

D

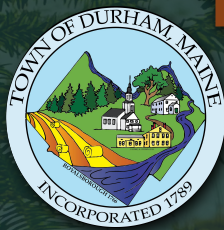
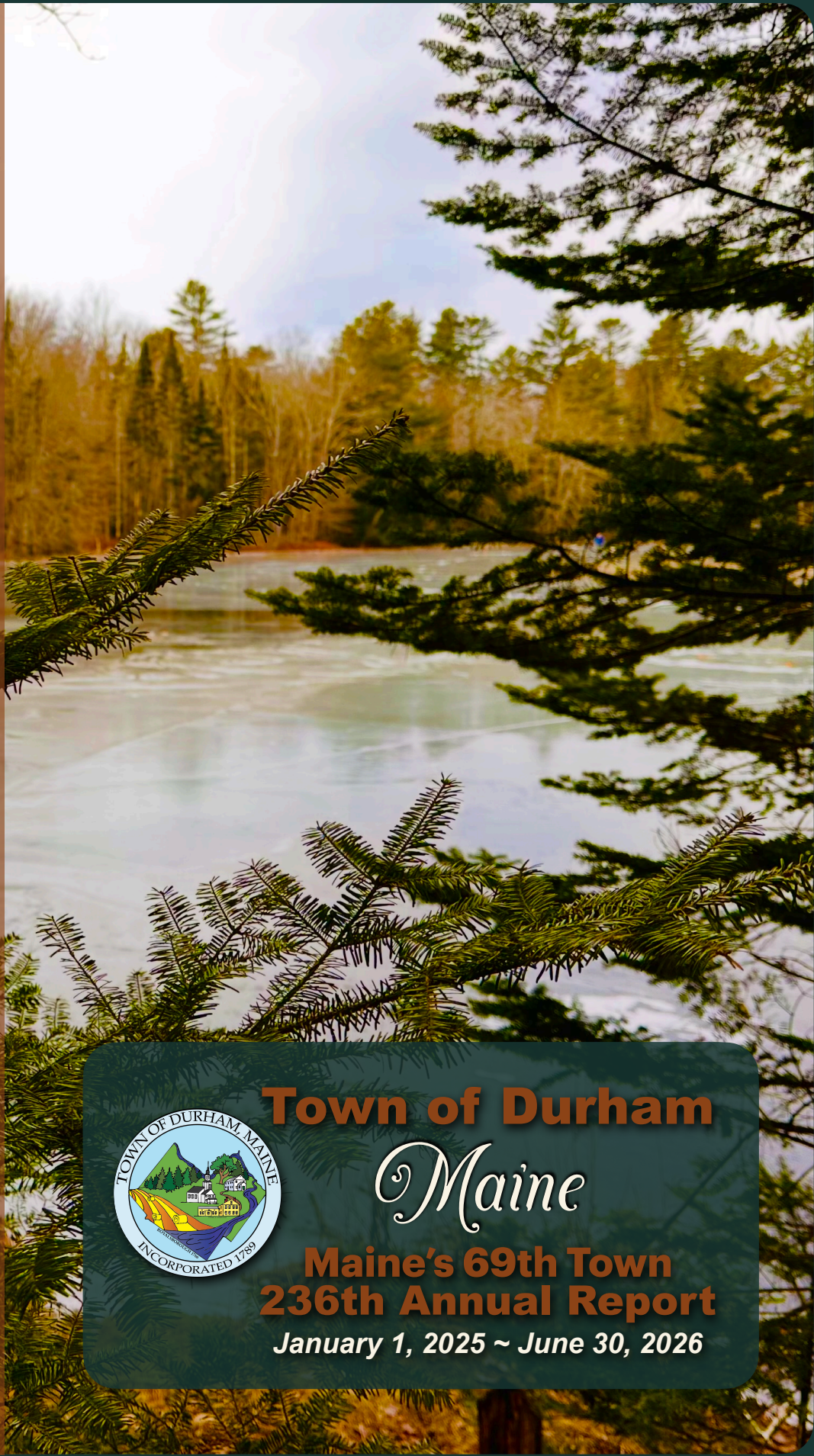
U

R

H

A

M



Town of Durham

Maine

**Maine's 69th Town
236th Annual Report**

January 1, 2025 ~ June 30, 2026

236th Annual Report & Warrant

Town of Durham, Maine

For the Fiscal Year
January 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026

Durham Town Office
630 Hallowell Road
Durham, Maine 04222
Tel: 207-353-2561
Fax: 207-353-5367



View from the Eureka Community Center upstairs window.

Photo Credits:

Kimberly Garneau, Chief Rob Tripp, Tia Wilson & Durham Historical Society

Design Credit:

Kimberly Garneau

Cover Photo:

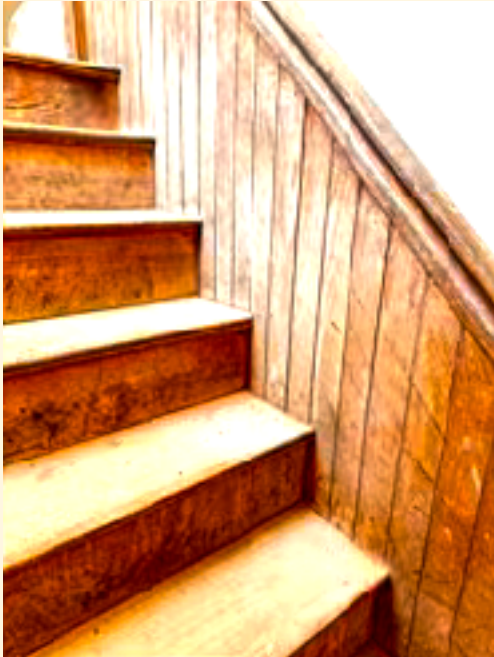
Runaround Pond in Winter

Website: durhammaine.gov

Facebook: facebook.com/townofdurham/

YouTube Channel: durhammaine.tv

Helpful Information



Androscoggin Sheriffs Department
207-753-2500

(Non-Emergency) Sheriff Eric Samson
esamson@androscoggincountymaine.gov

Chief Deputy William Gagne
wgagne@androscoggincountymaine.gov

Androscoggin County Commissioners
207-753-2500 (Ext. 1801)

Androscoggin Registry of Deeds
207-753-2500 (Ext. 1981)

Animal Control Officer, Ray Schlotterveck
207-353-2500 (Ext. 1)

Casella Waste Systems, Inc.
1-888-485-1469 or www.casella.com/casella

Durham Fire & Rescue
(Emergency) 911
(Non-Emergency/Health Officer/EMA Director)
207-353-2473

Durham Community School
Tel: 207-353-9333
dcs.rsu5.org

Durham Public Works Department
Garage: (207) 353-3281
Road Commissioner: (207) 844-1774

Durham Town Office
207-353-2561
Town Manager - Ext. 110
Town Clerk - Ext. 111
(Fax) 207-353-5367
(Website) durhammaine.gov

Freeport High School
Tel: 207-865-4706
Website: fhs.rsu5.org

Game Warden Service
1-800-452-4664

General Assistance (Hotline)
1-800-442-6003

Greater Androscoggin Humane Society
info@gahumane.org
207-783-2311

Lisbon Post Office
207-353-4935 or 1-800-275-8777

Maine Department of Human Services
207-287-3707

Maine Dept. of Environmental Protection Services
207-287-7688 or 1-800-452-1942

Maine Department of Transportation
207-624-3000

Maine Poison Control
1-800-222-1222

Maine State Police (Troop B)
207-624-7076 or 1-800-452-4664

Table of Contents

Town Office Information	2
Helpful Phone Numbers	3
Table of Contents	4
Town Officers, Committees & Officials	5
In Memoriam	6 - 7
Select Board Report	8 - 9
Town Manager Report	10 - 11
Town Clerk Report	12
Transitions	13 - 14
Giving Tree/Ornament Parade	14
Outstanding Real Estate Tax	15 - 18



Outstanding Personal Property Tax	18
Ladies Auxiliary Report	19
Forest Warden Report	20
Fire, Rescue & EMA Report	21
Road Commissioner Report	22 - 23
Board of Assessor Report	24 - 25
Code Enforcement Report	26
Conservation Commission Report	27
Planning Board Report	28 - 29
Historical Society Report	30 - 31
Cemetery Committee Report	32
Eureka Committee Report	33



Solid Waste Committee Report	34 - 35
Solid Waste Tonnage Report	36
RSU5 Superintendent Report	37
Animal Control Report	38
Governor Janet Mills Letter	39
Senator Susan Collins Letter	40
Senator Angus King Letter	41
Congressman Jared Golden Letter	42
Senator Bruce Bickford	43
State Representative Webb	44
Proposed Municipal Budget	45 - 66
2026 Draft Town Warrant Report	67 - 74
Holiday Closings	75



Town Officers, Committee's & Officials

As of May 1, 2026

Town Manager

Jerry Douglass

Clerk/Registrar/Deputy Tax Collector/

Deputy Treasurer/GA Administrator

Jessica Landberg

Deputy Clerk/Deputy Treasurer/

Information Technology Liaison

Devin Garneau

Administrative Assistant/

Deputy Clerk/Deputy Treasurer

Public Information Officer

Kimberly Garneau

Animal Control Officer

Ray Schlotterveck

Assessor

Donna Hays

Code Enforcement Officer

Alan Plummer (Jan. 2025 - Feb. 2026)

Town Planner

George Thebarge

Fire Rescue Chief/Fire Warden/

Emergency Management Director

Robert J. Tripp

Curtis Dimock, Assistant

Fire/EMS Administration

Kevin Merrill

EMS Deputy Chief

John Faith

Road Commissioner/Code Officer

Calvin Beaumier

Public Works

Ron Dubé

Thomas Griswold

Dale Newton

Brian Wilson

Part-time/Seasonal

Elmer Allen

Mark Blake

Ryan Henry

Select Board

Joe Roy, Chair 2026

Josh Klein-Golden, Vice Chair 2028

Deborah Oliver 2027

Rebekah Polster 2028

John Talbot 2026

Planning Board

Brian Lanoie, Chair 2028

Juliet Caplinger, Vice-Chair 2027

Allan Purinton 2027

Brian Stickney 2030

Xiaoshu Du 2031

Daryn Levesque, Alternate 2031

Board of Appeals

Darin Baker 2029

Neil Berry 2027

Terry Kirk 2030

Milton Simon 2027

Byron Philbrick 2028

Budget Committee

Milton Simon, Chair 2026

Jill Gastonguay, Vice Chair 2028

Neil Berry 2027

Phyllis Brannon 2027

Donna Church 2026

Marc Derr 2027

Allan Purinton 2026

Jeffrey Wakeman 2028

RSU5 School Board Committee

Michelle Ritcheson, Chair 2028

Stephanie Worth 2027

Danielle George - Resigned Jan. 2026

Lois Kilby-Chesley 2026

Board, Committee or Commission
Members with dates are appointed or
elected for multi-year terms

Agriculture Committee

David Colson, Co-Chair

Jonah Fertig-Burd, Co-Chair

Steven Sinisi, Secretary

Meaghan Grimes

Gary Goodrich

Eric Day

Cemetery Committee

Tia Wilson, Chair

Linda Bowie, Vice Chair

Lindsey Lopes, Secretary

Philip Baker

Joseph Donovan

Natasha Skelton

Greg Wilson

Conservation Commission

Jess Costa, Chair

Roberta Brezinski

Todd Chaudhry

Samantha Cuccaro

Michael Friendly

Jeffrey Tindall

Kelly Waddle

Eureka Center Committee

Pearl Scribner

Jeanne Costigan

Kathleen Lowe

Anita Sellars

Cathy Sentner

Scholarship Committee

Christine Cormier

Susan Hardison

Kendra O'Connell

Jonathan Pollock

Solid Waste Committee

Juliet Caplinger, Chair

Catherine Curtis, Vice Chair

Milton Simon, Secretary

Todd Beaulieu

Phyllis Brannon

Jack Pacent, Alternate

In Memoriam

PETER A. LOWE



AUGUST 4, 1940 ~ NOVEMBER 18, 2025



On November 18, 2025, the community lost a dear friend and the Fire Department family lost a dedicated member. Peter devoted 52 years of volunteer service to the Durham Fire Department, a commitment that became one of the great honors of his life. His steady presence, reliability, and courage made him a respected and valued member of the department for more than half a century. He will be remembered as a devoted husband, loving father and grandfather, and a man whose life reflected a deep commitment to family, community, and the natural world.

A service of remembrance and celebration was held on Saturday, January 31, 2026 at the Shiloh Chapel. Ronald Parker shared a lesson that he learned about life from Peter. "I was always too busy. Life lesson: Life is short, don't be too busy to enjoy time with your friends and loved ones."

Curtis Dimock shared these words, "Peter invested many hours in functions at the fire department. Fire Prevention Week was a big thing for Peter when that got started. He would participate

in all the firefighter I and II programs. As a firefighter and an engineer, his number was Portable 8 and that's going to leave a void that I don't think will ever be filled."

Chief St. Michel shared that, "Peter's dedication was unmatched. He was always there to help even if it did mean rearranging his schedule. At age 60, Peter completed the Tri-County Firefighter One Program, tested out, and became a State Certified Firefighter One. He received his 50 Years of Service well before retirement."

Peter's son, Andy, also spoke of fond memories of time spent at the family camp in Brooklin.

In closing, Peter's daughter, Beth shared these words, "Your story doesn't end here. It lives on in your grandchildren, in the places you loved, and in everyone of us who learned something from you. We will keep telling your stories, laughing at your jokes, and passing on the traditions. We will carry you with us in the woods, on the water, in the snow, and around every family table. You are a part of us always. We've got it from here, Dad."



"It was a good relationship. A lot of time at the station. And we're going to miss you, Peter. We already have."

~ Ken Scribner

In Memoriam

NANCY AUSTIN GAYTON

JULY 22, 1952~ JANUARY 28, 2026



On January 28, 2026 the community lost a beautiful soul. Nancy attended Durham Elementary and Lisbon High School and earned an Education degree at the University of Maine at Farmington. She taught kindergarten at Durham Elementary School for 25 years, retiring in 2005. Nancy was an intensely private person with a very giving and empathetic heart. She preferred to do her good works behind the scenes, helping those in need with quiet generosity and Christian kindness.

A Celebration of Life was held on February 20, 2026 at the Shiloh Chapel. Her daughter, Katie shared these words. "If I were to use one word to describe my Mom, it would be fierce. She loved all of her children, grandchildren, and children that she fostered, fiercely. She loved my Dad, fiercely. And thankfully had a fierce sense of humor with him, because you really had to or you wouldn't survive his shenanigans. In the final weeks of her life, she fought fiercely and despite the outcome not being what anyone of us wanted, she won, and she's still here living on through all of us who will continue her fierce fight of loving others well."

A former student shared a fond memory of Mrs. Gayton. "On my very first day of Kindergarten, she taught me one of the best lessons learned. If you have something that you can share with somebody, something that you can give to someone else, then just give it freely. I hope that Alex and Katie know just what a kind, humble, loving servant your Mom was and how we are all so special to have been touched by that spirit."

In closing, Nancy's sister, Peggy shared a quote, "People may leave, years may pass but memories walk with us quietly. Memories do not fade, they grow gentler with time. We learn that peace matters more than being right. Age teaches gently what youth could not."



"We are visitors to this time, this place. We are just passing through. Our purpose here is to observe, to learn, to grow, to love. And then we return home."

~ A.B. Shephard

Select Board Report

2025, like the previous years, was a busy year for the Select Board. This year, we welcomed 2 new Select Board members, John Talbot and Rebekah Polster. Both hit the ground running and joined Joseph Roy (Chair), Josh Klein-Golden (vice-chair), and Deborah Oliver as we continue to focus on the current needs of our community and plan for the future. Based on the feedback from the community in 2024 and 2025, we continued to focus on priorities provided to us, including the following:

- Shifting our budget to a fiscal year
- Working with our new Agriculture and Solid Waste Committee
- Shifting to automated trash pickup
- Enhancing Communication and community engagement
- Addressing solar permit costs
- Codifying our land use ordinance
- Increasing revenue
- Improving departmental efficiencies
- Identifying cost-saving opportunities
- Integrating new legal counsel



One of the biggest changes was the transition from a calendar year to a fiscal year. This has long been a need for our municipality, so we could align our budget cycle with the school and county cycles. This led to an 18-month budget from January 2025 to June 2026. Now that we have completed the transitional budget, we have moved back to a 12-month budget cycle running from July 1 to June 30. This change has allowed us to present a budget this year with actual expenses from our two major budget lines, which are county taxes and school expenses. Those two items, which are generally over 70% of our expenses, have had to be estimated in the past. Moving forward, we will stay with a 12-month budget, and the bill can be paid in two installments throughout the year, rather than all at once.

In 2024, we adjusted the town fee schedule to better align with modern fees and expenses. We maintained this fee structure during 2025 and saw an 86.5% increase in revenue generated from fees, which go towards municipal expenses. We have continued the process of codifying our land use ordinance to address inconsistencies and modernize the document. That process has culminated in the warrant language being placed before the voters at the town meeting. To increase communication, we continue to provide a weekly news blast, post updates to the town website and town social media and utilize our texting communication service. The texting service is utilized by 23% of residents, and you can still subscribe by texting “DURHAMALERTS” to 91896.

We have transitioned our trash pickup to an automated system, as scheduled within our 5-year trash contract with Casella. Automated pickup has been underway for several weeks, and we will be moving to a pay-as-you-throw bag system starting in August. This pay-as-you-throw transition utilized feedback and recommendations from the Durham Solid Waste Committee, which examined several options and worked on behalf of the community to help craft a new practice.

Our recently formed Agriculture Committee has been hard at work elevating the voices of our agriculture industry in town. They are bringing forward policy recommendations to assist the agricultural producers who help our town maintain its rural character.

While I have mentioned two new committees in this annual report, several other committees and boards remain hard at work supporting our community. The Select Board is proud of the progress we have made, but none of it would have been possible without our community members. Every year, many community members volunteer their time to boards, committees, commissions, or provide valuable public input. This community shows us every year that we are greater than the sum of our parts. The Select Board is honored to be able to work with our community to tackle the everyday challenges and work towards a healthy future. We look forward to another successful year.

In community,

Joseph Roy, Select Board Chair
Joshua Klein-Golden, Select Board Vice Chair
Deborah Oliver
Rebekah Polster
John Talbot



Town Manager Report

This annual report reflects an 18-month fiscal period during which the Town has continued to make progress in its transition to a Town Manager form of government, adopted in 2021. While structural change occurred several years ago, the transition remains ongoing as the Town continues to refine internal processes, roles, and operational practices. Although transitions of this scale require time, steady progress is being made toward strengthening governance, improving efficiency, and enhancing long-term planning.

I would like to express my appreciation to the Select Board for their continued support, guidance, and collaboration. Their leadership has been instrumental in maintaining stability and direction during this period of ongoing transition.

I also extend my sincere thanks to the Town's employees for their professionalism, dedication, and commitment to public service. Their efforts have ensured the continued delivery of municipal services throughout this extended fiscal period and organizational evolution.

I am grateful to the residents for their patience and understanding during this 18-month fiscal cycle. The adjustment required taxpayers to make two payments of nine months' worth of taxes within a relatively short timeframe, which created challenges for some households and required additional coordination with escrow accounts. The community's cooperation during this process is sincerely appreciated.

Aligning the Town's fiscal year with those of the State and RSU5 represents an important step forward in financial management. This alignment allows for the development of more accurate and informed budgets based on known data, rather than projections, thereby improving fiscal planning and decision-making.

During this period, the Town also implemented an automated solid waste collection system in accordance with industry standards and contractual requirements. I appreciate residents' cooperation as this transition has been completed.

The Town was successful in securing over \$150,000 in planning grant funding in partnership with the Greater Portland Council of Governments. These funds will support the development of an Open Space Plan and the evaluation of economic development opportunities. As the Town looks ahead to its next Comprehensive Plan, consideration of strategies that promote thoughtful economic development will be important in diversifying revenue sources and helping to offset reliance on property taxes.

Property taxes remain the Town's primary source of revenue. In the absence of additional revenue streams, continued upward pressure on property taxes is likely. While the Town will continue to manage its budget responsibly, broader and sustained property tax relief will likely require action at the state and federal levels.

The Town will undergo a property revaluation in the coming year, the first in approximately 15 years. Property values are expected to be updated to reflect current market conditions, which may result in significant increases in assessed values. This process is necessary to ensure fairness and equity in the distribution of the tax burden.

It is important to note that the overall tax rate is determined by three primary components: County, School (Education), and Municipal budgets. While each contributes to the total tax impact, recent increases have been driven largely by growth in County and School expenditures rather than the Municipal budget.

Education costs continue to represent the largest portion of the total tax assessment, generally accounting for approximately 70% to 80% of the overall tax burden, while County costs have also experienced consistent growth. In contrast, the Municipal share remains a much smaller portion of the total and has been comparatively stable, with periods of limited growth or decline.

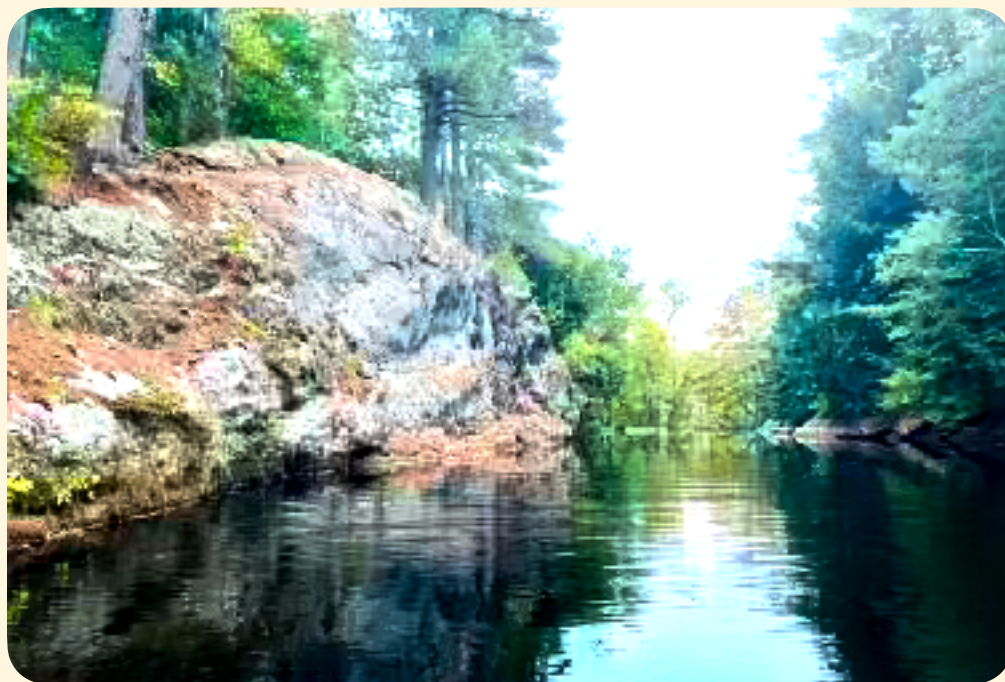
A significant factor contributing to these increases is inflation, which has affected the cost of labor, services, and capital investments across all levels of government. These pressures have been particularly evident in education and county budgets, which have a substantial influence on the overall tax rate.

The Town remains committed to responsible municipal budgeting and prudent financial management. However, it is important to recognize that changes in the overall tax rate are influenced more significantly by School and County spending trends than by municipal expenditures alone.

In closing, I would like to thank the Select Board, Town staff, and residents for their continued support, cooperation, and commitment to the community during this period of continued transition and progress.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Douglass
Town Manager



Town Clerk Report

The Town Clerk's office is the record keeping department for the Town of Durham. The office issues licenses and maintains and preserves vital records (birth, marriage, and death certificates), the Municipal Code of Ordinances and other official documents. The office is also responsible for the following: dog, hunting, fishing, boat, ATV, snowmobile, and business licenses. The Town Clerk administers all aspects of elections, voter registrations and campaign finance as well as Board, Committee and Commission openings and applications and Notary services.

Dog licenses are done by calendar year. Licenses are available for the following year on October 15th. A late fee of \$25 per dog is applied beginning February 1st. To avoid a late fee, either come to the town office or register your dog online between October 15 to January 31. The cost to register a neuter/spayed dog is \$6, or \$11 for an intact male or female. Per Maine law, all dogs six (6) months and older are required to be registered. Current rabies certificate and certificate of spaying, if applicable, are required to process the registration.



Dog Licenses Issued for 2025:

Intact - 22

Neuter/Spay - 212

Total: 234

Elections 2025

Municipal Officers Election

April 4, 2025

Town Meeting

April 5, 2025

RSU5 Budget Validation

June 10, 2025

Referendum Election

November 4, 2025



November 4th Election

The total votes cast for the November 4th Election was 1880 and of those, 476 were Absentee Votes.

Voter Registration

Democrat	978
Green Independent	176
Libertarian	21
Republican	1099
Unenrolled	1211
Total	3485

2025 Transitions



Vitals

Birth, Marriage, and Death Certificates are available at the Town Office during regular office hours. Certificates are \$15 for the first one and \$6 for each additional of the same certificate requested during the same visit.

Marriage licenses are available at the Town Office during regular office hours. One of the parties must be a Durham resident or, if both reside outside of Maine, they must intend to be married in Maine. If either party has been married previously, a certified copy of the Divorce or Death Certificate is required. The cost of a marriage license is \$40 and both parties must be present. The marriage license process takes approximately 30 minutes to complete, therefore appointments are required. Marriage licenses are valid for ninety days from issuance.

Deaths

Residents who have passed in 2025. We send our condolences to the families and friends of these deceased individuals.

Paul William Aldrich
Lynn Ellen Arbour
Sandra Marie Asselyn
Donna L. Baril
Errica May Beaulieu
Leshia Lorraine Beaulieu
Rita Sears Bonang
Wyatt Spencer Bragdon
Edna Elizabeth Chase
Elnora Wetmore Clement
Margaret Rose Cole
Travis Walton Crafts
Anna Jane Doody

Howard Daniel Durant
Gregory Allen Eger
Coplin Douglas Fickett
Jeffrey Adam Finik
Linda Fiorenzi
Todd Michael Ham
Ronald Perley Hood
Kevin Mark Kendall
Robert Bartlett King
Joshua Allan Leino
Jacob Louis Levasseur
Peter Albert Lowe
Michael Anthony Marchesseault

Marriages

There were 36 marriages in 2025. Congratulations to our Newlyweds!

Marissa Gail Apodaca to Derek Edward Bell
Danielle Alexis Rider to Zachary Robert Wetzel
Elizabeth Ann Hartsig to Eric David Schwan
Josie Candace Desjardins to Connor Josef Coburn
Nicole Alexandria Anderson to Daniel Harvey Seavey
Kristen Jean Doherty to Samuel Clinton Gates
Sarah Elizabeth Minnihan to Lance Walter Stevens
Krystal Tierra Wley to Travis Michael Dame
Danica Josephine Perry to Michael James Demarest
Renatta Emma Montell to Ethan Robert Huot
Kaylan Nichole Pacheco to Nicholas Peter Gillespie
Jaclyn Park-Stevens Macomber to Timothy Paul Mateosian



Births

There were 45 Births in Durham in 2025. Congratulations and Welcome!



Marcia Lynne McGee
Beth Sandra Morrill
Helen Toppan Nannery
Brenda Palmer
Robert Dean Purinton
John Sheldon Ranger
Carolyn Annette Russell
Ronald Gene Scribner
Larry Bruce Smith Jr.
Burton Leslie Spencer
Beverly Joyce Tremper
Denis Jason Turcotte
Joseph Marcus Whisper
William Burke White
Francine Gay Willette

March 2, 2025
April 6, 2025
May 3, 2025
May 31, 2025
June 7, 2025
June 7, 2025
June 7, 2025
June 7, 2025
June 7, 2025
June 14, 2025
June 14, 2025
June 21, 2025
July 13, 2025

2025 Transitions *(continued)*

Alison Emily Howe to Christopher James Hall
 Razzane Cleograce Mag-aso to Joseph Allen Sylvester
 Shaina Marie Deutsch to Jacob James Gormely
 Ashley Marie Delcourt to Benjamin Austin Roach
 Hayley Jane Shoemaker to Zachary David Huber
 Paula Jean Verrill to Travis Jerome Best
 Nancy Marie Doherty to Jody Dale Rose
 Samantha Lee Cuccaro to Jerome Patrick O’Sullivan
 Laicie Marie Ellington to Connor John Rouillard
 Elizabeth Grace Fecto to Jacob John Coughlin
 Asma Abdourahman Alale to Robert Scott Doster
 Molly Lynch Huey to Tyler Christian Pierson
 Juliann Katelyn Desjardins to Mason Todd King
 Olivia Melissa Immordino to Colby James Maurice
 Morgan-Renee Lane to Kade Robert Strout
 Dakota Jayanne Ryan to Joshua David Julian
 Nicole Sandra Latulippe to Gabriel Morrison Henson
 Kelly Jean Carr to Justin David Lord
 Ashli Anne Boucher to Megan Claire Pfeffer
 Naylyn Lee Planche to Devinn Scott Violette
 Amy Lynn Stanely to Sean M Evans
 Kathryn Louise Keeney to Carson Blake Hawbaker
 Alyson Kate Sylvester to Brandon Tyler Pierce
 Claire Macdonald Ross to Ethan Christopher Burgess



July 17, 2025
 July 18, 2025
 July 19, 2025
 August 10, 2025
 August 16, 2025
 August 16, 2025
 August 22, 2025
 August 24, 2025
 August 30, 2025
 September 6, 2025
 September 13, 2025
 September 13, 2025
 September 20, 2025
 September 27, 2025
 October 4, 2025
 October 11, 2025
 October 18, 2025
 October 24, 2025
 October 25, 2025
 October 25, 2025
 October 25, 2025
 November 8, 2025
 November 8, 2025
 November 15, 2025



24th Annual Durham Giving Tree

The residents of Durham generously donated to the 2025 Giving Tree. The Town collaborated with the Community Cares Team at Durham Community School to support a larger number of families in our community. Thank you for supporting the Durham Giving Tree!



4th Annual Ornament Parade

Continuing our tradition with Durham Community School, on December 4, 2025, the Town staff welcomed the Pre-K and Kindergarten students to decorate the Durham Giving Tree with their handmade ornaments. We want to thank the teachers and students and Durham Public Works and Durham Fire Department for continuing to make this a special tradition for the Town of Durham.

Outstanding Taxes

Real Estate

**Interest as of 6/1/26*

Property Owner	Total Due w/interest*	Property Owner	Total Due w/interest*
2023			
Bachelder, Cindy M.	\$2,311.35	Scammon, Robert	\$2,038.18
Blake Forest LLC	\$176.09	Scribner, Diane E.	\$569.05
Brookhouse, Susan J.	\$4,361.44	Shute, Richard L.	\$2,765.31
Dewitt, Kevin Andrew <i>(Party in Possession)</i>	\$1,250.68	Smith, Stacie A.	\$3,919.32
Dewitt, Lisa	\$1,860.06	SOPO Holdings, LLC	\$2,290.54
Easler, Doreen B.	\$3,832.04	St. Pierre, Tammy	\$2,075.69
Emerson, John <i>(Heirs of)</i>	\$3,319.52	Thompson, Jeremy	\$393.18
Gillespie, Kristine	\$1,032.78	Thompson, Justin	\$434.99
Lane, Scott	\$1,082.20	2026 (Jan 2025 - June 2026)	
Newell, Steven D. II, PR	\$2,117.62	4B Holdings, Inc.	\$705.71
Perry, Angela	\$397.94	Autumns Kaleidoscope	\$20,497.22
Stevens, Betty Cleaves	\$457.84	Babcock, Jerel K.	\$2,792.81
Thompson, Jeremy	\$344.67	Bachelder, Cindy M.	\$4,325.06
2024		Bailey, Joshua D.	\$3,563.19
Bachelder, Cindy M.	\$3,181.12	Bailey, Kenneth	\$2,612.67
Blake Forest LLC	\$2,475.41	Beaulieu, Evan M.	\$5,477.73
Brookhouse, Susan J.	\$4,250.33	Beaulieu, James E.	\$4,032.54
Copp, Michael S.	\$7,027.72	Bertrand, Glenn H.	\$1,664.68
Dewitt, Kevin Andrew <i>(Party in Possession)</i>	\$1,205.21	Blake Forest LLC	\$3,319.04
Dewitt, Lisa	\$1,785.90	Blazer, Kevin P.	\$302.67
Easler, Doreen B.	\$3,679.51	Bonang, Rita S.	\$4,651.82
Emerson, John <i>(Heirs of)</i>	\$3,187.37	Bowie, Inc.	\$5,609.17
Gillespie, Kristine	\$3,640.52	Breen, Susan L.	\$2,345.69
Harkins, Sandra	\$8,669.43	Brookhouse, Susan J.	\$5,797.14
Huntington, Vincent W II	\$1,020.39	Brooks, Thomas M.	\$2,321.61
Johnson, Greg L	\$7,863.90	Brown, Elizabeth C.	\$1,663.00
Lacasse, Michael R. Jr.	\$1,440.98	Brunswick Trucking LLC	\$2,455.74
Lane, Scott	\$1038.95	Butler, Jonathan S.	\$2,376.93
Maclean, Peter	\$3,214.85	Caldwell, Joseph Brancato	\$9,096.07
Newell, Steven D. II, PR	\$2,033.23	Caron, Joseph L.	\$6,268.35
Perry, Angela	\$381.94	Chaisson, Donald J.	\$3,916.65
Quigg, Patrick	\$8,326.19	Chapman, Barrett A.	\$2,323.97
Ridlon, Tyler	\$4,274.06	Cleveland, Michelle	\$3,070.35
		Collins, John A.	\$2,235.62

Outstanding Taxes

Real Estate

**Interest as of 6/1/26*

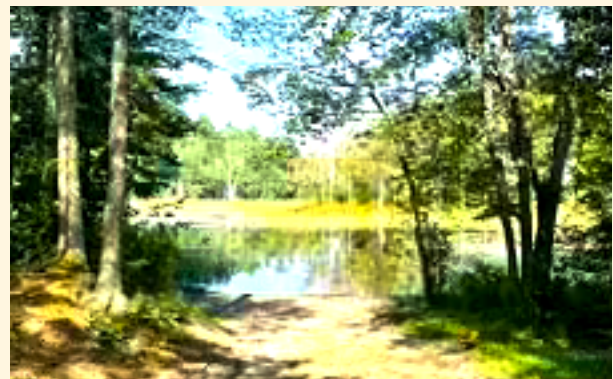
Property Owner	Total Due w/interest*	Property Owner	Total Due w/interest*
2026 (continued)		Griffin, Thomas	\$1,289.36
		Harkins, Sandra	\$6,067.05
Copp Properties, LLC	\$5,940.52	Harter, Christopher J.	\$4,300.14
Copp, Michael S.	\$29,514.75	Hewitt, Kristin	\$4,302.71
Copp, LLC.	\$1,654.39	Higgins, Andrew J.	\$202.92
Coslet, Jacqueline Y.	\$4,047.73	Hilliker, Lorelei L.	\$7,026.73
Costigan, Jeanne S.	\$5,481.11	Holbrook, Heather N.	\$1,677.25
Coull, Justin	\$1,162.84	Holbrook, Jason L.	\$1,058.40
Dame, Ryan	\$1,901.99	Howitt, Julia Carolyn	\$4,215.35
Daniels, Denise	\$426.91	Hummer, Timothy R. Jr.	\$239.35
Darling, Jeffrey	\$8,125.64	Hunnewell, Charles G.	\$7,444.62
Detert, James	\$1,097.40	Huntington, Vincent W. II	\$2,082.57
Detert, Jean	\$1,615.71	Jewett, Brian	\$365.79
Dewitt, Kevin Andrew (<i>Party in Possession</i>)	\$1,540.85	Johnson, Amanda G.	\$4,424.41
Dewitt, Lisa	\$2,369.76	Johnson, Greg L.	\$10,737.87
Dewitt, Patricia R.	\$1,869.40	Jones, Alisha M.	\$3,862.46
Disselkamp, Joseph Patrick	\$2,332.05	Jordan, Susan A.	\$4,699.97
Doten, Rebecca Lynn	\$6,004.16	Keith, Ryan S.	\$6,519.43
Doughty, Jack	\$5,154.82	Kincer, Charles L.	\$5,375.59
Doyon, Jayce	\$563.60	Knickrehm, Douglas P.	\$4,666.34
Easler, Doreen B.	\$4,976.85	Knowles, David W.	\$4,561.83
Emerson, John (<i>Heirs of</i>)	\$4,299.27	Koval, Deborah I.	\$567.27
Emerson-Mains, Heather L.	\$5,197.87	Lacasse, Michael R., Jr.	\$1,994.86
Enman, Brian	\$3,910.13	Lachance, Kevin William	\$1,623.41
Faith, John L.	\$3,063.21	Laflamme, Philip A.	\$5,067.99
Feely, Tina M.	\$2,363.64	Lane, Scott	\$1,341.37
Fickett, Coplin D.	\$2,426.95	Lenentine, Erika	\$995.32
Finch, Wanda	\$1,915.20	Lobozzo, Jonathan	\$4,732.64
Fish, James A.	\$4,084.88	Lopez, Celeste C.	\$1,496.15
Ford, Reginald W.	\$1,673.65	Lorello, Maria S.	\$2,501.10
Gamache, Robert	\$3,748.90	Maclean, Peter	\$4,337.11
Gillespie, Kristine	\$4,868.50	Maine Custom Woodlands LLC	\$13,547.58
Good, Valerie L.	\$2405.84	Mainely Woods, LLC	\$122.90
Goodrich, Matthew R.	\$4,489.74	Martin, Doreen M.	\$2,947.79
Goulet, Andrea	\$3,835.01	Miller, Camden T.	\$10,827.29

Outstanding Taxes *(continued)*

Real Estate, continued

**Interest as of 6/1/26*

Property Owner	Total Due w/interest*	Property Owner	Total Due w/interest*
2026 (continued)			
Morse, Cheryl Ann	\$7,761.05	Stephenson, David A.	\$15,154.08
Nappi, Beverly C.	\$5270.92	Sullivan, Bruce A.	\$4,271.76
Newell, Ronald E., JR	\$4,048.05	Sun Side Properties, LLC	\$1,151.43
Newell, Steven D. II, PR	\$2,710.26	Surace, Joseph L.	\$2,540.91
Oconnor, David J.	\$3,941.57	Thompson, Jeremy	\$468.68
Ostrowski, Steven K.	\$3,578.38	Thompson, Justin	\$515.92
Page, Robert D.	\$1,833.20	Tremper, Beverly	\$4,489.95
Pascarelli, Mario	\$3,027.99	Turner, Adam	\$1028.18
Pellerin, Christian J.	\$3072.75	Watson, Ross M.	\$4,871.63
Perry, Angela	\$436.81	Webb, Jacob W.	\$6,304.45
PMA Real Estate LLC	\$1,805.70	Werner, Lisa	\$1,823.41
Quigg, Patrick	\$11,379.32	Whitmore, Robert R.	\$2,296.95
Reilly, Sean P.	\$1,888.24	Wight, Shana P.	\$4,402.28
Reilly, Ted	\$1,620.49	Willette, Alan	\$1,866.77
Ridlon, Tyler	\$5,795.43	Woerter, Carolyn A.	\$233.87
Rugan, Jeremy F.	\$1,809.14	Woerter, Richard	\$347.38
Scammon, Robert	\$2,717.14		
Schlichting, Douglas E.	\$388.65		
Schneider, William	\$3,744.81		
Scribner, Diane E.	\$5,790.26		
Shute, Richard L.	\$3,723.17		
Smith, Christina A.	\$3,981.89		
Smith, Dean	\$2,266.58		
Smith, Julia E.	\$4,766.95		
Smith, Stacie A.	\$4,851.30		
Snell Construction, LLC	\$12,894.38		
Sopo Holdings, LLC	\$3,064.53		
Spear, Justin	\$1,011.25		
Spier, Calvin C.	\$1,336.30		
St. Germain, Thomas	\$1,475.58		
St. Pierre, Tammy	\$2,768.73		
Stackpole Stables LLC	\$3,513.38		
Stanley, James	\$6,647.37		



Durham Ladies Auxiliary Report



The Ladies Auxiliary is proud of the time, dedication, and heart our members have given in support of our fire department and community. This year was marked by teamwork, service, and a shared commitment to backing the firefighters and EMS workers who serve us every day.

The Auxiliary continued its tradition of supporting Durham Fire Department members and their families during times of celebration and hardship. Whether recognizing milestones, assisting during emergencies, or simply offering a warm meal and a kind word during the difficult calls, our mission of care and compassion remained at the forefront. This year highlighted the strength of our membership. New members brought fresh energy, while long-standing members continued to share their experience and leadership. The teamwork shown across all activities reflects the Auxiliary's strong foundation and shared purpose.



Durham Ladies Auxiliary Members

Linda Morris, President

Jen Therrien, Vice President

Debbie Koval, Treasurer

Kimberlei Bradstreet, Secretary

Laura Gagnon

Lauire Merrill-Belanger

Gwen Koval

Amy Pate

Aimee Larrabee



Forest Warden Report

This year we fully transitioned to the state of [maine.gov](https://www.maine.gov) burn permit site.

By definition, a “recreational campfire” means an outdoor fire that is used for cooking, personal warmth, light or ceremonial or aesthetic purposes that is not a part of debris disposal (AKA burning brush). A residential fire contained within an outdoor fireplace also falls into this category. Campfires may not exceed 3 feet in diameter on the ground at the base of the fire or 3 feet in height.

We are encouraging the public to utilize the state of Maine.gov burn permit site. This site can be accessed on your computer, smartphone or tablet. If you do have technical issues, please call the station at 353-2473 and the on-duty staff will assist you. This method has transitioned to a free service.

Any person wanting to burn logs, brush, grass, pasture, blueberry land or have a campfire is required by Maine Law to obtain a burning permit. If you have a question about whether it is permissible to burn the material you are considering, please call the station and we'd be happy to come out and inspect it.

There are time frames in which burning can and cannot be done. Permits cannot be taken before 9AM. The class day and local weather conditions play a part in determining whether burning permits will be issued as well. Please understand that changes in weather conditions may require us to suspend permits that have already been issued. You will be contacted by the fire department directly should this happen.

The individual who applies for the permit is legally responsible for the fire. They are required to make sure all safety precautions and time frames are adhered to. The fire must be always attended. The person signing the permit is legally responsible for any damages or suppression costs resulting from the Fire Department being called to contain the fire should it get out of control.

Rob Tripp
Fire Chief
Town Forest Warden



Fire, Rescue & EMA Report

2025 was another active and impactful year for our volunteer firefighters. Members responded to a wide range of emergencies, such as structure fires, motor vehicle accidents, medical emergencies, hazardous conditions and public service requests.

Of the total call volume, approximately 76% were emergency medical responses, continuing a national trend where fire departments play a critical role in pre-hospital care. Fire related incidents accounted for 24% of our calls, including residential, commercial and brush fires.

Our department remains committed to a rapid response and professional service. In 2025, our average response time improved slightly due to continued training efforts and strong coordination with neighboring departments. Mutual aid remains a cornerstone of our operations, and we are proud to both give and receive assistance to ensure the highest level of protection for our citizens.

None of this would be possible without the unwavering dedication of our volunteer firefighters, these men and women sacrifice their time, comfort and often their personal safety to serve others. Whether responding in the middle of the night, during work hours or on holidays, their commitment is truly commendable. Their ongoing training and professionalism ensure that our community receives the highest standard of emergency services.

As always, if you want to volunteer and become a family member, just stop in or call. We never close. 207-353-2473

Rob Tripp
Fire & Rescue Chief/EMA Director



Responses for 2025

<u>Structure</u>		<u>Vehicle</u>	
Structure Fire	2	Extrications	3
Mutual Aid Fire	15	MVA	61
Fire/ CO Alarms	6	Vehicle fire	2
Chimney Fire	3		
<u>Forestry</u>		<u>Other</u>	
Grass/Wildland Fire	9	Mutual aid rescue	13
Outdoor Burn Invest.	6	Wires/tree down	19
Outside smoke	6	Inside smoke	11



Road Commissioner's Report

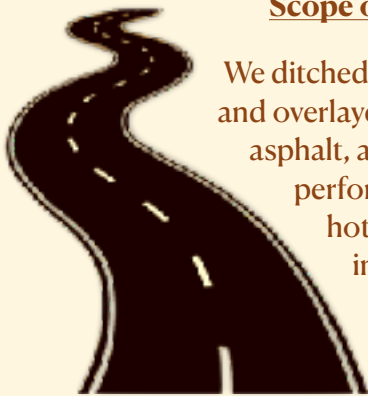
In 2025 the Durham Public Works Department ditched 2.35 miles of road (that is 4.7 miles of ditch-line) and paved 2.35 miles of roadway network.

2025 Maintenance Paving:

- **Auburn Pownal Road - 2.35 Miles**

Scope of Maintenance Paving:

We ditched, replaced culverts as needed, shimmed and overlaid existing pavement with 9.5 mm hot mix asphalt, and applied new shoulders. We also performed crack-sealing on various roads with hot liquified rubber to keep water from getting into the pavement. Crack-sealing is a valuable tool in our toolbox as a preventative maintenance measure. When water gets into the cracks it freezes and expands, which breaks the pavement and makes the cracks even larger, eventually becoming potholes.



2025-26 Winter Roads:

The Durham Public Works Department plows and treats 152 lane miles of roadway throughout the winter months. As of April 26th, 2026, we have responded to 40 winter weather related events using 1692 tons of road salt and 332 yards of winter sand.

2025/26 Highlights:

I will start by saying we were very short-handed during the summer and early winter months due to two job openings. It has been a challenge filling those positions, due in large part to competitive regional wage tables.

- Completed our third season of maintaining all Town owned cemeteries in Durham and have continued a very thorough removal of leaves and brush in addition to mowing and grass trimming. We will continue to work on wall and headstone repairs along with other restoration and preservation projects in collaboration with the Cemetery Committee.
- We paved all 2.35 miles of Auburn Pownal Road.
- Ditched, reconstructed, and widened sections of Haskins Road. There were sections that were only wide enough for single lane traffic.
- We completed our annual town-wide roadside mowing. We were able to negotiate a contract with the City of Auburn to lease their road grader at an exceptionally low cost to the Durham taxpayers.

- MDOT resurfaced- paved Royalsborough Road (Rt 136) from the Freeport Town Line to the Auburn Town Line.
- Ditched and replaced culverts along a 1.3mile section of Auburn Pownal Road from Stackpole Road to the Pownal town line.
- MDOT added an ALL-WAY STOP at the intersection of Quaker Meeting, Rabbit and Royalsborough Roads due to the number of accidents at this location.
- In the Fall of 2025, we traded our 2015 GMC pickup truck for a new 2025 GMC that is primarily driven by the Road Commissioner.
- In the spring of 2026, we traded our 2012 John Deere front end loader for a 2026 Volvo front end loader. As of April 28, 2026, we are still awaiting delivery.
- We are in the process of trading in our 2015 GMC one ton for a 2026 one-ton dump body truck. This transaction should be completed before Town Meeting in June 2026.



2026/27 Work Plan:

- Ditching and culvert replacements in connection with an extremely aggressive maintenance overlay paving program that will include approximately 1.5 miles of roadway. We will also be completing a lot of ditching and road work on gravel roads.
- Paving Stackpole Road - 1.15 miles from Bowie Hill Northward.
- Crack Sealing several miles with \$25,000 budgeted.
- Double yellow centerline striping twenty plus miles.
- We have budgeted \$100,000 from PW capital for bridge and in-slope work on Mill Pond Road.
- We have budgeted \$45,320 from PW capital for repair (slip line) large 4 ft culverts on New Gloucester Road.
- We have budgeted \$34,000 from PW capital to slip - line Very large and deep culverts on Passbrook Road and Collins Way



Once again, I would like to thank the many Durham citizens for another year of support and the many compliments and thanks we at the department have received over the past year. We will continue to make every effort to **earn** your support and trust as we move forward.

Respectfully submitted,

Calvin Beaumier
Road Commissioner

Board of Assessor's Report

Donna M. Hays, CMA serves as agent of the Board of Assessors. She reviews all new construction and properties that have building permits or are being carried as unfinished on the Town's records. This is done in the spring of the year after April 1st. The agent also processes all the property transfers and reviews the applications for exemptions. Ms. Hays works the first and third Mondays of the month and if you wish to speak with her about your valuation, please call the Town Office. The assessor can also be reached via email at assessor@durhammaine.gov but will respond during office hours only.

WAYS TO REDUCE YOUR PROPERTY TAX

The following information is provided in an effort to help reduce your property tax burden. All applications are available on the town website assessing page durhammaine.gov or at the Town Office. You can also visit the Maine Revenue Services website at www.maine.gov/revenue/propertytax.

Property Tax Exemptions

Homestead Exemption

Under this law, homeowners are eligible for a \$25,000 reduction in valuation. In order to qualify you must have owned homestead property in Maine for at least twelve months prior to April 1st and make the property you occupy your permanent residence.

Veteran's Exemption

A homeowner may be eligible for a reduction in the valuation of their property if they:

- Have their permanent residence in Durham on April 1st
- Are a veteran who was honorably discharged
- Served during a recognized war period in the U.S. Armed Forces
- Are 62 or older or an un-remarried widow/widower of a qualifying veteran
- Are under 62 but 100% disabled due to a service-related disability



An application along with proof of service and discharge, such as a copy of their DD214 must be provided. For veterans who served during World War II or later the exemption is a \$6,000 reduction in valuation.

Paraplegic Veteran

A veteran who received a federal grant for a specially adapted housing unit may receive an exemption of \$50,000 in valuation.

Blind Exemption

A homeowner who is determined to be legally blind by a medical doctor receives a \$4,000 exemption.

Note: All of the above exemptions require a completed application and may require additional information to support the claim for exemption. All applications must be submitted to the Town Office no later than **April 1st**.

Current Use Programs

The State of Maine offers the following "current use programs" which give the property owner a reduction in their assessed value. Applications for all these programs are available at the Town Office or at the Maine Revenue Services website and must be filed on or before **April 1st**. In order to be eligible each program has certain criteria that must be met and any change in use of the land warrants withdrawal from the program and a penalty assessed.

Tree Growth

This program provides for the landowner with at least 10 acres of forested land who wishes to maintain land for the planting, culture and continuous harvesting of trees. A Forest Management and Harvest Plan must be prepared and submitted with the application. Applications must include a map of the parcel indicating the forest type breakdown as well as all other areas not classified as tree growth. The 100% valuation per acre for each forest type by county is determined by the State Tax Assessor each year. If the classified parcel no longer meets the criteria of eligibility or the landowner withdraws from the program a penalty of an amount between 20 and 30% of the difference between the tree growth value and the fair market value will be assessed depending on the amount of time in the program.



Farm Land

In the farmland program the land must be used for farming, agriculture, horticulture and can include woodland and wasteland. At least 5 contiguous acres of land are required and the tract must contribute at least \$2,000 gross income from farming activities per year in one of the two or three of the five calendar years preceding the date of application. If the classified parcel no longer meets the criteria of eligibility or the landowner withdraws from the program a penalty of an amount between 20 and 30% of the difference between the farmland value and the fair market value will be assessed depending on the amount of time in the program, or a penalty equal to an amount of taxes that would have been paid in the last five years had it not been in the program, less the taxes that were originally assessed, plus any interest on that balance will be assessed, whichever is greater.

Open Space

Under this program no minimum acreage is required and the tract of land must be preserved or restricted in use to provide a public benefit such as public recreation, scenic resources, game management or preserving wildlife habitat. Classified land is valued by reducing the fair market value in accordance with a cumulative percentage reduction for which the land is eligible according to certain categories.

- Ordinary Open Space – 20% reduction
- Permanently Protected – 30% reduction
- Forever Wild – 20% reduction
- Public Access – 25% reduction

If the property met all of the above requirements, the owner would see a cumulative reduction of up to 95% on the classified land. If the classified parcel no longer meets the criteria of eligibility or the landowner withdraws from the program a penalty of an amount between 20 and 30% of the difference between the open space value and fair market value will be assessed depending on the amount of time in the program.

Property Tax Fairness Credit

The State of Maine also offers a Property Tax Fairness Credit. Eligible Maine taxpayers may receive a portion of the property tax or rent paid during the tax year on the Maine individual income tax return whether they owe Maine income tax or not. To claim credit, file Form 1040ME and Schedule PTFC for the tax year during which the property tax or rent was paid. For more information call 207-626-8475 or visit the State of Maine website at www.maine.gov/revenue/taxrelief/ptfcsurvey.htm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Donna Hays
Town Assessor

Code Enforcement Report

Permits Issued 2025:

- **Total Building Permits Issued: 76**
 - **New Single-Family Homes: 33**
 - **Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs): 2**
- **Electrical Permits: 107**
- **Demolitions: 5**
- **Internal Plumbing Permits: 55**
- **External Plumbing (Septic Systems): 46**
- **Annual total of Permit Fees Collected: \$110,583.02**
- **Average Permit Fee (All): Approximately \$386.38**



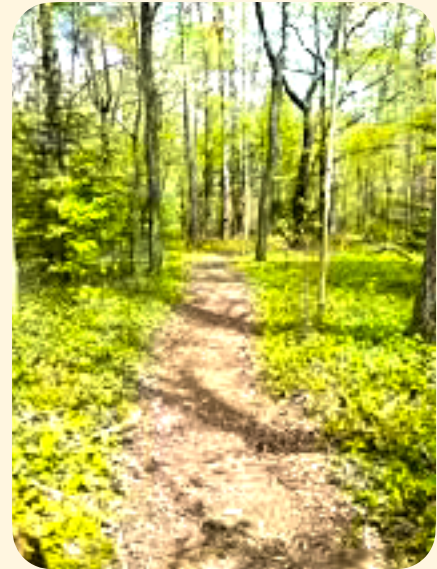
2024 ANNUAL Totals	
All Building Permits	65
Demolition	4
Electrical	147
Flood Plane	0
Internal Plumbing	52
Septic Systems	35
Annual Total of Permit Fees Collected	(Approx) \$61,881.99
Average Permit Fee	(Approx) \$206.27

2025 ANNUAL Totals	
All Building Permits	76
Demolition	5
Electrical	107
Flood Plane	1
Internal Plumbing	55
Septic Systems	46
Annual Total of Permit Fees Collected	(Approx) \$110,583.02
Average Permit Fee	(Approx) \$386.38

Conservation Commission Report

The Durham Conservation Commission focuses on conservation-related issues in collaboration with Town staff, volunteers, residents, neighboring communities, and public and private advocacy groups.

Our goals are to: protect current and potential water resources; conserve natural resources within the Town of Durham; create and preserve open space for recreational use and wildlife habitat; advise the Select Board and Planning Board on sustaining natural resources, including land, water, air, wildlife habitat, and scenic views; and conduct research, in conjunction with the Planning Board, on land areas under consideration for development.



Activities and Accomplishments in 2025:

During the past year, the Commission made meaningful progress toward advancing conservation planning in Durham. Most notably, we were awarded a no-match grant through the Community Resiliency Partnership, coordinated by the State's Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future.

This grant supports the development of an Open Space Plan for the Town. A key component of this effort will be gathering input from residents to identify valued natural areas, landscapes, and recreational spaces. This engagement will help guide future conservation priorities and ensure the plan reflects community needs. Participating communities typically complete a self-assessment, hold public workshops, and adopt a municipal resolution to prioritize actions, and the Commission has begun coordinating these steps with project partners.

Commission members also participated in site visits for proposed subdivisions with active applications. Following these visits, we provided site-specific recommendations to the Planning Board to help minimize impacts to natural resources. For example, we suggested seasonal restrictions on tree removal to avoid disturbance to nesting bats and other wildlife.

Looking Ahead:

In the coming year, the Commission will continue working with FB Environmental and the Greater Portland Council of Governments to incorporate workshop input and resident feedback into an Open Space Plan that reflects community priorities and supports Durham's long-term conservation goals.

Conservation Commission Members:

Roberta Brezinski, Todd Chaudhry, Jess Costa, Samantha Cuccaro, Michael Friendly, Jeff Tindall, and Kelly Waddle

Respectfully submitted,
Durham Conservation Commission

Planning Board Report



Planning Board Report for 2025

The Durham Planning Board continues its mission to implement the Durham Comprehensive Plan and guide the town's growth in a manner that preserves its rural character and important natural resources while accommodating needed development opportunities. In 2025, the Board balanced a workload of application reviews with long-range planning initiatives, including the adoption of Land Use Ordinance amendments and participating in a digital codification of the Land Use Ordinance. Supported by the Town Planner, the Board meets on the first Wednesday of each month to conduct its business and schedules additional meetings for public workshops on policy issues.

Highlights of 2025 Activities

1. Land Use Ordinance Amendments and Policy

- **April 2025 Town Meeting Approvals:** Voters approved three significant updates to the Land Use Ordinance:
 - **Resource Protection:** Revisions to the Resource Protection District boundaries based on updated state data and to provide relief for landowners with existing buildings in the district.
 - **Energy Systems:** Enactment of performance standards for Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) and the establishment of contract zoning for large-scale solar energy and BESS projects.
 - **Historic Preservation:** Streamlined regulations to align with legal requirements and Comprehensive Plan recommendations to focus regulations on recognized historic properties rather than larger areas and transformed the Historic Commission to an advisory capacity like the Conservation Commission.
- **Codification Project:** A major effort was undertaken to digitize the Land Use Ordinance through the General Code Corporation that manages online ordinances for more than 30 Maine communities. This project includes a comprehensive legal and editorial review to align local regulations with state laws.
- **Minor Policy Revisions & Administrative Changes:** The Board spent the latter half of 2025 drafting "minor policy" changes for the 2026 Town Meeting. Some of these changes include addressing back lots, private ways, subdivision road buffers, and fire protection water supplies. These changes will provide clearer directions for decision-making by applicants, staff, and the Planning Board. A third set of administrative changes to improve the project review process and clarify areas of confusion will be included in the Town Meeting warrants.

2. Application Reviews and Approvals

- **Subdivisions:**
 - **Durham Heights:** Conducted a sketch plan review for a 13-lot cluster subdivision on Quaker Meeting House Road.
 - **Pinkham Brook Road:** Reviewed a sketch plan for a 13-lot cluster subdivision.
 - **Bowie Hill Subdivision (Phase 2):** Granted a six-month extension and approved a lot-line adjustment.
 - **Ruby Farmview:** Reinstated subdivision approval for completion of the road paving and granted preliminary approval for a 4-lot expansion.
 - **Deer Creek Crossing:** Approved amendments to remove lot sale restrictions and individual home sprinkler requirements after the installation of a compliant fire pond.

- **Blue Jay Way:** Approved a revised back lot access.
- **Greystone Ridge:** Conducted a sketch plan review for a 13-lot cluster subdivision on Pinkham Brook Road.
- **Conditional Uses and Site Plans:**
 - **Leisure Campground:** Granted final site plan approval for a 40-site expansion on Royalsborough Road after the applicant secured necessary State permits for wastewater and stormwater management.
 - **Replenoa Farm Market:** Approved outdoor seating and seasonal fair activities.
 - **The Kids Next Door Daycare:** Reviewed and approved expansion plans for the Hallowell Road facility.

3. Long-Range Planning and Strategic Initiatives

- **Community Facilities Visioning:** Planning staff coordinated a citizen participation process with the Greater Portland Council of Governments to establish goals for Town properties along Hallowell Road. A framework was developed based on public feedback regarding the need for expanded office and meeting spaces and maintenance of Town assets.
- **Open Space and Conservation:** The Conservation Commission secured an \$80,000 state grant to develop a comprehensive Open Space and Conservation Plan that will be incorporated into the coming Comprehensive Plan update.
- **Agriculture Modernization:** Collaborated with the Agriculture Committee and Maine Farmland Trust to modernize definitions for agricultural activities, including agritourism, to support the local farming economy.
- **Economic Development:** Supported a grant application to explore the establishment of an economic development district in South Durham.

Future Outlook and Challenges

The Planning Board is currently monitoring a possible uptick in subdivision development and housing construction, with multiple subdivision applications in the initial review phases. To ensure a coordinated response to any dramatic increase in development rates, the Town's Comprehensive Plan contains an appendix setting out the process for responding in a coordinated manner in keeping with State laws. The Board will continue to carefully monitor housing starts and subdivision lot approvals and will advise the Select Board if action is necessary to manage this growth.

Significant changes to Maine's Growth Management Act in 2025 have extended the certification of Durham's 2018 Comprehensive Plan by two years, meaning it is now valid until June 2031. This extension allows the Town to focus on completing current long-range projects - such as open space, agriculture, and economic development - before beginning a full update of the Comprehensive Plan beginning in 2028 - 2029.

For the coming year, the Board's priority remains the successful completion of the codification project to ensure Durham's regulations are accessible, consistent, and legally sound and the Board will then focus on implementation of state-mandated housing changes and other policy issues that were deferred until after codification.

Submitted by the Durham Planning Board, March 2026

Historical Society Report

2025 Durham Historical Society Annual Report

As we said goodbye to 2025, we wanted to pause, just for a moment, to reflect and to thank the people who make the Durham Historical Society what it is: our volunteers, our supporters, and our community.

The Heart of it All

Small-town organizations live in a delicate space. We know that. We feel it. And that is why we never take for granted the incredibly committed group of volunteers who show up for Durham's history again and again. Our volunteers are the heart of the Historical Society. Without them, we would not exist. This year, we welcomed a record number of volunteers, from young helpers to seasoned historians, and even a few four-legged assistants who kept morale high. They are a patchwork of individuals, each bringing their own stories, talents, and viewpoints. That patchwork is what makes us stronger. It makes us thoughtful. It makes us resilient. To watch this group come together under a shared passion for Durham's history is a truly beautiful thing.

A Community That Shows Up

Beyond our volunteer core, 2025 was filled with generosity from local businesses and neighbors. We extend heartfelt thanks to: Green Island Stonework, Paris Farmers Union, Amy Johnson & Wilson's Wiener Wagon. We are equally grateful to the many residents, past and present, who entrusted us with Durham-related items for our growing archive. Every photograph, document, and artifact adds another layer to the story we are preserving. And to our Facebook followers: Thank you. Thank you for sharing your memories, commenting on posts, offering transcriptions, and reminding us that history is not just something stored on shelves; it is something living and shared.

A Year of Effort, Joy, and Determination

Like most meaningful work, 2025 brought both highs and lows. We kicked off the year with our annual Heartbombing event, shining love on Durham's historic bandstand. We continue to advocate for the attention and care it deserves and have reached out multiple times to the Select Board to discuss its future. We remain hopeful that 2026 will bring movement and restoration.

- One of our biggest highlights was our very first **Hot Dogs & History** event, and what a success it was! The combination of storytelling, community connection, and partnering with Wilson's Wieners made for an evening we won't soon forget. If you missed it, don't worry, we hope it becomes a tradition.
- In May, we honored local veterans by placing flags on their graves for Memorial Day, a quiet but powerful reminder of service and sacrifice.
- In July, we joined the Moxie Festival parade with a float in the "Hang Loose" celebration, proudly representing Durham's past in the midst of its present-day joy.
- Thanks to our incredible volunteers, we were even able to expand our efforts beyond town lines, participating in Pownal's Festival of Trees and strengthening community ties with our neighbors.

The Harder Moments

Not everything unfolded as we had hoped. Heartbreakingly, the contractor lined up to begin museum repair work this year fell through. Later in the summer, the museum's application to be added to Maine's 2025 Most Endangered Buildings list was denied. Those were difficult moments. But if there is one thing 2025 confirmed, it is this: setbacks do not define us. We stayed focused. We kept moving.

The WDMC saw meaningful progress when volunteers spent a weekend clearing out the church, and Northeast Housewrights began sill work, an encouraging and tangible step forward. And in the fall, we planted bulbs around the museum grounds. It may seem like a small act, but it was intentional. A future of lovely things starts now. We are already looking forward to seeing those first blooms in 2026, just in time for the Durham Historical Society's 50th anniversary.



Looking Ahead

As we turn our focus toward the coming year, we remain committed to fostering a community rooted in togetherness, kindness, and excitement for Durham's history. There will be challenges. There will be celebrations. There will be stories waiting to be uncovered. And we will face them the way we always do, together. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for being part of this work. Here's to 2026, to 50 years of the Durham Historical Society, and to many more chapters yet to be written.

Durham Historical Society Officers & Senior Members:

Tia Wilson - Chair
Sandra Hilton - Co-Chair,
Lois Kilby-Chesley - Secretary
Tyler Hutchison - Treasurer,
Emily Alexander - Archivist
Eliza Howe
Candy DeCsipkes

Natasha Skelton
Greg Wilson
Jennifer Fitzpatrick
Kat Jewell
Kevin Morgan
Gradi Schutt
Jeff Lockwood

Cemetery Committee Report

2025 Cemetery Committee Report

The Durham Cemetery Committee works for and under the authority of the Board of Selectmen. We are a group of unpaid volunteers whose mission is the care and maintenance of the sixteen (16) cemeteries for which the Town of Durham has responsibility.

We also offer cemetery plots in Strout Cemetery, located on Hallowell Road, for those wishing to be buried in town. The Committee has no affiliation with the private cemetery associations located within Durham.

Organization & Oversight

The Town's Public Works Department continued to provide maintenance services for the cemeteries this year. We extend our sincere appreciation to the Public Works team for their continued dedication and for keeping our cemeteries looking beautiful and well cared for.

Cemetery preservation is a community effort, and we are grateful for those who assist us in honoring Durham's past. Special thanks to the Acacia Masonic Lodge for their continued work at Cedar Grove Cemetery. Honoring Our Veterans

2025 Committee Work

Throughout the year, committee members:

- Inspected all cemeteries under our jurisdiction to ensure proper maintenance and identify areas needing attention.
- Worked with Thomas Stevens Cemetery Restoration to repair and clean Waterhouse Cemetery, located on Auburn Pownal Road.
- Three cemetery plots were sold in 2025.

In 2026, we aim to clean and repair Strout Cemetery on Hallowell Road. We look forward to continuing our stewardship with care, respect, and dedication to Durham's history.

Honoring our Veterans & Community Support

There are 254 known veterans buried in Durham cemeteries, representing service in the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Civil War, World War I, World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War, and the Gulf War. These veterans rest in 21 of the town's 25 cemeteries. We take great pride in preserving their final resting places and maintaining the beauty and respect these sacred grounds deserve.

We also extend our gratitude to the following individuals who helped place flags on veterans' graves in observance of Memorial Day: Lindsey Lopes, Greg & Tia Wilson, Eliza Howe, Nick Lowery, Linda & Warren Bowie, Natasha & Noel Skelton, & Emily Alexander. Your time and care ensure that those who served our country are remembered with dignity and respect.

Respectfully submitted,
Tia Wilson
Chair, Durham Cemetery Committee



Eureka Committee Report

The community center has been active with projects, events, meetings and rents. The rents have averaged more than two a month. Town groups use the center on a regular basis as well as girl scouts. Other groups use the center seasonally. The committee has held two collection events, one for the Lisbon Area Christian Outreach (LACO) and one for animal rescue.

Some of the improvements this year:

- New Exterior Doors
- Wi-Fi has been added to the building.
- And Heating is still being addressed.

The committee, along with volunteers, cleaned, organized and did some repairs. The Girl Scout troop does a yearly project. This year they removed and cleaned the grids from the windows and washed the windows inside and out. The troop also weeded the planter under the Eureka sign. Public Works cleaned the upstairs and attic and the eaves were sealed where the two buildings come together, the old house and the grange addition.

Improvements still needing to be addressed:

- Parking Lot lighting
- First floor flooring needs to be replaced.

The committee wishes to thank our volunteers, the Town Office staff and Public Works for all they do for the center. Thanks to the Fire Department for staffing the cooling center days. And special thanks to Girl Scouts Troop 500.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Durham Eureka Community Center Committee
Pearl Scribner, Chair
Kathleen Lowe, Vice Chair
Cathy Sentern
Jennie Costigan
Anita Sellars
Linda Litchfield



GIRL SCOUT TROOP 500

Solid Waste Committee Report

For the 2025-2026 physical year, the Solid Waste Committee worked to determine whether a transfer station was a viable option for the Town of Durham. We were also asked to review the options regarding ongoing curbside pick-up options as well. Additionally, we met with members from the Agricultural Committee for options to reduce our tipping fees through composting.

Regarding a town transfer station: As part of the Solid Waste Committee bylaws, we have been charged with determining a long-term solid waste plan by comparing options in terms of environmental impacts and cost effectiveness. The options evaluated included the status quo (curbside pick-up) vs. a transfer station facility (either owned and managed by the town of Durham or partnering with another town). Curbside pick-up was the preferred option.

The Road Commissioner had provided the Committee with information regarding land owned by the town as possible sites for a transfer station and information gathered related to other towns in the area of similar size who own/operate a landfill and/or transfer station was also reviewed.

During the Committee's November 2025 meeting, options were reviewed by performing a "weighted" exercise (please see attached worksheet), evaluating the following:

- Cost to town/residents
- Service quality
- Flexibility and control
- Sustainability
- Scalability
- Equity
- Local economic impact
- Regular compliance
- Community feedback



Our analysis concluded that continued curbside pick-up was the best option for the town of Durham.

A summary of our review:

- Curbside pick-up: scored the most favorable for: Cost, Service quality, Sustainability, Scalability, Equity, Local economic impact, Regulatory compliance.
- Transfer Station owned by the town scored most favorable for: Service quality, Flexibility & Control, Equity, Local economic impact, Regulatory compliance.
- Transfer Station shared with another community scored most favorability for: Service quality, Equity, Local economic impact, Regulatory compliance.

The transfer station option(s) did not score well for the following:

- Cost (primarily due to construction, labor costs and maintenance).

- Sustainability & Scalability (due to limited growth options over the years).
- We also discussed the ability for some residents to actually use a transfer station given the challenges of moving trash from one location to another and also the impact on recycling and likely increased tipping costs as a result of a transfer station.

We determined that given our analysis the current curbside pick-up was the best option. Our conclusion is based on several factors as noted above including overall cost, sustainability, scalability, equity, local impact and regulatory compliance. The environmental impact on likely increased tipping fees and reduced recycling were also considered.

The Committee voted unanimously in November 2025 to move forward with the recommendation that the current curbside pick-up was the best option for the town. In December 2025 we met with the Cassella Representation and shifted our focus to the PAYT option as directed by the town manager. The Committee then agreed at our January 2026 meeting to provide our transfer station/curbside pick-up analysis to the Select Board with our conclusion that the current system is the best overall option for the town of Durham.

Regarding ongoing curbside pick-up: The committee reviewed the current Tag program, Pay-as-you-throw option, and whether absorbing cost through taxes (no cost for bag, etc) was appropriate. The Solid Waste committee felt that absorbing the cost should not be absorbed by tax revenue alone. The committee made the following recommendations:

1. Initiate the Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) program with colored bags. We made this recommendation with or without AI technology to start;
2. Obtain 64-gallon containers for both trash and recycling with the option for a 48-gallon container upon request of the resident.

In 2026-2027, the committee will be focusing on a Solid Waste Ordinance as requested by the Town Manager and additional steps to reduce our overall tipping fee which will include communication to residents on options for disposal of non-trash related items, composting options, recycling, etc.

Respectfully submitted,
The Solid Waste Committee



Solid Waste Report

The Town of Durham contracts with Casella for curbside solid waste and recycling collection. Your residential curbside trash and recycling will be picked up by an automated side-load truck. Trash and recycling collection occurs weekly on your scheduled day, either Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday. All trash must be inside of the bins with the lid closed. A pay-as-you-throw program will begin August 1, 2026. Residents can purchase designated purple bags at the Durham Get and Go and local grocery stores. The bags are available in two sizes, 15-gallon bags (1.80 each) and 33-gallon bags (3.00 each). Residents can contact Casella’s customer service representatives at **207-518-8653** or report issues through Casella’s Mobile App.



Town of Durham, Maine 2025 - Municipal Solid Waste & Recycling Report (By Tons)

Month	Municipal Solid Waste (Curbside Services)	Zero-Sort Recycling (Curbside Services)	Recycled Metal	Oversized Bulky Waste/ Construction Debris	Total Tons Collected
January	73.74	25.64	0.00	0.00	99.38
February	50.60	19.95	0.00	0.00	70.55
March	58.29	20.00	0.00	0.00	78.29
April	62.02	23.00	0.00	0.00	85.02
May	73.42	25.00	6.83	38.25	143.50
June	57.93	18.04	0.00	0.00	75.97
July	77.54	27.35	0.00	0.00	104.89
August	63.12	20.67	0.00	0.00	83.79
September	62.31	33.17	0.00	0.00	95.48
October	64.98	36.81	0.00	0.00	101.79
November	63.31	21.66	0.00	0.00	84.97
December	58.86	21.03	0.00	0.00	79.89
Total Tons	766.12	292.32	6.83	38.25	1103.52

RSU5 Superintendent Report

Dear Citizens,

We want to thank all the residents for the passage of our current budget. The adopted budget for 2025-2026 is \$44,455,929. In addition to contractual salaries and benefits, the majority of the expenditure increases included the following: funding for a Grade 4 Teacher at Mast Landing School, a Response to Intervention-Behavior Educational Technician for Durham Community School and additional days for the Guidance Counselor Secretary at Freeport High School, needed technology replacement, significant security and life safety upgrades in all of our schools and the continued funding of the district’s Capital Improvement Plan.

We are grateful for the individuals willing to volunteer and serve on the RSU5 Board of Directors. Current Board members from Durham are Danielle George, Stephanie Worth, and School Board Chair Michelle Ritcheson; members from Freeport are Colin Cheney, Anna Child, Kara Kaikini, Vice-Chair Maura Pillsbury, Kelly Sink and Valerie Williams; and members from Pownal are Malik Farlow and Christopher Savaiano. Two student representatives from Freeport High School are selected each fall.

All Board goals aim to ensure every student has an engaging, student-centered education, and graduates ready to enter postsecondary education or the workforce. In June, 164 students graduated from Freeport High School, ready to venture into their post-graduation lives. We are very appreciative of all the financial contributions for scholarships to support our students in post-secondary education.

We have an extremely dedicated, qualified staff serving our students. We educated 1997 students during the 2024-2025 school year, which was a decrease of 87 students from the October 1st enrollment from 2023. The projected enrollment for 2025-2026 is 2018. If this remains stable, this will be an increase of 21 from last year’s October 1st certified enrollment.

Through the collective efforts of our staff, parents, students and community members, we strive to provide a quality education for all of our students. As we strive “to inspire and support every learner by challenging minds, building character, sparking creativity, and nurturing passions,” we appreciate your support and involvement in educating our students in RSU5!

Sincerely,

Jean M. Skorapa
Superintends of Schools



GRADUATING CLASS OF 2025

Animal Control Report

	Bowdoin	Durham	Lisbon	Sabattus
Animal Related Issues	6	8	72	14
Missing Animals	14	6	26	0
Cat Complaints	21	6	57	21
Cruelty	5	0	8	6
Dog Bites	5	7	20	2
Barking Dog	1	0	17	8
Dangerous Dog	0	1	1	0
Loose Dog	39	21	136	30
Animal Trespass	1	0	2	0
Rabid Animal	0	0	6	1
Wildlife	2	2	63	2
Assist Other Agency	1	1	58	8
Poultry	2	1	14	4
Swine	1	0	1	1
Institutionalized	0	0	1	0
Animal In Car	0	0	0	0
Total Calls				
	86	53	482	97
Total Combined Calls		718		

2025 Feral Cats Trapped by Town	
Bowdoin	30
Durham	1
Lisbon	19
Sabattus	14





Janet T. Mills
GOVERNOR

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

Winter and Spring 2026

Dear Friends:

It has been the greatest honor of my life to serve as your governor for the past seven years. We have faced many challenges together, from confronting a global pandemic, to healing from a horrific tragedy in Lewiston, to rebuilding from unprecedented storms that damaged homes and businesses across the state. But we have done so with the strength, courage, and kindness that is at the essence of Maine people, the same community spirit that will sustain us in the years to come.

Our towns and cities are the essence of community and the foundation of our democracy. In my last year as governor, I will push to continue fully funding revenue sharing and public schools so those costs are not added to the property tax bills. We will continue to make record investments in housing to bring down the cost of home ownership. We will continue to deliver tax relief to working people and lift the burden of student debt off the shoulders of younger people to encourage them to stay here, pay taxes here and invest in our state.

I fundamentally believe that our strongest asset is you – the people of Maine – which is why my Administration’s approach has always been, and will always be, to make this state the best place in the nation to live, work, and raise a family.

With gratitude,

Janet T. Mills
Governor



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

PHONE: (207) 287-3531 (VOICE)

TTY USERS CALL 711
www.maine.gov

FAX: (207) 287-1034

SUSAN M. COLLINS
MAINE

413 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904
(202) 224-2523
(202) 224-2693 (FAX)

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904

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

Dear Friends,

It is an honor to serve the people of Maine, and I welcome this opportunity to update you on the work that has taken place in the Senate over the past year. My staff and I have addressed numerous issues affecting our state, and I would like to share some of the progress that we have made.

Since my *Social Security Fairness Act* was signed into law in January 2025, the law has been fully implemented and restored earned retirement benefits to 2.8 million Americans. More than 25,000 Mainers have seen their monthly benefits increase and have been issued more than \$184.5 million in retroactive payments. I am proud that this legislation has improved the lives of many retired firefighters, teachers, police officers, and other public employees and their spouses.

I was honored to become the first Maine Senator in nearly a century to lead the Appropriations Committee. Since I took this role last January, Congress enacted full-year appropriations bills before December for the first time since 2018. These bipartisan bills included full-year funding for Military Construction and the Department of Veterans Affairs, the US Department of Agriculture, and the Food and Drug Administration. At my request, these bills included nearly \$35 million in Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) for local projects across Maine that will improve fire stations and emergency services, update municipal buildings, and support upgraded facilities at the Maine National Guard and Portsmouth Naval Shipyard (PNSY) in Kittery. This funding builds on the nearly \$1.1 billion in CDS I have secured since 2021 for worthy projects that benefit local communities and nonprofits across our state's 16 counties. As Chair, I remain committed to working to better ensure that federal spending and investments produce real results for the people of Maine.

I have also led other important legislative efforts this year that address problems many Mainers face. This includes bills that expand federal efforts to combat Lyme disease and other tick-borne illnesses and improve access to early testing for Alzheimer's disease. Provisions I authored to strengthen prevention, treatment, and recovery services for those struggling with substance use disorders and mental illness were included in the *SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act* that was recently signed into law. An amendment I authored in this year's *National Defense Authorization Act* will increase apprenticeship opportunities at public shipyards like PNSY. That bill also includes more than \$400 million to support critical infrastructure improvements at PNSY and a well-deserved 3.8 percent pay raise for all our nation's service members.

In addition to advancing legislation, I worked to ensure that federal commitments to Maine were maintained and, when necessary, restored. I secured a seasonal employee exemption for Acadia National Park from the Administration's federal hiring freeze and from closure during the recent government shutdown. I protected local programs like Maine Sea Grant and global initiatives like the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) from harmful funding cuts. I led the effort to resume enrollment at Maine Job Corps centers and fought for full funding for Maine's public schools this school year. I preserved funding for the University of Maine System and secured the restoration of funding to the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Pleasant Point and the Penobscot Nation. I protected low-income Mainers' access to key programs like LIHEAP and SNAP. Although I voted against the *One Big Beautiful Bill Act* due to my opposition to Medicaid cuts, I helped secure \$50 billion to support rural health providers through the legislation's Rural Health Transformation Program. Maine has been awarded \$190 million in the first year of this five-year grant program.

Throughout my Senate service, I have never missed a roll-call vote and have cast more than 9,850 consecutive votes—reflecting the Maine work ethic I bring to Washington. My continued ranking as most bipartisan Senator from the Lugar Center and Georgetown University is a testament to Maine's tradition of working with cooperation and respect.

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

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins
United States Senator

www.collins.senate.gov

ANGUS S. KING, JR.
MAINE

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

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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

Dear Friends,

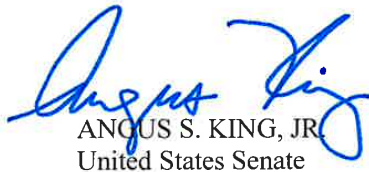
With each year we have a new opportunity to recognize our shared achievements and offer up our time and energy to support one another when challenges arise. I am grateful to the towns across Maine for their dedication to their communities, their residents, and our state. Working together has always been our strength, and the past year proved that once again we are stronger when we work together.

However, it is difficult to recall a year more challenging than the one we just experienced – a year that required a steady focus on our founding principles and shared values. For these reasons, I spent hours on the Senate Floor reminding my colleagues—and many of you back home—about the vision our founders demonstrated when they laid the blueprint for the American experiment. A cornerstone in their understanding was a duty to civic engagement and community. I often refer to Maine as a big town with long roads, and in my travels throughout our state, I am reassured by the grassroots participation in our civic process and the neighborly feel that makes Maine unique.

My legislative priorities remain largely the same: supporting Maine veterans, small businesses, and our heritage industries like agriculture, forest products and the marine economy. Additionally, I am grateful to have an exceptional team across Maine ready to assist you with issues involving the federal government. Whether you are facing challenges related to veterans' services, Social Security, the IRS, passports or other matters, I encourage you to reach out to our offices in Presque Isle, Bangor, Augusta, Portland, or Biddeford. We are here to help and welcome the opportunity to work on your behalf.

Together, I am confident we can continue building a stronger and more prosperous future for our state and nation. Thank you for being one of the many reasons Maine is such a special place. It is truly an honor to serve you and to know you. Mary and I wish you a happy, healthy, and safe 2026.

Best Regards,



ANGUS S. KING, JR.
United States Senate

AUGUSTA
40 Western Avenue, Suite 412
Augusta, ME 04330
(207) 622-8292

BANGOR
202 Harlow Street, Suite 20350
Bangor, ME 04401
(207) 945-8000

BIDDEFORD
227 Main Street
Biddeford, ME 04005
(207) 352-5216

PORTLAND
1 Pleasant Street, Unit 4W
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 245-1565

PRESQUE ISLE
167 Academy Street, Suite A
Presque Isle, ME 04769
(207) 764-5124

In Maine call toll-free 1-800-432-1599
Printed on Recycled Paper



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

Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you well.

As you likely know, my time in Congress will come to an end in January 2027, after which I'll return to my family and my life as a private citizen. In other words, this is my final town letter.

My time as your representative has included a fair share of ups and downs, but one thing that never changed was the pride I brought with me to represent your community and all the others across Maine's 2nd Congressional District.

Maine has been home for my entire life. And while serving in Congress has meant a lot of time in Washington, D.C., I've tried my best to stay connected to the people, places and values that made me who I am.

Growing up in Leeds, I learned the value of hard work and community. When I enlisted in the U.S. Marines, a decision driven by the commitment to service and patriotism instilled in me by the people and places that raised me, I learned a lot about sacrifice and leadership. After my time in the military, I settled in Lewiston and served my city in the Maine State House, where I got a crash course in what representation really meant: listening, understanding, and fighting to make life better for the people and families who'd placed their trust in me.

I brought these values and experiences with me to Congress and tried to live up to them every day I have served.

I share all this not because my story is special or my values unique, but because I know that it is not.

It's fair to say that I've worked in one way or another with most every community in the District. Together, we've reduced pressure on property taxes by securing congressional funds for local projects. We've passed laws to support Maine's heritage industries and small businesses. And my staff and I have provided direct constituent services, helping thousands of Mainers across the state — including recovering millions of dollars in missing or delayed federal benefits.

What I've learned through our work together is that there are leaders all over Maine everywhere you look — people committed to service, to their communities and their country: Municipal officials and workers. Business owners and innovators. Servicemembers and law enforcement officers. Volunteer firefighters. And of course, the everyday workers, parents and students who are all doing their part to contribute how they can to their families and communities.

I am grateful to share this state with every single one of you, and despite all our challenges, I am optimistic about our future because of what I've seen and learned. I know that the things that divide us are no match for the things we have in common and our commitment to each other.

While this may be my final letter in this format, I am still working hard to represent you for the rest of this year. If your community, small business, or family has a need, reach out to my nearest district office and talk to us about it. My staff and I can help navigate government programs; find federal resources in Maine; and resolve issues with Medicare, Social Security, the VA, and other agencies. Here's the contact info for my offices:

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

Thank you again for the great honor of representing you in Congress and the opportunity to serve you and your community. I will spend the rest of my time in Congress working just as hard as I always have to deliver what I can to Maine.

Respectfully,

Jared Golden
Member of Congress



Bruce Bickford
Senator, District 20

THE MAINE SENATE
132nd Legislature

3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your State Senator. It is an honor to represent our communities, and I remain committed to working on your behalf to address rising costs, protect seniors, and ensure state policies reflect the realities faced by Maine families and businesses.

The First Regular Session and the First Special Session of the 132nd Legislature adjourned in March and July of 2025, respectively. The Second Regular Session will convene in January 2026, and with many bills carried over, there will be significant work ahead.

I am pleased to report that the Legislature passed several critical bills aimed at expanding access to medical care, including measures to improve prescription access in Maine's most rural communities. We also secured key wins to protect our vital forest and logging industries, strengthen Maine's hospitality sector and create new economic opportunities in agriculture by supporting food processing and manufacturing incentives.

One of my main priorities this session was addressing Maine's high energy costs. Maine continues to rank among the states with the highest residential electricity rates, and recent increases have placed a growing burden on ratepayers. I sponsored LD 359 to rein in costs associated with the Net Energy Billing program by limiting overlapping subsidies that contribute to higher electric bills. While that bill did not pass, the Legislature did enact reforms to reduce program costs, and I supported the creation of the Net Energy Billing Cost Stabilization Fund through LD 839, which will help offset ratepayer expenses. Additional reforms have been carried over, and I will continue working to provide further relief.

I also supported legislation aimed at providing property tax relief for Maine seniors. LD 1144 would have reinstated the Property Tax Stabilization Program, allowing eligible seniors to freeze property taxes on their primary residence while fully reimbursing municipalities. Although the bill did not pass, I believe helping older Mainers remain in their homes is essential and will continue advocating for solutions to ease the property tax burden.

Thank you again for placing your trust in me as your State Senator. Please feel free to contact my office at (207) 287-1505 if you have questions, comments, or need assistance with a state matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Bruce Bickford'.

Bruce Bickford
State Senator, District 20

Taxation Committee
*State House (207) 287-1505 * Fax (207) 287-1527 * Toll Free 1-800-423-6900 * TTY 711*
*Bruce.Bickford@legislature.maine.gov * legislature.maine.gov/senate*



Kilton Webb

Cell: (207) 458-0172

Kilton.Webb@legislature.maine.gov

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION

AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: MAINE RELAY 711

March 9, 2026

Dear Durham Neighbors:

It continues to be an honor to serve you in the Maine House of Representatives. I am proud to be your advocate in Augusta.

Since taking office, one of the biggest issues I've heard loud and clear from constituents is that the rising cost of living is making it harder for working families to make ends meet. Household budgets just aren't going as far as they used to, and it's making it difficult for everyday Mainers to afford to build their lives here.

In 2025, the Legislature put working families first by passing measures to protect critical investments in health care, food security, education, child care and housing. But we still have a lot more work to do. This year, I will continue fighting for real solutions to help address the problems facing families here in our district and across the state, including tackling the rising costs of housing, health care, child care and energy.

As of this writing, we have begun the second year of the two-year term. Over the next few months, we will consider hundreds of bills before we adjourn, which will likely be in mid-April. Once again, I am proud to serve on the Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee, where we will work to develop energy policies that lower costs, improve the efficiency of our electric system and work to meet our climate goals.

If there is anything I can do to be of assistance to you or your family, please feel welcome to reach out. I always enjoy connecting with constituents – whether you have concerns about local matters, questions about state programs or would like to discuss your thoughts on legislation. I can be reached at Kilton.Webb@legislature.maine.gov and (207) 458-0172.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kilton Webb'.

Kilton Webb
State Representative

District 98: Durham, Pownal, and parts of Bowdoin, Lisbon and Topsham

**July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027
Proposed Budget**



Proposed

Town of Durham FY2027 Budget

SUMMARY	FY2024 Actual	FY2026 Budget	FY2026 Actual YTD	FY2027 Budget	FY26 - FY27 % Norm Var
Funding Requirements					
General Government	\$ 669,172	\$ 1,143,060	\$ 730,175	\$ 821,165	7.8%
Public Safety	595,041	1,055,920	632,884	776,090	10.2%
Public Works	1,830,490	2,880,550	1,633,214	1,959,352	2.0%
Community Services	16,100	1,000	755	1,000	50.0%
Town-wide	8,239,085	12,509,067	8,801,915	9,745,518	16.9%
Total Funding Requirements	11,349,888	17,589,597	11,798,943	13,303,125	13.4%
Less: Funding Sources					
Excise Taxes	1,144,570	1,721,000	1,215,747	1,286,300	12.1%
Permits and Fees	87,349	129,100	155,375	160,500	86.5%
Intergovernmental	1,029,404	1,383,792	1,022,583	1,001,221	8.5%
Charges for Services	196,579	279,370	174,278	291,120	56.3%
Other Revenues	152,144	252,000	166,658	160,000	-4.8%
Other Financing Sources	-	-	-	-	
Total Funding Sources	2,610,046	3,765,262	2,734,641	2,899,141	15.5%
Equals: Deficit (Surplus) Before Changes in Fund Balance and Taxes	8,739,842	13,824,335	9,064,302	10,403,984	12.9%
Additions to (Use of) Fund Balance	(419,291)	(740,000)	4,044,299	(500,000)	1.4%
Equals: Property Tax Levy	\$ 8,320,551	\$ 13,084,335	\$ 13,108,601	\$ 9,903,984	13.5%
Taxable Valuation (\$ thousands)	\$ 382,819	\$ 389,647	\$ 389,647	\$ 389,647	0.0%
Mil Rate (per \$1,000)	\$ 21.750	\$ 33.580	\$ 33.580	\$ 25.418	13.5%

Town of Durham

Proposed

FY2027 Budget

Categorized Expenditures	FY2024		FY2026		FY2026 Actual YTD	FY2027 Budget	FY26 - FY27 % Norm Var
	Actual	Budget	Budget	Budget			
Wages and Benefits							
Administration	\$ 322,965	\$ 526,700	\$ 338,100	\$ 406,160		15.7%	
Planning and Code Enforcement	110,520	184,310	117,195	102,060		-16.9%	
Fire Department	380,673	721,220	406,129	545,790		13.5%	
Public Works	532,798	846,850	481,141	782,170		38.5%	
Municipal Buildings	6,150	14,000	6,786	11,270		20.8%	
Total Wages and Benefits	1,353,106	2,293,080	1,349,351	1,847,450		20.8%	
Fixed Costs							
Education*	6,088,292	10,271,448	6,725,078	7,807,619		10.1%	
Debt service*	782,712	805,318	638,635	624,111		-1.8%	
County tax*	742,140	816,323	816,323	918,788		12.6%	
Contracts and set fees	717,528	1,206,450	740,126	860,915		7.0%	
Utilities and fuel	96,764	196,250	99,096	110,930		-15.2%	
Total Fixed Costs	8,427,436	13,295,789	9,019,258	10,322,363		8.9%	
Variable and Discretionary Costs							
Roads maintenance	617,060	851,450	506,476	413,562		-27.1%	
Transfers to reserves	616,836	595,652	593,652	395,000		-0.5%	
Supplies and equipment	67,152	91,150	58,475	73,350		20.7%	
Abatements and bad debt	9,105	20,326	28,227	-		-100.0%	
Community services	16,100	1,000	755	1,000		50.0%	
All other expenditures	243,093	441,150	242,749	250,400		-14.9%	
Total Variable and Discretionary Costs	1,569,346	2,000,728	1,430,334	1,133,312		-15.0%	
Total Expenditures	\$ 11,349,888	\$ 17,589,597	\$ 11,798,943	\$ 13,303,125		7.8%	

* The % Norm Var calculation for Education, Debt Service, and County Tax are based on 12-month comparisons instead of the conversion of FY26 budget amount (representing 18 months) to a 12-month figure by multiplying the figure by 2/3rds. This is a more appropriate comparison for these three categories because the expenditures are paid out ratably over the year, as all other expenditure categories are.

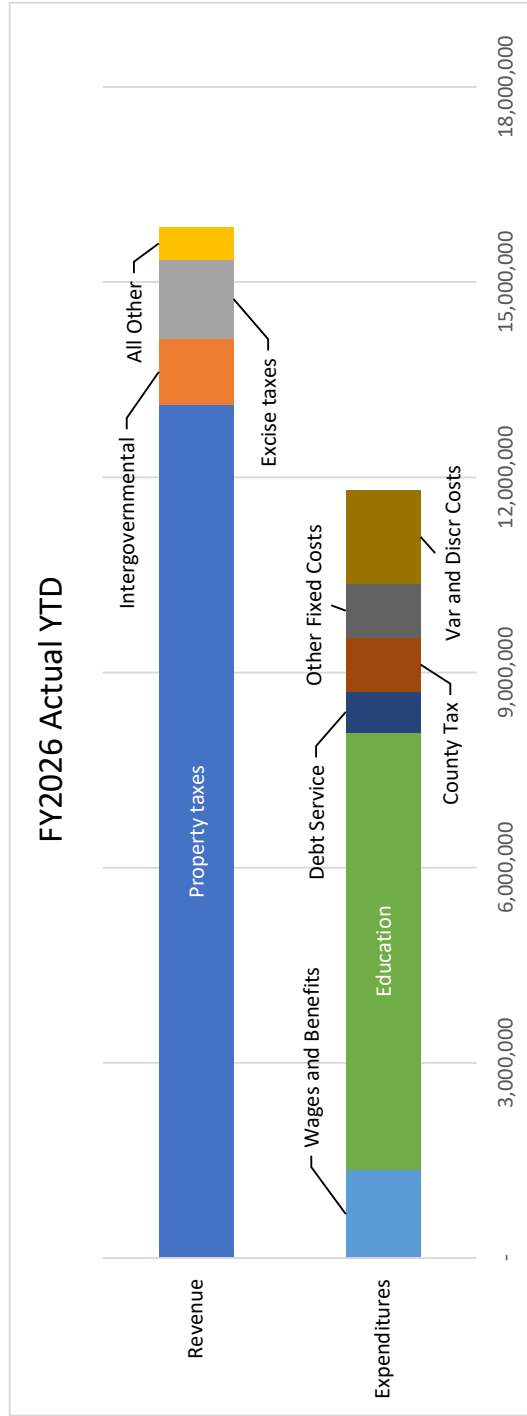
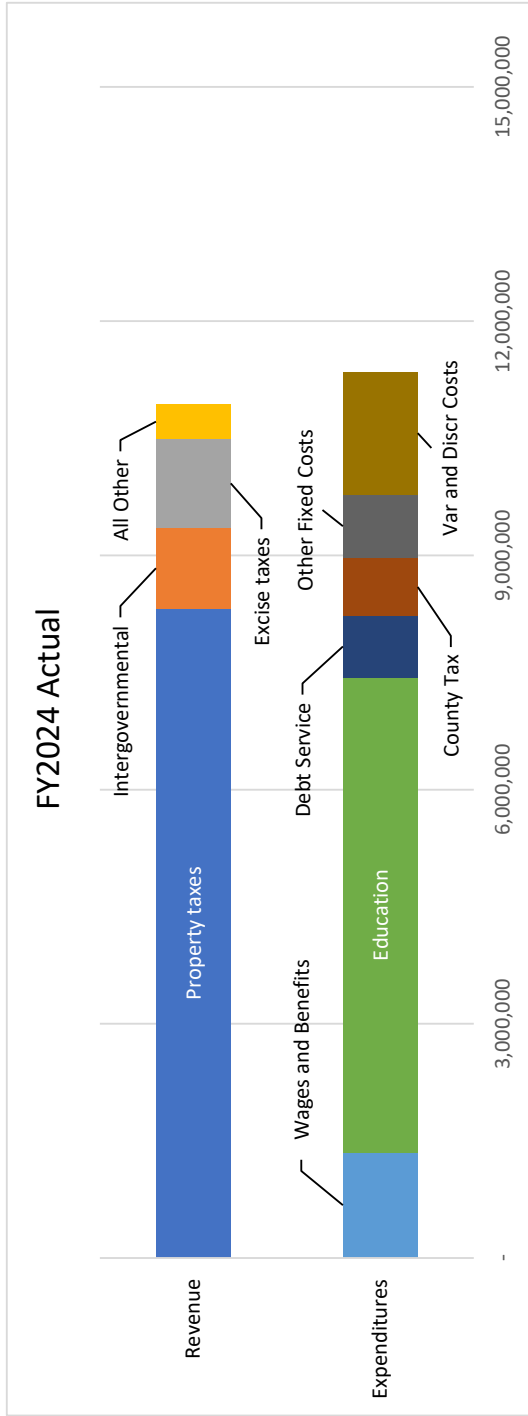
Town of Durham

Proposed

FY2027 Budget

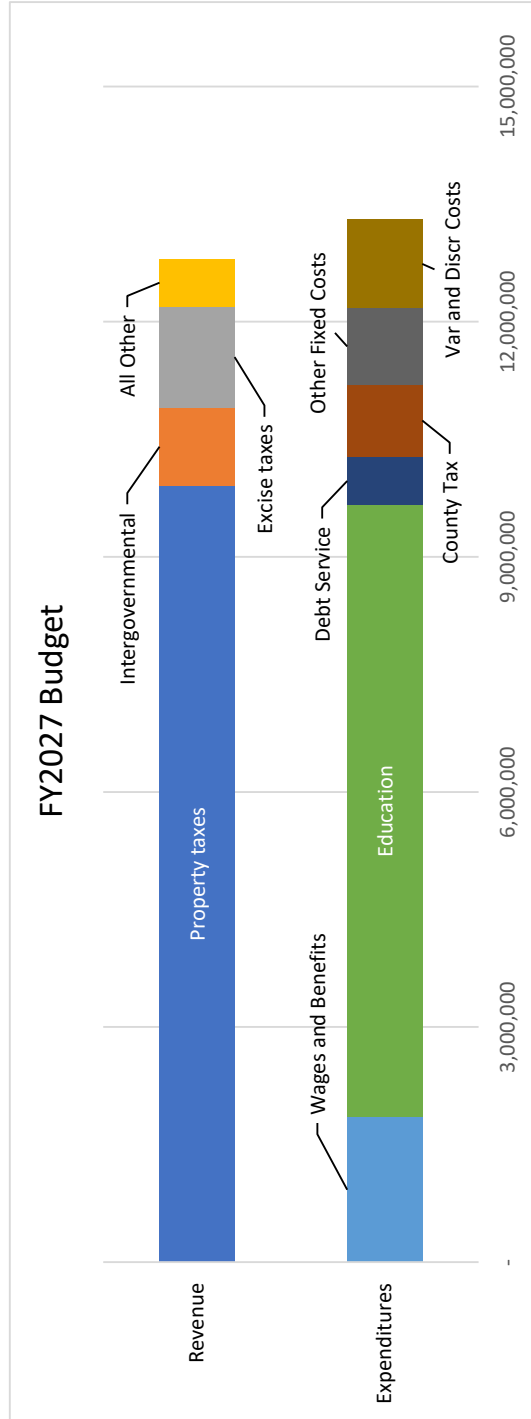
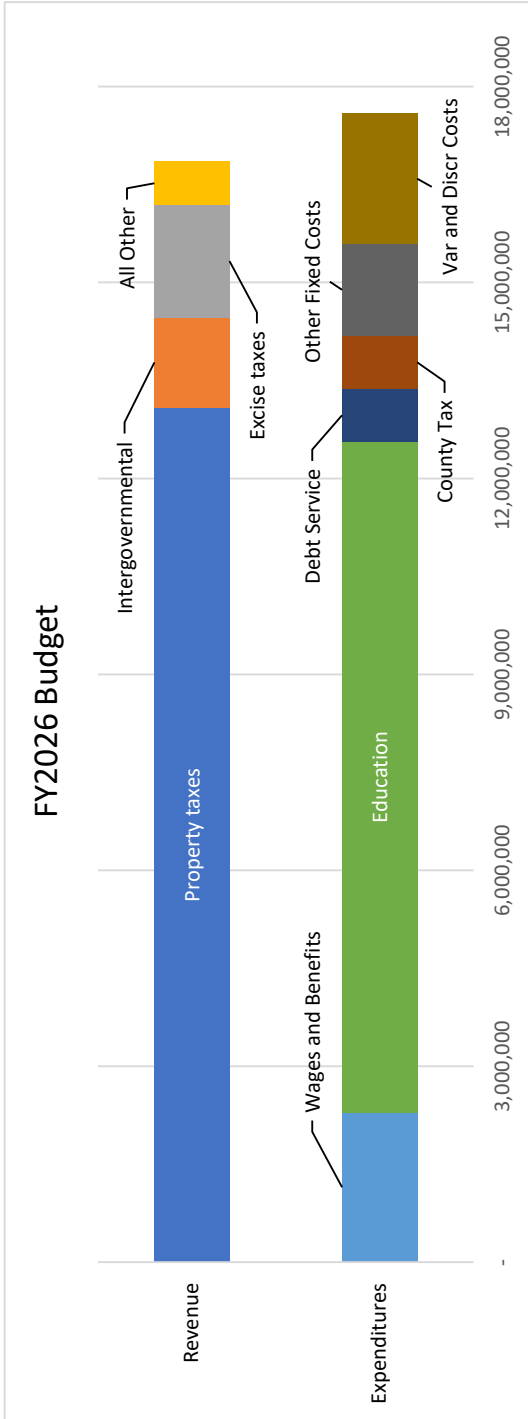
Category % of Total Expenditures	FY2024 Actual	FY2026 Budget	FY2026 Actual YTD	FY2027 Budget
Wages and Benefits				
Administration	2.8%	3.0%	2.9%	3.1%
Planning and Code Enforcement	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	0.8%
Fire Department	3.4%	4.1%	3.4%	4.1%
Public Works	4.7%	4.8%	4.1%	5.9%
Municipal Buildings	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Total Wages and Benefits	11.9%	13.0%	11.4%	13.9%
Fixed Costs				
Education	53.6%	58.4%	57.0%	58.7%
Debt service	6.9%	4.6%	5.4%	4.7%
County tax	6.5%	4.6%	6.9%	6.9%
Contracts and set fees	6.3%	6.9%	6.3%	6.5%
Utilities and fuel	0.9%	1.1%	0.8%	0.8%
Total Fixed Costs	74.3%	75.6%	76.4%	77.6%
Variable and Discretionary Costs				
Roads maintenance	5.4%	4.8%	4.3%	3.1%
Transfers to reserves	5.4%	3.4%	5.0%	3.0%
Supplies and equipment	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%	0.6%
Abatements and bad debt	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%
Community services	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
All other expenditures	2.1%	2.5%	2.1%	1.9%
Total Variable and Discretionary Costs	13.8%	11.4%	12.1%	8.5%
Total Expenditures	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Proposed Town of Durham
FY2027 Budget



**Town of Durham
FY2027 Budget**

Proposed



Proposed

Town of Durham FY2027 Budget

FUNDING SOURCES	FY2024		FY2026		FY2027		FY26 - FY27	
	Actual	Budget	Actual YTD	Budget	Budget	Budget	% Norm Var	% Norm Var
Excise Taxes								
01-00-6100 Motor Vehicle Excise	\$ 1,140,564	\$ 1,715,000	\$ 1,209,565	\$ 1,280,000	\$ 1,280,000		12.0%	
01-00-6105 Other Excise	4,006	6,000	6,182	6,300	6,300		57.5%	
Total Excise Taxes	1,144,570	1,721,000	1,215,747	1,286,300	1,286,300		12.1%	
Permits and Fees								
01-00-6200 Town Clerk Fees	30,356	45,000	37,454	40,000	40,000		33.3%	
01-00-6205 Lien Fees	1,380	2,000	2,744	3,000	3,000		125.0%	
01-00-6210 Planning Board Fees	10,671	15,500	5,450	6,000	6,000		-41.9%	
01-00-6215 Code Enforcement Fees	43,395	65,000	108,493	110,000	110,000		153.8%	
01-00-6220 Dog Licenses	1,273	1,600	1,034	1,200	1,200		12.5%	
01-00-6299 Miscellaneous Permits and Fees	274	-	200	300	300			
Total Permits and Fees	87,349	129,100	155,375	160,500	160,500		86.5%	
Intergovernmental								
01-00-6300 State Revenue Sharing	680,649	904,908	627,527	613,619	613,619		1.7%	
01-00-6305 Homestead Exemption	262,933	391,917	279,199	280,000	280,000		7.2%	
01-00-6310 Business Equipment Tax Exemption	4,460	3,167	3,177	3,200	3,200		51.6%	
01-00-6315 Veterans Exemption	2,743	2,800	2,329	2,400	2,400		28.6%	
01-00-6320 Tree Growth	11,301	12,000	-	12,000	12,000		50.0%	
01-00-6325 Local Road Assistance Program	63,916	65,000	87,652	87,652	87,652		102.3%	
01-00-6330 Snowmobile Program	2,032	4,000	1,701	1,800	1,800		-32.5%	
01-00-6345 General Assistance	-	-	528	550	550			
01-00-6399 Miscellaneous Intergovernmental	1,370	-	20,470	-	-			
Total Intergovernmental	1,029,404	1,383,792	1,022,583	1,001,221	1,001,221		8.5%	

Proposed

Town of Durham FY2027 Budget

FUNDING SOURCES	FY2024		FY2026		FY2026	FY2027	FY26 - FY27
	Actual	Budget	Budget	Actual YTD	Budget	Budget	% Norm Var
Charges for Services							
01-00-6425 Eureka Rental Fees	\$ 2,350	\$ 3,250	\$	2,150	2,400	2,400	10.8%
01-00-6430 Cemetery Lots	60	-	-	600	600	600	50.0%
01-00-6450 Junkyard Fees	120	120	120	120	120	120	275.0%
01-00-6451 User Fees and Trash Tags	38,661	50,000	50,000	22,140	125,000	33,000	-2.9%
01-00-6460 Cable Franchise Fees	37,462	51,000	51,000	34,072	129,000	129,000	10.6%
01-00-6470 Ambulance Fees	117,780	175,000	175,000	112,963	1,000	1,000	
01-00-6499 Misc Charges for Services	146	-	-	2,233			
Total Charges for Services	196,579	279,370	279,370	174,278	291,120	291,120	56.3%
Other Revenues							
01-00-6900 Interest on Property Taxes	34,716	52,000	52,000	37,007	40,000	40,000	15.4%
01-00-6910 Interest Income	112,776	200,000	200,000	102,455	115,000	115,000	-13.8%
01-00-6950 Private Donations	-	-	-	-	-	-	
01-00-6999 Miscellaneous Revenue	4,652	-	-	27,196	5,000	5,000	
Total Other Revenues	152,144	252,000	252,000	166,658	160,000	160,000	-4.8%
Other Financing Sources							
01-00-8000 Transfers In	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total Other Financing Sources	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL FUNDING SOURCES	\$ 2,610,046	\$ 3,765,262	\$ 3,765,262	\$ 2,734,641	\$ 2,899,141	\$ 2,899,141	15.5%

Proposed

Town of Durham FY2027 Budget

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS		FY2024		FY2026		FY2026		FY2027		FY26 - FY27	
		Actual	Budget	Actual YTD	Budget	Actual YTD	Budget	Budget	% Norm Var		
General Government											
20	Administration	\$ 480,279	\$ 808,250	\$ 499,317	\$ 808,250	\$ 499,317	\$ 608,340				12.9%
23	Assessing	19,669	32,700	25,434	32,700	25,434	26,800				22.9%
26	Information Technology	54,301	108,600	84,580	108,600	84,580	77,515				7.1%
27	Planning and Code Enforcement	114,923	193,510	120,844	193,510	120,844	108,510				-15.9%
	Total General Government	669,172	1,143,060	730,175	1,143,060	730,175	821,165				7.8%
Public Safety											
30	Fire Department	582,702	1,026,920	601,894	1,026,920	601,894	753,490				10.1%
39	Other Public Safety	12,339	29,000	30,990	29,000	30,990	22,600				16.9%
	Total Public Safety	595,041	1,055,920	632,884	1,055,920	632,884	776,090				10.2%
Public Works											
40	Public Works	1,363,564	2,102,500	1,188,799	2,102,500	1,188,799	1,419,582				1.3%
41	Municipal Buildings	20,138	52,250	26,411	52,250	26,411	38,720				11.2%
42	Solid Waste	446,788	725,800	418,004	725,800	418,004	501,050				3.6%
	Total Public Works	1,830,490	2,880,550	1,633,214	2,880,550	1,633,214	1,959,352				2.0%
Community Services											
69	Other Community Services	16,100	1,000	755	1,000	755	1,000				50.0%
	Total Community Services	16,100	1,000	755	1,000	755	1,000				50.0%

Proposed

Town of Durham FY2027 Budget

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS		FY2024 Actual	FY2026 Budget	FY2026 Actual YTD	FY2027 Budget	FY26 - FY27 % Norm Var
Town-wide						
92	Debt Service	782,712	805,318	638,635	624,111	16.2%
96	Assessments and Fixed Costs	6,830,432	11,087,771	7,541,401	8,726,407	18.1%
97	Abatements and Bad Debt	9,105	20,326	28,227	-	-100.0%
99	Other Financing Uses	616,836	595,652	593,652	395,000	-0.5%
	Total Town-wide	8,239,085	12,509,067	8,801,915	9,745,518	16.9%
TOTAL FUNDING REQUIREMENTS		\$ 11,349,888	\$ 17,589,597	\$ 11,798,943	\$ 13,303,125	13.4%

Town of Durham
FY2027 Budget

Proposed

General Government Administration	FY2024		FY2026		FY2026	FY2027	FY26 - FY27	
	Actual	Budget	Actual YTD	Budget	Actual YTD	Budget	% Norm	Var
01-20-7000 Department Head Wages	\$ 111,450	\$ 171,420	\$ 114,278		\$ 127,820		11.8%	
01-20-7015 Full Time Staff Wages	116,143	217,950	134,559		167,170		15.1%	
01-20-7020 Part Time Staff Wages	26,509	-	-		-			
01-20-7026 Election Worker Wages	7,080	6,600	4,892		4,530		3.0%	
01-20-7030 Elected Official Wages	11,017	15,480	9,249		12,600		22.1%	
01-20-7050 Payroll Taxes	8,327	11,490	7,041		8,740		14.1%	
01-20-7055 Health Insurance	19,819	67,030	45,017		50,370		12.7%	
01-20-7070 Workers Comp	3,541	2,420	994		1,830		13.4%	
01-20-7072 Unemployment	-	-	-		3,000			
01-20-7075 Retirement	19,079	34,310	22,070		30,100		31.6%	
01-20-7105 Training and Development	2,395	6,000	3,919		3,000		-25.0%	
01-20-7110 Travel and Mileage	52	500	373		600		80.0%	
01-20-7200 Heat	1,328	3,750	1,204		1,500		-40.0%	
01-20-7201 Electricity	3,432	6,000	2,788		3,500		-12.5%	
01-20-7210 Telephone and Internet	4,419	7,000	5,805		3,630		-22.2%	
01-20-7220 Legal	8,505	22,500	11,976		15,000		0.0%	
01-20-7221 Auditor	15,000	17,000	11,500		22,050		94.6%	
01-20-7222 Business Services	30,854	65,000	30,021		45,000		3.8%	
01-20-7223 Payroll Processing Services	4,916	10,000	4,284		5,500		-17.5%	
01-20-7250 Equipment Rentals	3,840	5,000	2,199		2,400		-28.0%	
01-20-7253 Building Repairs and Maint	3,375	7,500	2,131		5,000		0.0%	
01-20-7340 General Insurance	45,081	72,000	46,834		50,000		4.2%	
01-20-7350 Advertising	-	1,500	-		1,000		0.0%	
01-20-7351 Printing and Copying	4,629	10,000	4,530		6,500		-2.5%	
01-20-7352 Postage and Freight	4,449	7,000	5,876		6,500		39.3%	
01-20-7354 Dues and Subscriptions	15,505	22,000	16,825		17,000		15.9%	
01-20-7400 General Supplies	4,020	7,000	3,585		4,500		-3.6%	
01-20-7800 Lien Costs	2,150	3,000	1,955		2,500		25.0%	
01-20-7801 Election Costs	2,375	3,000	877		2,000		0.0%	
01-20-7999 Miscellaneous Expenditures	989	5,800	4,535		5,000		29.3%	
Total Administration	480,279	808,250	499,317		608,340		12.9%	

Proposed

Town of Durham FY2027 Budget

General Government		FY2024 Actual	FY2026 Budget	FY2026 Actual YTD	FY2027 Budget	FY26 - FY27 % Norm Var
Assessing						
01-23-7228	Mapping	203	2,800	5,998	3,700	98.2%
01-23-7235	Assessing Services	18,800	28,800	19,200	20,400	6.3%
01-23-7356	Software Licenses	-	-	-	2,000	
01-23-7400	General Supplies	-	250	-	150	-10.0%
01-23-7802	Deeds Costs	426	600	236	400	0.0%
01-23-7999	Miscellaneous Expenditures	240	250	-	150	-10.0%
	Total Assessing	19,669	32,700	25,434	26,800	22.9%
Information Technology						
01-26-7212	IT Services	\$ 17,496	\$ 51,000	\$ 37,642	\$ 31,000	-8.8%
01-26-7213	Website	5,696	10,100	6,045	5,015	-25.5%
01-26-7356	Software Licenses	27,359	40,000	39,275	30,000	12.5%
01-26-7358	Text Messaging Service	-	-	-	4,000	
01-26-7404	Hardware	3,750	7,500	1,618	7,500	50.0%
	Total Information Technology	54,301	108,600	84,580	77,515	7.1%

Town of Durham
FY2027 Budget

Proposed

	FY2024 Actual	FY2026 Budget	FY2026 Actual YTD	FY2027 Budget	FY26 - FY27 % Norm Var
General Government					
Planning and Code Enforcement					
01-27-7015 Full Time Staff Wages	58,042	93,810	60,197	-	-100.0%
01-27-7020 Part Time Staff Wages	40,390	65,100	40,010	73,780	70.0%
01-27-7035 Committee Member Wages	1,100	5,400	2,460	3,600	0.0%
01-27-7050 Payroll Taxes	3,655	8,430	5,202	5,390	-4.1%
01-27-7055 Health Insurance	1,797	2,430	1,738	16,670	929.0%
01-27-7070 Workers Comp	-	870	2,206	450	-22.4%
01-27-7075 Retirement	5,536	8,270	5,382	2,170	-60.6%
01-27-7105 Training and Development	-	-	-	800	-
01-27-7110 Travel and Mileage	1,982	3,000	2,143	-	-100.0%
01-27-7350 Advertising	365	700	257	450	-3.6%
01-27-7352 Postage and Freight	264	1,500	11	1,000	0.0%
01-27-7354 Dues and Subscriptions	658	1,750	886	1,700	45.7%
01-27-7357 E-Code Maintenance	-	-	-	1,500	-
01-27-7400 General Supplies	650	1,500	352	500	-50.0%
01-27-7999 Miscellaneous Expenditures	484	750	-	500	0.0%
Total Planning and Code Enforcement	114,923	193,510	120,844	108,510	-15.9%
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$ 669,172	\$ 1,143,060	\$ 730,175	\$ 821,165	7.8%

Proposed

Town of Durham FY2027 Budget

	FY2024		FY2026		FY2026		FY2027		FY26 - FY27	
	Actual	Budget	Actual YTD	Budget	Actual YTD	Budget	Budget	% Norm Var		
Public Safety										
Fire Department										
01-30-7000	\$ 80,664	\$ 125,810	\$ 77,112	\$ 98,530				17.5%		
01-30-7015	-	-	-	45,760						
01-30-7016	-	-	-	5,000						
01-30-7020	232,391	458,850	258,473	300,000				-1.9%		
01-30-7050	19,055	42,800	24,656	29,940				4.9%		
01-30-7055	2,440	3,750	2,380	2,400				-4.0%		
01-30-7070	35,273	64,320	29,980	49,430				15.3%		
01-30-7075	7,370	11,090	7,268	14,730				99.2%		
01-30-7100	3,480	14,600	6,260	-				-100.0%		
01-30-7105	4,355	10,000	6,618	8,000				20.0%		
01-30-7200	6,217	10,000	5,531	6,300				-5.5%		
01-30-7201	7,273	12,000	5,998	7,000				-12.5%		
01-30-7210	6,855	13,500	9,725	6,000				-33.3%		
01-30-7229	27,977	35,000	28,051	30,000				28.6%		
01-30-7230	32,876	45,000	27,157	33,000				10.0%		
01-30-7252	25,723	35,000	25,593	28,000				20.0%		
01-30-7253	7,340	18,000	8,674	10,000				-16.7%		
01-30-7255	28,641	60,000	32,399	28,000				-30.0%		
01-30-7354	1,480	4,500	1,734	2,000				-33.3%		
01-30-7356	-	-	-	-						
01-30-7400	1,645	7,200	3,362	3,900				-18.8%		
01-30-7502	4,068	10,000	9,519	10,000				50.0%		
01-30-7504	35,356	25,000	24,522	25,000				50.0%		
01-30-7550	7,872	16,000	3,563	6,500				-39.1%		
01-30-7999	4,351	4,500	3,319	4,000				33.3%		
Total Fire Department	582,702	1,026,920	601,894	753,490				10.1%		

Proposed

Town of Durham FY2027 Budget

Public Safety	FY2024 Actual	FY2026 Budget	FY2026 Actual YTD	FY2027 Budget	FY26 - FY27 % Norm Var
Other Public Safety					
01-39-7239 Targeted Enforcement	-	-	-	-	
01-39-7240 Animal Control	12,339	29,000	30,990	22,600	16.9%
Total Other Public Safety	12,339	29,000	30,990	22,600	16.9%
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	\$ 595,041	\$ 1,055,920	\$ 632,884	\$ 776,090	10.2%

Proposed
Town of Durham
FY2027 Budget

	FY2024		FY2026		FY2026		FY2027		FY26 - FY27	
	Actual	Budget	Actual YTD	Budget	Actual YTD	Budget	Budget	% Norm Var		
Public Works										
Public Works										
01-40-7000	\$	76,919	\$	119,820	\$	78,790	\$	98,530		23.3%
01-40-7015		247,396		378,650		216,748		320,880		27.1%
01-40-7016		23,053		46,420		27,353		39,330		27.1%
01-40-7020		21,103		34,160		16,439		69,060		203.2%
01-40-7050		6,039		16,370		9,218		15,940		46.1%
01-40-7055		97,652		166,840		83,571		158,910		42.9%
01-40-7070		28,740		34,800		19,555		30,530		31.6%
01-40-7075		30,396		47,990		28,747		48,990		53.1%
01-40-7100		1,500		1,800		720		-		-100.0%
01-40-7105		1,050		2,250		750		1,500		0.0%
01-40-7200		5,819		10,000		6,646		7,550		13.3%
01-40-7201		6,744		10,500		10,752		11,700		67.1%
01-40-7210		4,747		8,000		5,131		4,500		-15.6%
01-40-7249		9,491		40,000		13,525		5,000		-81.3%
01-40-7250		9,779		15,000		5,609		11,000		10.0%
01-40-7252		30,624		60,000		35,347		40,000		0.0%
01-40-7253		12,319		15,000		5,887		10,000		0.0%
01-40-7254		6,306		-		-		-		-
01-40-7255		73,311		120,000		66,266		65,000		-18.8%
01-40-7256		3,500		9,000		-		5,000		-16.7%
01-40-7257		379,157		400,000		284,555		152,062		-43.0%
01-40-7258		18,858		20,000		19,205		21,000		57.5%
01-40-7259		15,000		20,000		19,420		25,000		87.5%
01-40-7400		4,063		6,750		3,519		4,000		-11.1%
01-40-7450		133,120		294,000		136,473		143,500		-26.8%
01-40-7451		14,854		32,000		16,185		16,000		-25.0%
01-40-7452		6,456		7,000		-		7,000		50.0%
01-40-7454		29,317		46,500		16,280		25,000		-19.4%
01-40-7455		3,688		5,200		539		4,000		15.4%
01-40-7456		4,047		6,000		5,420		5,000		25.0%
01-40-7457		5,000		5,000		4,880		6,000		80.0%
01-40-7500		2,502		5,200		2,300		2,500		-27.9%

Proposed

Town of Durham FY2027 Budget

	FY2024 Actual	FY2026 Budget	FY2026 Actual YTD	FY2027 Budget	FY26 - FY27 % Norm Var
Public Works					
Public Works					
01-40-7501 Tools	\$ 689	\$ 1,500	\$ 59	\$ 1,000	0.0%
01-40-7502 Radios	572	3,000	840	1,500	-25.0%
01-40-7503 Uniforms	2,932	6,500	864	5,200	20.0%
01-40-7504 Safety Equipment	3,252	4,500	3,504	2,600	-13.3%
01-40-7549 Miscellaneous Equipment	7,325	11,250	7,430	8,500	13.3%
01-40-7550 Gas and Diesel	35,639	90,000	35,520	45,000	-25.0%
01-40-7999 Miscellaneous Expenditures	605	1,500	752	1,300	30.0%
Total Public Works	1,363,564	2,102,500	1,188,799	1,419,582	1.3%
Municipal Buildings					
01-41-7020 Part Time Staff Wages	\$ 5,713	\$ 12,420	\$ 6,098	\$ 10,000	20.8%
01-41-7050 Payroll Taxes	437	1,080	529	870	20.8%
01-41-7070 Workers Comp	-	500	159	400	20.0%
01-41-7200 Heat	-	500	77	250	-25.0%
01-41-7201 Electricity	5,763	9,000	6,356	7,500	25.0%
01-41-7210 Telephone and Internet	656	-	-	-	-
01-41-7253 Building Repairs and Maint	4,617	8,500	3,970	5,000	-11.8%
01-41-7254 Grounds Maintenance	-	15,000	4,996	10,000	0.0%
01-41-7362 Security	1,698	1,500	1,020	1,200	20.0%
01-41-7400 General Supplies	391	750	520	500	0.0%
01-41-7808 Flags	863	3,000	2,686	3,000	50.0%
Total Municipal Buildings	20,138	52,250	26,411	38,720	11.2%

Proposed

Town of Durham

FY2027 Budget

	FY2024 Actual	FY2026 Budget	FY2026 Actual YTD	FY2027 Budget	FY26 - FY27 % Norm Var
Public Works					
Solid Waste					
01-42-7231 Hauling	429,673	690,000	400,375	421,000	-8.5%
01-42-7233 Trash Bin Management	-	-	-	80,050	-100.0%
01-42-7407 Tags	2,080	3,000	-	-	-100.0%
01-42-7815 Bulky Waste Day	15,035	32,800	17,629	-	-100.0%
Total Solid Waste	446,788	725,800	418,004	501,050	3.6%
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	\$ 1,830,490	\$ 2,880,550	\$ 1,633,214	\$ 1,959,352	2.0%

Proposed

Town of Durham

FY2027 Budget

	FY2024 Actual	FY2026 Budget	FY2026 Actual YTD	FY2027 Budget	FY26 - FY27 % Norm Var
Community Services					
Other Community Services					
01-69-7805 General Assistance	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 755	\$ 1,000	50.0%
01-69-7807 Outside Organizations	16,100	-	-	-	
Total Other Community Services	16,100	1,000	755	1,000	50.0%
TOTAL COMMUNITY SERVICES	\$ 16,100	\$ 1,000	\$ 755	\$ 1,000	50.0%

Town of Durham
FY2027 Budget

Proposed

Town-wide	FY2024 Actual	FY2026 Budget	FY2026 Actual YTD	FY2027 Budget	FY26 - FY27 % Norm Var
Debt Service					
01-92-7900 Debt Service Principal	693,296	698,798	569,359	580,443	24.6%
01-92-7901 Debt Service Interest	89,416	106,520	69,276	43,668	-38.5%
Total Debt Service	782,712	805,318	638,635	624,111	16.2%
Assessments and Fixed Costs					
01-96-7910 County Tax	742,140	816,323	816,323	918,788	12.6%
01-96-7915 Education	6,088,292	10,271,448	6,725,078	7,807,619	14.0%
Total Assessments and Fixed Costs	6,830,432	11,087,771	7,541,401	8,726,407	18.1%
Abateements and Bad Debt					
01-97-7970 Tax Abateements	9,105	20,326	28,227	-	-100.0%
Total Abateements and Bad Debt	9,105	20,326	28,227	-	-100.0%
Other Financing Uses					
01-00-8500 Transfers Out	616,836	595,652	593,652	395,000	-0.5%
Total Other Financing Uses	616,836	595,652	593,652	395,000	-0.5%
TOTAL TOWN-WIDE	\$ 8,239,085	\$ 12,509,067	\$ 8,801,915	\$ 9,745,518	16.9%

Proposed

Town of Durham FY2027 Budget

Fund #	Fund Name	FY2026 Beginning Balance	Projected Revenue	Projected Txfrs In (Out)	Projected Expenditures	Projected Ending Balance
01	General Fund	\$ 3,238,948	\$ 17,001,318	\$ (593,651)	\$ (16,494,793)	\$ 3,151,822
10	ARPA Fund	114,887	-	-	(114,887)	-
12	River Park Donations Fund	8,201	443	-	-	8,644
13	Scholarships Fund	12,129	817	-	(1,000)	11,946
14	Heating Assistance Fund	13,145	200	-	-	13,345
15	Giving Tree Fund	-	470	-	-	470
16	Historic District Commission Fund	1,330	-	-	-	1,330
17	Jackson-Tupper Memorial Fund	123	-	-	-	123
	Total Restricted	149,815	1,930	-	(115,887)	35,858
18	Contingency Fund	16,953	-	33,047	-	50,000
19	Grants Matching Fund	26,848	-	3,152	(4,224)	25,776
20	Recreation Fund	23,742	-	-	(4,000)	19,742
21	Telecommunications Fund	73,531	-	(73,531)	-	-
22	Revaluation Fund	220,000	-	-	-	220,000
23	Grants Non-Matching Fund	-	30,976	-	(30,976)	-
50	Eureka Capital Fund	53,719	-	(43,017)	(10,702)	-
51	Fire Rescue Capital Fund	322,091	25,898	270,000	(50,271)	567,718
52	Municipal Building Capital Fund	70,886	-	98,500	(22,242)	147,144
53	Public Works Capital Fund	329,800	-	305,500	(345,369)	289,931
54	Union Church Restoration Fund	31,825	572	-	(25,620)	6,777
	Total Committed	1,169,395	57,446	593,651	(493,404)	1,327,088
90	Cemetery Permanent Fund	7,907	427	-	-	8,334
	Total Governmental Fund Balances	\$ 4,566,065	\$ 17,061,121	\$ -	\$ (17,104,084)	\$ 4,523,102

Notes

- A
- B
- C

This page intentionally left blank.

2026 Durham Town Warrant



FISCAL YEAR 2027 DURHAM TOWN WARRANT ARTICLES

To: Kevin Merrill, a resident of the Town of Durham, Androscoggin County, State of Maine

Greetings:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Durham in said county and state, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to assemble at The AMVETS Hall, 1049 Royalsborough Road, Durham, Maine on Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 7:45 a.m., then and there to act upon Article 1 and by secret ballot on Article 2 as set out below. Polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Further, to notify and warn said inhabitants to assemble at Durham Community School on Saturday, June 13th, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., then and there to act upon Articles 3 through 30 as set out to wit:

- Article 1** To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.
- Article 2** To elect all municipal officers, school committee members, and budget committee members as are required to be elected.
- Article 3** To see if the town will allow non-residents, who have information pertaining to any following articles, to speak when recognized.
- Article 4** To see if the Town will vote in the event that any proposed budget articles in this warrant are not approved, the Town is authorized to raise and appropriate for the same purposes as previously approved an amount not to exceed the twelve (12) month equivalent of the 2026 Municipal Budget, said equivalent to be determined by dividing the eighteen (18) month budget by one and one-half.

OPERATING BUDGET ARTICLES

Note that all requested amounts to be raised and appropriated below are for a twelve-month period running from July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027. This period is referred to “Fiscal Year 2027” in these warrant articles.

FISCAL YEAR 2027 DURHAM TOWN WARRANT ARTICLES

Article 5 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$821,165** for General Government.

	FY26 Appr	FY27 Req
Administration	\$ 808,250	\$ 608,340
Assessing	\$ 32,700	\$ 26,800
Information Technology	\$ 108,600	\$ 77,515
Planning and Code Enforcement	\$ 193,510	\$ 108,510

Select Board recommends \$821,165.

Budget Committee recommends \$763,309.

Article 6 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$776,090** for Public Safety.

	FY26 Appr	FY27 Req
Fire Department	\$ 1,026,920	\$ 753,490
Animal Control	\$ 29,000	\$ 22,600

Select Board recommends \$776,090.

Budget Committee recommends \$745,485.

Article 7 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$1,979,352** for Public Works.

	FY26 Appr	FY27 Req
Public Works	\$ 2,102,500	\$ 1,419,582
Municipal Buildings & Grounds	\$ 52,250	\$ 38,720
Solid Waste Hauling	\$ 725,800	\$ 521,050

Select Board recommends \$1,979,352.

Budget Committee recommends \$1,922,727.

Article 8 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$1,000** for Community Services.

	FY26 Appr	FY27 Req
General Assistance	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000

Select Board and Budget Committee recommend \$1,000.

FISCAL YEAR 2027 DURHAM TOWN WARRANT ARTICLES

Article 9 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$624,111** for Debt Service.

	<u>FY26 Appr</u>	<u>FY27 Req</u>
Debt Service	\$ 805,318	\$ 624,111

Select Board and Budget Committee recommend 624,111.

ADDITIONS TO RESERVES ARTICLES

Article 10 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$140,000** for the Fire Department Capital Reserve, an existing non-lapsing capital reserve fund from which the Select Board may expend for the designated purpose of the reserve.

Select Board recommends \$140,000.
Budget Committee recommends \$40,000.

Article 11 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$250,000** for the Public Works Capital Reserve, an existing non-lapsing capital reserve fund from which the Select Board may expend for the designated purpose of the reserve.

Select Board and Budget Committee recommend \$250,000.

Article 12 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$5,000** for the Municipal Buildings Capital Reserve, an existing non-lapsing capital reserve fund from which the Select Board may expend for the designated purpose of the reserve.

Select Board recommends \$5,000.
Budget Committee recommends \$0.

FISCAL YEAR 2027 DURHAM TOWN WARRANT ARTICLES

FUNDING SOURCES ARTICLES

Article 13 To see if the Town will vote to reduce the amounts authorized to be raised in taxes in the previous warrant articles by \$3,651,770 based on estimates for non-tax municipal revenues.

Note: Total Intergovernmental estimates will change based on the state's final projections for State Revenue Sharing and based on Homestead and BETE reimbursement valuations and the selected mil rate.

	<u>FY26 Est</u>	<u>FY27 Est</u>
Excise Taxes	\$ 1,721,000	\$ 1,286,300
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	\$ 129,100	\$ 160,500
Intergovernmental Revenue	\$ 1,383,792	\$ 1,001,221
Charges for Services	\$ 279,370	\$ 296,120
Other Revenues	\$ 252,000	\$ 160,000

Select Board and Budget Committee recommend Approval.

Article 14 To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to appropriate up to **\$500,000** from the General Fund's existing fund balance to reduce the amounts authorized to be raised in taxes in the previous warrant articles.

Select Board recommends \$500,000.

Budget Committee recommends \$350,000.

2026 ORDINANCE WARRANT ARTICLES

PART 1 – MINOR POLICY CHANGES

Article 15 Shall an ordinance entitled "Town of Durham, Land Use Ordinance as Adopted at Town Meeting, April 5th, 2025, Proposed Revisions for Town Meeting, June 13, 2026, PART 1 – MINOR POLICY CHANGES" being enacted as recommended by the Planning Board to address the issues of: 1) back lots & private ways; 2) expansion of nonconforming structures; 3) subdivision road buffers; 4) fire protection water supplies; 5) marijuana growing facilities loophole; 6) State requirements for manufactured housing & accessory apartments; and, 7) road frontage calculations. "Copies are available at the Town Office or online at durhammaine.gov.

FISCAL YEAR 2027 DURHAM TOWN WARRANT ARTICLES

PART 2 – ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES

Article 16 Shall an ordinance entitled "Town of Durham, Land Use Ordinance as Adopted at Town Meeting, April 5th, 2025, Proposed Revisions for Town Meeting, June 13, 2026, PART 2 – ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES" be enacted as recommended by the Planning Board to: 1) update road standards; 2) update driveway standards; 3) reassign zoning boundary determination authority; 4) require subdivision solid waste plans; 5) streamline campground permitting; 6) extend Planning Board submission deadlines & reduce printed copies; 7) allow Select Board corrections of textual errors; 8) require proof of payment of taxes; 9) list conditional use application submissions; and, 10) limit tree clearing in subdivisions before approval. "Copies are available at the Town Office or online at durhammaine.gov.

PART 3 – CODIFICATION OF LAND USE ORDINANCE

Article 17 Shall an ordinance entitled "Town of Durham, Land Use Ordinance as Adopted at Town Meeting, April 5th, 2025, Proposed Revisions for Town Meeting, June 13, 2026, PART 3 – CODIFICATION be enacted to enact a digitized version with editorial changes to be known as the Land Use Code and to incorporate any changes approved in Warrant Articles X and/or Y if approved by voters. "Copies are available at the Town Office or online at durhammaine.gov.

BUSINESS ARTICLES

Article 18 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to appropriate and transfer to the Penguins Snowmobile Club an amount not to exceed the total funds received by the Town from the State for snowmobile registrations, for the purpose of maintaining the Club's network of snowmobile trails: provided that such trails shall be open to the public to snowmobile at all times during the snow season at no charge.

Article 19 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to seek, accept and disburse grant funds from private, state or federal agencies, for the purpose so designated in each specific grant.

Article 20 To see what action the Town will take to fix the rate of interest on delinquent taxes and to establish the dates on which such interest shall begin to accrue. Interest on all unpaid taxes shall begin to accrue on **October 16 and April 16** following the commitment of taxes. The interest rate on delinquent taxes shall be the maximum allowable by State law.

FISCAL YEAR 2027 DURHAM TOWN WARRANT ARTICLES

- Article 21** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to dispose of town property which they determine is no longer needed or usable by the town, on such terms as it deems advisable.
- Article 22** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board, on behalf of the Town, to sell and/or dispose of any property acquired by tax liens in their discretion as permitted by law, and to allow the Select Board to authorize the Treasurer to waive automatic lien foreclosures when it is in the best interest of the Town.
- Article 23** To see if the Town will vote to set the interest rate to be paid by the Town on overpayment of abated taxes at 2% pursuant to 36 MRS § 506-A.
- Article 24** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayments of taxes not yet due or assessed, and no pay interest thereon.
- Article 25** To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to resolve any disputes with parties having an interest adverse to that of the Town which do not involve the expenditure of public funds or where there are sufficient funds in budgeted accounts to allow payment of any claim which is to be settled.
- Article 26** To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to move up to 5% of budget lines that have unexpended appropriations to other budget lines, as they deem necessary, to avoid individual budget lines being over-expended.
- Article 27** To see if the Town will vote to establish a Paving Reserve Account for the purpose of funding road construction, reconstruction, and or maintenance, and to authorize the Select Board to transfer any unexpended balances remaining in paving-related appropriations at the end of the 2027 fiscal year into said reserve account, such funds to be expended for future road improvements in subsequent fiscal years; and further to authorize the Select Board to expend funds from said account for those purposes.
- Article 28** To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to transfer the proceeds from any sales of capital assets into the Town's related capital reserve funds.
- Article 29** To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to 20-A M.R.S. § 1003, to establish that the term of newly elected school board members shall start on the 30th day of June, immediately following the municipal election.

FISCAL YEAR 2027 DURHAM TOWN WARRANT ARTICLES

Article 30 To see if the Town of Durham (Town) will vote to change its Maine Public Employees Retirement System (MainePERS) plan to adopt Regular Plan AC for eligible full-time employees and appointed officials effective July 1, 2026, for future service only.

The Town agrees to:

- a) Adopt Regular Plan AC for its permanent, full-time employees who are not seasonal and its full-time appointed officials for service rendered after June 30, 2026. Any service accrued by full-time employees and appointed officials before July 1, 2026, remains under Regular Plan AN; and
- b) Continue to exclude employees and appointed officials who work less than full-time, seasonal employees, temporary employees and select board members, from participating in The Plan.
- c) To authorize Jerry Douglass, Town Manager to sign the Amended Agreement between the Town and Maine Public Employees Retirement System.

Article approved as written.

Given under our hands this 2nd day of June 2026 by the Durham Select Board:

Joseph Roy, Chair

Josh Klein-Golden, Vice Chair

Deborah Oliver

Rebekah Polster

John Talbot



New Year's Day	January 1, 2026
Martin Luther King Day	January 19, 2026
President's Day	February 16, 2026
Patriot's Day	April 20, 2026
Memorial Day	May 25, 2026
Juneteenth	June 19, 2026
Independence Day	July 4, 2026
Labor Day	September 7, 2026
Indigenous People's Day	October 12, 2026
Veteran's Day	November 11, 2026
Thanksgiving Day	November 26, 2026
Day After Thanksgiving	November 27, 2026
Christmas Eve	December 24, 2026
Christmas Day	December 25, 2026



2026 Annual Town Meeting

Durham Community School
Saturday, June 13, 2026
9 am

