

TOWN OF WINTER HARBOR, MAINE



ANNUAL REPORT

For July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

Containing:

- Auditor's Report for the Fiscal Year
2023 – 2024
- Municipal Officers' Annual Reports
2024 – 2025
- Warrant for 2025 – 2026



TOWN REPORT COVER

The cover of this years Town Report shows 60 years of the Winter Harbor Lobster Festival and Boat Races. This one day a year event takes months of planning by several different committees. The parade and Lobster Dinner are now planned by the Town; the craft fair and vendors are handled by the Schoodic Area Chamber of Commerce. Peter Drinkwater at the 5 & 10 does the t-shirts. Blueberry Pancake breakfast is served by the Masons at the Masonic Lodge.

The very first Winter Harbor Lobster Festival was held in Douglas Torreys back yard on Sargant Street in 1964. His idea was to celebrate summer and the lobster harvest. Little did he know that 60 years later we would still be holding a lobster festival the second Saturday in August.

Years later the Chamber of Commerce took over the event and it moved to Frasier's Point with a lobster dinner and craft fair, that is, until a helicopter landed and blew the vendors displays into the lower harbor. At that point the craft fair was moved to Main Street. In 1984 the craft fair moved again to the Winter Harbor Gym. To this day it is still located at the gym. Vendors fill the inside, and the parking lot with their hand made items and people come from all over to shop.

The Navy brought a range of visiting vessels with sailors adding to the celebration of fireworks and street dances. The Festival also hosted an array of other events over the years including, tours of Naval and Coast Guard vessels, tours of the Prospect Harbor Light House, parachuting, hot air balloons, giant mud trucks, car clubs, a mixed martial arts demonstration of self-defense, a militia encampment and cannons shot into Henry's Cove, cod fish relays, contests for baiting bags, tug of war and opportunities to walk across the harbor on lobster crates.

In 2019 our theme was Fly Me to The Moon. A local Winter Harbor resident and Assurant, Frederick (Rick) Hauk who was selected as an astronaut candidate by NASA in 1978. Rick was on three separate space missions. We were honored to have him autographing his photo and getting his picture taken. We also had Susan Campbell, (who's mom was Winter Harbor native Barbara Gerrish Lilly) an employee with NASA brought lots of memorabilia from Ricks flights into space to hand out at our NASA tent.

The Lobster Festival and Boat Races will continue this year for its 61st year. Our theme is Lobster, Legends and Pirate Treasures.

The very first Winter Harbor Boats Race was the summer of 1965 when a group of local fishermen decided that the Jonesport races needed some competition. Ralph Byers Sr. ran the boat races for the first several years, Ralph and one of his sons drowned while lobstering together. Years later Ralph Byers Jr. also drowned while lobstering. Until about the 20th year of the boat races it was called the Ralph E. Byers Memorial. Today the Winter Harbor Boat Race is run by Christopher “Budha” Byers. He not only runs the race; he also puts together the fundraiser for the private fireworks show. The prizes for the boat race have also changed over the years, some years it is a brand-new hull, or it could be a cruise, maybe a beautiful lobster claw neckless, fuel, bait, a new pickup truck. You never know what it will be.

For many years Keith Young also played a huge roll in planning and maintaining the foundation of the boat race. The 55th annual boat race was dedicated to Keith. Sadly, Keith passed away this year.

Thank You, Keith!

You will be hard pressed to find a life in the Winter Harbor area that hasn't been touched by Keith Young. Not only has he been a beloved community member for over 35 years, but he is the heart and soul of the Annual Winter Harbor Lobster Boat Races.

As the tide ebbs and flows and the lobster fishermen begin their season as they have done for hundreds of years, we see advancements in technology, techniques, equipment and motors. With a keen eye on the future and an excitement for growth, Keith has been instrumental in the advancement of the Lobster Boat Races and

the local fishing community. With a love of the water that began far before his 40-year career of managing the boats and various parts of the Dickson estate on Grindstone.

Keith always enjoyed working alongside the local fishermen and admired their hard work. Combining his love of racing and love of the water seemed inevitable. Keith is a character who will be the first one to tell you that, "real men wear pink."

Born and raised in Gouldsboro, Keith has become a permanent fixture in Winter Harbor, where he is loved and admired by all. Thank you, Keith! You are a true treasure and we love you!

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The Ellsworth American
39 Water Street, Ellsworth, ME 04909
207-967-2576 • ellsworthamerican.com

Thank you, Keith!

Love, Buddha & Michaela Byers
P/V The Navigator

THANK YOU, KEITH!
Mainway Cottages and RV Park
207-963-2801 • 207-963-5261
www.lobsterraces.com

Thank You, Keith!

WILLIAM "BILLY BOB" FAULKINGHAM
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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Keith, you are a local treasure!



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TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

Municipal Office Hours

8:00 am to 4:00 pm - Monday through Friday

Telephone: 963-2235

Fax: 963-2140

The Town observes the following Holidays, at which time the Town Office will be closed:

New Year's Day

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Presidents' Day

Patriot's Day

Memorial Day

Juneteenth Day

Independence Day

Labor Day

Columbus Day

Veterans Day

Thanksgiving Day

Day after Thanksgiving

Christmas Day

Scheduled Meetings: All are held in the Meeting Room, Municipal Public Safety Building

Board of Selectmen - Every other Monday at 6:00 pm

Planning Board - Third Tuesday each month at 6:00 pm

Fire Department - Second Tuesday each month at 6:00 pm

Services Available at the Town Office:

Building & Plumbing Permit Applications

Copy Services

Dog Licenses

Genealogical Research – vital statistics from 1895

Fire Burn Permits (online help only)

Hunting and Fishing Licenses

Marriage Licenses

Notary Services

Real Estate/Personal Property Tax Payments

Registrations: Vehicles/Boats/ATVs/Snowmobiles

Sign Permits (on & off-premise)

Trash Bags/Stickers Sales

Vital Records-Certified Copies

Voter Registration

USEFUL AND IMPORTANT TOWN INFORMATION

Agendas and Minutes

All meeting Agendas and Minutes are posted in the Town Office and on our website. Anyone wishing to have an item placed on the Agenda for the Board of Selectmen meetings should inform the Town Manager at least a week prior to the meeting. All meetings are open to the public. Based on the vote at the last gubernatorial election, at least 25 valid signatures are required for nomination papers or for petitions to be accepted.

Assessing & Property Tax Information

Winter Harbor's elected Board of Selectmen contracts with RJD Appraisal to set the values for all property as of April 1st of each year. If you qualify for a Homestead, Veteran's, or other exemption, you must file the application by April 1st. Once approved, you do not need to reapply yearly for the exemption. Taxes are generally calculated by mid-August and bills are mailed by the first week of September. They are due in two installments, October 31st and April 30th. If you do not receive a tax bill, and believe you should have one, please contact the Town Office. Information about property is contained on assessment cards at the Town Office. All property and tax information is public information. Winter Harbor's fiscal year is July 1st to June 30th.



Boats, ATVs, and Snowmobiles

Registrations for all recreational vehicles are performed at the Winter Harbor Town Office. Boat registrations expire December 31st. For all documented boats, the excise tax **must** be paid in the town in which you reside. Snowmobile and ATV registrations expire June 30th. New registrations require a bill of sale, and sales tax is collected at the time of registration, unless the vehicle was purchased from a Maine dealer. The Harbor Master oversees all moorings.



Dog Licensing & Animal Control Information

Maine State Statute requires all canines to be registered when they reach six months of age. All dog licenses expire December 31st of each year and are obtained at the Town



Office. There is a mandatory late fee of \$25 after January 31st. Proof of rabies vaccination is required to register the dog. All dogs must be on a leash or under their keepers' voice control and may not run at large. Winter Harbor contracts with the Small Animal Clinic in Ellsworth to board stray animals. The Animal Waste Control Ordinance, adopted February 27, 2013 requires that owners clean up after their animal on any sidewalk, street, beach, public or private property (other than the property of the owner of the animal or of a person who has consented to the presence of the animal on his/her property.)

Genealogical Research

This is accommodated whenever possible. An appointment is requested, if research will require the assistance of the Town Clerk/Deputy Clerk. Copy services are available at 25 cents a page for documents brought in and \$1.00 a page for records maintained in the Town Office. If your request for documents involves archived materials, you may be asked to make a pre-payment based on the anticipated difficulty and time needed to locate and later replace the items to their files. Some records are not open to public inspection, unless there is a valid and demonstrated need to know.



General Assistance

Winter Harbor' General Assistance Program is administered as required by State law. Applications are available during regular office hours at the Town Office. An Ordinance is used to determine eligibility for assistance, and the Board of Selectmen updates it annually in October.

Hunting & Fishing Licenses

Winter Harbor is an agent for the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife for hunting and fishing licenses. These licenses are sold through the MOSES on-line system at the Town Office. Salt-water fishing registration is required and that permission is included with fresh water fishing licenses. First time hunters are required to submit proof of a hunter safety course completion when purchasing a license.



Motor Vehicle Registration Information

Winter Harbor is a limited new registration agent for the Maine Bureau of Motor Vehicles. If you have a new



motor vehicle to register, you **must** start at the Town Office by paying excise tax and complete the registrations at a full-service office, e.g., Gouldsboro or Ellsworth. All re-registrations may be done at the Winter Harbor Town Office. If you have an existing license plate and purchased a car from a Maine dealer, the initial registration can also be completed at the Winter Harbor Town Office. Proof of insurance, current registration and current mileage is required for all registrations.

Neighbor Helping Neighbor Heating Assistance Fund

Winter Harbor is fortunate to have established a heating assistance fund



Neighbor Helping Neighbor

that is funded by donations only. No tax dollars are used. If assistance is needed, contact the Town Manager. Any personal information obtained for the purpose of this program is confidential. Heating assistance is offered November through March, unless

there is an extreme emergency. Any and all donations are welcome and appreciated.

Permits & Ordinances

Building activity in Winter Harbor is regulated by numerous Ordinances, which are administered by the Planning Board and the Code Enforcement Officer (CEO). All of the Ordinances and Building Permit Forms are available at the Town Office and the Town's website. A fee of \$10.00 is required when the Building Permit is submitted. Failure to obtain a permit and other violations of the various Ordinances carry penalties. Please consult the CEO, Millard Billings, prior to starting any project. Please call the Town Office to schedule a meeting.

Police, Fire and Ambulance Information

Any call for emergency should go to **9-1-1**. The call is



answered by the Hancock County Regional Communications Center (RCC) in Ellsworth and then dispatched to the appropriate agency. Police protection is provided by the Winter Harbor Police



Department with backup by the Hancock County Sheriff's Department and the Maine State Police. The Winter Harbor Volunteer Fire Department provides fire suppression and rescue coverage. All outdoor burning requires a permit, which can be obtained (provided

conditions are safe) through the online portal, Maine.gov/burnpermits. Both Police and Fire Departments have mutual aid agreements with Gouldsboro Police and Fire Departments. Ambulance Service is provided by Schoodic EMS, which is a part of the Gouldsboro Fire Department. The Town of Winter Harbor holds a contract with Schoodic EMS and pays a per capita rate each year.

Non-Emergency Numbers:

Burn Permits	963-2235
Coast Guard	244-5517
Hancock County Sheriff	667-7575
Maine State Police	866-2121
Maine Warden Service	941-4440
Marine Patrol	664-2392
Winter Harbor Fire Station	963-5533



Utility Services

Electricity is supplied by Versant Power. In the event of a power outage, please call 800-440-1111. Spectrum provides Cable TV service, under a franchise agreement with the Town (800-833-2253). Landline telephone service is maintained by Consolidated Communications (repair-866-984-1611).

On-line Services

The Town of Winter Harbor does have a website located at <https://winterharborme.org> The site contains of information about the Town, meetings, committees, Officers, and Departments. Also, our Tax Commitment Book, tax maps and ordinances can be found there. There is also a Facebook page, Town of Winter Harbor, Maine. This is where closures will be posted along with the monthly newsletter and agendas/minutes of the Selectboard meetings. Please contact the Town Office with any comments or questions.

Volunteers & Appointed Officials

There are many volunteers and/or appointment opportunities available in our Town. If you are interested in volunteering and assisting, contact the Town Office.



Waste Disposal

Winter Harbor has curbside trash pickup and trash bags and/or stickers are required. They may be purchased at the Town Office, Winter Harbor Provisions or Winter Harbor 5 & 10 for \$1.50 and \$2.00 respectively. The



Town does not have a Transfer Station. The Town sponsors a "Bulky Waste Day" in October and May where larger items or Universal Waste may be discarded. Items can be dropped off at the Salt/Sand Facility on Newman Street **only** on these advertised days. The Town also participates in Household Hazardous Collection if one is available. The Town does not participate in a recycling program.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

IF YOU HAVE AN EMERGENCY CALL 911

Fire Department (non-emergency)	963-5533
Hancock County Sheriff's Department	667-7575
Peninsula School	963-2003
Police Department (non-emergency)	963-2235
Regional School Unit No. 24	422-2017
Schoodic Institute	288-1310
Schoodic Woods Campground	288-3338
Charles Sumner Learning Center	422-3510
Town Office	963-2235
Utilities District	963-5579
Water District	963-7703
Winter Harbor Public Library	963-7556

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

August	Property tax bills mailed
October 15 th	Dog licenses go on sale
October 31 st	1 st half of property tax due
December 31 st	Dog licenses due
December 31 st	Boat registrations expire
February 1 st	Late fee charged for unregistered dogs (\$25.00)
February 28 th	Trailer registrations expire (over 2,000 lbs)
March	Motorcycle registrations due
April 30 th	2 nd half of property tax due
June 30 th	ATV & Snowmobile registrations expire
July 1 st	Mooring fees due

The Town Clerk is the official record keeper for the Town and is responsible for maintaining and ensuring the safekeeping and preservation of Town and Vital Records. All birth and death records are now recorded and issued through the State of Maine online Electronic Death, Birth and Marriage Registration (EDRS, EBRS and EMRS).

The Town Clerk is also responsible for issuing various state and local licenses, including Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (IF&W) licenses, dog licenses, and registering recreational vehicles (snowmobiles, ATVs). The Clerk also administers and oversees the state and local elections as well as voter registration.

The town website: <https://winterharborme.org> contains current Town information, Ordinances, tax information and maps as well as detailed information on each Department.

IF&W LICENSES ISSUED

May 1, 2024 – April 30, 2025

A total of 87 License Authorities were issued as follows:

Superpack – 1	Junior Hunting – 0
Combo – 19	Hunting – 15
Fishing – 17	Archery – 0
Expanded Archery – 0	Coyote Night Hunt - 0
Turkey – 3	Bear – 0
Lifetime (over 70) – 0	Waterfowl – 0
Non-Res, fishing – 1	Muzzle Loader - 1

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES REGISTERED

May 1, 2024 – April 30, 2025

Boats – 65	ATVs – 31
Snowmobiles – 13	



DOG LICENSES SOLD

May 1, 2024 – April 30, 2025
Neutered/Spayed – 97
Unaltered – 14
Service Dog – 1

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

Currently **428** registered voters
Democrats 125
Republicans 181
Green 18
Libertarian 1
No Label 1
Unenrolled 102

REPORT OF VOTES CAST

June 11, 2024 128
November 5, 2024 339

VITAL STATISTICS

May 1, 2024 through April 30, 2025
Births – 2 Marriages – 37 Deaths –12

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>
June 20, 2024	Hiram Allen Gerrish	85
June 26, 2024	Deborah O. Holden	66
July 31, 2024	Bruce Michael Miller	70
August 11, 2024	Phillip Ernest Morawa	76
September 26, 2024	Robert Joseph Bostinto	69
September 28, 2024	Reginald Carl Knowles	82
November 11, 2024	Kittridge Allen Johnson	85
November 16, 2024	Dorothy Ann Morawa	81
December 31, 2024	Lavonne J. Kirkland	70
January 8, 2025	Clifford Stanley Pilacinski	81
January 19, 2025	Ruby Sarah Bragdon	73
April 18, 2025	Ryan Todd Bickford Sr.	57

Respectfully Submitted,
Sara J. Liscomb, Town Clerk

OFFICIALS AND BOARDS

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Board of Selectmen, Board of Assessors and Overseers of the Poor

Terry D. Bickford, Chair	Term Expires 2025
Gordon W. Harrington	Term Expires 2026
Robert Hemenway	Term Expires 2027

Budget Committee

(All terms are for one year)

Billy Bickford	Michael Campbell
Kevin Conley	Laura DeLucia
Peter Drinkwater	Herman Faulkingham
Christopher Joy	Bob Schmidt
Diana Young	

Cemetery Association Trustees

(All terms are for one year)

Andy Abbott	Charles Arnett
Rose Arnett	Billy Bickford
Christopher Byers	Herman Faulkingham
Gordon Harrington	David Joy
Mary Kachoris	Roseanne Shafer
Louise Shaw	Larry E. Smith
Betty Williams	Diana Young
Steve Young	

Recreation Committee

(All terms are for one year)

Dolora Conley	Sandy Fortin
Sarah Joy	Megan Moshier
Earl Blackney	

TOWN OFFICIALS AND BOARDS
(continued)

Harbor Committee

(All terms are for one year)

Commercial Fishermen	Michael Kramp Robert Bragdon Herman Faulkingham
Recreational Boaters	Andrew Abbott Alan Johnson, Chairman
At-Large Members	Barbara Jean Bragdon Richard Wilson

Library Trustees

Rose Arnett	Term Expires 2026
Michael Campbell	Term Expires 2026
Sandy Drinkwater	Term Expires 2025
Ruth Littlefield	Term Expires 2029
Wendilee O'Brien	Term Expires 2026
Sandy Smallidge	Term Expires 2026

Planning Board

Vacant	Term Expires 2027
Billy Bickford	Term Expires 2027
Vacant	Term Expires 2028
Dennis O'Brien, Chair	Term Expires 2029
Steve Ribble	Term Expires 2026

Planning Board Alternates

Herman Faulkingham	Term Expires 2027
Bob Schmidt	Term Expires 2026

Comprehensive Plan Committee

Cathy Carruthers	Steve Ribble
Sandy Fortin	Roberta Parritt
Sarah Joy	Bob Schmidt

TOWN OFFICIALS AND BOARDS

(continued)

Utilities District Trustees

Jeffrey Alley, Jr. Chair	Term Expired 2027
Kevin Conley	Term Expires 2026
William Van Horn	Term Expires 2025

Water District Trustees

David Ackley	Term Expires 2026
Billy Bickford	Term Expires 2027
Johanna Smith	Term Expires 2025



TOWN OFFICIALS AND BOARDS

(continued)

Fire Department

Roy Chandler – Chief	Gary Greenlaw – Asst. Chief
Matthew Hudson – Captain	Wayne Campbell – Engineer
Matthew Correia - Lieutenant	

Dave Ackley	Daniel Backman, Sr.
Eric Bosley	Cameron Chandler
Cathy Carruthers-Treasurer	Jeff Horn
Rachel Hudson	Sara Liscomb-Secretary
Willis Hutchins	Marc Miller
Pepper Mitchell	Shawn Schuurman
Robert Webber	Taya Worcester

Police Department

Danny Mitchell, Jr. – Chief
Philip Sargent – Sergeant

Animal Control Officer

Philip Sargent

E911 Addressing Officer

Chief Danny Mitchell, Jr.

Emergency Management Director/Local Health Officer

Roy Chandler

Fire Warden

Roy Chandler

Local Health Officer

Roy Chandler

TOWN OFFICIALS AND BOARDS
(continued)

Peninsula School Principal

Christopher Beals

Sumner Memorial High School Principal

Amy Watson

Regional School Unit (RSU) No. 24 Superintendent

Michael Eastman

Regional School Unit (RSU) 24 Director

Jeffrey Alley, Jr.

Term Expires 2027



Alden Graves, a volunteer with the 20th Maine, digs into a lobster dinner in 1994.



TOWN OFFICIALS AND BOARDS

(continued)

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

**Town Manager, Treasurer, Tax Collector, Town Clerk, Registrar,
General Assistance Administrator
Motor Vehicle Agent**

Sara J. Liscomb

Deputy Registrar, Deputy Clerk

Misti Sargent

Road Commissioner/ Facilities Maintenance Director

Roy Chandler

Local Plumbing Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer

Millard Billings

Harbor Master

Frederick Backman

Acadia National Park Commission Representative

Pearl Barto

Board of Appeals

Peter Drinkwater

Term Expires 2025

Sandra Guptill

Term Expires 2025

Schoodic Peninsula Broadband Committee

Winter Harbor Members

Sandy Fortin

Steve Ribble

Paul McGrath

Lobster Festival Committee

Christopher Byers

Peter Drinkwater

Laura DeLucia

Herman Faulkingham

Buddy Hatt

Jeanette Hatt

SENATOR SUSAN COLLINS' LETTER

SENATOR ANGUS KING'S LETTER

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
JARED GOLDEN'S LETTER**

GOVERNOR JANET MILLS LETTER

STATE SENATOR MARIANNE MOORE'S LETTER

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE
WILLIAM R. FAULKINGHAM'S LETTER**

CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

United States Senate

Susan M. Collins



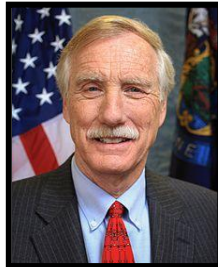
Maine Address

P.O. Box 655
Bangor, ME 04402
(207) 945-0417
Fax: (207) 990-4604

Washington, DC Address

461 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510-1940
(800) 962-3524
Fax: (202) 224-2693

Angus King



Maine Address

4 Gabriel Drive, Suite 3
Augusta, ME 04330
(207) 622-8292

Washington, DC Address

133 Hart Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-5344

CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

United States House of Representatives

Jared Golden



Maine Address

Washington, DC Address

6 State Street
Bangor, ME 04401
(207) 249-7400

1223 Longworth House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-6306

Governor

Janet T. Mills



Office of the Governor
1 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207) 287-3531
Fax: (207) 287-1034

STATE LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

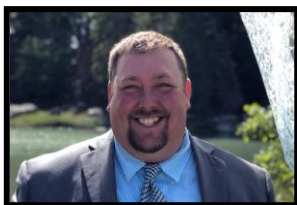
State Senate – District #6 **Senator Marianne Moore**



Senate Chamber
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207) 287-1505
Fax: (207) 287-1527

Website: www.legislature.maine.gov/senate

State House of Representatives – District #136 **Representative William R. Faulkingham**



Home Address
P.O. Box 121
Winter Harbor, ME 04693
(207) 460-6967

State Address
House of Representatives
2 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207) 287-1440

Email: William.Faulkingham@legislature.maine.gov

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS **(Pursuant to Title 36, M.R.S.A., Section 706)**

Taxes are assessed as of April 1st of each year. New construction is assessed by the percent of completion as of April 1st.

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

This program provides a measure of property tax relief for certain individuals that have owned homestead property in Maine for at least twelve months and make the property they occupy on April 1st their permanent residence. Property owners would receive an exemption of \$23,000. Anyone wishing to apply for a homestead exemption may obtain the application from the Town Office. If you applied last year, you need not apply again.

NOTICE TO VETERANS

Veterans who served in the Armed Forces of the United States and have reached the age of 62 years or are receiving any form of pension or compensation for disability, service-connected or non-service-connected, **MAY** be eligible for a property tax exemption. Applicant must be a resident of Winter Harbor and must make written application and provide proof of entitlement by April 1st of the year in which exemption is first being claimed. If you applied last year, you need not apply again. **Surviving spouses of eligible veterans must reapply in their own names in order to be eligible.** Applications and further information may be obtained at the Town Office.



REPORTS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

To The Town of Winter Harbor,

I would like to take this time to thank Cathy Carruthers for the many years she worked as the Town Manager. Cathy will be missed.

Thank you to Sara Liscomb for stepping in as Interim Town Manager while we interviewed for the position. We also hired Misti Sargent as a temporary clerk to help with everyday duties, Thank you Misti.

Thank you to our Public Safety Departments. They work endlessly to provide a safe environment for us to reside in.

A year goes by and many challenges take place in that time. This seems to be the case for our town, we have seen upgrades to the town wharf. It was damaged by the two storms that had hit us back-to-back. Repairs to our roads that got washed away. Now on to the future of our town, and what it holds for us.

We sadly have lost friends, family, loved ones that have passed on. As a small community we all feel the loss of our citizens. Peace to them, they will be missed.

Lastly, I want to thank the selectmen for the endless job that must be accomplished meeting after meeting. A lot of good choices are made with the three members of the board.

Thank you, Gordon and Rob.

On to the Future

Respectfully,

Terry D. Bickford, Chair

Quote: *It takes less time to do a thing right, than it does to explain why you did it wrong.* Henry Wadsworth Longfellow



TOWN MANAGER

Wow! What a year it has been. For those that have not heard, Cathy Carruthers retired, her last day was March 14th. Cathy dedicated 15 years as Town Manager. I am thankful for the years that I was able to work and train under her. Her meticulous way of doing things has made it easier to fill the role as Town Manger. Thank you, Cathy, for all you have done. I am grateful for our friendship.

The Board of Selectmen hired me as Interim Town manager while they received applications and interviewed some of the applicants. I am looking forward to all the great things we are going to do as a town. I cannot wait to help support all the people of this town and all our local businesses.

There is only a slight increase to this year's budget. Some things we have no control over like the school budget and the county tax. For the most part the budget is flat, minus an upgrade to the staff retirement and of course payroll.

Terry Bickford served as the Chair of the Selectboard again this year. He is running again for another three-year term. Gordon Harrington is completing year two of his three-year term. Rob Hemenway was voted in last June for a three-year term. This is Robs second time being on the Selectboard. They do not have the easiest job; not all decisions are favorable. However, they do what they believe is best for the entire town.

The Police Department is thriving under the direction of Chief Danny Mitchell Jr. Last year we hired Sgt. Philip Sargent as Patrol Officer/ACO, giving him full time hours. This has served the Town very well, we are able to have overlapping police coverage six days a week.

The Fire Department under the direction of our Chief, Roy Chandler, continues to be ready to serve, when and if needed. Chief Roy, with the help of his officers ensures that all training and equipment are kept current as mandated by the State. Our younger members spend a lot of time at the station cooking meals and being together as a family. The Department is always in need of new members. If you think you would like to be part of an amazing family stop by and grab an application. Roy also services as Road Commissioner and Facilities Maintenance Director. These two jobs have proven to be the most challenging, there is not always help when a job requires two people so Roy must depend on independent contractors to help him or if available volunteers from the fire department.

We hired Misti to work as a temporary office assistant to help with the transition of Town Manager. Misti has some great talents and a very bubbly personality that makes the office atmosphere very upbeat and pleasant.

As always, we, as a town are so grateful for all the wonderful people that donate to our Neighbor helping Neighbor fund so we can continue to help everyone who needs fuel assistance in the winter months and not have to raise taxes for this.

We will finish the paving project this summer on the Summer Harbor Road for hopefully the last time for many years. Tree trimming will start and the ditching will follow. We hope this project will be done before summer gets fully underway.

In the early spring Coles Transportation Museum offered to every town in Maine the opportunity to purchase flags and they would match the amount we purchased up to 24 kits. This was a great way to replace all of the hardware on the telephone poles and get all new flags. We ordered 48 kits and got 24 for free. All of the new hardware and flags have been replaced and they look so good. The sweepers and Kaz's Fine lines have cleaned up and painted our roads. We are still waiting for the electrician to repair and reset the streetlights that are out.

We have upgraded our Trio operating system to Trio Web. It looks and acts completely different then the previous version, this has caused transactions to take longer, please continue to be patient with us as we learn this new system. We are also now taking credit cards which has been a long time coming. We also plan to start doing online car registrations soon. We hope these upgrades will make everything easier for our residents.

The Board of Selectmen and I are hoping this will be the year that we get all of our committee members to "re commit to Winter Harbor." After the covid pandemic five years ago our committee involvement has been lacking, people are nominated at Town Meeting and then never accept the nomination. Our Planning Board did get two new people to run to fill the two partial positions vacated by other members. The budget committee consisted of one person this year. We would love to see more involvement.

In closing, I would like to thank the Board of Selectmen for hiring me as Interim Town Manager and giving me this opportunity to do great

things for the Town. I would like to thank Danny and Roy for always supporting me, for being there to help with anything I need. I could not ask for better department heads. Thank you to Misti for stepping in when we needed some additional support. Thank you to Charlie for staying on top of the cleaning of both the municipal building and the gym. I know that is not always an easy task. We have a great group of employees that are passionate about their work and the Town. I cannot wait to see where this next year takes us.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sara J. Liscomb
Interim Town Manager



TAX COLLECTOR
FY 2024 Delinquent Taxes
As of June 30, 2024

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BALANCE DUE</u>
Armstrong, Martha	\$ 22.54
Arnett, Christopher	\$ 120.42
Austin, Jeffrey	\$ 4,369.48
Backman, Daniel W, Jr.	\$ 1,560.62
Blaney, Benjamin	\$ 11.26
Bragdon, Cyrus	\$ 772.48
Bragdon, Cyrus	\$ 772.48
Buswell, Catherine	\$ 306.11
Buswell, Catherine	\$ 2,433.89
Buswell, Theodore	\$ 7,076.93
Cowperthwaite, Benny	\$ 207.83
Fishburne, Donald	\$ 90.80
Flubacher, Marcella	\$ 2,508.38
Force, Mary	\$ 709.89
Gerrish, Richard J. & Debra	\$ 1860.47
Hanks, Joan E	\$ 703.93
Hendrex, Robert	\$ 671.07
Johnson, Chris	\$ 112.68
Johnson, David/Charrisse Kaplan	\$ 508.58
Knowles, Brigitte	\$ 1,273.91
Knowles, Lloyd Christopher	\$ 6,874.10
Kremer, Joan Lee	\$ 3,695.90
Lins, Marjorie A. Trust	\$ 1,608.84
McBride, Patricia	\$ 96.97
McMillan, Kimberly	\$ 122.70
Meyers, W & Christine Wright	\$ 1,205.05
Monroe, Kenneth	\$ 558.39
Mudge, Grant	\$ 975.40
Najar, Rodolfo	\$ 1,938.10
Najar, Rodolfo	\$ 378.10
O'Hara, Michael	\$ 1,290.81
Promised Land, LLC	\$ 4,278.48
Reed, Nathaniel P. Jr.	\$ 6.01

TAX COLLECTOR
FY 2024 Delinquent Taxes
As of June 30, 2024
(continued)

Reed, Nathaniel P. Jr.	\$ 5.02
Roberts, Melodi	\$ 981.57
Roberts-Delamater, Deborah	\$ 601.16
Rogers, Katheryne	\$ 2,555.33
Rogers, Katheryne	\$13,643.04
Rubackin, Chester Trust	\$ 7,429.68
Sweeney, Kathleen.	\$ 1,147.46
Tardy, Stephen	\$ 788.87
Vandergrift, Cynthia	\$ 564.75



BOSTON POST CANE HONOREE



Weltha Sargent
Presented on November 25, 2019



ROAD COMMISSIONER

This past winter was a bit long; I am glad we are finally in spring mode. I would just like to say that Jason Tracey and his partner and son Brandon did a fantastic job keeping the Winter Harbor roads passable and safe as always.

This past year we had overseen the completion of Beach Street/ Clubhouse Lane drainage and paving project.

We are working with Jason Tracey and County Concrete to address and repair drainage issues and then finally pave Summer Harbor Road. We also plan to do some tree trimming and clearing along the entire Summer Harbor Road to hopefully prevent power outages from downed trees. There will be some minor paving on the end of Hillcrest Drive, and Bellevue Avenue in the two areas where those roads are still dirt. There is a culvert on Meadow Lane in front of the sewer plant, that has caused the road to sink that will be replaced this spring.

Side walk Sweeping, road sweeping and catch basin cleaning will be done by the end of May.

All the “normal” work will be done as well, like Christmas lights taken down, new American flags put up on the poles along Main Street and Newman Street.

Any street sign that has faded or broke has been or will be replaced. The trees and bushes around signs will also be trimmed.

Thanks for all your patience while any work is being done in town. Any questions or concerns, contact town office or email me at rchandler@winterharborme.org .

Respectfully Submitted,
Roy Chandler



FACILITIES MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR

This part of my job is to maintain the town office, fire department, gym, scout cabin, dock, playground, and basketball court.

This past year we had noticed the soffit vents were falling out of the municipal safety building, we hired a contractor to replace those with something more durable and longer lasting.

After completion of that project, he also fixed the ceiling tiles in the gym, which many were damaged due to basketballs being thrown at them.

We also had a new generator installed for the gym to upgrade from the existing one that was ancient and parts could not be gotten for it. Going forward there will be a brand new generator with all new propane lines and tanks. This will make using the gym as a warming station during storms much safer.

Work at the scout cabin will be taking place now that we have good weather. The work being done will bring that building up to code and make it safer in the event that it is used or needed.

If the residents notice a problem with any of the facilities, please call me at the town office or email me at rchandler@winterharborme.org . if it is something out of my scope to fix then I will get a contractor to take care of.

Respectfully Submitted,
Roy Chandler



WINTER HARBOR POLICE DEPARTMENT

To the Residents of Winter Harbor:

The Winter Harbor Police Department remains committed to serving and protecting our community with professionalism and dedication. Over the past year, we have continued to focus on public safety, crime prevention, and community engagement.

Calls for Service & Crime Trends This year, the department responded to a variety of calls, including traffic incidents, property crimes, and welfare checks. We have seen an overall decreasing crime rate, with minor fluctuations in specific areas. This is evidence that what we are doing is working. Traffic enforcement remains a priority to ensure safety on our roads, and we have issued citations and warnings accordingly.

Community Engagement We value our relationship with the community and have participated in several programs, including school visits, safety presentations, and town events. Our goal is to maintain open communication and foster trust between law enforcement and the residents we serve.

Department Updates The department continues to operate with a small but dedicated team, focusing on maximizing efficiency while ensuring comprehensive coverage for the town. We have made strategic equipment upgrades to enhance our response capabilities.

Looking Ahead We remain committed to enhancing public safety through proactive policing and community partnerships. We appreciate the ongoing support of the residents, town officials, and local organizations. Thank you for allowing us to serve Winter Harbor. We encourage residents to reach out with concerns, or questions, as we work together to maintain a safe and welcoming community.

Respectfully submitted,

Chief Danny Mitchell, Jr.

Winter Harbor Police Department

Contact Information

Police Chief: Danny Mitchell, Jr.

Email: dmitchell@winterharborpd.org

Phone: (207) 963-2235 Fax: (207) 963-2140



WINTER HARBOR POLICE DEPARTMENT

ANIMAL CONTROL

The animal control program in the town of Winter Harbor ensures responsible pet ownership and community safety.

As the town of Winter Harbor's Animal Control Officer my responsibilities include enforcing regulations related to animal welfare and safety. In 2024 the animal control complaints have more than doubled what we had in 2022 and were 20% higher than the 2023 animal control complaints.

The town of Winter Harbor currently has approximately 140 recorded resident dogs living in our community.

Here are the key aspects of our program:

Dog Leash Requirement: All dogs within Winter Harbor must be kept on a leash or under their keeper's voice control. This measure ensures the safety of both the dogs and the community.

Stray Animals: Winter Harbor collaborates with the **Small Animal Clinic in Ellsworth** to board stray animals. This partnership helps manage and care for animals that are found without proper supervision.

Animal Waste Control Ordinance: Winter Harbor has an ordinance in place that requires pet owners to clean up after their animals. This applies to sidewalks, streets, beaches, public property, and private property (except the owner's property or with consent from the property owner).

Dog licenses can be purchased starting on October 15, 2025 for the year 2026.

Dog Licensing Requirements: All dogs aged 6 months and older must be licensed annually, as mandated by **Maine State Statute**.

To obtain a license, dog owners must provide **proof of current rabies vaccination** for the dog being licensed.

The vaccination certificate should describe the dog, list the date vaccinated, and indicate the next due date.

License Fees:

The license fees vary based on the dog's status:

Non-spayed/Non-neutered: \$11.00

Spayed/Neutered: \$6.00

Dangerous Dog: \$100.00

Nuisance Dog: \$30.00

Late fees apply if licensing occurs after January 31st:

Late Fee (Feb 1): \$25.00 for regular licenses, \$150.00 for dangerous dogs, and \$70.00 for nuisance dogs¹.

Remember, responsible dog licensing contributes to a safer and healthier community for both humans and our furry companions!

Respectfully Submitted,

Philip Sargent, ACO



WINTER HARBOR FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for 7/1/2024-6/30/2025

Fire Alarms- 29

Citizen Assist- 1

Possible/Working Structure Fire- 9

Brush/grass Fire- 8

Odor Investigations (gas/smoke)- 4

Trees/ Power lines down- 5

Medical Emergencies- 23

Motor Vehicle Accidents with Injuries- 5

Special Detail- 3

Boat/ Vehicle fires- 4

Appliance fires- 2

Chimney Fires- 2

Total= 95

Winter Harbor Fire Dept. has responded to other towns under a Mutual Aid agreement, these towns are:

Gouldsboro- 36

Franklin- 3

Sullivan- 2

Hancock- 6

Call list provided by Hancock RCC- 911 data collection system

This year was big for us, not only did we get our own radio repeater on the new cell tower, we also got a new to us fire truck that we purchased for \$1.00 from my old department in Connecticut. We are very grateful for donations like this as it does help keep the cost to run our department down

Winter Harbor Fire Department does not respond to medical calls as first responders. It was determined that we are not licensed by the state of Maine to respond. In previous years before Schoodic EMS was formed our in town EMTS responded under Gouldsboros EMS license. Now all EMS calls are handled by Schoodic EMS and Winter Harbor Fire Department may be requested to assist in lifting and/or CPR.

Recruiting and retaining firefighters in this day and age is a very difficult task. If interested in volunteering for the fire department please

reach out to the Winter Harbor Town Office or email me at rhandler@winterharborme.org for more information. There is something for everyone on the department. Even if you think you do not have enough time. We understand everyone has a life and may not be able to respond to every call or be at every meeting and that is perfectly ok.

I would like to thank the residents and Board of Selectman of Winter Harbor for the continued support we receive. Also, we would like to wish Cathy Carruthers a happy retirement from Town Manager and thanks for all she has assisted with during her tenure and we want to thank Town Manager Sara Liscomb for what she has accomplished for us to date. To all the officers and members of the Department, Thank You for all you do to protect and serve our community.

Respectfully Submitted,
Roy Chandler, Chief



Raynard Alley (right) of Beals Island gives a yank and a yell as the Jonesport/Beals Island team outpulled Bar Harbor in the Tug-of-Towns during the 1984 Winter Harbor Lobster Festival.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Thankfully, Winter Harbor did not have any major storms this past year. We did not have to open the gym as a warming shelter. As Emergency Management Director, I keep in touch with the Hancock County Emergency Manager, Andy Sankey, for the severities of any storms so we can plan accordingly. In the event of a storm with a prolonged power outage, or a need for assistance should arise reach out to Winter Harbor Town Office or email me at:

rchandler@winterharborme.org .

www.ready.gov

www.nws.noaa.gov

www.maine.gov/mema/prepare

www.redcross.org



Respectfully Submitted,

Roy Chandler, EMA Director



The 1997 parade featured a big-wheeled bicycle.

LOCAL HEALTH OFFICER

During this past year, I have taken several on-line classes to familiarize myself with the position. Fortunately, I have nothing to report. I absolutely love this small town of ours and we will continue to provide the best service we can. Do not hesitate to reach out to me Monday-Friday, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm with any questions or concerns.

rhandler@winterharborme.org.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roy Chandler

Local Health Officer



SCHOODIC EMS

During this fiscal year, Schoodic EMS responded to 417 calls of service, providing critical medical assistance to the communities of Gouldsboro and Winter Harbor.

We at Schoodic EMS are truly grateful for your continued support. Without the backing of our residents and local support, our ability to respond to medical emergencies and serve our communities would not be possible. Your support enables us to maintain and improve the quality of care you all deserve.

This year brought significant changes. We experienced a slight increase in call volume, coupled with a major setback when one of our ambulances – along with valuable supplies and equipment – was lost in a fire while undergoing maintenance at a mechanic's shop. Despite the circumstance, our team continued to respond without interruption, utilizing our second ambulance and a rented ambulance. Thanks to insurance coverage, we were able to purchase a brand-new ambulance and a new Stryker Power Load System, allowing us to continue operating at full capacity.

Our dedicated staff continues to participate in monthly training to strengthen their skills. These trainings cover a wide range of topics, including advanced life support techniques, trauma response, CPR, medical protocols, and much more. A majority of our staff are now certified EMTs.

On behalf of the Schoodic EMS team, a heartfelt thank you goes out to all of our members, whose time, dedication, and quick response ensure that our communities receive timely and professional emergency medical services when the need arises. We extend our sincere thanks to the Select Boards, Town Managers, and office staff of Gouldsboro and Winter Harbor, as well as the Gouldsboro and Winter Harbor Police and Fire Departments, for their ongoing support and collaboration.

Respectfully Submitted,
Schoodic EMS Team

HARBOR MASTER REPORT

This past year has been a busy one on the waterfront. I received over 60 phone calls related to moorings and inquiries from boaters looking to stay for a day or two.

One of the biggest highlights was the long-awaited rebuild of the town dock. Morris Young took on the project this past December and completed the first phase early in the new year. He did a great job, and the new dock should serve the town well for the next 25 years or more.

There was one call from the Coast Guard regarding a vessel that had sunk. Thankfully, the owner took responsibility and removed it about a week later.

I would like to extend my thanks to everyone who has stayed current on their mooring fees—it is greatly appreciated. As we head into another boating season, please remember to ensure there are enough life jackets on board for everyone, and above all, stay safe out on the water.

Respectfully Submitted,
Fred Backman,
Harbor Master



**CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER &
LICENSED PLUMBING INSPECTOR**

**ANNUAL REPORT
(January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024)**

No building or structure or part thereof shall be erected, constructed, expanded, moved, or altered to change the use without first obtaining a permit. No lot shall be divided as to make a substandard lot. Three or more unregistered vehicles stored in a yard or field requires a permit for an automobile graveyard.

23 Building Permits were issued between January 1, 2024 and December 31, 2024. The types of permits will not equal the number of permits issued because many permits are for more than one structure or use.

Description:

New Residence / Cottages	1
Residential Additions	8
Garage / Shed	1
Shed / Storage	4
Decks / Porches / Patios	2
Driveway/Parking	1
Solar Array	2
Antennas	1
Retaining wall	1
Elevator Shaft	1
Relocate a Structure	1

The Planning Board reviewed and approved one application, which I then issued a permit for, an antenna on an existing cell tower.

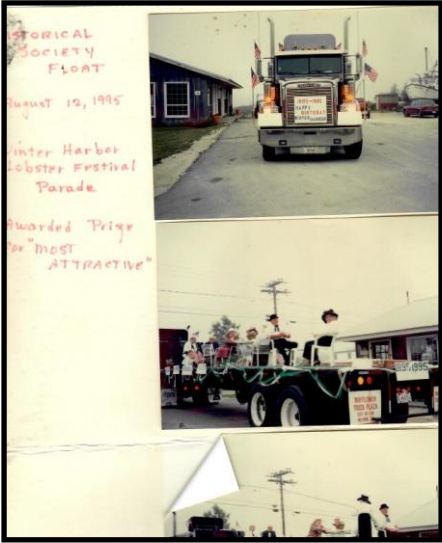
18 Plumbing Permits were issued between January 1, 2024 and December 31, 2024 as follows:

8 Subsurface Wastewater Permits, three of which were in the Shoreland Zone, five not in the Shoreland Zone, two of those not in Shoreland Zone required a variance.

10 Internal Plumbing Permits, one for a hook up, one for 3 fixtures, one for 8 fixtures, two for 10 fixtures, one for 12 fixtures, one for 16 fixtures, two for 18 fixtures; and one for 22 fixtures.

It has been a pleasure to serve the Town and Citizens the past year. I would like thank the Office Staff for their support and assistance.

Respectfully Submitted,
Millard Billings, CEO & LPI

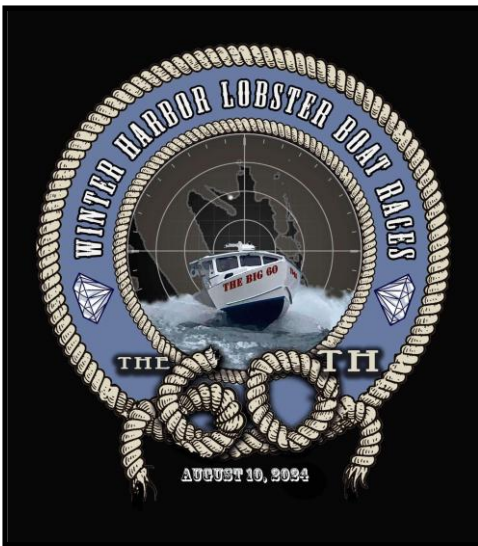


PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board had a productive year, which would not have possible without the dedicated participation of all our Board members, our CEO Millard Billings and the support of Sara and Cathy in the Town Office. The Planning Board generally meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm at the Town Office meeting room. The public is always welcome to attend.

The Board reviewed existing town ordinances to ensure the latest print and web versions are available and is currently working on a Site Plan Review Ordinance to address larger scale development.

Respectfully Submitted,
Denny O'Brien
Chairman



RECREATION COMMITTEE

Pickleball, organized by Earl Blackney, is still a huge hit. The group meets at the gym on School Street 6:00 – 8:00 pm on Tuesdays, 10:00 am-12:00 pm on Wednesdays and Fridays, and 9:00 – 11:00 am on Sundays all year. On average 12-16 people show up. There are also Pickleball lines painted on the outdoor basketball court making it a multi-use space during the summer months.

We helped purchase new uniforms for the pee wee cheerleaders, we split the cost with the Gouldsboro Recreation Department. There are several children involved in the sport and we were very happy to be able to get them uniforms that are up to date and will fit them.

We continue to support the Sunrise Baseball League making it so that our youth can participate in organized baseball. We were able to have both youth basketball and soccer this past year thanks to the parents that stepped up to volunteer to coach. A huge thank you to Rachel Hanna the Chair of the Gouldsboro Rec for all her hard work getting these sports organized. This is such a great opportunity for our kids.

We are thrilled at the opportunity for our young people to be invited to participate in sailing camp at the Yacht Club in Winter Harbor. For the last several years peninsula children have been learning to sail which has been an exciting new opportunity.

We are proud to be a supporting community of the Downeast Family YMCA which allows our townspeople to pay reduced rates for services at the Y. Many residents swim at the Y, work with a trainer, or exercise on their own there. Many residents enroll their children in a variety of sports and vacation or summer camps. All this costs less for people who reside in supporting communities.

Local men join at the gym in Town for basketball in the evenings on Thursday and Sunday around 6:00 pm. Stevie Young has been the organizer of this for the last many, many years and a robust crowd always shows up.

Exercise dance classes are in the gym on Tuesday, Thursday. For more information check with the Town Office.

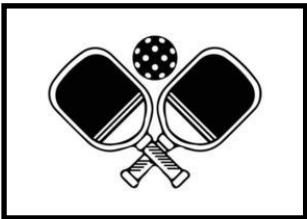
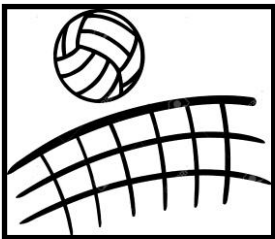
Our gym has seen a lot of use this past year with people renting it for private events and activities.

This Committee is run by volunteers and we welcome your suggestions, ideas, and help. Remember, many hands make light work!

Respectfully Submitted,
Megan Alley Moshier, Chair

Recreation Committee Members

Dolora Conley	Earl Blackney
Sandy Fortin	Sarah Joy
Megan Alley Moshier	



E911 ADDRESSING OFFICER

To the Residents of Winter Harbor:

The E911 Addressing Office continues to ensure that all residences and businesses in Winter Harbor are accurately mapped and properly numbered for emergency response purposes. Proper addressing is critical for the safety of our community, allowing first responders to locate individuals in need quickly and efficiently.

Over the past year, we have worked to update and verify addresses, correct inconsistencies, and assist residents with compliance regarding visible house numbering. We urge all residents to ensure that their house numbers are clearly displayed from the road, as this can significantly impact emergency response times.

As Winter Harbor continues to grow, we remain committed to maintaining a reliable addressing system that benefits all residents.

Thank you for your cooperation and support in keeping our emergency response system effective.

2024 New Address Assignments:

New Address: 10 Well Rd., - Within ANP District.

Road Name Assignment: Sandman Lane (dirt drive to WH Salt/Sand Shed)

Road Name Changes: Greenwood Rd. to Greenwood Cemetery Rd.

Respectfully submitted,

Chief, Danny Mitchell, Jr.

E911 Addressing Officer

Police Chief/Addressing Officer



BROADBAND COMMITTEE

The Schoodic Peninsula Broadband Committee (SPBC) formed in early 2022 to facilitate the development of a Schoodic Peninsula-wide broadband internet network, leveraging the then upcoming rounds of funding for such projects. The committee gathered survey data from residents and businesses of both Gouldsboro and Winter Harbor and then researched options for broadband, including working with incumbent providers and developing a community-owned/operated, open-access, dark-fiber network as has been done elsewhere in Maine.

Through community outreach events in 2023, there was a demonstrated strong interest in a locally-owned option which would afford control over the network. The committee submitted an RFP in 2023 to gauge interest from providers in building out a network and specifically, about developing a community-owned option. No providers in the area were interested in undertaking such a project, and the funding round that would have supported such a project closed before we could process the responses.

The next and current round of funding offered by the federal government, Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) is administered by the Maine Connectivity Authority (MCA) and is currently in progress. Through this program, interested, pre-qualified providers will be able to “bid” on Project Service Areas (PSAs) - chunks of Maine where clusters of BEAD-eligible addresses needing broadband access exist - and submit proposals for how to serve them. Proposals were submitted from January through March and MCA is presently in the process of evaluating and negotiating around these proposals.

There is no community investment required for a provider to build out a network to BEAD-eligible addresses. Once proposals are selected for all PSAs, the MCA will submit the final BEAD proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) which is the federal agency administering the BEAD program, for approval. Once approved, the providers will be able to begin construction which will progress according to their own timelines.

Separate from any BEAD award, Consolidated Communications has begun building out their Fidium fiber-optic network in both Gouldsboro and Winter Harbor, with the intent to provide service on all public and private roads in the two towns, with the exception of Rocky Road in

Gouldsboro and Schoodic Point in Winter Harbor. Customers in both towns should now be able to pre-order service from Fidium through their website, fidiumfiber.com.

SPBC will continue to meet to monitor the progress through BEAD and other developments concerning broadband internet access in the two communities and push that information out to residents.

Respectfully Submitted,
Roy Gott, Co-Chair



WINTER HARBOR PUBLIC LIBRARY

Since becoming a librarian in April 2016, I have been privileged to work at Winter Harbor Public Library and help guide it through challenging times with changing modes of reading, a pandemic, a declining population, and an aging demographic. We are meeting these challenges by implementing new programs and offerings. In the fall of 2024, we began hosting a local Mahjongg group. In the winter, we extended our hours one afternoon to provide a social hour and tech time for anyone who wants to drop by to play a game or who needs help on their electronic device or phone. We recently joined a group of Hancock County libraries to pool our resources to offer our patrons free online access to the New York Times and to the Libby app, for free eBooks and audiobooks for patrons. Last summer we welcomed three local speakers, among them Dr. Beth Parks, who drew a sellout crowd to Channing Chapel. The library welcomed over 3571 visitors in 2024 and circulated over 2955 library materials in addition to downloading 561 audio and eBooks. We upgraded our internet service provided through the Maine State Library so it reaches farther into the parking lot, and purchased two new computers and a printer with a grant from the Schoodic Community Fund. We continue to offer the latest books to our members and have a large collection of jigsaw puzzles for circulation.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ruth Mapleton, Director



WINTER HARBOR PUBLIC LIBRARY TREASURER

Books	\$6,300
Book Supplies	\$440
Digital Items, DVD, audiobooks	\$825
Computer/Technology/Subscriptions	\$1,250
Computer Services/Repair	\$370
Programs, annual book sale	\$1,575
Office Supplies	\$370
Utilities (electricity, fuel oil, phone/ internet, water, sewer)	\$9,250
Cleaning/sanitation	\$2,100
Annual Appeal/Newsletter	\$4,200
Volunteer Appreciation	\$850
Education/Training	\$210
Miscellaneous	\$630
Salaries	<u>\$23,120</u>
Total	\$51,490

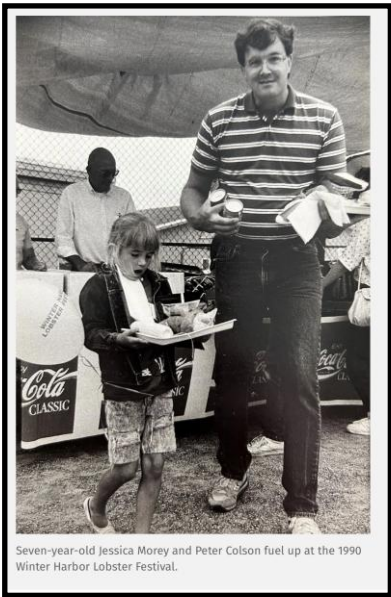
The Winter Harbor Public Library is thriving thanks to the invaluable support we receive from the Town of Winter Harbor. The Town makes a vital contribution to those funds raised by donations, our annual book sale, and diligent grant seeking efforts by our Director, Board members and volunteers. With funds from a grant through the Schoodic Community Fund we were able to purchase two computers and have an HVAC system installed which will help preserve our building and its contents. Over 30 dedicated volunteers play a vital role in ensuring the Library's year round service to the community. Unfortunately, we were unable to hold our annual outside book sale on Lobster Festival Day due to heavy rain that morning. We hope to reinstate this valuable source of revenue this coming August.

While the Library assumes financial responsibility for utilities and operational needs, the preservation of our beautiful and historic building, The Channing Chapel, is maintained by the Channing Chapel Preservation Society. The collaboration between the Library, the Channing Chapel

Society, and the Town not only preserves a Winter Harbor landmark but also attracts visitors who appreciate its beauty.

Despite continually rising costs, we are seeking the same level of funding from the Town as in 2024-25, \$20,000, thanks to the continued support of our donors, prudent spending practices, and the success of our book sale.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sandy Drinkwater, Treasurer



WINTER HARBOR CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

I would like to thank the members of the Winter Harbor Cemetery Association for all that has been accomplished this year. At both town cemeteries, we spend the morning cleaning to prepare for Memorial Day. Along with our tax supported funding, our mailing request for donations enabled the association to hire Fred Weininger Monument Restoration Company. They have worked at both Brookside and Greenwood Cemeteries. We have hired them to continue to work at Brookside, since it is the oldest and needs the most care.

This year we sold four lots in Greenwood Cemetery.

To purchase lots, please contact Rose Arnett or Gordon Harrington for assistance. We continue to look for land and develop into new lots as our cemeteries are getting full. Both cemeteries need more work creating crematory lots.

We appreciate Guptil Mowing Services and her crew. They keep our cemeteries looking good.

We, elected volunteers, remain committed to the care of our town's cemeteries and the placement of memorial flags for our veterans. We have two vacant positions. Any town citizen wishing to become a member, please contact one of the trustees. The officers are:

President – Gordon Harrington

Andrew Abbott, Vice-President and Sextant

Rose Arnett, Secretary

Diana Young, Treasurer

Cemetery Association Trustees

Andy Abbott

Charles Arnett

Rose Arnett

Billy Bickford

Christopher Byers

Herman Faulkingham

Gordon Harrington

David Joy

VACANT

Roseanne Shafer

Louise Shaw

VACANT

Betty Williams

Diana Young

Steve Young

Respectfully Submitted,

Gordon Harrington, President



WINTER HARBOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Last year, we enjoyed Saturdays from June to October meeting people from all over the country who visited the Historical Museum. A total of 158 people from 27 states and 3 foreign countries signed in to our guest book. We look forward to another busy summer meeting visitors and gathering stories from locals who drop in to see the collection and share their memories.

Thanks to a generous donation, the Winter Harbor Historical Society engaged the architectural firm Barba & Wheelock of Portland which submitted a 57-page detailed existing condition plan and proposal in support of the reconstruction of our Historical Museum. Elizabeth Reynolds, Director of Preservation and Mike Cunningham, Maine Professional Engineer, conducted a comprehensive inspection of the building, and their report is a major assist in establishing an initial, phased-construction schedule to begin this summer to be covered by allocated funds.

College of the Atlantic student presentations drew many interested listeners this year as we learned more about Freeland Bunker and his home on Beach Street. Noelle, Ilham, and Gael shared the results of their continued research into the Freeland Bunker diaries. This brought in a large audience and generated many questions and discussions related to one of Winter Harbor's many interesting historical figures. The website they built provides interesting information on Freeland Bunker's fascinating life. We look forward to future presentations by local students, residents, or visitors interested in learning or willing to share their knowledge of people and events to help preserve the rich history of Winter Harbor.

Many fascinating items continue to be donated to the Museum. We now have a system to label and catalog these items for anyone searching for information on relatives, buildings, or events. We appreciate these gifts that facilitate access to, and preserve the history and memories of Winter Harbor. We welcome donations of any kind!

Speaking of restorations, many of us had the pleasure of seeing the old 1890 Estes home on Main Street brought back to life by Jean and John Robertson from San Francisco. Bought in 2008 with plans to renovate the building as their home, 2023 became the year to begin the adventure. Similar to some other homes in town, the building was lifted up, a new

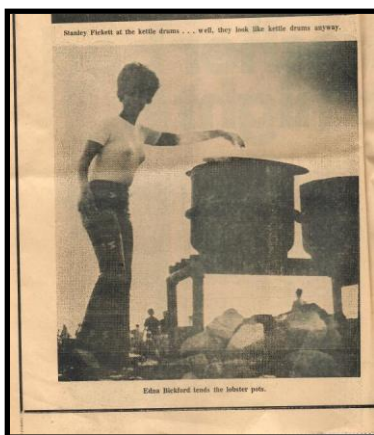
foundation poured, set back on its new footing and sills, and then renovations began. The classic old red and green paint was all sanded off the assortment of classic shingles and beautiful shades of grey and white have transformed the outside of the building. The inside architecture, including doors, trim, and floors were all preserved. The skills of many local professionals and the owners' artistic design have transformed the outside and inside of the home into a beautiful living space for two new residents of Winter Harbor. Robertsons, we're glad you're here!

Celebrate the 130th birthday of Winter Harbor this year by donating to our organization.

Our membership continues to grow thanks to donations made by visitors to the Museum and via mail from near and far. Membership dues to support the many causes of the Historical Society are \$10 annually or \$100 for a Life Membership. Contributions for our Building Fund are always welcome and can be sent to: Winter Harbor Historical Society, P.O. Box 93, Winter Harbor, ME 04693. Our Historical Society is a 501(c) organization so your donations are tax deductible.

We welcome visitors on Saturdays 1:00-4:00 p.m. Come see our beautiful collection of photos, artifacts, and dioramas of Maine life. Please contact us if you would like to be a volunteer Docent on a Saturday afternoon to open the museum, enjoy meeting visitors, and share what you know about Winter Harbor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Polly Earl, Secretary





The former Estes house - May 2023 The Robertson house - April 2025

Winter Harbor Historical Society

President: William Putnam

Vice-President: Johanna Smith

Secretary: Polly Earl

Treasurer: Cathy Carruthers

Board Members:

Jeff Alley, Charles Arnett, Rose Arnett, Pearl Barto,
Joanne Brown, Richard Brown, Jonathan Dwyer,
Allen Johnson, Ruth Littlefield, Deborah Martin,
Larry Smith

Follow Winter Harbor History

Facebook page

winterharborhistory@gmail.com

<http://winterharborhs.mainememory.net>

PENINSULA SCHOOL

Great things are happening at Peninsula School because of our dedicated teachers and staff, hard-working students, committed families and supportive community.

Here at Peninsula School, we are all about building strong connections within our school community. We know from experience that when students feel connected, they are more likely to thrive both academically and socially. That is why we are committed to devoting time and energy to build stronger connections within our school. We use strategies such as hosting monthly school-wide morning meetings filled with fun team-building activities and celebrations and daily time for classroom meetings. These gatherings bring students, teachers, and staff together, creating a positive and supportive atmosphere where everyone can grow and learn.

Communication is key for us. We believe in keeping everyone in the loop, whether it is within our school walls or out in the wider community. We also believe in taking a proactive and positive approach to student behavior, fostering a culture of respect and responsibility that benefits us all.

Our teachers and staff work as a team—they work hard to provide engaging learning opportunities across all areas of our school. They use effective curricula and assessments to ensure every student gets the education they deserve, setting them up for success in the future.

We are incredibly thankful for the support we receive from our larger school community. It allows us to tackle issues like food insecurity and ensure that our students' basic needs are met. We are incredibly lucky to have the support of the 21st Century After-School Program, which gives our students even more chances to learn and grow beyond the regular school day.

As we work together, I am excited about the opportunities for continued growth as a school community.

Respectfully Submitted,
Christopher Beals, Principal



PENINSULA SCHOOL STAFF

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
Christopher Beals	Principal
Kristen Mowry	Kindergarten
Katie Parker	1 st Grade
Gabriella Grant	2 nd Grade
Lydia Gatcomb	3 rd Grade
Donna Dalangauskas	4 th Grade
Maggie Leighton	5 th Grade
Nora Halloway	Art
Sherry Blais	Physical Education
Pamela Campbell	Music Teacher
Jill Jeude	School Counselor
Rachel Straw	ELL
Roxanne Renwick	Interventionist
Nick Ulecka	Librarian
Sarah Hurlbert	OT
Jordan Smith	Nurse
Jessica Oakes	Social Worker
Geromy Oaks	Social Worker
Christine Simmons	Admin. Assistant
Jessica Richards	Special Education
Ashley Carter	Special Education
Rosalie Mitchell	Ed Tech
Margaret Grammer	Ed Tech
Robyn Walton	Ed Tech
Carrie Richardson	Ed Tech
Marina Magee	Ed Tech
Nicole Bickford	Ed Tech
Kayla Balsom	Ed Tech
Aspin Schoppee	Ed Tech
Skyler Merchant	Ed Tech
Donna Haycock	Food Service
Deborah Cunningham	Food Service

Katherine Beske
Matt McClain
PENINSULA SCHOOL STAFF (Cont.)

Custodian
Custodian

Name

Position

Danny Mitchell, Jr.
Ted Sterling
Pieter

Bus Driver
Bus Driver
Porsius
Bus Driver



CHARLES M. SUMNER LEARNING CAMPUS

Greetings!

The 2024/25 school year marks our first year with a new building leadership model. We now have Principal Amy A. Watson heading Sumner Memorial High School and Principal Devin Young heading Sumner Middle School. This enables students, families, and staff to have access to leaders who are directly focused on the different academic and developmental needs of students in our shared building. Our new leadership configuration aligns well with the RSU 24 rollout of the Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) initiative. The PBIS model emphasizes outlining and implementing clearly defined schoolwide expectations that align with our core values. This is an evidence-based framework that focuses on improving school culture and climate enabling students to thrive both academically and socially.

There is a lot to celebrate at the Charles M. Sumner Learning Campus (CMSLC), and here are just a few highlights that we are excited to share with our communities: We are happy to welcome the HCTC Carpentry program to our campus this fall, drawing in students from throughout Hancock County. The soccer teams played their first home games on our new field in October, and we will host the first home baseball and softball games on our completed fields this spring. HCTC carpentry students helped construct the dugouts for both fields.

The CMSLC campus continues to flourish thanks to our dedicated staff and strong community involvement. The growth and success of our students remains at the center of all that we do, and our Tiger Pride remains unstoppable!

Respectfully Submitted,

Ms. Amy A. Watson, SMHS principal





Greetings!

Our 2024-2025 school year got off to a great start.

This fall marked our first year with a new building leadership model. We now have Principal Amy A. Watson heading Sumner Memorial High School and Principal Devin Young heading Sumner Middle School. This enables students, families, and staff to have access to leaders who are directly focused on the academic and developmental needs related to the different age levels of the students in our building. This aligns well with the rollout of the RSU 24 Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) initiative. The PBIS model emphasizes outlining and implementing clearly defined schoolwide expectations that align with core values. This is an evidence based tiered framework for supporting students' social emotional competence, academic success, and school climate.

There is a lot to celebrate here at Charles M. Sumner Learning Center, CMSLC, and here are just a few highlights that we are excited to share with our communities: We are happy to welcome the Hancock County Technical Center carpentry program to our campus this fall, drawing in students from throughout the county. The soccer teams played their first home games on our new field in October, and we will host the first home baseball and softball games on the completed fields in the spring. HCTC carpentry students helped construct the dugouts for both fields.

The CMSLC campus continues to flourish thanks to our dedicated staff and strong community involvement. The growth and success of our students remains at the center of all that we do, and our Tiger Pride remains unstoppable!

This year at Peninsula School, we remain focused on three key priorities: improving school climate and culture through Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), increasing student achievement and attendance rates, and building meaningful partnerships with community organizations. These goals are guiding us as we work together to provide a nurturing and supportive environment where all students can thrive.

Through the implementation of PBIS, we've seen a significant, positive shift in our school climate. You can see it every day in the way

students and staff greet one another, the strong relationships that span across grade levels, and the shared celebrations of student successes. PBIS has helped us create a school culture where students feel safe, supported, and empowered to make responsible choices. This positive climate directly impacts their ability to learn and grow as active, engaged members of our community.

We are equally committed to increasing student achievement and attendance. Our teachers are continuously enhancing their instructional practices to create engaging and meaningful learning experiences that challenge and inspire our students. Within our curriculum, students are encouraged to explore, ask questions, and deepen their understanding of the world around them. We are also focused on improving attendance because we know that regular attendance is key to academic success. By supporting families and working with students to overcome barriers to attendance, we are seeing positive growth in both achievement and participation.

Partnerships with community organizations play a crucial role in enriching our students' educational experiences. Collaborations with groups like the Acadia National Park, Maine Outdoor School and Healthy Acadia provide our students with hands-on, experiential learning opportunities that extend beyond the classroom. This year we continue to provide free breakfast and lunch to all students in our school. Thanks to the support from the Schoodic Community Fund and other generous local donors, the addition of our Fresh Fruits and Vegetable and Weekend Backpack programs ensures that our students' nutritional needs are met, supporting their overall well-being and readiness to learn.

Peninsula School thrives because of the passion and collaboration of our dedicated teachers and staff, the hard work of our students, the engagement of our families, and the generous support of our wider community. Together, we are creating a school where every child is set up for success and growth.

Here is a brief district summary of the communities we serve and the services we provide to a student population of 796 of which 32 of these students reside in the town of Winter Harbor.

RSU 24 serves nine communities residing in Hancock and Washington counties providing educational services, special education programming, food services,



transportation, technology support & integration, general administration, and centralized business services for PreK through Adult Education.

- 11 attended the Peninsula School (PreK–5th)
- 20 attended the Charles M. Sumner Learning Center ○ 9 attended Middle School (6th–8th)
- 11 attended High School (9th–12th)
- 1 student attends another RSU school
- 3 students attended Hancock County Technical Center (included in the High School count)

Our FY25 budget is \$24,588,012.41 - 25.7% (\$6,318,709.61) was received from State funding and 6.84% (\$1,049,926.63) was received from the town of Winter Harbor. State funding is determined by the Essential Programs and Services formula that bases state aid on local property valuations and the number of resident students. In addition to these sources, the district receives federal funding for several categories of services and we take every opportunity to apply for grant funding to supplement educational programming.

There are many exciting things happening throughout our district for this 2024-2025 school year with three (3) new buses scheduled to be delivered and various updates at many of our elementary schools identified by their Ten Year Capital Improvement Plan. These updates are reported throughout the year and can be found at rsu24.org Board > Facilities & Transportation Minutes.

Your community representative, Jeff Alley, began serving our RSU Board in June 2000 and his current term runs through June 2027. Mr. Alley is the Board Vice Chair and serves on our committees for Educational Programming and Personnel.

As we move forward, we continue to celebrate the achievements of our schools. We are grateful for the dedication of our students, teachers, and staff and the support of the community.

Michael Eastman, Superintendent RSU #24
meastman@rsu24.org - 207-422-2017



SCHOODIC INSTITUTE

ACADIA NATIONAL PARK ADVISORY COMMISSION

Thank you to Cathy Carruthers and our Board of Selectmen for appointing me to the National Park Advisory Group. The appointment required that I submit a resume and other background information to the Secretary of the Interior in Washington, DC. Approval of my appointment was received on March 6, 2024. Prior to my appointment, I observed the September 2023 meeting at Schoodic Institute and the agenda included discussion about the difficulty filling federal jobs, park visitation, funding received from the Inflation Reduction Act and park maintenance projects. Several Mount Desert Island citizens attended to advocate for repair of structures and roads within the National Park.

The Commission meets quarterly and I invite comments and concerns from the Winter Harbor community that could be incorporated into the planning for the administration of Acadia National Park within our Town.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pearl F. Barto



SCHOODIC PENINSULA INFO

SCHOODIC TRAIL SYSTEM MAP

ACADIAN COMMUNITY WOMAN'S CLUB

In 86 years, the Acadian Community Woman's Club has built a vibrant organization of more than forty women from Winter Harbor and Gouldsboro. One of our greatest efforts is to maintain a Community Aid fund, helping residents who need financial support. In 2024 we spent over \$7,500 on a variety of expenses including support for families who are battling illness or struggling with food insecurity. In recent years we have paid for heat, electricity, rent, childcare, auto repairs, cell phones, travel expenses, internet bills, Christmas gifts, and more. We have also paid for basketball sneakers, prescriptions, backpacks, and eyeglasses. In 2023 and 2024 we donated snacks to Sumner for the guidance counselor or school nurse to share with students. We open our eyes and ears, widely so that we can remain connected and contribute where there is a need. We are proud to have made a large donation in 2024 to help support the Schoodic Food Pantry.

In 2024 we awarded **five** \$1,000.00 scholarships to residents pursuing post-secondary education and summer camp scholarships to several local youngsters. *Anyone from Winter Harbor or Gouldsboro attending a college, community college, or trade school is eligible to apply for the ACWC scholarship; we encourage people of **all ages** to apply.*

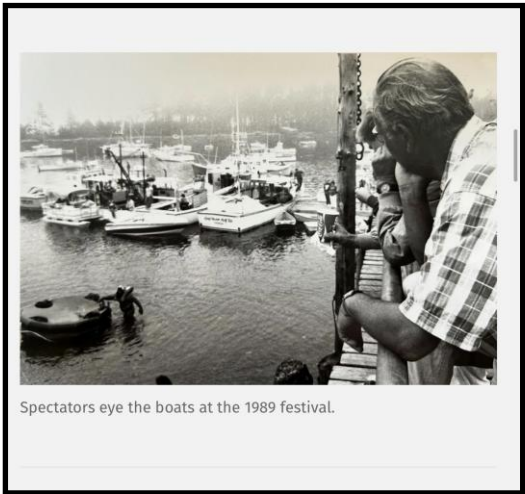
Applications can be found in the guidance office at Sumner High School, the deadline is **May 1**. Applications for summer camp support can be found on our Facebook Page or at the office of the Peninsula School.

2025 scheduled fundraisers include THREE bake sales held in the parking lot at the Winter Harbor Provisions. We sell whole cakes and pies and sometimes some other surprises such as yeast rolls, pot pies, pickles and spaghetti sauce! 2025 sales will be on Saturdays, July 5, August 2, and September 6 beginning @ 8am until the pies are gone, usually before 10!! We will also resume our bottle collection and encourage folks to donate their returnable cans and bottles so we can redeem them and use the money to fund our scholarship fund. Of course, anyone can donate to the women's club at any time by mailing a check, payable to ACWC to the attention of our treasurer Holly Kritter, PO Box 95 Prospect Harbor, Maine 04669. We greatly appreciate all the donations that help us help our neighbors.

In addition to our robust community giving, the Acadian Community Woman’s Club purchased and maintains the flower planters by the post office in Winter Harbor, the Ann Joy Memorial Garden on Harbor Road in Winter Harbor, and the planter surrounding the sign at the Peninsula School in Prospect Harbor. The ACWC assists in organizing the annual Memorial Day observance in Winter Harbor. In February 2024 club members mailed handmade valentines to many women in the community for a special treat and will do this again in 2025! Finally, several club members working to introduce the **Yellow Tulip Project** to our community in 2025. This nationwide campaign is youth-driven to “smash the stigma surrounding mental illness”. Unfortunately, Gouldsboro and Winter Harbor have not escaped this epidemic and we are ready to bring more attention and awareness to the importance of mental health.

This is truly a remarkable group of women, who are doing their part to improve the quality of life in our little corner of the world and we appreciate your help!

Respectfully Submitted,
Megan Alley Moshier Co-President
Sarah Alley Christensen Co-President



SCHOODIC ARTS FOR ALL

Our children's programming remains one of our most vibrant and successful offerings. After-School Art Clubs meet weekly from September through May in four area schools and homeschool groups, connecting students with local artists to explore everything from woodworking to pottery. Each summer, we also host two art camps for students ages 8–14. This year, Visual Arts Camp runs from June 23–27, featuring a week of hands-on creative projects that culminate in an art show and reception. Theater Camp follows from July 7–11, where young performers will build skills in the dramatic arts, leading up to a final performance. Registration is already underway!

In 2024, we launched our *Arts for All* initiative, offering flexible tuition options to ensure accessibility to our workshops without financial barriers. Thanks to this effort, nearly 150 participants saved on tuition last year, including those in our summer camps. *Arts for All* continues in 2025, allowing registrants in both year-round and festival workshops to select tuition levels that best fit their budgets—an initiative made possible by our generous donors.

This summer, we are excited for the Schoodic Arts Festival, running from July 20th to August 9th! We look forward to gathering with friends at the Opening Celebration on July 20 and welcoming families to the Children's Art Tent during the Winter Harbor Lobster Festival on August 9. In 2024, more than 400 folks visited the Children's Art Tent. In between, we'll offer more than 60 workshops and 11 performances. With *Arts for All* tiered tuition, we're making it easier than ever for people to take part.

But the creativity doesn't stop when the festival ends! Throughout the year, we offer a variety of programs, including workshops, art exhibits, concert series, live theater from our Meetinghouse Theatre Lab, free community crafting events, and so much more.

Finally, as stewards of Hammond Hall, one of our town’s most cherished landmarks, we are taking the next step in its restoration. Thanks to a grant from the Maine Historic Preservation Commission—funded by the Historic Preservation Fund and administered by the National Park Service—we’re now securing architectural plans to lay the foundation for future preservation efforts. Hammond Hall is an important part of our community, and we’re committed to preserving it for generations to come.

With sincere gratitude,

Anna Woolf, Artistic Director

Lisa Salsbury, Managing Director

Schoodic Arts for All

www.schoodicartsforall.org

Photo: 2025 Community Crafting Event at Hammond Hall



SCHOODIC NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY REPORT

The Schoodic National Scenic Byway had another very busy year. The Byway completed the \$5,000 Maine Office to Tourism grant to upgrade our existing website and increase our social media marketing efforts. We created an interactive map with a searchable directory and listed the Schoodic Chamber businesses, each with their own page. We will continue to work with the chamber on updates.

The Byway is delighted with the results of the Long Cove site cleanup. Thanks to Frenchman Bay Conservancy and Maine Coast Heritage Trust for removing old buildings, doing site work, and planting grass. We will work with them and the Sullivan Parks and Recreation Committee to provide simple signage, safe parking, and access to the waterfront for local fisherman and the public.

We continue to collaborate with Hancock County Planning Commission on Sullivan's Active Transportation Plan as well as updating the Schoodic National Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan. The Byway promotes Kids Quest and its map directory as outdoor learning opportunities for teachers, parents, and children. Now there is a direct link to the Health Acadia website "Teach me "outside" making learning a fun activity.

The Federal Highway Administration made 27 million dollars available for National Scenic Byways grant program on September 16,2024. After much collaboration between Sullivan residents, area organizations, and byway towns, the Byway through MaineDOT applied for 1 million dollars. If awarded, grant funding will be used for improvements at the Sullivan-Sorrento Recreation Center. Some highlights include a large outdoor pavilion, a new Kids Quest site, picnic tables, business information, bike repair station, and ADA access to building restrooms and site amenities. We believe the project will be a significant Byway visitor facility helping to bring economic growth to the Schoodic Region.

Respectfully Submitted,
Barbara Shanahan, Chairperson



SCHOODIC COMMUNITY FUND

The Schoodic Community Fund had an excellent year, thanks to the remarkable generosity of our area residents. Another record level of donations combined with a strong year of investment growth will continue to allow SCF to support this wonderful community in 2025. We were able to fully fund all requests during the 2024 season, totaling \$40,900. Local groups received the following grants:

The Schoodic Food Pantry, \$10,000 to purchase food, groceries, and general supplies; Peninsula School, \$12,000 to support their weekend food backpack program; Dorcas Library, \$3,600 to buy new computers and printers; Winter Harbor Library, \$2,300 to buy new computers and printers; Schoodic Arts for All \$4,000 to provide free live concerts at the summer arts festival; the towns of Winter Harbor and Gouldsboro, \$4,000 for the emergency heating funds; the Schoodic Food Pantry, \$5,000 for their fund-raising campaign to build a new addition on the existing facility.

The current SCF Advisory Committee consists of Susan Bruce, Dolores Conley, Mary Dyer, Roxanne Renwick, Mark Berry, Susan Towle, Paul Tracy, Marian Ide, Lenny Young, Roberta Parritt (Treasurer), Tim Fisher (Chair)

The mission of the Schoodic Community Fund is to improve the quality of life for all residents of the Schoodic Peninsula by awarding grants to area non-profits, schools, and municipalities. SCF's endowment is managed by the Maine Community Foundation. Learn more about SCF at: schoodiccommunityfund.org or contact Tim Fisher at timliza@gmail.com

The SCF advisory committee would like to recognize the following individuals, businesses, and organizations for donating to the fund in 2024:

Respectfully Submitted,
Tim Fisher, Committee Chair



Anonymous
 Jeff and Cindy Alley
 Lucille Anderson
 Don Ashmall
 Jack & Cathy Barron
 Ann Barton
 Ken Bahm & David Brass
 Patty & Jon Bailey
 Linda Barron
 Shelley & William Barron
 Pearl & Roger Barto
 John & Margaret Bennett
 Lori Berkey
 Julia & Mark Berry
 Celina & Brett Binns
 Barbara & Roger Bowen
 Carl Brauer & Nancy Schieffelin
 Dallas & Tim Briney
 Emma & T. Wister Brown
 Mary Alice Bruce
 Hope & Bob Buckner
 Susan Burke
 Ann Butterworth & Warren Ross
 Pat & Joe Cahill
 Michael & Barbara Campbell
 Barry Canner & Bob Travers
 Debbie & Dave Cerendolo
 Jesse & Sarah Christensen
 Frank Chudnow & Margie Patlak
 Peter & Julie Clay
 Marjorie Clifford
 Pat & Warrant Close
 Elizabeth & Andrew Comcowich
 Joe Crary
 Angela Crispi

Kerry Crowley
 Alexander & Susan David
 Debra Ann Corp.
 Kathy Derrick & Gail Ryan
 Jim Diamond & Judy Rea
 Mary Jane Dodson
 Kerry & Brian Eaton
 Easter Foundation
 John Eck & Jennifer Stucker
 Lea Edwards
 Billy Bob & Georgette
 Faulkingham
 Sara Faull & Genio Bertin
 Diane & Steve Finnegan
 Cindy & Dick Fisher
 Franz W. Sichel Foundation
 John & Rona Gandy
 Kristine Geils & Bill Knuff
 Sandy Gerlock
 Robert Gibson
 Debbie & John Gilbert
 Dick Gilchrist
 Jill & Sheldon Goldthwait
 Catherine Gribbel-Beautyman
 Douglas Greenwood
 Grala Family Donor Advised
 Fund
 Roy & Rhonda Gruver
 Janis & Walter Guyette
 Susan & Boyd Haight
 Russ & Joyce Hansen
 Rick Hauck & Susan Bruce
 Neil Heidinger
 Webb & Alexandra Heidinger
 Marcie & Eric Herlan

Nancy J. Hill	Janet & Arnold Mascaro
Jennifer Holden	Marge Mazzei
Kim Holden	Ann & Jack McCann
Thom & Pamela Hope	Kate McCloud
Jean & Paul Humez	Louise McShane
Karen & Mazouz Hussein	Ellin & Bruce Miller
Marian & Andreas Ide	Alex Mishkin & Jennifer
Ide Family Charitable Trust	Newstead
Gay Lyn & Mel Jackson	Glen & Megan Moshier
J&D Rentals	Ted & Suzanne Murphy
Alison & Eric Johnson	Betsy & Steve Myers
Raymond & Margaret Jones	Annette Nash
Phil Jordan	Kathy & Alan Nauss
Julia Clay Pearson Charitable	Jennifer Nauss & Mark Schwartz
Fund	Gillian Newstead & Robert
Bonnie & Chubba Kane	Schmidt
Mercedes Karabec	Amanda Nichols
Jane & Dan Keegan	Jim & Barbara Nichols
Thomas & Carol Kirchhoff	Helen Chen & Keith Ohmart
Margo Klass	Elizabeth Oistacher
Jana & David Kleiser	Sylvia Ong
Karen Kohlmeyer	Margaret & Stephen Orroth
Nancy & Steve Kosub	Ethel & Ossie Ossolinski
David Kritter & Holly Hoeft	Roberta Parritt & George
Kritter	McLaughlin
Lawrence Libby	Anna & Tom Perczerski
James Lilly	Peter Berkey Foundation
Lister Family Fund	The Pickled Wrinkle
Jane & Kelly Littlefield	Angel Schilling & Bill Putnam
Littlefield Gallery	Vicki Rea & Josh Edgerly
Jennifer & Thomas Lloyd	Renaissance Charitable
John Lord	Foundation
Rita & Herbie Lowell	Mary & Mike Riley
Mainstay Cottages & RV Park	Arthur Roberts & Sui Witherell
Carissa & Andrew Marino	Lisbeth & Alan Rosenfeld
Deborah & Wayne Martin	Ruth Sargent
Mac & Margaret Marshall	Claire & Randall Shumaker

Kim Sichel
Tim & Shirlee Smith
Nick Speranzo
Charles Steinecke
Barbara & Paul Stewart
Ilene Stinson
Linda & Andrew Straz
Pat & Mike Summerer
Sunset Family Charitable Fund
Lynell & Kent Syler
Jean Symmonds
Gretchen & Tom Tietenberg
Susan & Tom Towle
Kasey Tracey
Sherri & Jason Tracey

Melissa & Paul Tracy
Thomasina Watson
Kathy & Craig Wayman
Inez & Pat Weaver
Mary Lou Weaver & Dale
Torrey
Bett & Bill Weidner
Truth Whitten
Charles Wiggins
Karen & David Wilcock
Eve & Steve Wilkinson
Roberta Williams
Sam & Joann Williams
The Winter Harbor Agency
Jean & Allen Workman



AUDIT REPORT

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FINANCIAL POLICIES

FINANCIAL POLICIES



TOWN OF WINTER HARBOR, MAINE 2024 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES

The Town of Winter Harbor Annual Town Meeting was called to order on June 11, 2024 at 8:00 am by Cathy Carruthers, Town Manager/Clerk, at the Municipal Building, School Street, Winter Harbor, ME 04693.

Article 1

To elect a Moderator to preside at said meeting. ***Peter Drinkwater was nominated to serve as Moderator and the election clerks cast three affirmative votes. William Van Horn was appointed Warden to oversee Elections. Voting took place at the Municipal Building from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm and the meeting was continued until June 18, 2024.***

Article 2

To elect the following town officials by secret ballot: one member to the Board of Selectmen/Assessors/Overseers of the Poor to serve until the 2027 annual town meeting; one Member to the Planning Board to serve until the 2029 annual town meeting; one Regional School Unit (RSU) 24 Director to serve until the 2027 annual town meeting; one Utilities District Trustee to serve until the 2027 annual town meeting; one Water District Trustee to serve until the 2027 annual town meeting. ***Mr. Drinkwater reconvened the meeting on June 18, 2024 at 7:00 pm Hammond Hall, 427 Main Street, Winter Harbor, ME 04693. 40 registered voters were in attendance.***

Mr. Drinkwater announced the results of the municipal elections as follows:

***Selectman (3-year term) – Robert Hemenway
Planning Board Member (5-year term) – Dennis O'Brien
Utilities District Trustee (3-year term) – Jeffrey Alley Jr.
Water District Trustee (3-year term) – William Bickford Jr.
Reginal School Unit 24 Director (3-year term) – Jeffrey Alley Jr.***

Results of the RSU #24:

Article 1: Yes –97; No - 23

ARTICLES PERTAINING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF OTHER TOWN OFFICIALS

Article 3

To choose twelve (12) residents to serve on the Winter Harbor Budget Committee for the ensuing year. ***Billy Bickford, Michelle Bickford, Michael Campbell, Kevin Conley, Laura DeLucia, Peter Drinkwater, Herman Faulkingham, Christopher Joy, Bob Schmidt, Jonathan Stanley, Chandler Williams and Diana Young were nominated, seconded and elected.***

Article 4

To choose fifteen (15) residents to serve as members of the Winter Harbor Cemetery Association Board of Trustees for the ensuing year. ***Andrew Abbot, Charles Arnett, Rose Arnett, Billy Bickford, Chris Byers, Herman Faulkingham, Gordon Harrington, David Joy, Mary Kachoris, Roseanne Shafer, Louise Shaw, Larry E. Smith, Betty Williams, Diana Young, Steve Young, one vacant were nominated, seconded and elected.***

Article 5

To choose one Trustee for a five-year term and one Trustee to complete a term expiring 2026, to serve as members of the Winter Harbor Public Library Board of Trustees. ***Rose Arnett was nominated, seconded and elected to fill the position expiring in 2026. Ruth Littlefield was nominated, seconded and elected for the open five-year term.***

Article 6

To choose seven (7) residents to serve on the Harbor Committee for the ensuing year, the residents to be selected as follows: three (3) commercial fishermen, two (2) recreational boaters, and two (2) residents at large. ***Michael Kramp, Robert Bragdon, Herman Faulkingham (Commercial), Andrew Abbott, Alan Johnson (Recreational), Barbara Jean Bragdon and Richard Wilson (At-Large) were nominated, seconded and elected.***

Article 7

To choose five (5) residents to serve on the Recreation Committee Board of Directors for the ensuing year. ***Earl Blackney, Dolora Conley, Sandy Fortin, Sarah Joy and Megan Moshier were nominated, seconded and elected.***

Article 8

To choose six (6) residents to serve on the Lobster Festival Committee for the ensuing year. *Chris Byers, Laura DeLucia, and Herman Faulkingham were nominated, seconded and elected.*

Article 9

To fix the salary for the ensuing year of the appointed Harbor Master in accordance with the Harbor Ordinance. (Currently \$1,000) *Motion made and seconded to set the Harbor Master annual stipend at \$1,000. Approved.*

Article 10

To see if the Town will vote to have the Board of Selectmen appoint all other Town officials and members of Town boards and committees. *Accepted as read.*

SCHOOL BUDGET ARTICLES

Notice

The Town’s share of the Regional School Unit Budget has been set: **\$1,070,305** (FY 23-24 - \$983,042.00)

MUNICIPAL BUDGET ARTICLES - General Fund Expenditures

Article 11

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$270,003.00 for General Government Administration. (*The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.*) *Accepted as read.*

<u>General Government</u>		<u>FY 23-24</u>	<u>FY 24-25</u>
Total:	Administration	\$244,412.00	\$270,003.00

Article 12

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$14,514.00 for the Board of Assessors and Planning Board. (*The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.*) *Accepted as read.*

<u>Board of Assessors/Planning Board</u>		<u>FY 23-24</u>	<u>FY 24-25</u>
Assessing		\$ 9,700.00	\$10,200.00
HCPC		650.00	800.00

CEO	<u>3,405.00</u>	<u>3,514.00</u>
Total: Board of Assessors/PB	\$ 13,755.00	\$ 14,514.00

Article 13

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$129,510.00 for operation, maintenance and repair of town facilities. (*The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.*) **Accepted as read.**

<u>Town Building Operations</u>	<u>FY 23-24</u>	<u>FY 24-25</u>
Gym	\$ 19,350.00	\$ 20,050.00
Municipal Public Safety Bldg	27,920.00	28,535.00
Wharf	22,600.00	32,650.00
Scout Cabin	3,275.00	3,275.00
Misc Buildings Expenses	<u>10,000.00</u>	<u>45,000.00</u>
Total: Town Bldg Ops	\$83,145.00	\$129,510.00

Article 14

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$406,459.00 for Public Safety. (*The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.*) **Accepted as read.**

<u>Public Safety</u>	<u>FY 23-24</u>	<u>FY 24-25</u>
Fire Department	\$142,387.00	\$179,822.00
Police Department	<u>162,414.00</u>	<u>226,637.00</u>
Total: Public Safety	\$304,801.00	\$406,459.00

Article 15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$96,810.00 for Ambulance Service. (*The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.*) FY 2023-2024 - \$96,810.00 **Accepted as read.**

Article 16

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$588,296.00 for the following miscellaneous expenses or appropriations. (*The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.*) **Accepted as read.**

Miscellaneous

Library	\$20,000.00
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General Assistance	1,000.00
Cemeteries	7,000.00
Third Party Requests:	
American Red Cross	350.00
Downeast Community Partners	2,403.00
Downeast Horizons	1,500.00
Downeast Trans-Island Explorer	600.00
Eastern Area on Aging	1,000.00
Eleanor Widener Dixon Memorial Clinic	800.00
Families First Community Center	1,200.00
Hospice Volunteers of Hancock County	800.00
LifeFlight Foundation	461.00
Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry	250.00
Northern Light Home Care & Hospice	220.00
Schoodic Arts for All	750.00
Schoodic National Scenic Byway	1,500.00
Schoodic Food Pantry	3,000.00
SPCA-Hancock County	300.00
Women, Infants & Children Nutrition Program	750.00
<u>Yesterday's Children, Inc.</u>	<u>200.00</u>
Total-Third Party Requests	16,084.00
Hydrants	61,500.00
County Tax	120,712.00
Solid Waste	93,000.00
Roads	264,000.00
Lawn & Grounds Maintenance	<u>5,000.00</u>
TOTAL: Miscellaneous	\$ 588,296.00
	<i>FY 23-24 = \$550,366.00</i>

Notification to Taxpayers:

The taxpayers of the Town of Winter Harbor are hereby notified that the sum of \$120,712.00 will be required for payment of Winter Harbor's share of the Hancock County taxes. (FY 23-24 = \$103,499.00) ***Note: County Tax is increased by \$17,213.00***

Article 17

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$167,466.00 for the following Special Projects. (*The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.*) **Accepted as read.**

<u>Special Projects</u>	<u>FY 23-24</u>	<u>FY 24-25</u>
Comprehensive Plan	\$14,000.00	\$19,000.00
Homestead Exemption	5,000.00	5,000.00
Property Revaluation	3,000.00	3,000.00
Downtown Revitalization	3,500.00	3,500.00
Sewer Note	75,145.00	82,616.00
Recreation Committee	3,750.00	4,250.00
Investment Fund Repayment	50,000.00	50,000.00
Records Conservation	<u>100.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Total: Special Projects	\$154,495.00	\$167,466.00

MUNICIPAL BUDGET ARTICLES - General Fund Revenues

Article 18

To see if the Town will vote to apply the following 2024/2025 receipts to the General Fund appropriations to offset taxes. (*The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.*) **Accepted as read.**

<u>Category</u>	<u>Estimated Amount</u>
Auto Excise Taxes	\$120,000.00
Boat Excise Taxes	3,000.00
Gym Rental	500.00
Clerk's Fees	3,500.00
Permit Fees	2,000.00
Sale, Trash Bags	20,000.00
Interest: Tax & Bank Account	10,000.00
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	28,000.00
Miscellaneous Revenues	<u>2,925.00</u>
Total	\$189,925.00

Article 19

To see if the Town will vote to accept and expend, to offset taxes, the categories of funds listed below as provided by the Maine State Legislature. (*The Board of Selectmen approval.*) **Accepted as read.**

<u>Category</u>	<u>Estimated Amount</u>
General Assistance Reimbursement	\$ 500.00
Homestead Exemption Reimbursement	23,000.00
State Revenue Sharing Funds	46,000.00
Tree Growth Reimbursement	11,000.00
Veterans' Exemption Reimbursement	<u>650.00</u>
Total: Estimated Revenues	\$81,150.00
<i>FY 24-25 - \$74,150.00</i>	

Article 20

To see if the Town will vote to place unexpended balances from this fiscal year into a tax reduction reserve account to be used to reduce the tax commitment for the next fiscal year. *(The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.) Accepted as read.*

SPECIAL FUND FINANCIAL ARTICLES

Article 21

To see if the Town will appropriate all Local Roads Assistance Program funds (estimated \$12,268) to the Town Roads account for capital improvement. *(The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.) Accepted as read.*

GENERAL FINANCIAL ARTICLES

Article 22

To see if the Town will vote to have the 2024/2025 fiscal year taxes due in two increments: one-half to be due on or before October 31, 2024, and one-half to be due on or before April 30, 2025; and to have interest charged at the annual rate of 8.5% on any taxes paid after the due dates. *(The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.) Accepted as read.*

Article 23

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayment (i.e., prior to the date of commitment) of taxes and vote to pay 0% interest on said payments. *(The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.) Accepted as read.*

Article 24

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to pay interest to any taxpayer who makes an overpayment of taxes, pursuant to 36

M.R.S.A. Section 506-A, at a rate of 6.00% per annum. (*The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.*) ***Accepted as read.***

Article 25

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to sell and/or dispose of any property acquired by tax liens after first offering the property to the previous owners for payment of all back taxes, fees and interest, and if they decline, advertising for sealed bids on same, and stating the lowest bid acceptable, and to allow the Selectmen to authorize the Treasurer to waive automatic lien foreclosure when it is in the best interest of the Town. (*The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.*) ***Accepted as read.***

Article 26

To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit established for Winter Harbor by State law, in the event that the municipal budget approved, at this Town Meeting results in a tax commitment in excess of the maximum property tax levy otherwise applicable, such that the increased maximum property tax levy hereby established will equal the amount committed. (*The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.*) ***Accepted as read.***

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES

Article 27

To see if the Town will adopt the ordinance entitled, “Accessory Dwelling Unit Code”, dated April 10, 2024. ***Accepted as read.***

Article 28

To see if the Town will adopt the ordinance entitled, “Industrial-Scale Coastal Waters Aquaculture Ordinance”, dated May 8, 2024. ***Accepted as read.***

Article 29

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept and expend, on behalf of the Town, any Federal or State funds received. (*The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.*) ***Accepted as read.***

Article 30

To see what sum of money, if any, the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to borrow or appropriate from "Unappropriated Surplus" as they deem advisable to meet unanticipated expenses and emergencies that occur during the 2024/2025 fiscal year. (\$20,000 customary amount) ***Accepted as read.***

Article 31

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept, on behalf of the Town, unconditional gifts of property and/or donations that they feel are in the Town's best interest to accept. ***Accepted as read.***

Article 32

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of Town-owned personal property, which they deem unusable, on such terms as they deem advisable. ***Accepted as read.***

Article 33

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to make the final determinations regarding the closing or opening of roads to winter maintenance, pursuant to 29-A M.R.S.A., Section 2054 and the posting of roads to heavy traffic, when appropriate or necessary. ***Accepted as read.***

Article 34

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to set the date of the next Annual Town Meeting. ***Accepted as read.***

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara J. Liscomb

Interim Town Manager/Clerk



**TOWN OF WINTER HARBOR, MAINE
2025 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
THE WARRANT**

Hancock, S.S.
State of Maine

TO: Danny Mitchell, Jr., Police Chief of Winter Harbor in the County of Hancock:

You are hereby required to notify and warn the residents of the Town of Winter Harbor, qualified to vote in town affairs, to meet at the Winter Harbor Municipal Building, 20 School Street in said Town, on Tuesday, the tenth of June 2025, at 8:00 am, then and there to act on Articles 1 and 2, (Polling hours: 8:00 am to 8:00 pm);

And to notify said residents to reconvene at Hammond Hall, 427 Main Street in said Town at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, the eighteenth day of June 2025 to act on Articles 3-33, as set out below, to wit:

Article 1

To elect a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

Article 2

To elect the following town officials by secret ballot: one member to the Board of Selectmen/Assessors/Overseers of the Poor to serve until the 2028 annual town meeting; one Member to the Planning Board to serve a partial term until the 2027 annual town meeting; one Member to the Planning Board to serve a partial term until the 2028 annual town meeting; one Utilities District Trustee to serve until the 2028 annual town meeting; one Water District Trustee to serve until the 2028 annual town meeting.

**ARTICLES PERTAINING TO THE APPOINTMENT
OF OTHER TOWN OFFICIALS**

Article 3

To choose twelve (12) residents to serve on the Winter Harbor Budget Committee for the ensuing year.

Article 4

To choose fifteen (15) residents to serve as members of the Winter Harbor Cemetery Association Board of Trustees for the ensuing year.

Article 5

To choose one Trustee for a five-year term and one Trustee to complete a term expiring 2026, to serve as members of the Winter Harbor Public Library Board of Trustees.

Article 6

To choose seven (7) residents to serve on the Harbor Committee for the ensuing year, the residents to be selected as follows: three (3) commercial fishermen, two (2) recreational boaters, and two (2) residents at large.

Article 7

To choose five (5) residents to serve on the Recreation Committee Board of Directors for the ensuing year.

Article 8

To choose six (6) residents to serve on the Lobster Festival Committee for the ensuing year.

Article 9

To fix the salary for the ensuing year of the appointed Harbor Master in accordance with the Harbor Ordinance. (Currently \$2,500)

Article 10

To see if the Town will vote to have the Board of Selectmen appoint all other Town officials and members of Town boards and committees.

SCHOOL BUDGET ARTICLES

Notice

The Town's share of the Regional School Unit Budget has been set: **\$1,104,364 (FY 24-25 - \$1,070,305)**

MUNICIPAL BUDGET ARTICLES - General Fund Expenditures

Article 11

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$297,238.00 for General Government Administration. *(The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommends approval.)*

<u>General Government</u>		<u>FY 24-25</u>	<u>FY 25-26</u>
Total:	Administration	\$270,003.00	\$297,238.00

Article 12

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,017.00 for the Board of Assessors and Planning Board. *(The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommends approval.)*

<u>Board of Assessors/Planning Board</u>	<u>FY 24-25</u>	<u>FY 25-26</u>
Assessing	\$ 10,200.00	\$10,700.00
HCPC	800.00	715.00
CEO	<u>3,514.00</u>	<u>3,602.00</u>
Total: Board of Assessors/PB	\$14,514.00	\$ 15,017.00

Article 13

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$129,510.00 for operation, maintenance, and repair of town facilities. *(The Board of Selectmen recommends and Budget Committee approval.)*

<u>Town Building Operations</u>	<u>FY 24-25</u>	<u>FY 25-26</u>
Gym	\$ 20,050.00	\$ 21,588.00
Municipal Public Safety Bldg	28,535.00	28,744.00
Wharf	32,650.00	34,200.00
Scout Cabin	3,275.00	3,275.00
Misc Buildings Expenses	<u>45,000.00</u>	<u>20,000.00</u>
Total: Town Bldg Ops	\$83,145.00	\$104,532

Article 14

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$438,185.00 for Public Safety. *(The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommends approval.)*

<u>Public Safety</u>	<u>FY 24-25</u>	<u>FY 25-26</u>
Fire Department	\$179,822.00	\$195,124.00
Police Department	<u>\$226,637.00</u>	<u>\$243,061.00</u>
Total: Public Safety	\$406,459.00	\$438,185.00

Article 15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$118,814.00 for Ambulance Service. *(The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommends approval.)* FY 2024-2025 - \$96,810.00

Article 16

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$588,296.00 for the following miscellaneous expenses or appropriations. *(The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommends approval.)*

Miscellaneous

Library	\$20,000.00
General Assistance	1,000.00
Cemeteries	7,000.00
Third Party Requests:	
American Red Cross	350.00
Community Health and Counseling Services	200.00
Downeast Community Partners	995.00
Downeast Horizons	1,500.00
Downeast Trans-Island Explorer	600.00
Eastern Area on Aging	1,200.00
Eleanor Widener Dixon Memorial Clinic	800.00
Families First Community Center	1,000.00
Hospice Volunteers of Hancock County	800.00
LifeFlight Foundation	461.00
Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry	250.00
Northern Light Home Care & Hospice	250.00
Schoodic Arts for All	750.00

Schoodic National Scenic Byway	1,500.00
Schoodic Food Pantry	5,000.00
Winter Harbor Building Association (Masons)	5,000.00
Winter Harbor Historical Society	5,000.00
Women, Infants & Children Nutrition Program	650.00
<u>Yesterday's Children, Inc.</u>	<u>200.00</u>
Total-Third Party Requests	\$21,506.00
Hydrants	62,200.00
County Tax	133,463.00
Solid Waste	111,451.00
Roads	273,000.00
Lawn & Grounds Maintenance	<u>5,000.00</u>
TOTAL: Miscellaneous	\$ 634,620.00
<i>FY 23-24 = \$588,296.00</i>	

Notification to Taxpayers:

The taxpayers of the Town of Winter Harbor are hereby notified that the sum of \$133,463.00 will be required for payment of Winter Harbor's share of the Hancock County taxes. *(FY 24-25 = \$120,712.00)* **Note: County Tax is increased by \$12,751.00**

Article 17

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$167,466.00 for the following Special Projects. *(The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommends approval.)*

<u>Special Projects</u>	<u>FY 24-25</u>	<u>FY 25-26</u>
Comprehensive Plan	\$19,000.00	\$18,500.00
Homestead Exemption	5,000.00	5,000.00
Property Revaluation	3,000.00	3,000.00
Downtown Revitalization	3,500.00	3,500.00
Sewer Note	82,616.00	82,616.00
Recreation Committee	4,250.00	4,250.00
Investment Fund Repayment	50,000.00	60,000.00
Records Conservation	<u>100.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Total: Special Projects	\$167,466.00	\$176,966.00

MUNICIPAL BUDGET ARTICLES - General Fund Revenues

Article 18

To see if the Town will vote to apply the following 2024/2025 receipts to the General Fund appropriations to offset taxes. *(The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommends approval.)*

<u>Category</u>	<u>Estimated Amount</u>
Auto Excise Taxes	\$140,000.00
Boat Excise Taxes	3,000.00
Gym Rental	500.00
Clerk’s Fees	3,500.00
Permit Fees	1,500.00
Sale, Trash Bags	20,000.00
Interest: Tax & Bank Account	25,000.00
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	28,000.00
Miscellaneous Revenues	<u>2,925.00</u>
Total	\$224,425.00

Article 19

To see if the Town will vote to accept and expend, to offset taxes, the categories of funds listed below as provided by the Maine State Legislature. *(The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.)*

<u>Category</u>	<u>Estimated Amount</u>
General Assistance Reimbursement	\$ 500.00
Homestead Exemption Reimbursement	23,000.00
State Revenue Sharing Funds	46,000.00
Tree Growth Reimbursement	11,000.00
Veterans’ Exemption Reimbursement	<u>650.00</u>
Total: Estimated Revenues	\$81,150.00
<i>FY 25-26 - \$81,150.00</i>	

Article 20

To see if the Town will vote to place unexpended balances from this fiscal year into a tax reduction reserve account to be used to reduce the tax commitment for the next fiscal year. *(The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.)*

SPECIAL FUND FINANCIAL ARTICLES

Article 21

To see if the Town will appropriate all Local Roads Assistance Program funds (estimated \$12,268) to the Town Roads account for capital improvement. *(The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommends approval.)*

GENERAL FINANCIAL ARTICLES

Article 22

To see if the Town will vote to have the 2025/2026 fiscal year taxes due in two increments: one-half to be due on or before October 31, 2025, and one-half to be due on or before April 30, 2026; and to have interest charged at the annual rate of 7.5% on any taxes paid after the due dates. *(The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.)*

Article 23

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayment (i.e., prior to the date of commitment) of taxes and vote to pay 0% interest on said payments. *(The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.)*

Article 24

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to pay interest to any taxpayer who makes an overpayment of taxes, pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. Section 506-A, at a rate of 6.00% per annum. *(The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.)*

Article 25

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to sell and/or dispose of any property acquired by tax liens after first offering the property to the previous owners for payment of all back taxes, fees and interest, and if they decline, advertising for sealed bids on same, and stating the lowest bid acceptable, and to allow the Selectmen to authorize the Treasurer to waive automatic lien foreclosure when it is in the best interest of the Town. *(The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.)*

Article 26

To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit established for Winter Harbor by State law, in the event that the municipal budget approved, at this Town Meeting results in a tax commitment in excess of the maximum property tax levy otherwise applicable, such that the increased maximum property tax levy hereby established will equal the amount committed. (*The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.*)

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES

Article 27

To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to use any monies left over from the road projects to purchase a new pumper tanker fire truck up to \$530,000.00 (*The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.*)

Article 28

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept and expend, on behalf of the Town, any Federal or State funds received. (*The Board of Selectmen recommends approval.*)

Article 29

To see what sum of money, if any, the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to borrow or appropriate from "Unappropriated Surplus" as they deem advisable to meet unanticipated expenses and emergencies that occur during the 2025/2026 fiscal year. (*\$20,000 customary amount*)

Article 30

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept, on behalf of the Town, unconditional gifts of property and/or donations that they feel are in the Town's best interest to accept.

Article 31

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of Town-owned personal property, which they deem unusable, on such terms as they deem advisable.

Article 32

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to make the final determinations regarding the closing or opening of roads to winter maintenance, pursuant to 29-A M.R.S.A., Section 2054 and the posting of roads to heavy traffic, when appropriate or necessary.

Article 33

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to set the date of the next Annual Town Meeting.

WARRANT SIGNATURE PAGE

NOTES

Acknowledgment:

Cover Layout Design and Formatting Assistance – Roy D. Gott
Pictures – Sara Liscomb, Pearl Barto and Cathy Carruthers