deputy Clerk/Tax Collector	\$3,000.00	\$1,833.00	\$1,167.00	61.10%
11	Elections	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	100.00%
11	Assessors	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	100.00%
11	Selectmen	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$0.00	100.00%
11	Director of Public Works	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$0.00	100.00%
11	Clerk	\$11,150.00	\$11,150.00	\$0.00	100.00%
11	Tax Collector	\$15,050.00	\$15,050.00	\$0.00	100.00%
11	Treasurer	\$11,150.00	\$11,150.00	\$0.00	100.00%
11	Building Superintendent	\$6,700.00	\$6,700.00	\$0.00	100.00%
11	Health Officer	\$1,800.00	\$0.00	\$1,800.00	0.00%
11	Sexton	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	100.00%
11	GA Administrator	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	100.00%
11	Town Report Administrator	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	100.00%
12	Community Center	\$21,000.00	\$21,000.00	\$0.00	100.00%
13	Fire Department	\$57,500.00	\$44,791.02	\$12,708.98	77.90%
14	Fire Chief Salary	\$4,400.00	\$4,400.00	\$0.00	100.00%
15	Animal Control	\$2,300.00	\$2,300.00	\$0.00	100.00%
16	AMS Ambulance	\$12,453.00	\$11,266.98	\$1,186.02	90.48%
17	Street Lights	\$1,200.00	\$986.94	\$213.06	82.25%
18	Public Works	\$370,478.00	\$362,770.77	\$7,707.23	97.92%
19	General Assistance	\$4,000.00	\$1,164.80	\$2,835.20	29.12%
20	Recreation/Library	\$2,000.00	\$1,251.22	\$748.78	62.56%
21	Social Organizations	\$5,000.00	\$4,973.20	\$26.80	99.46%
22	Salt Shed	\$9,787.00	\$9,786.48	\$0.52	99.99%
23	Capital Improvements	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	100.00%
24	Fire Department Capital Reserve	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	100.00%
25	Town Wide New Computers	\$6,859.00	\$6,859.00	\$0.00	100.00%
26	Contingency	\$5,000.00	\$4,428.90	\$571.10	88.58%
	Remaining ARPA Funds	\$20,950.57	\$20,950.57	\$0.00	100.00%
Assessment	First Park	\$3,148.00	\$3,148.00	\$0.00	100.00%
Assessment	County Tax	\$163,021.39	\$163,021.39	\$0.00	100.00%
Assessment	RSU #9	\$581,890.44	\$581,890.44	\$0.00	100.00%
	Totals	\$1,550,218.40	\$1,499,789.56	\$50,428.84	96.75%



Town of Starks 2024 Tax Payer Funded Expenses

2024 Treasurer's Revenue Report

Account #	Account		Credit
98	Real Estate Payments		1,113,075.78
99	Supplemental Payments		2,661.12
		TOTAL	1,115,736.90

Revenue Summary

Account # Account	Debits	Credits	Balance
100 - Excise - Auto	\$0.00	\$119,483.91	\$119,483.91
101 - Excise - Boat	\$87.55	\$699.55	\$612.00
102 - Fees - Agent	\$0.00	\$4,639.05	\$4,639.05
103 - Over Short	\$51.99	\$62.58	\$10.59
104 - Interest - Real Estate	\$1.04	\$4,133.28	\$4,132.24
105 - Lien Fees	\$0.00	\$2,345.56	\$2,345.56
106 - Dog Fees	\$0.00	\$433.00	\$433.00
107 - Plumbing Permit Fees	\$0.00	\$2,613.75	\$2,613.75
108 - Building Permit Fees	\$400.00	\$1,950.00	\$1,550.00
109 - Cemetery Interest	\$0.00	\$4.80	\$4.80
110 - Homestead Exemption	\$0.00	\$54,603.73	\$54,603.73
111 - Ordinances	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
112 - Veteran's Exemption	\$0.00	\$273.00	\$273.00
113 - First Park	\$0.00	\$2,549.00	\$2,549.00
114 - Tree Growth Reimbursement	\$0.00	\$18,233.32	\$18,233.32
115 - Operating Interest	\$0.00	\$9,809.63	\$9,809.63
116 - Revenue Sharing	\$0.00	\$93,983.32	\$93,983.32
117 - Stabilization Reimbursement	\$0.00	\$7,898.09	\$7,898.09
118 - FEMA Reimbursement	\$0.00	\$24,397.22	\$24,397.22
119 - Miscellaneous Revenue	\$0.00	\$2,848.92	\$2,848.92
120 - After the Fact Building Permit Fee	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$250.00
121 - Driveway Permits	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
122 - General Assistance Reimbursements	\$0.00	\$957.39	\$957.39
123 - Higgins Trust Interest	\$0.00	\$3,624.82	\$3,624.82
124 - Snowmobile Reimbursement	\$0.00	\$304.52	\$304.52
125 - Somerset County Flood Relief	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
126 - Fire Department Donation	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
127 - Local Road Assistance Program LRAP	\$0.00	\$33,528.00	\$33,528.00
128 - Building Rental/donation Fees (to BIF)	\$805.00	\$805.00	\$0.00
129 - Locke Cemetery Perpetual Care	\$0.00	\$2.40	\$2.40
Total	\$1,345.58	\$395,508.84	\$394,163.26

Total Revenue Received by Starks

1,509,900.16

Frederic Cemetery	Total Trust	% of Trust	2024 Interest
John W. Higgins	\$5,000.00	79%	\$109.96
Frederic Cemetery Trust	\$157.10	2%	\$2.78
Alice Frederic Fields Trust Fund	\$180.27	3%	\$4.18
Sawyer and Trask Fund	\$334.74	5%	\$6.96
M.D. Frederic Trust Fund	\$100.00	2%	\$2.78
Bertha Waugh Smith-Georgia & Clifford Brann Lot	\$59.37	1%	\$1.39
Glen Frederic Trust Fund	\$500.00	8%	\$11.14
Total	\$6,331.48	64%	\$139.19
Locke Cemetery			
Bertha Waugh Smith-Sampson & Mary Duley Lot	\$59.38	6%	\$1.57
Clarence Norton	\$100.00	9%	\$2.35
Calvin Bryant Fish & Henrietta Fish Lot	\$200.00	17%	\$0.40
Arthur Morse Trust Fund	\$350.00	30%	\$0.73
David J. Taylor-Milia Taylor Trust Fund	\$100.00	9%	\$2.35
Arthur Buffington Fund-William Gillis Lot	\$40.00	4%	\$1.04
Robert R nichols & George Nichols Lot	\$100.00	9%	\$2.35
Frank Sterry Fund-Williamson Lot	\$200.00	17%	\$0.40
Total	\$1,149.38	12%	\$26.10
Tupper or Williamson Cemetery			
Captain Stevenson & George Williamson Lots	\$95.88	18%	\$0.18
Emma J. Frederic Trust Fund	\$139.81	27%	\$0.27
Betsy Cook Trust Fund	\$59.93	11%	\$0.11
Betsy Smith Cemetery Lot Trust Fund	\$79.17	15%	\$0.15
William P. True Fund Lot	\$150.00	29%	\$0.29
Total	\$524.79	5%	\$10.87
Brake Hill Cemetery			
Arthur and Susie Morse Lot	\$200.00	22%	\$4.31
Brake Hill Cemetery Lot	\$608.02	67%	\$13.11
Maude Rankin & Anne Ederly Fund-Lovell Lot	\$100.00	11%	\$2.15
Total	\$908.02	9%	\$19.57
Churchill Cemetery			
Arlin L. & Lucinda Chapman			
Justin O. & Sarah T. Chapman	\$1,000.00	10.00%	\$21.75
Total Trust	\$10,000.00	100.00%	\$217.49
Issued to Ferderic Cemetery			\$139.19
Issued to Locke Cemetery			\$26.10
Issued to Town of Starks		_	\$52.20
Transferred to the General Fund on January 8th, 2025		_	\$217.49
Prepared by Erin Norton			

PLANNING BOARD REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2024

The Starks Planning Board meets regularly on the first Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the Starks Community Center. When necessary, additional meetings are held to address business before the Board, and if there is no business, meetings may be canceled. The Board sends out meeting notices via email and places notices on the *All Things Starks* Facebook page. The public is encouraged to attend all meetings.

Permitting Activity during 2024 included: None

<u>Ordinance Updates</u>: The Planning Board is responsible for proposing amendments to existing ordinances and developing new ordinances, where needed. Input from town officials and the public is critical in any of the Board's work. Public meetings are always held on proposed changes to the town's ordinances. Ordinance activity in 2024 included:

Amendments to Site Plan Review Ordinance (Section 9.1) (adopted in 2019): This ordinance regulates commercial, multifamily, and institutional uses. These amendments:

- o increase the time a permit is valid from 12 months to 18 months with two 12-month extensions (instead of two 6-month extensions).
- o clarify that applicants must restart the application process if time runs out.

Amendments to the Board of Appeals Ordinance (adopted in 2016): This ordinance regulates how the Town's Appeals Board operates. If an applicant or an abutter or anyone else with standing to appeal disagrees with a decision of the Code Enforcement Officer or Planning Board, they can appeal the decision to the Appeals Board. These amendments:

- o clarify the type of review the Appeals Board conducts, primarily based on whether it is an appeal from the Code Enforcement Officer or Planning Board.
- o update procedures and policies and make grammatical corrections.

Amendments to the Wireless Communication Facilities Ordinance (adopted 2016): This ordinance regulates cell towers. These amendments:

- o clarify that a permit is required for new towers and <u>all expansions</u>, such as the addition of antennas, towers, or other devices.
- o update the permit fee system wording.
- o include minor clarifications and grammatical changes.

Copies of the proposed ordinance are available at the Town Office and will be posted on the Town's website prior to the 2024 Town Meeting. All applications for permits, decisions, minutes, policies, and Town ordinances are available on the Town of Starks website at: www.starksme.com or can be obtained from the Town Office.

Enforcement: Enforcement of the Town's Ordinances is done by the Starks Code Enforcement Officer under the direction of the Selectboard. The Planning Board has no enforcement authority.

Respectfully submitted,

The Starks Planning Board: Gwen Hilton (Chair), Ken Lust (Vice Chair), Claire Nelson (Secretary), Joe Hartigan, Tiffany Bellefleur, Byrne Wright (Alternate)



Animal Control Report 2024

Danielle Pressey

Greetings Town of Starks,

The year 2024 saw relatively few animal-related incidents in town. We addressed occasional reports of roaming dogs, all of which were successfully returned to their owners. We also responded to incidents involving errant goats and pigs, as well as a few instances of stray cattle.

We received a significant number of calls regarding stray cats, particularly from Chicken Street, which prompted some to jokingly suggest renaming it "Feline Boulevard." Most of these cats were taken to the Franklin County Animal Shelter, where they received necessary vaccinations and care. This allowed them to be placed for adoption or, in accordance with the shelter's no-kill policy, integrated into the managed feral cat community located on the shelter's property. This highlights the valuable work of the Franklin County Animal Shelter. As you consider charitable giving in 2025, we encourage you to consider supporting this organization. They gratefully accept monetary donations, as well as donations of pet food, litter, toys, blankets, cleaning supplies such as bleach and paper towels, and items from their Amazon wish list. You can find more information about the shelter on their Facebook page.

A reminder regarding dog licensing: Licenses for 2025 are due by January 31st. Please bring proof of current rabies vaccination and the appropriate fee for each dog you own. A late fee will be applied to licenses obtained after February 1st.

We also encourage residents to consider adoption as a first option when acquiring a pet. Finally, we would like to reiterate the importance of spaying or neutering your pets to help control the pet population.

Who to call

Animal Control Officer 207.399.1399

> Animal Control Officer Dispatch 207.474.7400

Franklin County Animal Shelter 207.778.2638

Animal Poison Control 1.888.426.4435

Starks Town Office 207.696.8069



Septic Design, Inspection & Permitting General Guidance & FAQs



While you may have read a bit about septic design and inspection, you might be wondering if you need to be a part of some septic "secret society to fully understand the permitting process.

The good news is that with the right set of knowledge and resources, you can easily navigate the process of septic design, inspection and permitting (no hazing or membership fees required)!

My goal here is to ensure you're fully prepared with all the paperwork in place, so let's get started. Before we dive too deep into the details (figuratively speaking, of course), let's walk through the process of septic tank maintenance and the permits required for a new build or replacement system.

Permitting:

Do I really need a permit for my septic system, or can I just dig a hole and "let nature do its thing"?

Yes, a permit is **required** to *install*, *replace*, **or** *repair* a septic system in Maine. To obtain a permit, you will need to submit a <u>Subsurface Wastewater Disposal System application</u> – your local licensed plumbing inspector can guide you through the process of obtaining the appropriate paperwork. Permit fees apply and vary by municipality.

Site Evaluation:

Is there a "Septic Tank Whisperer" I should hire to assess my land, or is this something I can handle myself?

You will need a site evaluation if you're installing a septic system for the first time, if you are replacing and/or repairing existing system – or are expanding an existing system. The State of Maine requires a licensed Site Evaluator to assess your property, evaluate site conditions and check the soil. You can find a list of licensed evaluators on the DHHS website.

System Design:

Can I get creative and design my septic system like a Pinterest project—complete with quirky piping and upcycled materials? Or are there strict regulations on how it must be designed?

In Maine, you cannot design your own septic system. To ensure the system is properly suited to the site conditions, a licensed Site Evaluator (aka: a "septic tank whisperer") must handle the design. It's essentially one-stop shopping — where you get both the site evaluation and the system design, complete with all the necessary pipes and permits!

Installation & Inspections:

Once the system is designed and the permits are in place, is it time to throw a party to celebrate?

While you're welcome to celebrate in your own way, the real party happens when the Licensed Professional Installer (LPI) comes in. They'll inspect the system multiple times during the installation process, ensuring everything's up to code. No confetti required—just proper inspections!

Maintenance:

What's involved in maintaining my septic system in the long run? Do I need to give it a hug every year and tell it how much I appreciate it?

According to the EPA, you'll need to have your septic system inspected and pumped by a professional every 3 to 5 years to keep it running smoothly.

By following the steps above, you'll ensure your septic system is up to code and remains in good working order (hopefully limiting any secret society meetings along the way)!

Ohhhhhh, by the way... here are the numbers for Starks, before my memory decides to take a vacation again:

12 Subsurface disposal systems

7 Internal plumbing permits

Thank you once again for allowing me the honor (and occasional thrill) of serving you great folks as your plumbing inspector for another year! It's been a year of pipes, drains, and *ahem* some truly "flush" moments.

I'm grateful for the trust you've placed in me to keep things running smoothly (pun absolutely intended). Looking forward to another year of tackling leaks, bends, and all things "watertight."

Cheers to another year of keeping it all flowing!

Ed Avery

State of Maine

Licensed Plumbing Inspector

Code Enforcement

Greetings Residents of Starks Maine

This year as Code Enforcement Officer, there were permits issued for five (5) dwelling; four (4) additions to existing buildings; five (5) new garages; two (2) mobile homes; two (2) sheds; one (1) pole barn; one (1) camp; one (1) greenhouse; and one (1) pergola. One of the garages was an After the Fact permit.

Respectfully,
Terri Lamontagne

Cell 207-716-6845 Office 207-696-8069 57 Anson Road Starks, ME 04911





2024

COMMUNITY CENTER

Building Superintendent's Report

Greetings,

I am happy to report that the community center has seen increased use this past year. Along with the annual Fire Department event, the Christmas program, SEEdS and library events, there have been community dinners, homeschooling, and use by other nonprofits. Structurally, the building is sound and in good condition. The heating system needs some attention and is being evaluated for improvement.

There has been some work completed to simplify the HVAC system.

The building stands ready to serve the community for years to come.



Sexton Report

CALENDAR YEAR 2024



Greetings Starks,

In 2024, routine maintenance activities were conducted at all town cemeteries, consistent with previous years. These activities included groundskeeping (mowing), minor headstone repairs, brush removal, and addressing fence damage.

Currently, all town cemeteries are maintained in fair to good condition. Efforts are ongoing to secure a qualified contractor that can provide estimates and work on more extensive headstone restorations. Additionally, work on comprehensive solutions for existing fencing issues are on-going. Weather and winter pose new problems each spring.

We anticipate favorable conditions in 2025 that will allow for continued effective cemetery maintenance.

Brake Hill Cemetery

Churchill Cemetery

Didson Cemetery

Fairbanks Gravesite

Greenleaf Cemetery

Piper-Williams Cemetery

Tupper-Williamson Cemetery

Locke Cemetery

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Starks Town Library



Welcome to the Starks Town Library! You are welcome to visit the library during Town Office hours. The downstairs library area consists of books by Maine authors for adults, youth, and children; fiction and non-fiction sections for adults and youth; and books in large print. The children's section includes picture books, easy readers, and chapter books. Seasonal children's books are on display in our cozy reading nook. Computers are available in the library and the hallway leading to the upstairs. Free books and other giveaways are located in the downstairs library area.

A variety of books including westerns, gardening, cooking, arts & crafts, education, sports (hunting, fishing, baseball, etc.), and international crime can be found in the upstairs hallway.

A discussion regarding library activities at January's Mug-Up led to the scheduling of board games and a year of monthly movies - with movie popcorn!

Spring and summer were busy with movies, board games, a bunny & basket making activity, a shadow puppet theater workshop (with participants making puppets and puppet theaters), and participation in the community center Plants and Books sale.

Our annual Halloween activity of Treats and Books was held outside the SCC along with SFD Trunk or Treat. Creatively dressed library committee members and volunteers gave treats and books to children dressed in frightening, humorous, and/or beautiful Halloween costumes.

The Christmas Holiday program, sponsored by the library and SEEdS, was highlighted by amazing local talent, family involvement (in skits, song, and set-up), awesome raffles, delicious refreshments, children's activities (including reindeer ring toss, cookie decorating, & mural drawing), a successful children's gift table, and lots of heartfelt fun! Two sessions of ornament making were previously offered in the library.

Mug-Up was enjoyed in the library on the first Saturday of each month. This is a time of coming together for coffee, tea, or hot chocolate and delicious treats along with friendly conversation with other Starks residents. The library committee appreciates all those that have supported and contributed to the library over the years with special thanks to SEEdS. We are grateful to Carol Coles for Mug-Up, Joe McCarthy for his many programs/activities, Danielle Pressey & Bill Pressey for all they do for the library, and to our volunteers including: Tiffany & Brad Bellefleur & family, Ann Cole, Valerie Comstock, Penny Conlon, Betty Frederic,

Kasey & Kyle Greene & family, Maria James, and Diane Russo.

Starks Water District

P.O. Box 599 ♦ Anson, Maine 04911 ♦ 866-696-6491 ♦ <u>starkswater@gmail.com</u>

Starks Water District Annual Report

The Starks Water District is available by phone and by email as needed and will respond to non-emergency requests within 24 hours. If you need to make a payment arrangement, please call. Payments can be made by mail with a check or money order or by phone using a debit or credit card. Please note that the Water District is a separate entity from the Town, so payments should always be made out to **Starks Water District**.

If you have a problem with your water service please let us know and we will address it as soon as possible.

We meet virtually or in person every other month on the third Wednesday of the month at 7PM. Interim meetings will be posted at the Town Office and the The All Things Starks facebook page. The Starks Water District Board of Trustees pre-scheduled meetings for 2025 will be as follows:

January 15 May 21 September 17 March 19 July 16 November 15

Any changes to Board meeting dates or times will be posted on the All Things Starks Facebook page one week in advance. If schools are canceled and/or the Town Office is closed due to weather conditions, the meeting will be rescheduled. If you will be attending a board meeting, please call ahead and the meeting connection information can be sent to you.

Starks Water District income from water service, fees, and transfers for 2024 was \$11,011.09 and our total expenses were \$12,201.43 resulting in a net loss of \$1,190.34. We have worked hard to reduce our annual expenses but along with the electricity cost increase our insurance has risen by almost \$1k in the last 2 years. We would like to thank our customers who pay their water service bills in a timely manner so that we can continue to provide clean, safe, affordable drinking water to the community.

We currently have a full Board of Directors/Trustees, appointed for 3 year terms:

Ashley Steward-Hayden, Chair Erin Norton, Vice-Chair Anna M. Simone, Clerk/Treasurer

Robin Melancon-Quimby Jared Norton

Our licensed Water Operator is: Joseph Hartigan

A copy of the Terms and Conditions and current rates and fees are available on request.

Report prepared by:

Anna M. Simone, M.Ed., D.D. Clerk/Treasurer

STARKS FIRE

2024



STARKS FIRE CALLS 2024

Structure Mutual Aid Calls

Structure Fires - 12

Grass/Woods/Brush Fires - 1

Other - 1

Starks Calls

Structure Fires - 2

Motor Vehicle Accidents - 2

Trees on Lines Fires - 4

Trees on Fire - 11

Fire Alarms - 2

Vehicle Fire - 1

Carbon Monoxide - 1

Fire Other - 2

TOTAL CALLS - 39

SUBMITTED BY DANIELLE PRESSEY

Dear Residents of Starks,

As we transition into 2025, I am honored to address you as the newly appointed Chief of the Starks Fire Department (SFD). While 2024 presented its share of challenges, the SFD is ready for a productive and impactful year.

Since the start of January, we have made significant strides in strengthening operations. We currently have one member undergoing Firefighter I & II certification, and have welcomed three new members to our ranks. Notably, one of these individuals is a decorated firefighter with prior experience in Anson, bringing valuable expertise to our team. A comprehensive training schedule, encompassing both refreshers and advanced techniques, has been established for the year. This proactive approach ensures our personnel maintain the highest levels of proficiency.

Our current roster stands at 17 dedicated individuals, each playing a crucial role in maintaining the operational readiness of the SFD. Of these members, six are fully certified in the use of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), essential for safe and effective interior firefighting. These figures represent a robust level of staffing for a community of our size, and I commend the dedication of these individuals who respond to emergencies at any hour, regardless of the conditions, ranging from minor incidents to significant structural fires and mutual aid requests for neighboring towns. We encourage residents to contact us without hesitation -we are here to serve! The SFD is committed to rigorous training and service. As we continue to evolve, we welcome any interested community members to consider joining our family.

While Utility 94 is currently operational following necessary maintenance and repairs in 2024, we are initiating the process of planning for its eventual replacement. Our goal is to acquire a more versatile, accommodating, and mechanically sound engine to better serve the needs of our community.



In an effort to save some in taxation, I have proposed a budget request with a slight reduction. We will continue to actively pursue fundraising initiatives and gratefully accept monetary donations, which are allocated to a dedicated fund used for unforeseen expenses, supporting fire victims, and supplementing necessary equipment without impacting the municipal budget.

I extend my sincere gratitude to Bo Pressey for his leadership throughout 2024, to Bill Pressey for his unwavering support, to Jenn and Erin in the town office for their invaluable assistance, to the Selectmen for their continued support of the SFD, and most importantly, to the residents of Starks for your ongoing trust and support.

I wish you all a safe and prosperous year and look forward to serving this community as Chief. Sincerely,

Danielle Pressey

Chief, Starks Fire Department

Important Information:

- Smoke detectors are available for residents in need. Please contact us if you require one.
- For fire permits, please contact:
 - Chip Irvine: 207-592-5331
 - Tim Thayer: 207-779-6698
 - Steve Rackliff: 207-696-0805
 - Permits can also be obtained online.
- We are actively recruiting new members. If you are interested in serving your community, please reach out.
- Plans are underway for an expanded and enhanced Starks Fire Family Fun Day this year.
 Stay tuned for details.

"In fire, you can plan everything out to the minute, and a minute before that, everything changes."

- Dan Felix.

Anson/Madison & Starks Ambulance Service

P.O. Box 277 Madison, Maine 04950 (207) 696-5332

To the citizens of Starks,

The ambulance service did 1807 calls for the year 2024. We also received our new remounted ambulance in November. A remounted ambulance is when the box of the retiring ambulance is refurbished and then mounted on a new chassis. This saved the service about \$100,000.

Most of us do not think we will need an ambulance, until it happens. There are a few things you can do to make finding your address, accessing the patient and getting them to the ambulance easier. Make sure your house number is visible from all directions. Keep the entrance to the house easy to access, including the steps cleaned off and salted in the winter. Also please put dogs in a separate room as even very friendly dogs can bite when they get stressed. This will help you or your loved one get the help they need quicker and keep the ambulance crew safer. Thank you for your cooperation and have a safe and healthy 2025.

Respectfully,

George Demchak

George Demchak Operations Director AMS Ambulance Service.



Annual Report 2024



KENNEBEC VALLEY REGIONAL WASTE CORP.

FROM TREASURER JOE HAYDEN

Kennebec Valley Regional Waste Corporation is the recycling outfit co-owned by Anson and Starks. It's Board and officers are made up of the Boards of Selectmen in both towns as well as two local citizens.

The recycling plant is located on route 201 in Bingham where more than one hundred twenty tons of recycled materials generated by Anson and Starks residents, is processed each year. There are just over one hundred participating residents in Anson/North Anson and just under one hundred participating residents in Starks.

Scott Merrill is still doing the collection for KVRWC and we're very happy to have him.

Volume of recycled materials remained consistent in 2024. We predict and hope for even more participation in 2025. Revenue from the sale of recyclables has remained steady. It totals between \$1,500-\$2,500 each year. Those revenues are used to reduce costs for residents.

Last November the Starks board of Selectmen secured a \$7,500 matching grant from the Maine Municipal Association for a new Recycling trailer. The purchase was made in early 2024 and has been in use since.

If you're interested in recycling a schedule for pick up in your area can be found at the Town Office. If you have any other questions please feel free to call Joe Hayden or Arnold Luce.

Recycled Materials & Sorting

Please follow the instructions below when preparing and separating recycled materials. Protect your materials from the rain, wind, and snow. Place materials curbside by 7:00 am on your scheduled collection day. Feel free to bundle newspapers, magazines and mixed paper together.

please no styrofoam coffee cups and no trash



PLASTIC

Allowed: #1 PET & #2 HDPE Plastic bottles & jugs except no petroleum (oil etc.) containers. **Not Allowed:** Other types of plastic, including plastic bags or film. no bowls or trays.

Preparation: Rinse/wash containers clean.



NEWSPAPER

Allowed: Newspapers with inserts, phone books magazines and catalogs.

Not Allowed: Waxy magazines and pages

Preparation: Bag or bundle, keep clean and dry. Please keep separate from mixed paper.



CARDBOARD

Allowed: Corrugated cardboard and paper grocery bags.

Not Allowed: Mixed paper and waxed cardboard

Preparation: Flatten all boxes. Keep clean and dry. Bundle large quantities.



ALUMINUM CANS

Allowed: all metal cans, foil, and metal jar lids.

Not Allowed: fuel containers, propane tanks, aerosol cans and heavy steel.

Preparation: Rinse/wash containers clean



UNIVERSAL WASTE

No Universal Waste Pickupl

You must make other arrangements with your town wise large item pickup or dump. Items that will not be picked up include all bulky ate such as fluorescent light tubes, TVs, computers, monitors, peripherals and non-mercury containing devices may be recycled.



MIXED PAPER

Allowed: Boxboard/paperboard cereal/cracker boxes, paper towel tubes, foreign cardboard, show boxes and similar items. Paper egg cartons, all types of office and school paper, brown envelopes, paper feed and seed bags, mail - including junk and similar items.

Not Allowed: Paper layered with plastic, waxed paper, paper towels, napkins or wet soiled

Preparation: Keep clean and dry. flatten boxes. Must be bagged and separated from other materials

Starks Food Cupboard

a subsidiary of **East Parish Housing Ministry, Inc.**a federal 501c3 organization

2024 has been a year of change for the Starks Food Cupboard. We have seen a change in volunteers, and added clients and programs. We continue to receive food from The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). We purchase food from Good Shepherd Food Bank. We receive produce, meat and bakery items from the Madison Hannaford. And the citizens of Starks are generous with donations of garden produce.

Clients are welcome to come for produce, bakery (sweets), and breads any day that we are open. Sixty-five pound boxes of staples and meats are available once a month. Deliveries are made to shut-ins and those lacking transportation. We try to accommodate personal dietary restrictions when possible, ie. low sodium, vegetarian.

A big change has been the addition of a monthly visit by the Winslow Food Trailer. They set assorted produce, bakery items and non-perishables on tables at the Community Center. All is free to anyone with very few questions asked. Up to 77 households have picked up food in the 2 hours the trailer is here. Winslow will also furnish food for Starks Food Cupboard to distribute. We have received meats and cheeses which were in short supply in our freezers. The Starks Food Cupboard provides volunteers to help unload the trailer and help distribute the food. We also do some advertising to bring in households from outside of Starks which Winslow welcomes.

We regularly restock the refrigerator and shelves at the Starks Fire Company. Any perishables left thereafter are taken to Martin's Farm for animal food.

Financially, we have cut overhead as much as possible by allowing a local farmer to hay the former ball field. Insurance is an ever increasing expense. We have explored alternative policies to lower costs, but have not found anything providing any savings. Out-of-state donations were significant this year, but not expected to be an annual source of income. Cash is necessary for insurance, heat, electric, plowing and food not available through any source but purchase.

Dan Palmer, Coordinator (207) 860-0549

Karen Bivans, Treasurer (610) 217-7762

Households Served 5/1/2024 - 12/31/2024 28 Families - 69 people Average 14 Families/month -

Food Distributed 5/1/2024 - 12/31/2024

39 people

Distribute 900 Pounds Staples, Meat, Produce & Bakery/month

Income & Expense	1/1/2024 - 12/31/2024
Income Donations Interest Misc. Expenses Food	10298.26 1.40 .69 1017.25
Insurance Heating Oil Electric Plowing Charter Fee Checks Period Net	1699.50 1087.33 750.00 255.00 35.00 23.17 5433.10

RSU9 Mt Blue Regional School District

The Town of Starks has been one of ten towns in RSU9 since 2012.

I started serving as a Board Member in July of 2024 and it has been an honor to represent Starks on the board. The board meets twice per month and has three working committee meetings that meet monthly; the Operations committee, Personnel & Finance committee, and Educational Policy committee. There are also special meetings as the board finds necessary.

As a member of the Educational Policy committee, I have been witness to a strong effort to use the Strategic Plan to guide initiatives and make decisions that align with long term goals. Among these has been attention given to reducing chronic absenteeism, a problem that has plagued the state since COVID, and completing an audit of the ELA curriculum to address ways that we can improve reading.

I have also been serving on the ad hoc committee tasked with researching and proposing updates to policy around cell phones and other personal electronic devices. There has been a large amount of research that has come out about the impact that these devices have on students' physical, social, and educational well being. There has been a nationwide trend to address the impact that cell phones have on education and our district is taking a proactive approach to keeping policies up to date and beneficial to students.

This year the school district transitioned to owning the Holman House, which serves as the district's central office. An open house was held in the fall to welcome the community into the space. It was well attended and feedback was positive. Many were grateful for the district's commitment to maintaining the historical style of the building.

The Bjorn center at Mt Blue Middle School opened in 2024 and has allowed our middle schoolers to experience a wide range of hands on learning opportunities. Requirements are increasing statewide for Career and Technical education and our district is ahead of those initiatives thanks to our community's investment in the Bjorn center and continued commitment to the Foster Technical Center.

Respectfully,

Katie Martikke 207-577-9002

Kennebec Regional Development Authority (KRDA) 2023-24 Starks Annual Report

Starks is one of 23 central Maine communities who are members of the Kennebec Regional Development Authority (KRDA). The KRDA was established by an act of the Maine Legislature in 1998. Starks has been a KRDA member community since 2001. The Town's representative to the KRDA's governing Executive Board and General Assembly is Mr. Ken Lust.

The KRDA's keystone project is the 300-acre commerce and technology park known as FirstPark, which is located in Oakland by the northwest corner of Exit 127 on Kennedy Memorial Drive off of Interstate 95. Businesses located within FirstPark include a T-Mobile call center, several MaineGeneral and MaineHealth specialties, One River CPA's, Gateway Financial Partners, Maine Eye Doctors, Dr. Anna O'Keefe Dentistry and Maine Technology Group. Meyer Tool (www.meyertool.com) owns Lots 2-3 on Technology Drive and the company has plans to develop a manufacturing plant on the 32-acre site. Lots 19-22 on FirstPark Drive are owned by St. Paul-based Novel Energy Solutions (https://novelenergy.biz/) with plans to develop a solar array. Currently, there are 1,000 employees in FirstPark and dozens of service and supply jobs supporting FirstPark's businesses.

The past year FirstPark signed a Purchase and Sale Agreement for Lot 4 on Technology Drive for a daycare facility to be built in 2025. Child daycare and affordable housing have been the two most requested and discussed topics with existing and prospective businesses. FirstPark ended 2024 in negotiations with buyers for Lots 15B on Clairmont Street and Lots 5-10 on Technology Drive.

FirstPark's annual operating budget the past year remained the same over previous years at \$435,000. Expenses were mainly for wages, benefits, grounds maintenance, utilities, marketing and professional services including bookkeeping, legal and auditing. The 2023-24 Audit was conducted by Maine-based RHR Smith. Copies of the audit are available by emailing your request to exdirector@firstpark.com.

The 2024-25 officers elected by the KRDA General Assembly are President Mike Roy (Waterville); President-Elect Michelle Flewelling (Fairfield); Secretary Peter Mills (Cornville); Treasurer James Jurdak (Oakland); and Assistant Treasurer Ken Lust (Starks). Office staff are Jim Dinkle, Executive Director, and Cynthia Cloutier, Executive Assistant. The office can be contacted at (207) 859-9716.

Visit our website at www.firstpark.com for the latest on what's developing in FirstPark and sign up for our quarterly e-newsletter at https://firstpark.com/e-newsletter/.

Town of Starks Town Meeting Warrant

Greetings: In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the **Town of Starks**; qualified to vote in town affairs, to meet at the Starks Community Center, 57 Anson Road, in the said Town of Starks on **Friday, March 7th, 2025**, at 11:30 AM then and there to act upon Articles 1 then by Australian ballot on article 2, the polling hours therefore to be from 12:00 PM to 8:00 PM, the annual Town Business Meeting will be held the following day, **Saturday March 8th**, **2025** beginning at 9:00 AM to act on Articles 3-27.

Article 1

To choose a moderator to preside over said meeting.

Article 2

To choose by Australian ballot all Town Officers for the current year.

Article 3

To elect five **Budget Committee** members from the floor.

Article 4

Shall an ordinance entitled "Amendments to the Site Plan Review Ordinance for the Town of Starks" be enacted?

Article 5

Shall an ordinance entitled "Amendments to the Board of Appeals Ordinance for the Town of Starks" be enacted?

Article 6

Shall an ordinance *entitled* "Amendments to the Wireless Communications Facilities Ordinance for the Town of Starks" be enacted?

- A. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to spend an amount not to exceed **3/12 of the annual budget** in each budget category of the 2025 annual budget during the period from January 1st, 2026 to the 2026 Annual Town Meeting.
- B. To see if the Town will vote to make **taxes due** sixty days after the date of commitment. And to begin charging interest thereon at a rate of **8%** annually.
- C. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to apply for a **Tax Anticipation Note**, if needed, to pay current expenses and to pay any interest and costs from overlay.
- D. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to pay **abatements** from overlay.
- E. To see if the Town in accordance with 36 M.R.S. § 506-A will vote that if a taxpayer pays an amount in excess of their final assessment it shall be refunded in the amount of the overpayment.
- F. To see if the Town in accordance with 36 M.R.S. § 506 will authorize the Tax Collector and Treasurer to accept prepayment of taxes not yet committed and pay no interest thereon.
- G. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board, on behalf of the Town, to **sell and dispose** of any real-estate acquired by the Town for nonpayment of taxes thereon, on such terms as they deem advisable; and to execute the appropriate deeds for such property. Except that the Select Board shall use the special sale process required by 36 M.R.S. § 943-C for qualifying homestead property if they choose to sell it to anyone other than the former owner(s).
- H. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to dispose of assets with an estimated value of \$1,000 or less without having to place legal ads, the details of these assets to be emailed to an available email list and posted inside and outside the Town Office for bids. This does not include tax acquired property.
- I. To see if the Town will vote to apply available excise taxes (vehicle and boat), tax interest, miscellaneous revenue, and other available revenues determined by the Treasurer and Assessors, to lower the commitment.

- J. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate **100% of the refund** of Snowmobile Registrations, received annually from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, for the improvement and maintenance of trails, on condition that those trails be open to the public, and to be used at the discretion of the Anson / North Anson Snowmobile Club.
- K. To see if the Town will vote to accept the following gifts, grants and funds listed below as provided by the Maine State Legislature, and any other sources, and apply the funds to lower the commitment or benefit the town in such other ways as the Select Board deems reasonable.

Potential Revenues		
Maine Municipal Revenue Sharing General Assistance Funds		
Tree Growth Reimbursements Veterans Exemption Funds		
Homestead Exemption Funds FEMA Reimbursements		
State and Federal Grants Civil Emergency Funds		
State Aid to Education	Any Other Funds or Gifts	

- L. To see if the Town will vote to apply lien cost revenue to the lien cost expense account.
- M. To see if the Town will vote to apply all revenues from the Community Center rentals and donations to the Building Improvement fund.
- N. To see if the Town will vote to close the books on December 31, 2025.

To see if the Town will vote to accept as a gift from the East Parish Housing Ministry the parcel of land in the village center known as the 'Green' and identified in the Assessors' records as Tax Map U-2, Lot 24 consisting of 3.1 acres and described in a deed recorded in the Somerset Registry in Book 2059, Page 18. This conveyance does not include the building.

Explanation: The East Parish Housing Ministry has owned the village green for a few decades at this point. Due to the cost of mowing and maintaining it, EPHM would like to gift the parcel to the Town and the Town would assume the mowing and manage the use of the property. The building on the property is used as the food cupboard. The conveyance of the building to the Town is not part of the article because the Selectmen feel it would encompass acquiring another building requiring maintenance.

To see if the town will vote to change the position of Treasurer, Tax Collector, and Clerk from an elected position to an appointed position, to take effect beginning when each respective current term expires.

Position	Term Expiration
Treasurer	March 2026
Tax Collector	March 2027
Clerk	March 2028

Article 10

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$136,992** for **Administration** and additional administrative expenses in the current year.

Description	Taxation/Requested
FICA	\$13,500
Medicare	\$3,200
Family Medical Leave	\$2,047
Worker's Compensation	\$6,782
Mileage Reimbursement	\$2,000
Training	\$750
Unemployment Tax	\$100
Postage	\$2,500
Dues	\$3,600
Office Supplies	\$2,300
Admin - Event Security	\$1,500
Miscellaneous	\$5,000
Audit	\$9,830
Trio Software Renewal	\$12,500
Legal Services	\$8,000
Tax Maps Updates	\$3,000
Town Report	\$1,304
Legal Ads	\$500
Xerox Maintenance & Toner	\$2,300
Water Rent & Hydrant Use	\$6,200
Kennebec Valley Waste Recycling	\$12,579
Large Item Drop off – 2X annually	\$12,500
Cemetery Maintenance	\$1,500
Property & Casualty	\$23,500
Total	\$136,992

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$2,000** for the **Legal Expenses of Code Enforcement** in the current year.

Description	2024 Budget	Taxation/Requested
CEO Legal	\$2,000	\$2,000

Recommended by Select Board and Budget Committee

Article 12

To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation for **Salaries** in the current year.

Description	2024 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Code Enforcement	\$8,300	\$8,550
Deputy-Clerk TC & Treas.	\$3,000	\$3,000
Elections	\$4,500	\$4,500
Assessor Chair	\$5,000	\$5,000
Assessor	\$5,000	\$5,000
Assessor	\$5,000	\$5,000
Selectman	\$4,000	\$4,000
Selectman	\$4,000	\$4,000
Selectman	\$4,000	\$4,000
Town Clerk	\$11,150	\$11,500
Tax Collector	\$15,050	\$15,500
Treasurer	\$11,150	\$15,500
Building Superintendent	\$6,700	\$6,950
Health Officer	\$1,800	\$1,800
Sexton	\$100	\$100
GA Administrator	\$600	\$650
Town Report Administrator	\$600	\$650
Public Works Director	\$35,000	\$36,050
Total	\$124,950	\$131,750

Recommended by Select Board and Budget Committee

Article 13

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$23,000** for the **Community Center** in the current year.

Description	2024 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Community Center Operating Expenses	\$21,000	\$23,000

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$55,000** for the **Fire Department** in the current year.

Description	2024 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Fire Department	\$57,500	\$55,000

Recommended by Select Board and Budget Committee

Article 15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$5,000** for the **Fire Chief's** Salary in the current year.

Description	2024 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Fire Chief	\$4,400	\$5,000

Recommended by Select Board and Budget Committee

Article 16

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation \$3,746, and carry forward the Animal Control Fund Balance of \$433 for **Animal Control Expenses**, for a **total budget of \$4,179** in the current year.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommend

Description	Breakdown
Animal Control	\$2,400
FC Animal Shelter Contract	\$1,779
Total Budget	\$4,179
Carry Forward Fund Balance	(433)
From Taxation	\$3,746

Article 17

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$12,453** for the Anson Madison Starks **Ambulance Service** in the current year.

Description	2024 Budget	Taxation/Requested
AMS Ambulance	\$12,453	\$12,453

Recommended by Select Board and Budget Committee

Article 18

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$1,300** for **Street Lights** in the current year.

Description	2024 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Street Lights	\$1,200	\$1,300

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from **taxation**, **\$313,102.78**, appropriate from **LRAP \$33,000**, appropriate from undesignated **Fund Balance \$24,397.22** for a total budget of **\$370,500** for the **Public Works Department** in the current year.

Description	2024 Budget	Appropriation/Taxation
Equipment	\$110,000	\$110,000
Garage	\$20,000	\$20,000
Summer Roads	\$72,500	\$72,500
Winter Roads	\$100,000	\$100,000
Dump Mowing	\$300	\$300
Capital Roads	\$67,678	\$67,700
Total Budget	\$370,478	\$370,500
2025 LRAP appropriation	(\$67,678)	(\$33,000)
Undesignated appropri (FEMA)		(\$24,397.22)
Total Taxation	\$302,800	\$313,102.78

Recommended by Select Board and Budget Committee

Article 20

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, up to **\$30,000** for a down payment on an **Excavator** and to finance the remaining balance as the board deems reasonable.

Recommended by Select Board

Explanation: The Board hopes to secure financing for 130k-150k with a down payment of 15k at the best rate possible for a term of 10 years or less. The wording of this allows for flexibility in the board's ability to secure and negotiate best rates and prices at the time of purchase. Estimated future debt service payments will be 15k-30k per year depending on terms and rate.

Article 21

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, \$3,042.61, and carry forward the General Assistance Fund Balance of \$957.39 for General Assistance Expenses, for a total budget of \$4,000 in the current year.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommend

Description	Breakdown
General Assistance	\$4,000
Total Budget	\$4,000
Carry Forward Fund Balance	(\$957.39)
From Taxation	\$3,042.61

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$2,000** for **Rec Sports** and **Library Membership** reimbursements in the current year.

Description	2023 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Rec Sports/Library Reimbursements	\$2,000	\$2,000

Recommended by Select Board and Budget Committee

Explanation: This article is meant for reimbursement to any Starks resident who participates in recreation sports provided by other communities at cost. Additionally, residents are permitted to purchase a library card at a library of their choosing and get reimbursed by the Town.

Article 23

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$4,350** for Third Party requests and **Social Organizations** in the current year.

Description	Budget Committee	Board of Selectmen
Food Insecurity	Winslow Pantry \$1,500	50/50 Starks-Winslow \$1,500
Red Cross	\$100	\$100
SAP - Farmington	\$0	\$200
Memorial Day Monument Wreath	\$150	\$150
Kennebec Behavioral Health	\$400	\$400
Spectrum Generations	\$500	\$500
KVCAP	\$500	\$500
Madison Public Library	\$500	\$500
Life Flight	\$500	\$500
Taxation	\$4,150	\$4,350

Article 24

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$9,787** for **debt service** on the **Sand and Salt Shed** in the current year.

Recommended by Select Board and Budget Committee Explanation: Sand & Salt Shed bond pay off date: January 15th 2029

Article 25

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$10,000**, for the **Fire Department Capital Reserve**.

Description	2024 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Fire Department Capital Reserve	\$10,000	\$10,000

To see if the town will appropriate up to \$12,000 from the building improvement fund to improve the entrance to the Community Center off Rt 43.

Article 27

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$5,000** to pay for **Unanticipated Expenses** and emergencies in the current year.

Recommended by Select Board and Budget Committee

Article 28

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from **Undesignated Funds**, **\$50,429** to lower the tax commitment.

Recommended by Select Board and Budget Committee.

Explanation: The amount requested in this article represents all the unexpended balances from the 2024 Annual budget.

Article 29

To see if the Town wishes to hold the next Annual Town Meeting on March 6th and 7th 2026.



February 13, 2025

Selectboard Town of Starks Starks, Maine

We have been engaged by the Town of Starks, Maine and are auditing the Town of Starks, Maine as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024. The following statements and schedules are being reviewed with management and have been excerpted. A complete copy will be available for inspection at the Town Office upon completion of the audit.

Included herein are:

Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds	Statement C
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds	Statement E
Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Budgetary Basis - Budget and Actual - General Fund	Schedule 1
Schedule of Departmental Operations - General Fund	Schedule A
Combining Balance Sheet - Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Schedule B
Combining Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Schedule C

RHR Smith & Company

RHR Smith & Company Certified Public Accountants

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS DECEMBER 31, 2024

	 General Fund	Ві	Duley rook Road Grant	Go	Other vernmental Funds	Go	Total overnmental Funds
ASSETS							
Cash and cash equivalents Accounts receivable (net of allowance for uncollectibles):	\$ 649,612	\$	-	\$	10,000	\$	659,612
Taxes	137,165		-		-		137,165
Liens	46,119		-		-		46,119
Tax acquired property	1,446		-		-		1,446
Due from other funds	508		-		200,898		201,406
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 834,850	\$	-	\$	210,898	\$	1,045,748
LIABILITIES Due to other governments	\$ 27	\$	-	\$	-	\$	27
Due to other funds	 200,898		-		508		201,406
TOTAL LIABILITIES	 200,925		-		508		201,433
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES Prepaid taxes Deferred tax revenues	4,103 114,545		-		-		4,103 114,545
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	118,648		-				118,648
FUND BALANCES Nonspendable	1,446		_		_		1,446
Restricted	-		_		31,918		31,918
Committed	1,390		_		178,943		180,333
Assigned	-		_		-		-
Unassigned (deficits)	512,441		_		(471)		511,970
FUND BALANCES	515,277		-		210,390		725,667
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES	\$ 834,850	\$	_	\$	210,898	\$	1,045,748

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	General Fund	Duley Brook Road Grant	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES				
Taxes:				
Property	\$ 1,125,533	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,125,533
Excise	120,096	-	-	120,096
Intergovernmental revenues	197,801	-	54,479	252,280
Charges for services	12,182	=	-	12,182
Miscellaneous revenues	22,488		3,225	25,713
TOTAL REVENUES	1,478,100		57,704	1,535,804
EXPENDITURES Current:				
General government	260.449			260,449
Public safety	63,745	-	-	63,745
Public works	362,771	-	-	362,771
Community service	2,416	_	-	2,416
Education	581,890	_	_	581,890
County tax	163,021	_	_	163,021
Unclassified	18,137	_	64,706	82,843
Capital outlay	-	_	18,155	18,155
Debt service:			10,100	10,100
Principal	8,213	_	_	8,213
Interest	1,573	_	_	1,573
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,462,215		82,861	1,545,076
EVACES OF DEVENUES OVED				
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	15,885	_	(25,157)	(9,272)
·				
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	07.000		00.000	00.000
Transfers in	67,683	-	26,000	93,683
Transfers (out)	(26,000)		(67,683)	(93,683)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	41,683		(41,683)	
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS)	57,568	-	(66,840)	(9,272)
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS)- JANUARY 1, AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED	398,780	(58,049)	396,429	737,160
FUND BALANCE CORRECTION	58,929	58,049	(119,199)	(2,221)
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - JANUARY 1, AS RESTATED	457,709		277,230	734,939
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - DECEMBER 31	\$ 515,277	\$ -	\$ 210,390	\$ 725,667

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGETARY BASIS BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

		Budgeted	Amou	unts		Actual		ariance Positive
		Original		Final		Amounts	(N	legative)
Budgetary Fund Balance, January 1, Restated Resources (Inflows):	\$	457,709	\$	457,709	\$	457,709	\$	-
Taxes: Property taxes		1,113,076		1,113,076		1,125,533		12,457
Excise taxes		1,113,076		1,113,076		120,096		(2,259)
Intergovernmental revenues:		122,555		122,333		120,030		(2,233)
State revenue sharing		98,262		98,262		93,983		(4,279)
Homestead exemption		52,523		52,523		54,604		2,081
Tree growth		18,121		18,121		18,233		112
Veterans exemption		270		270		273		3
First park		2,768		2,768		2,549		(219)
General assistance		957		957		957		(= . 0)
FEMA/MEMA		-		-		24,397		24,397
Snowmobile reimbursement		305		305		305		,00.
SC flood relief		2,500		2,500		2,500		_
Interest income		8,145		8,145		12,720		4,575
Interest on taxes		6,939		6,939		4,262		(2,677)
Charges for services		16,598		16,598		12,182		(4,416)
Miscellaneous revenues		1,500		1,500		5,506		4,006
Bond proceeds		-		-		-		-
Transfers from other funds		67,678		67,678		67,683		5
Amounts Available for Appropriation		1,969,706		1,969,706		2,003,492		33,786
Charges to Appropriations (Outflows):								
General government		282,090		282,090		260,449		21,641
Public safety		78,286		78,286		63,745		14,541
Public works		370,478		370,478		362,771		7,707
Community service		6,957		6,957		2,416		4,541
Education		581,890		581,890		581,890		-
County tax		163,021		163,021		163,021		- 447
Unclassified		27,554		27,554		18,137		9,417
Debt service:		0.040		0.040		0.040		
Principal		8,213		8,213		8,213		-
Interest		1,574		1,574		1,573		1
Transfers to other funds		26,000		26,000		26,000	-	
Total Charges to Appropriations		1,546,063		1,546,063		1,488,215		57,848
Budgetary Fund Balance, December 31	\$	423,643	\$	423,643	\$	515,277	\$	91,634
Utilization of unassigned fund balance	\$	34,590	\$	34,590	\$	_	\$	(34,590)
Utilization of carry forward	7	2,200	7	2,200	~	_	7	(2,200)
,	\$	36,790	\$	36,790	\$		\$	(36,790)
	<u> </u>	-,		-, -,	<u> </u>			, , /

TOWN OF STARKS, MAINE

SCHEDULE OF DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	Ä)R THE YE,	AR ENDED D	ECEM	FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024				
		Original Budget	Budget Adjustments	 	Final Budget	Actual Expenditures	ဖွ	Variance Positive (Negative)	nce Vegative)
General government -									
Administration	↔	127,281	S	⊹	127,281	\$ 107,817	317	↔	19,464
New computers		6,859			6,859	8,9	6,859		•
Code enforcement officer		8,300			8,300	8,3	8,300		•
Legal services		2,000		1	2,000		,		2,000
Deputy clerk		3,000		ı	3,000	1,8	1,833		1,167
Elections		4,500		ı	4,500	4,6	4,500		1
Plumbing inspector		ı		ı	1	2,7	2,790		(2,790)
Assessors		15,000		1	15,000	15,000	000		•
Selectboard		12,000		1	12,000	12,000	000		•
Town clerk		11,150		ı	11,150	11,150	150		1
Tax collector		15,050		ı	15,050	15,050)50		1
Treasurer		11,150		ı	11,150	11,150	150		1
Janitor		6,700		I	6,700	6,7	6,700		ı
Health officer		1,800		i	1,800				1,800
Sexton		100		I	100	_	100		ı
General assistance overseer		009		I	009	9	009		ı
Town report administrator		009		I	009	9	009		ı
Road foreman stipend		35,000		Ì	35,000	35,000	000		1
Community center		21,000		1	21,000	21,000	000		1
		282,090		 -	282,090	260,449	149		21,641
Public safety -									
Fire department		57,500		I	57,500	44,791	791		12,709
Fire chief		4,400		ı	4,400	4,4	4,400		1
Animal control		2,733			2,733	2,3	2,300		433
AMS service		12,453		ı	12,453	11,267	797		1,186
Street lights		1,200		1	1,200	6	286		213
		78,286			78,286	63,745	745		14,541

TOWN OF STARKS, MAINE

SCHEDULE OF DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND

500	SCHEDOLE OF DEFARIMENTAL OFERALIONS - GENERAL FOND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024	FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024	ATIONS - GENE EMBER 31, 2024	ZAL POND	
	Original Budget	Budget Adjustments	Final Budget	Actual Expenditures	Variance Positive (Negative)
Distlic works					
Equipment	110,000	•	110,000	116,760	(6,760)
Garage	20,000	ı	20,000	14,620	5,380
Summer roads	72,500	•	72,500	84,552	(12,052)
Winter roads	100,000	1	100,000	85,750	14,250
Closure of the Starks dump	300	1	300	300	1
Capital roads	67,678	1	67,678	60,789	6,889
	370,478	-	370,478	362,771	7,707
Community senice -					
General assistance	4.957	•	4.957	1,165	3.792
Recreation and library	2,000	ı	2,000	1,251	749
`	6,957		6,957	2,416	4,541
					,
Debt service -					
Principal	8,213	•	8,213	8,213	1
Interest	1,574	ı	1,574	1,573	_
	9,787	1	9,787	9,786	1
County tax	163,021	1	163,021	163,021	1
Education -					
RSU #9	581,890	'	581,890	581,890	1
	581,890	1	581,890	581,890	'

TOWN OF STARKS, MAINE

SCHEDULE OF DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	Original Budget	inal get	Budget Adjustments	H M	Final Budget	Actual Expenditures	Variance Positive (Negative)
Unclassified - First Park		3,148	ı		3,148	3,148	ı
Social services Snowmobile		5,000 306	1 1		5,000 306	4,973	27
Contingency		2,000	ı		2,000	4,429	571
SC flood relief		2,500	•		2,500	2,500	
Overlay/abatements		11,600	1		11,600	1,187	10,413
Lien costs		-	•		1	1,595	(1,595)
		27,554	1		27,554	18,137	9,417
Transfers to other funds - Capital projects funds		26,000	-		26,000	26,000	
		26,000	1		26,000	26,000	1
TOTAL DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS	₩.	1,546,063	· \$	₩	1,546,063	\$ 1,488,215	\$ 57,848

See accompanying independent auditor's report and notes to financial statements.

COMBINING BALANCE SHEET - NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS DECEMBER 31, 2024

	Spe	ecial	Capital				Total Nonmajor	
	Rev	Revenue Projects		Permanent		Governmental		
	Fu	ınds	Funds		Funds		Funds	
400FT0								
ASSETS	æ		Φ		Φ	40.000	Φ	10.000
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	-	\$	470.040	\$	10,000	\$	10,000
Due from other funds	Ф.		Ф.	178,943	Ф.	21,955	Ф.	200,898
TOTAL ASSETS	\$		\$	178,943	\$	31,955	\$	210,898
LIABILITIES								
Due to other funds	\$	-	\$	471	\$	37	\$	508
TOTAL LIABILITIES		-		471		37		508
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES								
Deferred revenue				-		-		
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF								
RESOURCES						-		
FUND BALANCES								
Nonspendable		-		-		-		-
Restricted		-		-		31,918		31,918
Committed		-		178,943		-		178,943
Assigned		-		- (4 7 4)		-		(474)
Unassigned (deficits) TOTAL FUND BALANCES				(471)		24.040	-	(471)
TOTAL FUND BALANCES				178,472		31,918		210,390
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED								
INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND								
FUND BALANCES	\$		\$	178,943	\$	31,955	\$	210,898

COMBINING SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	Special Revenue Funds		Capital Projects Funds	Permanent Funds		Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds	
REVENUES Intergovernmental Interest income Other TOTAL REVENUES	\$	20,951 - 2,500 23,451	\$ 33,528 - 705 34,233	\$	20 -	\$	54,479 20 3,205 57,704
EXPENDITURES Capital outlay Other TOTAL EXPENDITURES		64,693 64,693	18,155 - 18,155		13 13		18,155 64,706 82,861
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES		(41,242)	16,078		7_		(25,157)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) Transfers in Transfers (out) TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)		- - -	26,000 (67,678) (41,678)		(5) (5)		26,000 (67,683) (41,683)
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES		(41,242)	(25,600)		2		(66,840)
FUND BALANCES - JANUARY 1, AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED		47,679	316,834		31,916		396,429
FUND BALANCE CORRECTION		(6,437)	(112,762)				(119,199)
FUND BALANCES - JANUARY 1, AS RESTATED		41,242	204,072		31,916		277,230
FUND BALANCES - DECEMBER 31	\$		\$ 178,472	\$	31,918	\$	210,390



2024 Sheriff's Office Annual Report



Dale P. Lancaster Sheriff

January 1, 2025 begins my 10th year as your Sheriff. I want to personally thank everyone for your continued support for the Somerset County Sheriff's Office. It is a privilege to serve the citizens of Somerset County, and our visitors.

The Office of Sheriff oversees the operations of the County Jail, law enforcement, court security, and civil process. Somerset County is approximately 4,000 square miles. The County is comprised of 27 towns, 6 plantations, and 83 unorganized townships. This year, I began my 2-year term as immediate past President of the Maine Sheriff's Association. I continue my appointment to the Board of Directors for (NESPIN) New England State Police Information Network. I am also a board member for the Statewide County Corrections Professional Standards Council.

I would like to report that the Somerset County Sheriff's Office continues to be an accredited law enforcement agency through the Maine Law Enforcement Accreditation Program. The Sheriff's Office law enforcement policies and procedures are best practice for the State of Maine. I want to take this opportunity to thank staff and Deputies for their diligent efforts to obtain this accreditation.

In 2024 the Somerset County Sheriffs Office added two School Resource Officers (SRO). We provide an SRO to SAD 59, Madison and to SAD 54, Canaan and Norridgewock.

The Sheriffs Office collaborates with Somerset Public Health to provide a Care Coordinator for Substance Use Disorder. When Deputies respond to incidents that have addiction related components, they now have an imbedded caseworker that can process referrals for treatment.

The Sheriffs Office procured a drone, through grant funding, to assist Deputies with the investigation of crime scenes and motor vehicle crashes.

Law Enforcement

The Patrol division is comprised of 14 Patrol Deputies and 3 Sergeants. Through funding from the State of Maine, we have 2 Deputies dedicated to patrolling the unorganized townships. The Patrol division is overseen by a Lieutenant. The Patrol Division conducted 1,275 traffic stops and covered 987 reportable accidents. The patrol division arrested/summonsed 835 individuals in Somerset County. The Sheriff's Office assigns 1 Deputy per shift to patrol the Town of Madison. We have a 32-hour Secretary/Dispatcher assigned to Madison. We had a total of 4 Deputies graduate from the 45th and 46th Basic Law Enforcement Program (BLETP) at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy this year. The Criminal division is comprised of 4 Detectives, 1 Domestic Violence Investigator assigned to the Somerset County District Attorney's Office, and is overseen by a Lieutenant. The Sheriff's Office continues to partner with MDEA (Maine Drug Enforcement Agency) to have an agent assigned to the Criminal Division. Presently, that position is not filled. The Sheriff's Office has 1 trained accident re-constructionist along with 1 forensic mapper. The Sheriff's Office has 2 canines, one assigned to each division.

Throughout 2024, the Sheriff's Office Criminal Division investigated a large volume of illicit drug trafficking activities. This year the Criminal Division obtained 63 search warrants and charged 68 people with illicit drug charges. The Criminal Division charged 60 people with crimes such as, burglary, theft, sexual assault, fraud etc. Between January and December, the Criminal Division executed 22 illegal marijuana cultivation drug search warrants. These warrants have been executed in the Towns of Cornville, Norridgewock, Madison, Anson, Solon, Ripley, St. Albans, Skowhegan, and Canaan. In 2024 the Criminal Division seized approximately 28,000 marijuana plants, approximately 250 pounds of processed marijuana, approximately \$50,000 in cash, and 5 motor vehicles. In 2024, the Crimes Against Persons Detective investigated 27 sex offense complaints. 19 of those cases involved child sexual abuse where forensic interviewing was utilized. Detective Jeremy Leal is a Children's Advocacy Center forensic interviewer. As a result of these investigations, and working with the District Attorney's Office prosecuting these cases, we were able to get substantial sentences in a number of child abuse cases. The Sheriff's Office Criminal Division tracks individuals who are



required by law to register as sex offenders. 3 individuals were charged/arrested with Sex Offender Registration Notification Act violations.

Jail

The Somerset County Jail, when operating at full capacity, operates with 36 budgeted Correctional Officers, 8 Shift Supervisors, 3 cooks, 12 program and support staff, and 9 administrative staff. The Somerset County Jail is now 17 years old. The County Jail is nationally accredited through the American Correctional Association and is operating under nationally best practice standards. The County Jail is also PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act) certified. In 2024 the Somerset County Jail recorded 1,319 total bookings, a 3.2% increase since 2023. We are currently still working with the State of Maine in administering Sublocade to inmates who identify with an Opioid Use Disorder. The Somerset County Jail has a robust programs division. Services provided include parenting classes, alcohol treatment, education and mental health counselling. In 2024 we collaborated with Somerset Public Health, funded by New Balance, inmates work growing a variety of vegetables that get processed on site by our kitchen workers and distributed to local schools.

Civil Process

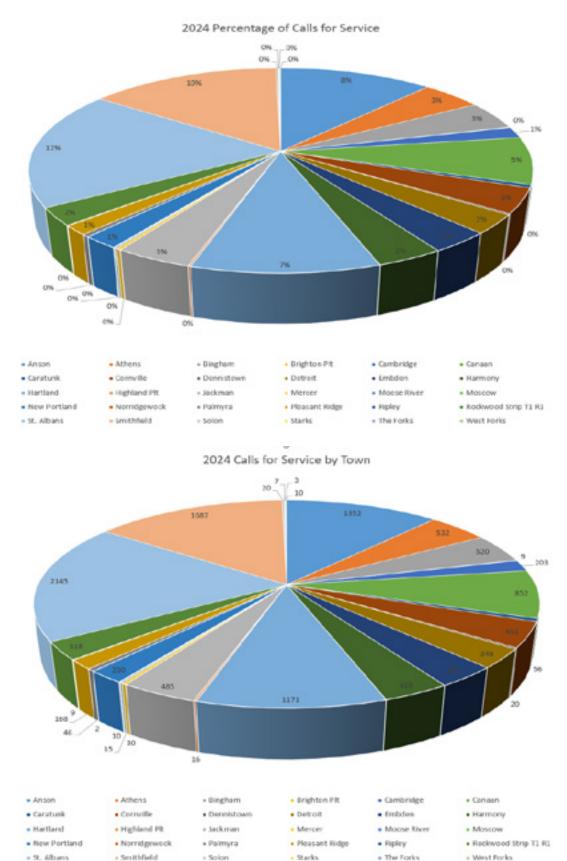
In 2024, the Somerset County Sheriff's Office Civil Deputies received 1,325 papers to process and serve. That is a 23% decrease from 2023.

Calls for Service

- In 2024, the Sheriff's Office received 17,479 calls for service from our residents. This represents a 4.3% decrease from 2023.
- During 2024, the Sheriff's Office responded to 221 calls for service from the Town of Starks, which is a 4% decrease from 2023. These calls included 26 motor vehicle accidents, 11 calls requesting citizen assistance, 6 domestic disturbances, as well as calls for burglary, theft, criminal threatening, assault, harassment, welfare checks, and requests for other police services.

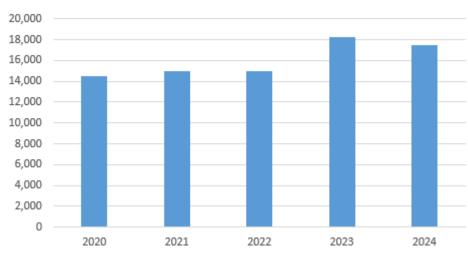
The Somerset County Sheriff Office remains committed to our core values: INTEGRITY-RESPECT-FAIRNESS-DEDICATION.







Calls for Service 2020 - 2024





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

Dear Maine Resident:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Janet T. Mills Governor



410 DRIVISEN SENATE CHIPOS BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904 (201) 224-2523 (202) 224-2603 (FAX)



COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
VOE CHAR
HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LASON, AND PRINCIPAL
SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELL GENCE

Dear Friends:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Susan M. Collins United States Senator

Luan M Collins

133 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING (202) 224-5344 Website: https://www.King.Senate.gov

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 1, 2025

COMMITTEES
ARMED SERVICES
CHAIMMAN, STRATEGIC FORCES
SUBCOMMITTEE
ENERGY AND
NATURAL RESOURCES
CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL PARKS
SUBCOMMITTEE
INTELLIGENCE
VETERAMS, AFFAIRS

Dear Friends,

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

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

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

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

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

Best Regards,

United States Senate

Washington Office 1710 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515 Phone: (202) 225-6306 Fax: (202) 225-2943

www.golden.house.gov



Committee on Armed Services Committee on Small Business

Dear Friends,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

I wish you a healthy and prosperous year to come.

Respectfully,

Jared Golden

Member of Congress

Jared of Golden

132nd Legislature

Senate of

Maine

Senator Russell Black 3 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0003 (207) 287-1505

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

I am honored and humbled to continue serving as your State Senator for a fourth term. The trust you have placed in me is something I do not take lightly, and I remain committed to being a strong voice for you, your family, and our community in Augusta.

I am happy to continue my work on the Agriculture Conservation and Forestry Committee, I will continue to focus on ensuring accountability in key state programs, with a particular emphasis on the Office of Child and Family Services (OCFS).

The First Regular Session of the 132nd Maine State Legislature began on December 4, 2024, with our swearing-in ceremony led by Governor Janet Mills. It was a day filled with tradition, attended by family and friends of incoming members, as we set the stage for the work ahead.

Many of you have reached out to me about the challenges you are facing—rising costs of energy, housing, child care, and concerns about education, mental health, substance abuse, workforce development, and community safety. As your State Senator, I am committed to working with my colleagues to find common-sense solutions to these pressing issues.

In addition, addressing Maine's anticipated budget gap and setting priorities for the next biennium will be a significant focus this session. I am confident that through collaboration, we can work to balance fiscal responsibility with investments in the well-being of all Mainers.

Once again, I want to thank you for re-electing me to represent you in the State Senate. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me with any questions, comments, or concerns. I am here to help, whether it's navigating state programs or working to address issues important to you and our community.

Sincerely,

Russell Black State Senator

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Fax: (207) 287-1527 * TTY (207) 287-1583 * Message Service 1-800-423-6900 * Web Site: legislature.maine.gov/senate

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



2 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002 (207) 287-1440 TTY: (207) 287-4469

Robert W. Nutting

P.O. Box 100 Oakland, ME 04963 Phone: (207) 629-7035 Robert.Nutting@legislature.maine.gov

January 2025

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I am deeply honored and humbled by the trust you have placed in me to represent you in the 132nd Legislature. Serving as your State Representative is a privilege, and I am committed to working hard on your behalf to address the challenges we face and to seize opportunities that can make a meaningful difference in our communities.

Our shared values and the strength of our communities inspire me every day. Whether it is advocating for education, ensuring access to quality healthcare, or supporting local businesses, I believe we can make progress together. I will continue to listen to your concerns and ideas, as they are the foundation of the work we do in Augusta.

As your Representative, I encourage you to stay connected and engaged with the work happening at the State House and to monitor all legislative proposals being worked on by visiting the Legislature's website at www.legislature.maine.gov. Decisions made in Augusta affect our lives in countless ways, and your voice is vital in shaping the future of our district and our state. Please feel free to reach out to me with your questions, concerns, or suggestions. Whether you need assistance navigating state services or want to share your thoughts on upcoming legislation, I am here to help.

If you would like to be added to my email list to receive updates and important information on State programs and services, you can do so by emailing me directly with your request at Robert.Nutting@legislature.maine.gov.

Thank you for your confidence in me and for the opportunity to serve. Together, we can build a brighter future for our families and communities.

Warm regards,

Robert W. Nutting State Representative