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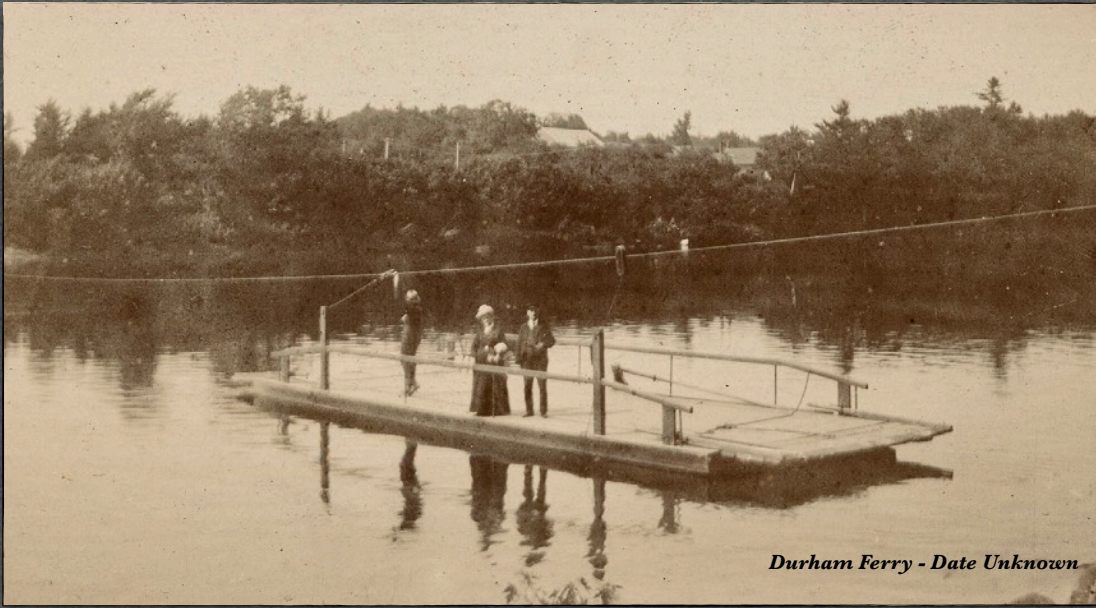


Town of Durham

Maine

**Maine's 69th Town
235th Annual Report**

January 1, 2024 ~ December 31, 2024



Durham Ferry - Date Unknown



"Little Brown Church" (Original Durham Congregational Church)



*Bowie Hill Farm
Date Unknown*



235TH ANNUAL REPORT & WARRANT

TOWN OF DURHAM, MAINE

For the year ending December 31, 2024

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

Website: durhammaine.gov
Facebook: facebook.com/townofdurham/
YouTube Channel: durhammaine.tv

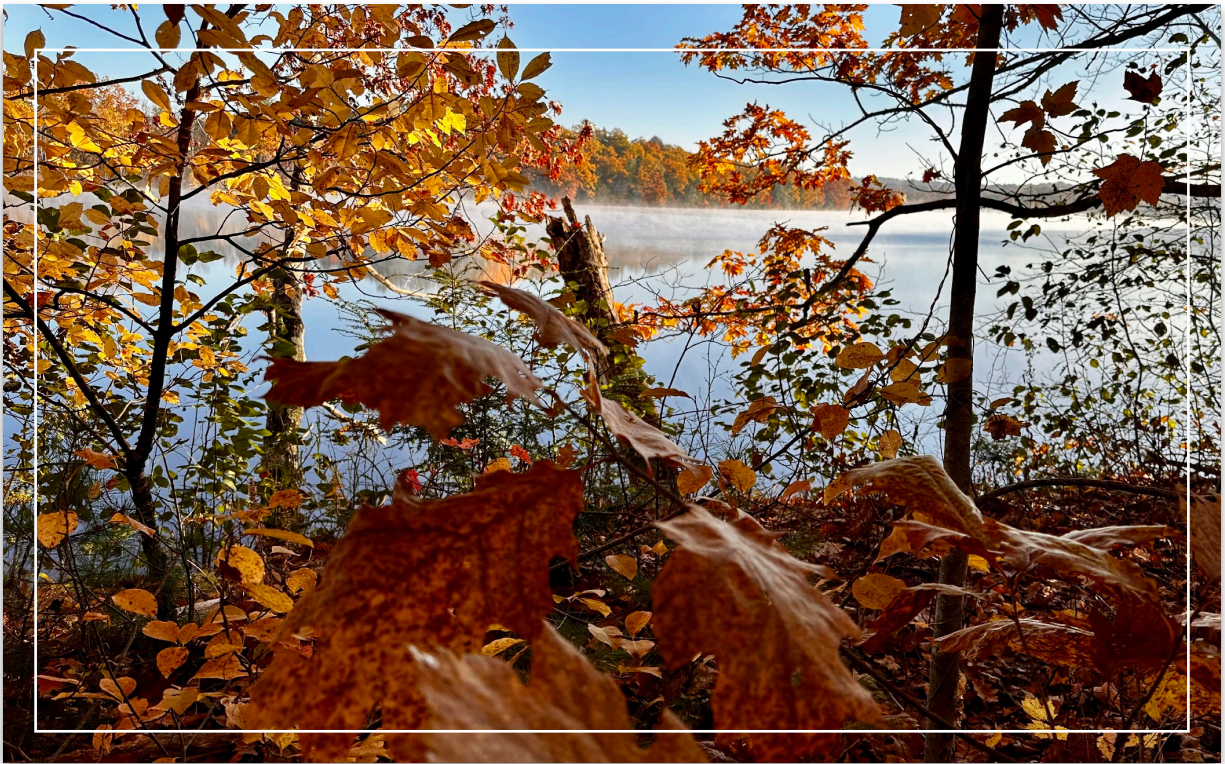


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Kimberly Garneau, Jessica Landberg, Betsy Talbot, Rob Tripp, Tia Wilson & Durham Historical Society

Design Credit:

Kimberly Garneau

Cover Photo:

Early morning fog on the Androscoggin River off Cedar Pond Road.

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, Jeff Cooper
207-353-2500 (Ext. 340)

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

Codes Official
207-725-5051

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

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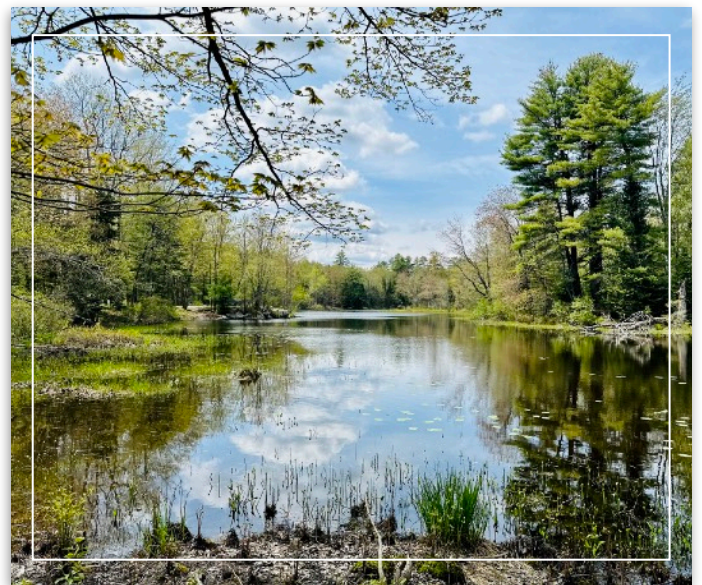
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Town Officers, Committees & Officials

As of December 31, 2024

Town Manager

Jerry Douglass

Clerk/Registrar/Deputy Tax Collector/Deputy Treasurer/GA Administrator

Jessica Landberg

Deputy Treasurer/Deputy Clerk/Deputy Tax Collector

Cynthia Faragi

Deputy Clerk/Deputy Treasurer/Information Technology Officer

Devin Garneau

Deputy Clerk/Deputy Treasurer/Public Information Officer

Kimberly Garneau

Animal Control Officer

Jeff Cooper

Assessor

Donna Hays

Code Enforcement Officer

Alan Plummer

Town Planner

George Theborge

Fire Rescue Chief/Fire Warden/Emergency Management Director

Robert J. Tripp

Curtis Dimock, Assistant

Fire/EMS Office Manager

Diana Dimock

EMS Deputy Chief

John Faith

Road Commissioner

Calvin Beaumier

Public Works

Ron Dubé

Thomas Griswold

Ryan Henry

Clifton Larrabee, Jr.

Brian Wilson

Elmer Allen

On Call

Brandon Wilkins

Alex Brookhouse

Mark Blake

Select Board

Joe Roy, Chair 2026

Josh Klein-Golden, Vice Chair 2025

Joseph Tomm 2025

Heather Roy 2026

Deborah Oliver 2027

Planning Board

John Talbot, Chair 2026

Juliet Caplinger, Vice-Chair 2027

Marc Derr 2029

Brian Lanoie 2028

Allan Purinton 2027

Tyler Hutchison, Alternate 2026

Anne Torregrossa, Alternate 2027

Board of Appeals

Paul First, Chair 2025

Darin Baker 2029

Neil Berry 2027

Terry Kirk 2025

Milton Simon 2027

Byron Philbrick, Alternate 2028

Budget Committee

Milton Simon, Chair 2026

Jill Gastonguay, Vice Chair 2025

Neil Berry 2027

Phyllis Brannon 2027

Donna Church 2026

Marc Derr 2027

Allan Purinton 2026

Jane Rice 2025

John Talbot 2025

Historic District Commission

Lois Kilby-Chesley, Chair 2025

Candace deCsipkes, Vice Chair 2027

Emily Alexander 2027

Paula Erdmann-Purdy 2025

David McLellan 2026

Sandra Hilton, Alternate 2026

RSU5 School Board Committee

Michelle Ritcheson, Chair 2025

Candace deCsipkes 2024

Danielle George 2026



Agriculture Committee

David Colson, Co-Chair

Jonah Fertig-Burd, Co-Chair

Steven Simisi, Secretary

Meaghan Grimes

Gary Goodrich

Claire Ross

Eric Day

Cemetery Committee

Tia Wilson, Chair

Linda Bowie, Vice Chair

Lindsey Lopes, Secretary

Philip Baker

Joseph Donovanick

Natasha Skelton

Greg Wilson

Conservation Commission

Jess Costa, Chair

Roberta Brezinski

Samantha Cuccaro

Michael Friendly

Jeffrey Tindall

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

Curtis Dimock, Chair

Juliet Caplinger, Vice Chair

Jill Schofield, Secretary

Claire Ross

Milton Simon

Todd Beaulieu, Alternate



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





In Memoriam



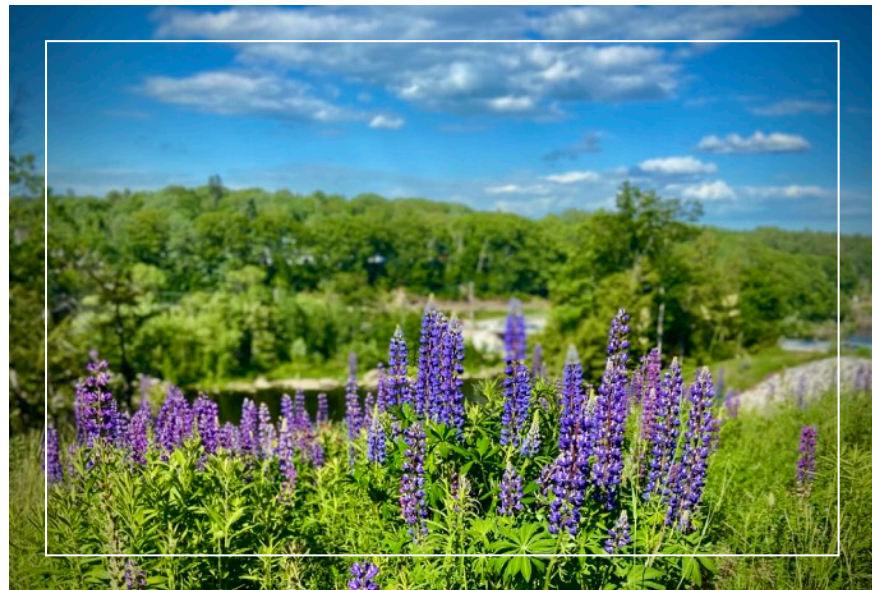
ROXIE LEE DOBSON

MARCH 23, 1954 ~ SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

On September 15, 2024, the community lost a dear friend and the Fire Department family lost a sister. Roxie was a long-time dispatcher, support member and Ladies Auxiliary Member. She volunteered for multiple organizations throughout the community. She was a member of the fire service for over 30 years, a substitute Ed Tech for Durham and Lisbon schools and she earned her First Responder License in 2007 and responded with Durham Rescue.



Chief Rob Tripp shared these words at Roxie’s celebration of life. “Roxie was a mother figure to many and when you have a good one, sometimes you have to share. Her passion was infectious as she inspired others not to just join our department, but to serve with integrity and most importantly with heart. Beyond her heroics in uniform, her enthusiasm was contagious. As we say goodbye, let us remember her not with sadness, but with gratitude for the time we shared with her. Let us honor her memory by carrying forward her spirit of family and service in our lives. Gear #83 is now retired from service, for no one could fill her shoes.”



“Roxie was a kind loving soul always looking for a way to help somebody.”

~ Chief St. Michel

Select Board Report

2024 was a busy year for the Select Board as we worked to address both the current and future needs of our community. We began the year by gathering input from various boards and committees to understand their priorities. Based on this feedback, we ranked these priorities and developed a plan to address the most pressing needs. Some key initiatives included:

- Enhancing communication and community engagement
- Increasing revenue
- Improving departmental efficiencies
- Identifying cost-saving opportunities
- Evaluating and updating our land use ordinance
- Exploring a Battery Energy Storage Moratorium
- Assessing law enforcement needs
- Replacing our retiring legal counsel
- Initiating a property re-evaluation
- Establishing an Agriculture Committee and a Solid Waste Committee
- Steering Committee for Municipal Facilities Planning



This year, we transitioned our website to a new vendor, specifically designed for municipalities. This change has significantly improved our ability to manage the site in-house and enhanced our ability to share agendas, documents, notes, and meeting recordings. While further improvements are planned, we are pleased with the progress. In response to community feedback, we also launched a text service for important updates which allows for communication during power outages or breaks in internet service. To subscribe, text "DURHAMALERTS" to 91896.

To ensure financial sustainability, we reviewed and adjusted our town's fee schedule to better align with regional fees, resulting in increased revenue. Additionally, our town manager successfully negotiated higher interest rates on our fund balance, generating over \$100,000 in new investment revenue. Town staff also secured significant grant funding to offset expenses, including over \$19,500 in savings and grants through our membership with the Greater Portland Council of Governments. Furthermore, the town manager continues to identify opportunities to enhance efficiency and secure cost-effective vendors.

In response to community concerns, we explored law enforcement coverage for the town. Recognizing this was an important issue, we conducted a straw poll during the presidential election, which indicated that the majority of residents did not wish to pursue additional services at this time. We appreciate this clear feedback and have adjusted our approach accordingly.

Similarly, community members expressed concerns about Battery Energy Storage Systems. As a result, we enacted a six-month moratorium through a special town meeting. A comprehensive ordinance was then developed with input from the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Town Planner, Code Enforcement Officer, Town Attorney, Town Manager, Select Board, and community members. This ordinance will be voted on at the annual town meeting. We extend our thanks to all who contributed to this effort.

This year, we also initiated a facilitated downtown envisioning process through a grant award. The Downtown Envisioning Committee is leading efforts to gather input regarding the municipal area surrounding the Eureka Center, Town Office, Fire Station, and Ball Field. This process will help guide future decisions to align with community priorities. We value diverse perspectives and encourage all residents to share their vision for this area.

A major initiative this year has been transitioning our budgeting process into a fiscal year cycle. Currently, our budget follows the calendar year, running from January to December. This approach has required us to estimate school and county tax increases, as well as state revenue sharing, since these figures are finalized after our town meeting.

By shifting to a fiscal year cycle (July 1 to June 30), we will align our budget with these entities, improving financial accuracy and responsibility. This transition requires a one-time 18-month budget period and moving forward, our annual budget will run from July 1st to June 30th, putting us in line with the school, county, and state.

The Select Board accomplished a great deal this year, but none of it would have been possible without our community. Many residents generously volunteer their time on boards, committees, and commissions, or provide valuable public input. Together, we are stronger, and we are grateful for the dedication of our town staff and engaged community members. We look forward to continued success in the coming year.

In community,

Joseph Roy, Select Board Chair
Joshua Klein-Golden, Select Board Vice Chair
Joseph Tomm
Heather Roy
Deborah Oliver



Select Board Members from left to right: Heather Roy, Deborah Oliver, Joseph Roy (Chair), Josh Klein-Golden (Vice Chair) and Joseph Tomm.

Town Manager's Report



It is with great gratitude and humility that I submit this year's Town Manager's Report. I want to begin by thanking the community for the privilege of serving as your Town Manager. It is an honor to work with and for the residents of Durham, and I remain committed to supporting our town in every way possible.

I would like to take a moment to recognize Joe Tomm for his years of service on the Select Board and to the community. His dedication and leadership have made a lasting impact, and we are grateful for his contributions. I also want to warmly welcome Deborah Oliver to the Select Board. We look forward to her insights and collaboration as we continue to navigate the challenges and opportunities ahead.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to the hardworking staff who provide the high-quality services our community has come to expect. Their dedication and efficiency have allowed us to maintain these services without the need to add additional employees, ensuring we remain fiscally responsible.

I am pleased to report that the town is in excellent financial shape, with a healthy fund balance. This strong position reflects our collective commitment to careful budgeting and financial stewardship.

This past year, the town received grant funding to replace the town hall generator, an important infrastructure improvement that will help ensure the continuity of town operations during power outages and emergencies. Additionally, we secured \$23,000 in grant funding from the Greater Portland Council of Governments to engage the community in a town facilities study. This study will assess our town facilities, including the Fire Station, Town Office, Eureka Community Center, and the need for additional meeting space. The input from this study will be invaluable in planning for the future of our community.

In an effort to improve communication with residents, the town has implemented a texting service to provide notifications about important meetings and community events. This service has been well-received and ensures timely and convenient updates for our residents.

After identifying cybersecurity vulnerabilities, the Select Board took proactive steps to safeguard the town's digital infrastructure by partnering with a managed service provider (MSP). This collaboration has strengthened Durham's security through advanced threat detection, continuous system monitoring, and proactive risk mitigation. With professional oversight, the town is better protected against data breaches, ransomware attacks, system failures, and unauthorized access to sensitive records. Without dedicated IT management, these threats could disrupt municipal operations, compromise resident data, and lead to costly recovery efforts. By investing in expert cybersecurity services, Durham reinforces its commitment to protecting critical systems and maintaining public trust.

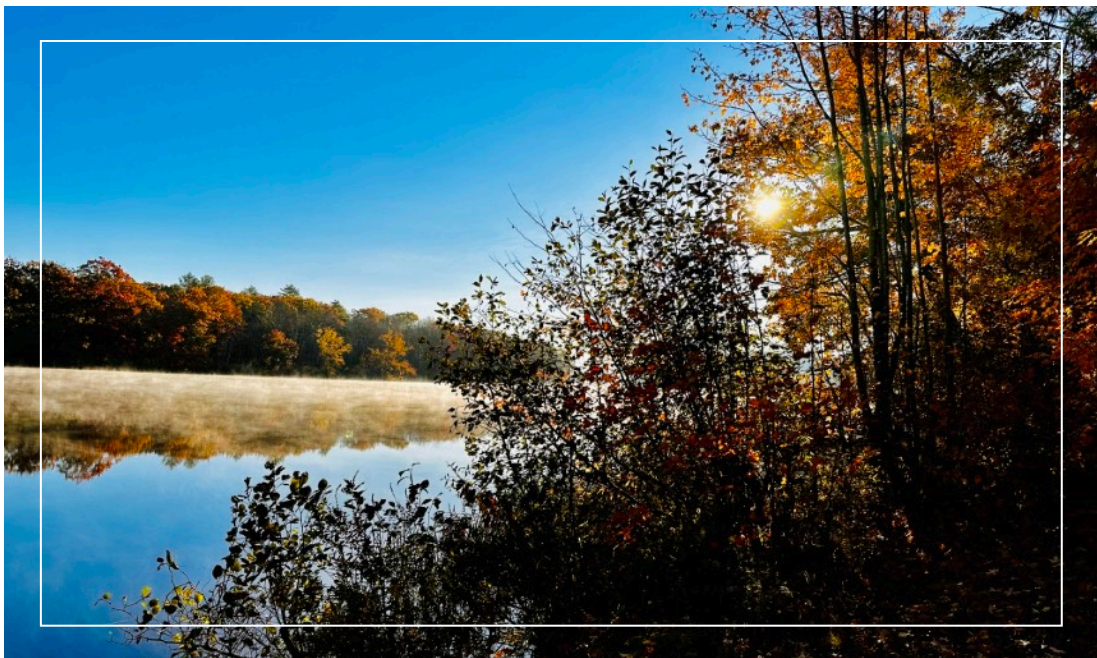
Two new committees have been formed this year to address important issues in our community. The Solid Waste Committee is exploring ways to address the rising costs of trash pickup, including a cost-benefit analysis of alternative programs such as composting or establishing a transfer station. Meanwhile, the newly formed Agriculture Committee is focused on sustaining agriculture in Durham and preserving it as a vital part of our town's identity and heritage.

Looking ahead, we face challenges that will require continued collaboration and engagement. One key priority is finding ways to offset taxes through development that aligns with the rural character of Durham. At the same time, affordable housing remains a significant concern, both statewide and in our community as the cost of building and buying homes continues to rise. Addressing these issues will require innovative solutions and input from all stakeholders.

Thank you for your ongoing support and involvement in our community. Together, we can build on our successes and tackle the challenges ahead to ensure Durham remains a wonderful place to live.

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 2024:	
Male/Female	- 31
Neuter/Spay	- 199
<hr/>	
Total:	230

The Town Clerk would like to thank our dedicated Election Workers for their service in the 2024 Elections. Phyllis Brannon, Stephen Brezinski, Catherine Curtis, Clint Gordon, David Harris, Barbara Jabaut, Julia Johnston, Kevin Karnes, Lois Kilby-Chesley, Gerald Spring, Nancy Swinton, John Talbot, and Anne Ware.

Elections 2024

Municipal Officers Election	April 5, 2024
Town Meeting	April 6, 2024
Municipal Budget Referendum RSU5	June 11, 2024
General Election ★	November 5, 2024

November 5th General Election

The total votes cast for the November 5th General Election was 3003 and of those, 1445 were Absentee Votes.

★

Voter Registration

Democrat	1105
Green Independent	228
Libertarian	20
No Label	58
Republican	1246
Unenrolled	1392
Total	4049

2024 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.



Births

There were 54 Births in Durham in 2024. Congratulations and Welcome!

Deaths

Residents who have passed in 2024. We send our condolences to the families and friends of these deceased individuals.

Sandra Jean Bernard
Herbert W. Cate
Terrance W. Chambers, Sr.
Dean Kenneth Clark
Richard Combs
Grace M. Cullum
Roxanna Lee Dobson
Robert Thomas Hampton

Kenneth Arthur Merrill
Christopher L. Mosher
Jeanne Hanson Pulk
Robert Joseph Seavey, III
Carolyn Virginia Smith
Canda D. Tinkelenberg
Rita Paradis Weinz

Marriages

There were 36 marriages in 2024. Congratulations to our Newlyweds!

Megan Michelle Estabrook to Calum Drake Hinkle
Tyree Vuong to Ricci Tran
Charles William Campbell to Rachel Lee Carter
Caleb Alexander Thurston to Mariia Maksymenko
Kenneth John Schnitzel to Justine Lynn Chabot
Pauline McEnery to Jason Powell Sylvester
Tyler Daniel Malloy to Kathryn Elizabeth Keith
Sara Elizabeth Doyon to James Ryan Dyer
Jessica Anne Reed to Erik Steven Norman
Catherine Marie Luedee to Coplin Douglas Fickett
Roland Clark Carter, Sr to Karen Louise Healey
Annelie Karin Storm to Jesse Bernard Bastide
Joseph Marcus Whispell to Denise Ann Dorazio
Kelly Christine Butler to Ryan Matthew Moynihan
Taylor Allison Ginn to Tyler Grant Larochelle
Marcus McKenzie Patton to Amelia Jean Witherell



Saturday, January 6, 2024
Wednesday, January 31, 2024
Thursday, February 22, 2024
Saturday, April 20, 2024
Sunday, April 21, 2024
Thursday, May 23, 2024
Saturday, June 1, 2024
Friday, June 14, 2024
Wednesday, June 26, 2024
Thursday, June 27, 2024
Sunday, June 30, 2024
Thursday, July 4, 2024
Thursday, August 1, 2024
Saturday, August 3, 2024
Saturday, August 3, 2024
Saturday, August 24, 2024

Theresa Cockburn to Joshua Geoffrey Summers
 Nicole Louise Santangelo to Kristin Lynn Sawyer
 Nancy Marie Snodgrass to Adam Jordan Turner
 Ronald Nilsen Rines to Joline Lorraine Arel
 Tyler James Bachelder to Kelsie-Mae Christina Rioux
 Alyssa Marie Brown to Tyler Scott Applebee
 Elise Renae LaSalle to Liam Drue Nickerson
 Den Lee Suehiro to Cyndle Anna Turcotte
 Joshua Victor Libby to Courtney Mae Hallczuk
 Luvilla Abuan Versoza to Joseph Arthur Simas
 Courtney Jose Packard to Bradley Richard Sanderson
 Eric Leonard Pelletier to Georgia Madison Candage
 Glenn Patrick Stewart, Jr. to McKalla Lynn Pulk
 Matthew John Ferreira to Emily Stiles Moker
 Leonard Phillip Fitzgerald to Keri Lee McIlvaine
 Shawn Anthony Pesce to Dylan James Richards
 Christina Jan Fish to Christopher Matthew Arnaudin
 Kristen Kelli Ross to Geoffrey Ludovic Gyse
 Leah Alejandra Cleland to Michael Thomas Ratcliff
 Christopher Aaron Porter to Melissa Catrina Coutts

Wednesday, August 28, 2024
 Saturday, September 7, 2024
 Saturday, September 7, 2024
 Thursday, September 19, 2024
 Saturday, September 21, 2024
 Saturday, September 21, 2024
 Saturday, September 21, 2024
 Saturday, September 28, 2024
 Saturday, October 5, 2024
 Saturday, October 5, 2024
 Saturday, October 12, 2024
 Tuesday, October 15, 2024
 Saturday, October 19, 2024
 Thursday, October 24, 2024
 Saturday, October 26, 2024
 Thursday, October 31, 2024
 Sunday, November 24, 2024
 Sunday, December 1, 2024
 Saturday, December 21, 2024
 Saturday, December 29, 2024



**23rd Annual
 Durham
 Giving
 Tree**

The residents of Durham generously donated to the 2024 Giving Tree. This year 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!



3rd Annual Ornament Parade

Continuing our tradition with Durham Community School, on November 21, 2024, 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 3/06/25*

Property Owner	Total Due w/interest*	Property Owner	Total Due w/interest*
2022			
Bachelor, Cindy PR	\$275.39	Johnson, Greg L.	\$7,545.79
Dewitt, Kevin Andrew <i>(Party in Possession)</i>	\$1023.30	Johnson, Ture G.	\$6,301.71
Dewitt, Lisa	\$1,564.89	Keamy, Eric F.	\$3,869.92
Easler, Doreen B	\$3,305.16	Lacasse, Michael R., Jr.	\$1,446.55
Emerson, John <i>(Heirs Of)</i>	\$2,855.18	Lane, Scott	\$990.66
Gillespie, Kristine	\$847.42	Maclean, Peter	\$3,080.53
Holbrook, Jason L	\$1242.58	Merrill, Kevin	\$402.31
Keamy, Eric F	\$3631.79	Merrill, Royce E.	\$420.09
Lacasse, Michael R., Jr.	\$1324.81	Newell, Ronald E., Jr.	\$1,060.80
Lane, Scott	\$890.82	Newell, Steven D. II, PR	\$1,945.62
Merrill, Kevin	\$248.97	Perry, Angela	\$359.57
Newell, Ronald E., Jr.	\$2662.10	Peterson, Troy	\$3,916.22
Newell, Steven D. II, PR	\$1799.91	Ridlon, Tyler	\$2,017.20
Osgood, Derek	\$8.46	Schlichting, Douglas & Pamela	\$326.03
Scott, Iris	\$2.36	Smith, Stacie A.	\$3,765.06
St. Pierre, Tammy	\$1838.74	St. Pierre, Tammy	\$1,986.41
Stanley, Barbara	\$675.13	Stanley, Barbara	\$4,437.68
		Thompson, Jeremy	\$310.44
		Thompson, Justin	\$414.81
		Turcotte, Jason D.	\$103.06
2023			
Bachelder, Cindy M.	\$2988.16		
Biette, Sydni	\$92.79		
Blake Forest LLC	\$149.91		
Brookhouse, Susan J.	\$4,015.09		
Dewitt, Kevin Andrew <i>(Party in Possession)</i> .	\$1137.72		
Dewitt, Lisa	\$1,708.08		
Easler, Doreen B.	\$3,526.82		
Emerson, John <i>(Heirs of)</i>	\$3,054.14		
Emerson-Mains, Heather L.	\$3,078.77		
Finch, Sonya	\$880.29		
Gillespie, Kristine	\$945.08		
Harkins, Sandra	\$1,840.76		
Hewitt, Kristin	\$225.32		
Holbrook, Jason	\$1,360.17		
		2024	
		Allen, Kimberly Jane	\$5,443.06
		Autumns Kaleidoscope	\$13,560.93
		Babcock, Jerel K.	\$1034.27
		Bachelder, Cindy M.	\$2843.47
		Baker, Dale M.	\$6.14
		Biette, Sydni	\$410.28
		Blake Forest LLC	\$2199.57
		Blazer, Kevin P.	\$200.58
		Bowie Inc.	\$1,424.65
		Bowie, Willard D., Jr.	\$5,688.65
		Brookhouse, Susan J.	\$3,819.03

Outstanding Taxes *(continued)*

Real Estate, continued

** Interest as of 3/06/25*

Property Owner	Total Due w/interest*	Property Owner	Total Due w/interest*
2024 (continued)			
Brown, Elizabeth C.	\$2,245.16	Johnson, Ture G.	\$5,991.25
Brunswick Trucking LLC	\$1,627.45	Jordan, Susan A.	\$3,091.93
Caldwell, Joseph Brancato	\$6,343.41	Keamy, Eric F.	\$3,624.15
Caron, Joseph L.	\$4,131.31	Lacasse, Michael R., Jr.	\$1,322.02
Castle Rock Development LLC	\$4,098.25	Laflamme, Philip A.	\$3,335.81
Cunningham, Dale B.	\$3,926.17	Lane, Gary L.	\$1,826.89
Dame, Ryan L.	\$1,260.47	Lane, Scott	\$888.94
Dewitt, Kevin Andrew <i>(Party in Possession)</i> .	\$1,021.14	Libby, Stephen	\$620.93
Dewitt, Lisa	\$1,570.46	Lobozzo, Jonathan	\$1,994.42
Douglas A. Hunnewell Trust	\$1,445.10	Lobozzo, Jonathan	\$1,171.58
Easler, Doreen B.	\$3,298.21	Lobozzo, Jonathan	\$1,141.95
Emerson, John <i>(Heirs of)</i>	\$2,849.18	Lobozzo, Jonathan	\$1,141.95
Emerson-Mains, Heather L.	\$3,831.58	Lobozzo, Jonathan	\$1,141.95
Fairpoint Communications Inc.	\$13.42	Lobozzo, Jonathan	\$1,141.95
Finch, Sonya	\$784.09	Lopez, Celeste C.	\$990.87
Gillespie, Kristine	\$2,357.98	Macleane, Peter	\$2,874.25
Gillespie, Kristine	\$845.64	Mahirwe, Frederick C.	\$6,408.36
Harkins, Sandra	\$1,840.76	Merrill, Kevin	\$379.51
Harkins, Sandra	\$1,689.00	Merrill, Royce E.	\$3,803.08
Hayes, Kevin T.	\$4,077.75	Merrill, Royce E.	\$1,151.07
Herlings Properties, LLC	\$3,535.26	Miller, Camden T.	\$6,613.97
Hewitt, Kristin	\$2,851.46	Newell, Ronald E., Jr.	\$2,856.01
Higgins, Andrew J.	\$134.48	Newell, Steven D. II, PR	\$1,796.12
Hilliker, Lorelei L.	\$4,656.69	Osgood, David, Linwood & Glenn	\$148.04
Holbrook, Jason L.	\$1,239.96	Osgood, Linwood L.	\$3,119.08
Homer, Karon Morneault Drown	\$2,980.23	Perry, Angela	\$289.47
Hummer, Timothy R. Jr.	\$433.07	Peterson, Troy	\$3,660.62
Hunnewell, Charles G.	\$164.11	Poutenis, Jr., Robert	\$54.25
Hunnewell, Charles G.	\$4,537.03	Powers, Paula Marie	\$125.36
Huntington, Vincent W. II	\$1,282.20	Pratt, Evone	\$2,775.09
Jackson Excavating Inc.	\$4,348.98	Quigg, Patrick	\$7,518.41
Jewett, Brian	\$219.96	Rea, Nicholas	\$6,668.78
Johnson, Greg L.	\$7,116.10	Ridlon, Tyler	\$3,840.68

Outstanding Taxes (continued)

Real Estate, continued

* Interest as of 3/06/25

Property Owner	Total Due w/interest*
2024 (continued)	
Scammon, Robert	\$1,800.65
Schlichting, Douglas & Pamela	\$257.56
Scribner, Diane E.	\$3,814.47
Shute, Richard L.	\$2,444.60
Smith, Stacie A.	\$3,517.02
Snell Construction, LLC	\$8,545.25
SOPO Holdings, LLC 401K Trust	\$2,030.90
St Pierre, Tammy	\$1,834.86
Stanley, Barbara	\$4,381.57
Thompson, Jeremy	\$299.73
Thompson, Justin	\$337.49
Tindall, Jeffrey	\$17.94
Tindall, Jeffrey	\$118.37
Turcotte, Jason D.	\$1,075.85
Wallace, Chelsea Stewart	\$2,224.64
Woerter, Carolyn A.	\$155.00
Woerter, Richard	\$293.33



Personal Property 2022

Coastal Construction Services	\$1934.67
Huntington's Truck Repair	\$45.68
Total	\$1980.35

Personal Property 2023

Coastal Construction Services	\$1587.55
Huntington's Truck Repair	\$40.84
Total	\$1628.39

Personal Property 2024

AT & T Mobility LLC	\$57.06
Autumns Kaleidoscope	\$325.94
Coastal Construction Services	\$1187.54
Huntington's Truck Repair	\$31.91
Synchrony Bank	\$82.06
Total	\$1684.51



Fire, Rescue & EMA Report



In 2024 our requests for services increased by **12.1%** overall. We have seen increases in our call volume year over year, to reflect hundreds of increased calls. 75% of all calls last year were emergency medical related. Motor vehicle collisions increased by 25%. Our nighttime per diem coverage has decreased our turn-out and response times by 29%. The town is covered by an advanced provider a majority of the time. 24-hour EMS coverage has led to lives saved.

Emergency management activities in a small town are critical for ensuring the safety and well-being of its residents during crises. The town typically begins by developing an emergency response plan, which outlines procedures for various emergencies, including natural disasters, fires, medical emergencies, or hazardous material spills. Local authorities, such as the fire department and public health services, coordinate with each other and neighboring communities to ensure effective response and resource sharing. Regular training drills are conducted to prepare first responders and the general public for quick action when a crisis arises. Communication strategies are established, including emergency alerts, to keep residents informed. Additionally, the town creates and maintains shelters/ centers and provides essential supplies like food, water, and first aid kits to help residents during

prolonged emergencies. After an event, recovery efforts focus on restoring services and infrastructure, while offering support to affected individuals. These emergency management activities are vital for reducing risks and ensuring that the community can quickly and efficiently recover from any emergency.

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 2024

Structure

Chimney Fire	2
Equipment Fire	1
Fire / CO Alarms	13
Mutual Aid Fire	35
Structure Fire	2
<hr/>	
Total	53

Forestry

Grass/Wildland Fire	2
Outdoor Burn Investigation	3
<hr/>	
Total	5



Fire Response

Response Calls	247
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Rescue

Response Calls	357
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Vehicle

Extrications	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	65
Vehicle Fire	3

Total	69
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Other

Mutual Aid Rescue	39
Wires / Tree Down	33

Total	72
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Total Combined Fire Department Responses: 604

Town Forest Warden Report

Burning Permits Issued in 2024

Online Warden Report	1286
Written Permits	0
State Site	8



This year we saw a 15.6 percent increase from last years on-line permit totals.

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 Wardens Report website (www.wardensreport.com) which 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 9 a.m. 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 attended at all times. 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

Durham Ladies Auxiliary Report



The ladies auxiliary group has become an important support division within the fire department. Whether they are providing rehab at a fire scene, providing support at monthly meetings and trainings, or simply providing a listening ear after a bad call, the group has flourished this past year. They have

been steadily adding members all year long, now up to ten members. They have been fund raising for their own budget, donating to local causes, attending events within the community and sponsoring family days here at the fire station.



Durham Ladies Auxiliary Members

Linda Morris, President
Jen Therrien, Vice President
Debbie Koval, Treasurer
Kimberlei Bradstreet, Secretary
Laura Gagnon
Aimee Larrabee
Kathy St. Michel
Laura Merrill-Belanger
Tanya Anderson
Gwen Koval



Road Commissioner Report

In 2024 the Durham Public Works Department ditched 2.25 miles of road (that's 4.5 miles of ditch-line) and paved 2.47 miles of roadway network.

2024 Maintenance Paving:



- Cedar Pond Road – 1.85 Miles
- Quaker Meetinghouse Road - .62 Miles

TOTAL 2.47 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 an important 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.

2024-25 Winter Roads:

The Durham Public Works Department plows and treats 152 lane miles of roadway throughout the winter months. As of February 26th, 2025, we have responded to 35 winter weather related events using 1400 tons of road salt and 300 yards of winter sand.

2024 Highlights:

- Completed our second season of maintaining all Town owned cemeteries in Durham. We have located them all and have continued a very thorough removal of leaves and brush in addition to mowing and grass trimming. We will continue to work on headstone repairs and other restoration and preservation projects in collaboration with the Cemetery Committee.
- Reconstructed and widened sections of Brickyard Hill Road. There were sections that were only wide enough for single lane traffic that can now be travelled safely in both directions.
- Ditched and replaced culverts along a one-mile section of Auburn Pownal Road from Stackpole Road to the Auburn town line.
- Ditched and replaced culverts along various sections of Cedar Pond Road totaling approximately one mile.





- Cleared all the White Pines at the intersection of Swamp and Newell Brook Roads (Rt9). This helped greatly with the visibility of oncoming traffic from Lisbon heading into Durham. We also removed all the Cedar trees at the intersection of Auburn Pownal and Stackpole roads as you couldn't see looking South toward Pownal when exiting Stackpole onto Auburn Pownal Road.
- In June 2024 the department purchased a SCAGG commercial riding mower for \$14,214.94 using funds from our Capital Reserve account.



- Tracy Brook Bridge - The MDOT along with Shaw Brothers Construction of Gorham, Maine completed the replacement of the Tracy Brook Bridge on Pinkham Brook Road. This was a 4.8 million dollar project that was scheduled for completion on November 15, 2024. The project was completed a few months early in the late summer of 2024.
- MDOT has submitted plans with intent to create a four-way stop at the intersection of Quaker Meeting, Rabbit and Royalsborough Roads due to the number of accidents at this location. Planning is ongoing and we are not sure if this will be implemented in 2025 at this time.



In 2025 we will be focusing on:

- Ditching and culvert replacements in connection with a very aggressive maintenance overlay paving program that will include approximately 2.5 miles of roadway.
- MDOT is scheduled to surface pave Royalsborough Road (Route 136) from the Freeport Town Line to the Auburn Town Line starting at the end of April or early May.

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 Assessors 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/ptfcsmary.htm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Donna Hays
Town Assessor

Code Enforcement Report

As your Code Officer for Durham, I continue to focus on education, guidance, and inspections based on statewide building codes and our town's ordinances. It's been another productive year ensuring safety and compliance in Durham. Below is a summary of activities and updates for 2024.

2024 Permits Issued

- **Total Building Permits Issued: 65**
 - **New Single-Family Homes: 11**
 - **Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs): 6**
- **Electrical Permits: 147**
- **Demolitions: 4**
- **Internal Plumbing Permits: 52**
- **External Plumbing (Septic Systems): 35**
- **Annual total of Permit Fees Collected: \$61,881.99**
- **Average Permit Fee (All): Approximately \$206.27**



Ordinances and Codification

Ordinances provide the structure for our town's rules. As in 2023, codification remains a key priority and is ongoing but it's my hope that we will receive the list of items that need attention by the time you get this report and will begin the process to bring it to you at the annual meeting in 2026.

This process will:

1. Organize existing laws into a systematic and understandable format that is easily accessible by residents.
2. Highlight contradictory or unclear language.
3. Align local rules with state laws for clarity.



A codified system ensures that both residents and officials can easily interpret and follow the rules, helping avoid missteps.

911 Addressing Requirements

For your safety, please ensure that your house or business has visible, reflective 4” numbers contrasting with their background, visible from both directions of the road. Contact me if you need assistance with these requirements.

Maine Energy & Electric Code

Durham follows the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code (MUBEC). The state’s updated building code (IRC 2023) will be in effect as of April 7, 2025. All building inspections in Durham adhere to these standards. The Energy Code (2021) and Electrical Code (NEC 2023) are in effect for all Maine towns.

De-Cluttering and Document Management

We continue efforts to digitize large documents, saving space in the town office and ensuring records are preserved efficiently. All future submissions, including building permits and plans, should be provided electronically whenever possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alan Plummer
Code Enforcement Officer



Planning Board Report



The Durham Planning Board is tasked with implementing portions of the Durham Land Use Ordinance, including review and approval of subdivision, conditional use, and site plan applications. The Board also recommends changes to the Land Use Ordinance as appropriate and has engaged in workshops and public hearings to address updates to align with state requirements and local needs. Supported by the Town Planner and Planning Board Secretary, the Board meets on the first Wednesday of each month, with additional meetings scheduled as needed.

Highlights of 2024 Activities

1. Application Reviews and Approvals:

- **Central Maine Power (CMP) Corridor Upgrades:** Reviewed and approved upgrades to CMP's westerly powerline corridor, including conditional use and site plan approvals. Conditions included road coordination and a \$1 million road damage bond.
- **Bowie Hill Subdivision (Phase 2):** Conducted multiple reviews, granted preliminary approval for extending Mattie Lane with new lots, and addressed incomplete application submissions to ensure compliance with subdivision standards.
- **Ruby Farmview Subdivision:** Required compliance with prior subdivision approvals before considering new expansion proposals.
- **Daycare Expansion:** Approved the expansion of The Kids Next Door daycare on Hallowell Road, moving from 12 to 20 children with conditions addressing parking, lighting, and landscaping.
- **Maine Custom Woodlands:** Approved a 6,000 sq. ft. building for a sawmill, with provisions for onsite water supply meeting NFPA standards.
- **Auto Repair Business:** Approved a conditional use application for a new facility on Royalsborough Road, requiring site plan review for drainage and hazardous materials management.

2. Land Use Ordinance Amendments:

- **Housing Density:** Drafted and recommended updates to align with state laws for increased housing diversity while maintaining rural character.
- **Solar Energy Systems:** Created standards distinguishing small, medium, and large-scale installations with provisions for buffering, public safety, and decommissioning requirements.

- **Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS):** Recommended a moratorium on large-scale BESS projects to allow for risk and benefit analysis. Work began on performance standards to address safety and environmental impacts.
- **Resource Protection District:** In collaboration with the Conservation Commission, formed a working group to propose revisions to RP boundaries, adding development buffers for existing buildings, and ensuring compliance with environmental protection regulations.

3. Community Engagement and Workshops:

- Conducted public hearings and information sessions to solicit input on proposed ordinance amendments and land use policies, ensuring transparency and public participation.
- Supported the Comprehensive Plan’s recommendations to balance growth with the preservation of Durham’s rural character.

4. Town Planner:

- The Town Planner provided staff support to the Planning Board in carrying out the multiple activities listed above as well as supporting the Select Board and Town Manager on land-use issues and the Code Officer on administration of land use codes.
- The Planner managed the codification project for Durham’s ordinances, which includes aligning provisions with state laws and making regulations more accessible to the public.
- The Planner also managed the Community Facilities Visioning Process to develop long-term goals for Town properties along Hallowell Road.

Challenges and Goals

The Planning Board’s proactive approach has made significant progress in addressing emerging trends like renewable energy development and state housing mandates. However, limited resources for ordinance updates and enforcement present ongoing challenges. Enhanced coordination among Town officials and public engagement remain priorities for achieving balanced growth and protecting Durham’s unique character.

Acknowledgment

The Planning Board extends its gratitude to the community for its participation and to Town staff for their continued support in facilitating effective planning and development processes.



Submitted by the Durham Planning Board, 2024

Conservation Commission Report

Durham Conservation Commission focuses on conservation-related issues in collaboration with Durham employees, volunteers and residents, other communities, and public and private advocacy groups. We seek to preserve the rural character of Durham consistent with the Town Comprehensive Plan and to promote the conservation and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Our goals are:

- To protect current and potential water resources;
- To conserve natural resources in the Town of Durham;
- To create and preserve open space for recreational use and wildlife habitat;
- To advise the Select Board and Planning Board on sustaining our Town’s natural resources, including land, water, air, wildlife habitat, and scenic views; and
- To conduct research, in conjunction with the Planning Board, into local land areas that are being considered for development.

In 2024, we worked collaboratively with the Town Planner and Planning Board to develop an approach for providing relief to landowners with existing structures now in Resource Protection (RP) after the 2024 Town Meeting. This process included developing a suitable buffer radius around existing structures within RP areas within which landowners may expand their structures. This revision to the Town’s land use ordinance will be on the Town warrant in April 2025. We worked with the Greater Portland Council of



Governments to reapply for a Maine Won’t Wait Community Resilience Partnership Climate Action Grant. During summer and fall, the Conservation Commission set up a bat acoustic study on private property on Runaround Pond to determine which species of bats are present in the area.

Respectfully submitted,

Durham Conservation Commission

RSU5 Superintendent Report

Dear Citizens,

We want to thank all the residents for the passage of our current budget. The adopted budget for 2024-2025 is \$41,612,460. In addition to contractual salaries and benefits, the majority of the expenditure increases included the following: funding for an additional Special Education teacher, an elementary classroom teacher, and a .5 high school Science teacher due to enrollment, a .5 Guidance Counselor to support wellness, an Assistant Principal to support increased enrollment and specialized programming, needed technology replacement, 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 Candace deCsipkes, Danielle George, and School Board Chair Michelle Ritcheson; members from Freeport are Colin Cheney, Cheyenne Farrell, Carolyn Jensen, Kara Kaikini, Maura Pillsbury, and Kelly Sink; and members from Pownal are Malik Farlow and Vice-chair Elisabeth Munsen. 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, 171 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 2084 students during the 2023-2024 school year, which was an increase of 18 students from the October 1st enrollment from 2022. The projected enrollment for 2024-2025 is 2094. If this remains stable, this will be an increase of 10 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
Superintendent of Schools

Historical Society Report

The Durham Historical Society's 2024 year was monumental! In February, with the help of the Acacia Lodge in Durham, we held our first event of the year; Treasure Hunters with Walt Bannon. Walt brought in an amazing display of treasures and shared his stories of discovery as he taught us the tricks of the trade of treasure hunting. We had an amazing turnout of people of all ages, proving that seeking treasure is something you never grow out of!

On April 6th, at the Town Meeting, the residents of Durham voted to turn ownership of the Union Church from the Town of Durham to the Historical Society. With the help from the Union Church Funds the town has allocated for the building, we as a team of volunteers, will restore this beautiful building. This will not be easy and will take hundreds of thousands of dollars, but we are dedicated to ensuring this building remains standing for another 200 years.



The West Durham Methodist Church at Methodist Corner celebrated its 220th birthday in 2024. The building, one of five in Durham on the National Registry of Historic Sites, is owned and maintained by the Durham Historical Society with the help of volunteers working as the Friends of the West Durham Methodist Church. With many of the planned exterior improvements done including most recently landscaping on the north side to divert water from running under the building, we are still collecting for the cost of painting the Church. If you would like to donate towards this project, please reach out to Lois Kilby-Chesley at lkilbychesley@gmail.com. We have high hopes that within the next few years, the Church will be available to the community for gatherings

In July, the Historical Society participated in the Moxie Festival for the first time. Our float featured a 7th-scale model of the Union Church, designed and built by Tyler Hutchison and Greg and Tia Wilson. The scale model is now a feature in the historical museum. Waving from the float was Emily Alexander, Sandra Hilton, Natasha Skelton, Tia Wilson, Tyler Hutchison, Eliza Howe, Harper Hall, Brea, Addison & Joe McKechnie all dressed in clothing from the 1800's! Greg Wilson and Noel Skelton pulled our float through town. We had a great time waving and tossing buckets of candy to the onlookers! Keep your eyes open for us in the parade next year!

In August we held our first fundraiser of the year by hosting a Glow Dance at the Durham AMVETS. We featured the local Lisbon Band Kaiju and had a rocking good time! We hope to do it again in 2025!

In September, the Historical Society held its first open house in over 5 years! We were fortunate enough to have a beautiful cider press to use during the event, which was lent for use by Chris and Carson Craig. Our guests were able to participate in the pressing of historic apples that were picked from ancient trees right here in Durham. We had guests pouring in all afternoon, enjoying baked goods and exploring our historic museum. We were able to hold an additional open house in October, which featured face painting by Bruce Hutchison, pumpkin decorating, and more pressing of apple for cider. We are so excited to open our doors to the public again next spring.

In October, Natasha Skelton and Lois Kilby-Chesley were the Boo Crew representing the Historical Society as we participated in the AmVet's Trunk-or-Treat! They dressed up and passed out handmade goody bags.

In November, Deb Larrabee donated a beautiful plaque to be displayed at the Union Church, which states the building is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Our final fundraiser of the year ended with a bang! We sold Thanksgiving pies for the second year in a row. We sold a total of 53 pies, which is 10 more pies than last year! Emily, Lois, Sandra, Tia & Greg all got together and baked the pies from scratch. It ended up being such a wonderful event, we can't wait to do it again next year!

In December, Tia Wilson gave a presentation to the 3rd-grade class at Durham Community School on the History of Durham. She also took them on a field trip to historical locations within the

town, where they learned about Durham's past. The field trip ended with a stop at the historical museum, where the children participated in a scavenger hunt, and one lucky winner from each class got to ring the Revere bell. We hope this will become a new tradition for DHS and DCS.

As always, we welcome new members to join the Durham Historical Society. If you are interested in becoming a member of the society, the annual membership dues are \$20. The society meets every 3rd Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. during the warmer months. Please remember to follow the Durham Historical Society on Facebook at facebook.com/durhammainehistoricalsociety to keep up with society activities, as well as look through historic photos and articles about the town. You can also visit our website at durhamhistoricalsociety.com.



Durham Historical Society Officers & Senior Members:

- Tia Wilson, Chair
- Sandra Hilton, Co-Chair
- Lois Kilby-Chesley, Secretary
- Tyler Hutchison, Treasurer
- Emily Alexander, Archivist
- Natasha Skelton
- Greg Wilson
- Candy DeCsipkes
- Paul Erdmann-Purdy

Historic District Commission Report

Durham Historic District Commission Mission Statement

The mission of the Durham Historic Commission is to identify, preserve and inform citizens of the Town of Durham about its unique historical heritage. In fulfilling this mission, the Commission encourages local ordinances, by-laws or public action that preserves historic properties, both private and public. The Commission encourages appropriate maintenance and restoration of the town's historical structures and open spaces.

The Durham Historic District Commission (DHDC) met 10 times during 2024. Recent Agendas for meetings of the DHDC can be found at:

<https://durhammaine.gov/agendas>

All recent Meeting Minutes of the Durham Historic District Commission

can be found at: <https://durhammaine.gov/documents> Archive Meeting Minutes of the Durham Historic District Commission can be found at: <https://durhammaine.gov/documents>

The DHDC has direction for its Policies and Strategies in the Durham Comprehensive Plan, Section 2, pages 2.1-2.4. (2018) <https://durhammaine.gov/pages/comprehensive-plan-adopted-2018>

Article 12 of the Durham Land Use Ordinance, pages 137-150 on the Town website, specifically defines the Purpose of the Commission (2005, most recent amendment 2024).

https://durhammaine.gov/uploads/attested_land_use_ordinance_2024.pdf



2024 Commission Goals (approved Feb 8, 2024)

1. To identify, preserve, inform and communicate to Durham citizens, the importance of protecting its past resources and historical heritage.
2. To communicate more frequently with the community on the work and role of the Durham Historic District Commission.
3. To work with organizations and members of the community that have an interest in historic resources.
4. To continue to work for the appropriate future use and restoration of the Union Church.
5. To strive to develop a working relationship with Town Officials in which we are all supporting the historical resources in Durham.

#1) The DHDC provided an informational pamphlet at Town Meeting and Election Polls in 2024. Pamphlets are available at the Town Office. All DHDC meetings are open to all residents.

#2) A Facebook page was available. Regular announcements were made as we worked on goals.

#3) The DHDC partnered with the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, the Durham Historical Society and the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions.

#4) The restoration and protection of the Union Church was resolved when residents voted at Town Meeting in April 2024 to turn ownership over to the Durham Historical Society.

#5) Continuing.

Priorities given by the Select Board to the DHDC (May 20, 2024)

- Name Change
- Land Use Ordinance Provisions Overhaul
- Develop Budget for Historic Buildings Survey

First bullet: The Select Board went ahead and renamed the DHDC the Historic Commission, a decision to be voted on by residents at Town Meeting 2025.

Second bullet: Prior Select Board members and Town Planner had assigned a re-write of Articles 5.14 and 12 of the Durham Land Use Ordinances to the DHDC. The DHDC spent three years working on edits to the Land Use Ordinance. Those were submitted to the Select Board on June 24, 2024. The Select Board rejected the work of the DHDC and the Town Attorney was hired to re-write the Land Use Ordinances in December 2024. That document will be voted on by residents at Town Meeting 2025.

Third bullet: The Select Board rejected the Historic Buildings Survey Budget as presented.



Annie Louise Cary

Meetings

Each month DHDC works on several Agenda items. Top priority topics from 2024 are listed here:

- Union Church ownership transfer (Town Meeting 2024 Warrant Articles 17, 27 and 28).
- Informational public relations opportunities.
- Attempts to build a bridge of understanding so the Select Board would understand the DHDC’s Mission, Policies, Strategies and Ordinances as defined in Town documents.
- Attempts to have clarification of the Select Board Priorities given to the DHDC.
- Review the Town Attorney’s changes to Land Use Ordinances 5.14 and 12.

Thank you for your past support and protection of our Town’s historical sites. Residents have shown they understood the importance of safeguarding our heritage when others threatened or ignored that significance. The Commission has worked through difficult times in an effort to align our work with the documents voted on by the residents, but as Bob Dylan sings, “the times they are a-changin’”. New projects are calling and I, for one, will be focusing on protecting and renovating what we still have that is privately owned (the Union Church and West Durham Methodist Church, as examples). If you have questions about the role of the DHDC or the proposed Durham Land Use Ordinance changes impacting historical sites throughout our community, in preparation of Town Meeting 2025, please reach out to the Select Board. Most importantly, a thank you shout-out to the Durham Historic District Commissioners. It takes residents willing to volunteer to protect our past and prepare for Durham’s future.



Respectfully submitted,

Lois Kilby-Chesley, Chair (2025)
David McLellan, Vice Chair (2026)
Emily Alexander, Secretary (2027)
Candy deCsipkes, (2027)
Paula Erdmann Purdy (2025)
Sandra Hilton (2026)

Cemetery Committee Report

The Cemetery Committee works for and under the authority of the Select Board. Our members are unpaid volunteers whose mission is the care and maintenance of the sixteen (16) cemeteries for which the town 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 in Durham.

At our May meeting, we elected officers and discussed that the town's public works will continue to maintain the town cemeteries this year. Thank you for the wonderful job of keeping the cemeteries looking beautiful!

This year the committee members performed the following:

- Inspected all the cemeteries under our jurisdiction.
- Cemetery Clean-ups: this year, cemetery clean-ups were not needed due to the great job Public Works has been doing at maintaining our cemeteries.

No cemetery plot was sold in 2024.

This year, Thomas Stevens Memorials restored Fairfield Cemetery on Swamp Road. Fairfield Cemetery was established in 1812 and consists of 31 memorials. Please be sure to stop and see the beautiful restoration work that Thomas Stevens and his crew completed.



We would also like to thank those individuals and groups who help maintain our cemeteries. Special thanks to the Acacia Masonic Lodge for their work at Cedar Grove Cemetery. We would also like to thank Hunter Howe, Caroline Wheeler, and Maureen Donovan who assisted the Cemetery Committee with placing the Veteran's Memorial Day flags this year.

In 2025, we are aiming to have the crumbling wall repaired at Littlefield Cemetery with the help of Public Works, as well as restoring Waterhouse Cemetery on Auburn Pownal Road.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tia Wilson, Chair
Linda Bowie, Vice Chair
Lindsey Lopes, Secretary
Phil Baker
Joe Donovan
Natasha Skelton
Greg Wilson



Eureka Community Center Report

We are pleased to report that rents have remained the same as last year even with an increase in rent fees. There were 36 rentals in 2024. The daily use of the center has increased for meetings and gatherings. The field was again used by Trek Across Maine and the Dempsey Challenge as a rest stop.

Some of the building needs and upgrades have been addressed:

- New lighting has been installed inside and at both exit doors.
- New exterior doors have been installed.

There are still other repairs or upgrades that need to be addressed:

- Backup heating
- Flooring
- Parking lot lighting



The committee would like to thank the town office staff and the public works crew for all they do for the center. Big thanks to all our volunteers for showing up for annual projects. A special appreciation to the girl scouts who always leave the center in perfect order.

Respectfully submitted,
Eureka Community Center Committee

Pearl Scribner, Chair
Kathleen Lowe, Vice Chair
Anita Sellars
Jeanne Costigan
Cathy Sentner



Solid Waste Report

The Town of Durham contracts with Casella for curbside solid waste and recycling collection. Each bag of regular household waste picked up at curbside must be tagged. There is a weight limit of 25 pounds per bag. Residents may put out 32 gallon trash cans which do not exceed the 25 pounds and tag the can. Residents are allotted 26 tags free of charge per year which are available the first Monday after Town Meeting. New property owners are entitled to a pro-rated number of tags, One (1) for every two weeks remaining until the next Town Meeting. Tags for rental units are limited to 26 regardless of tenant changes. Additional tags can be purchased at the Town Office for \$3 each.



Casella has developed an App that has information specific to the residents of Durham.

The App makes it even easier for you to stay connected about your trash and recycling collection programs and it includes a **collection calendar with reminders**, and a **searchable Waste Wizard A-Z listing tool**.

Download today by **scanning a QR code** with your smartphone camera!

SCAN FOR THE APP STORE

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Town of Durham 2024 - Municipal Solid Waste & Recycling Report (by tons)

Prepared For: Jessica Landberg, Town Clerk

Contacts: Andy Jones, Pine Tree Waste, Inc. Phone: (207) 791-2320 / (207) 303-2369
Talya Bent, Municipal Account Manager Phone: (603) 327-9098

Date: 1/22/25

Month	Municipal Solid Waste (Curbside Services)	Zero-Sort Recycling (Curbside Services)	Recycled Metal	Oversized Bulky Waste/ Construction Debris	Total Tons Collected
January	60.20	24.63	0.00	0.00	84.83
February	66.97	24.10	0.00	0.00	91.07
March	52.98	18.96	0.00	0.00	71.94
April	59.31	21.78	0.00	0.00	81.09
May	74.18	27.17	12.04	33.76	147.15
June	62.85	22.46	0.00	0.00	85.31
July	60.61	20.97	0.00	0.00	81.58
August	77.70	26.98	0.00	0.00	104.68
September	63.41	20.55	0.00	0.00	83.96
October	75.31	26.28	0.00	0.00	101.59
November	59.55	20.07	0.00	0.00	79.62
December	64.56	23.30	0.00	0.00	87.86
Total Tons	777.63	277.25	12.04	33.76	1100.68

Giving Resources New Life[®]

Led by our recycling facilities, annually we recover over **580,000** tons of materials such as cardboard, paper, plastic, glass and metal



1 Recycling Collection

It starts with you tossing items like newspapers, boxes, bottles, and cans into your recycling bin. We pick these materials up from your home and take them to be processed at a materials recycling facility (MRF).

2 Recycling Facility

At the recycling facility we sort and bale commodities like aluminum, cardboard, paper and more. These serve as the source material for recycled products and packaging.

3 Manufacturing

Baled commodities are received by manufacturers as raw materials for making new goods.

4 New Products

Completing the loop, the recyclables you placed into your bin are transformed into new products like boxes, bottles, cans, packaging and even fleece jackets!



Cardboard
becomes



Present Boxes



Paper
becomes



Egg Cartons



Plastic
becomes



Fleece Jackets



Glass
becomes



Roadways



Metal
becomes



New Cans



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Learn more about the recycling process at casella.com/RecycleBetter

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casella.com

Animal Control Report

Calls For Service 2024

	Bowdoin	Durham	Lisbon	Sabattus
Animal Related Issues	14	6	53	17
Missing Animals	13	8	38	0
Cat Complaints	23	8	58	37
Cruelty	2	2	10	1
Dog Bites	5	4	11	12
Barking Dog	2	1	11	5
Dangerous Dog	0	0	1	2
Loose Dog	39	36	127	43
Injured Animal	0	0	0	0
Rabid/Suspected	0	1	0	1
Wildlife	5	5	30	4
Assist Other Agency	0	2	38	41
Poultry/Trespass	0	0	9	0
Swine	0	0	2	0
Institutionalized	0	0	0	0
Animal In Car	0	0	0	0
Total Calls	103	74	388	163



Total Combined 728

Humane Law Enforcement Call For Service History

Year	Bowdoin	Durham	Lisbon	Sabattus
2018	74	25	542	169
2019	83	76	487	100
2020	79	67	423	131
2021	92	69	526	170
2022	70	59	361	146
2023	73	60	389	138
2024	103	74	388	163



January 2025 to June 2026 Proposed Budget



**Town of Durham
FY2026 Budget**

SUMMARY	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Budget	FY2024 Actual	FY2026 Budget	FY24 - FY26 % Norm Var
Funding Requirements					
General Government	\$ 608,747	\$ 667,756	\$ 669,173	\$ 1,143,060	14.1%
Public Safety	535,740	622,495	595,041	1,055,920	13.1%
Public Works	1,680,457	1,865,463	1,830,490	2,880,550	2.9%
Community Services	-	16,700	16,100	1,000	-96.0%
Town-wide	7,513,115	8,247,368	8,239,085	12,239,759	-1.1%
Total Funding Requirements	10,338,059	11,419,782	11,349,889	17,320,289	1.1%
Less: Funding Sources					
Excise Taxes	1,076,440	1,100,000	1,144,570	1,721,000	4.3%
Permits and Fees	76,066	75,400	87,350	129,100	14.1%
Intergovernmental	1,146,438	1,013,074	1,029,404	1,270,300	-16.4%
Charges for Services	167,942	172,000	196,579	279,370	8.3%
Other Revenues	36,385	65,000	152,143	252,000	158.5%
Other Financing Sources	47,754	-	-	-	
Total Funding Sources	2,551,025	2,425,474	2,610,046	3,651,770	0.4%
Equals: Deficit (Surplus) Before Changes in Fund Balance and Taxes	7,787,034	8,994,308	8,739,843	13,668,519	1.3%
Additions to (Use of) Fund Balance	259,011	(668,000)	(419,292)	(740,000)	-26.1%
Equals: Property Tax Levy	\$ 8,046,045	\$ 8,326,308	\$ 8,320,551	\$ 12,928,519	3.5%
Taxable Valuation (\$ thousands)	\$ 376,001	\$ 382,819	\$ 382,819	\$ 382,819	-33.3%
Mil Rate (per \$1,000)	\$ 21.350	\$ 21.750	\$ 21.750	\$ 33.772	3.5%

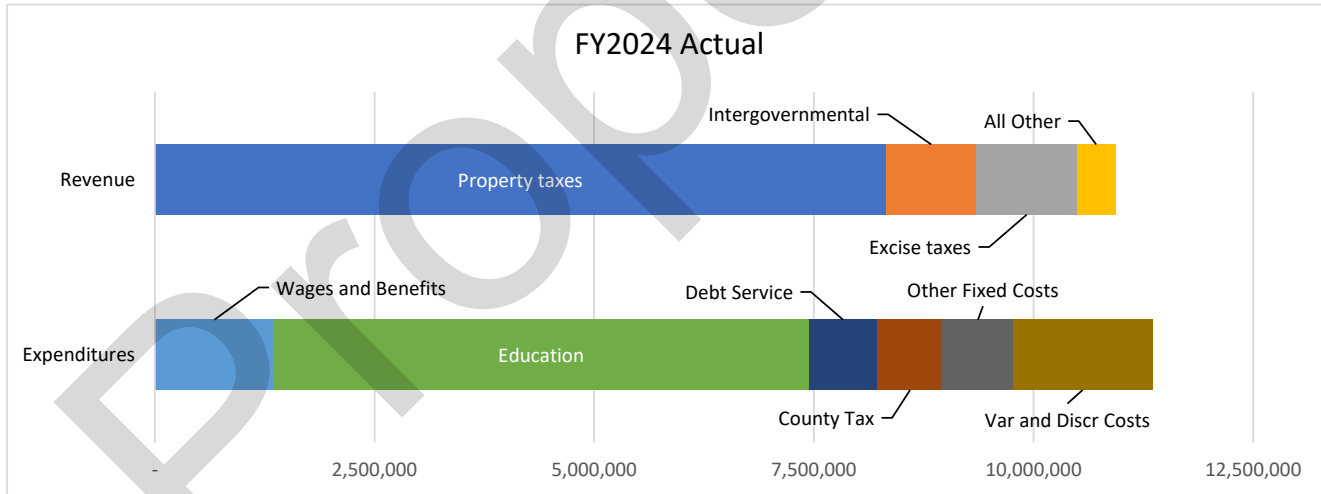
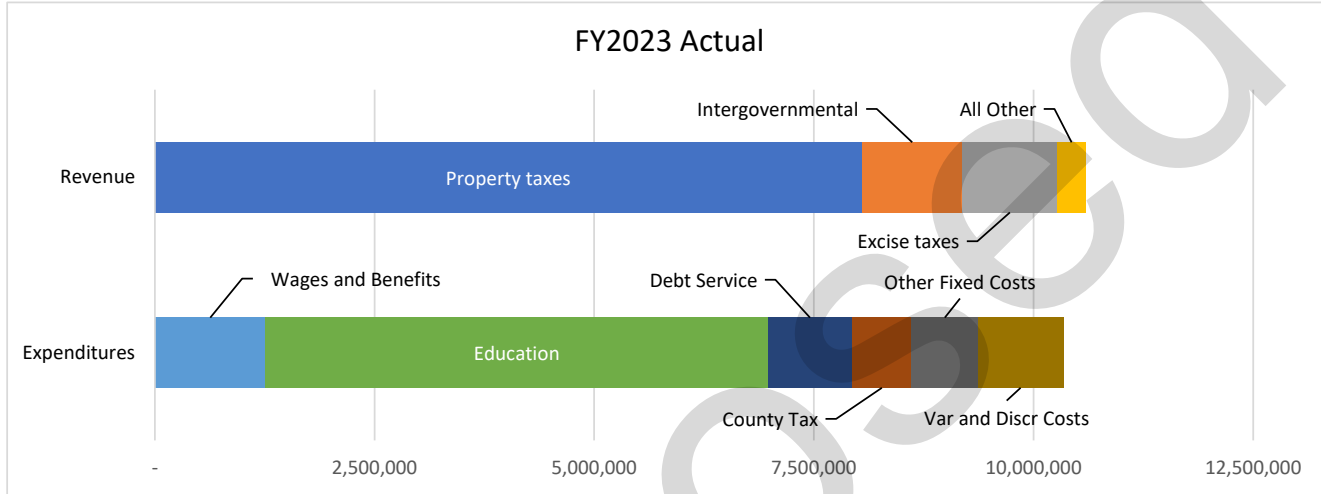
**Town of Durham
FY2026 Budget**

Categorized Expenditures	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Budget	FY2024 Actual	FY2026 Budget	FY24 - FY26 % Norm Var
Wages and Benefits					
Administration	\$ 314,161	\$ 304,856	\$ 322,965	\$ 526,700	15.2%
Planning and Code Enforcement	38,711	117,500	110,520	184,310	4.6%
Fire Department	361,800	412,445	380,673	721,220	16.6%
Public Works	541,092	549,878	532,798	846,850	2.7%
Municipal Buildings	4,638	6,785	6,150	14,000	37.6%
Total Wages and Benefits	1,260,402	1,391,464	1,353,106	2,293,080	9.9%
Fixed Costs					
Education	5,716,355	6,088,292	6,088,292	10,022,466	9.7%
Debt service	958,390	780,349	782,712	805,318	-31.2%
County tax	677,388	742,140	742,140	816,323	-26.7%
Contracts and set fees	644,237	641,450	703,908	1,186,450	23.3%
Utilities and fuel	110,376	118,350	96,764	196,250	10.5%
Total Fixed Costs	8,106,746	8,370,581	8,413,816	13,026,807	3.8%
Variable and Discretionary Costs					
Roads maintenance	488,845	650,500	612,997	844,700	-13.4%
Transfers to reserves	152,596	616,836	616,836	595,652	-35.6%
Supplies and equipment	46,414	67,300	74,158	103,900	2.9%
Abatements and bad debt	8,386	19,751	9,105	-	-100.0%
Community services	-	16,700	16,100	1,000	-96.0%
All other expenditures	274,670	286,650	253,771	455,150	5.9%
Total Variable and Discretionary Costs	970,911	1,657,737	1,582,967	2,000,402	-19.6%
Total Expenditures	\$ 10,338,059	\$ 11,419,782	\$ 11,349,889	\$ 17,320,289	1.1%

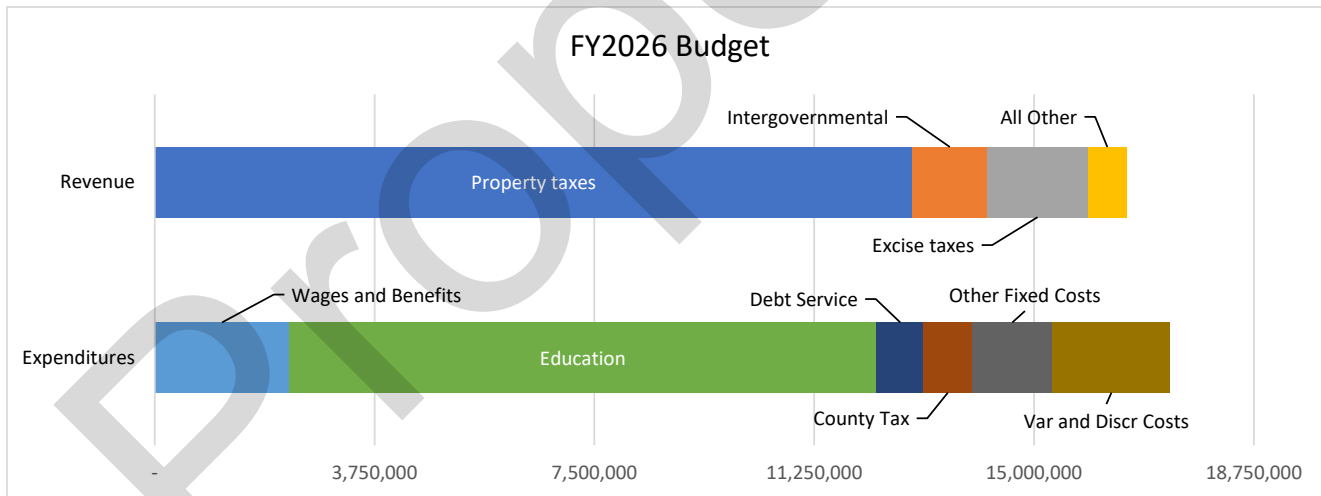
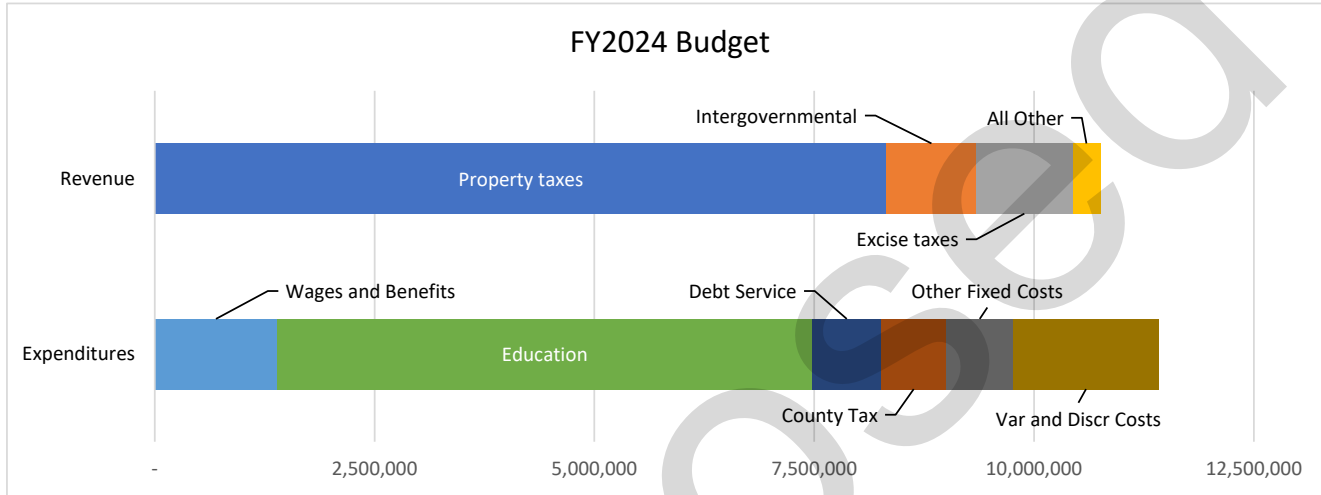
**Town of Durham
FY2026 Budget**

Category % of Total Expenditures	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Budget	FY2024 Actual	FY2026 Budget
Wages and Benefits				
Administration	3.0%	2.7%	2.8%	3.0%
Planning and Code Enforcement	0.4%	1.0%	1.0%	1.1%
Fire Department	3.5%	3.6%	3.4%	4.2%
Public Works	5.2%	4.8%	4.7%	4.9%
Municipal Buildings	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Total Wages and Benefits	12.2%	12.2%	11.9%	13.2%
Fixed Costs				
Education	55.3%	53.3%	53.6%	57.9%
Debt service	9.3%	6.8%	6.9%	4.6%
County tax	6.6%	6.5%	6.5%	4.7%
Contracts and set fees	6.2%	5.6%	6.2%	6.9%
Utilities and fuel	1.1%	1.0%	0.9%	1.1%
Total Fixed Costs	78.4%	73.3%	74.1%	75.2%
Variable and Discretionary Costs				
Roads maintenance	4.7%	5.7%	5.4%	4.9%
Transfers to reserves	1.5%	5.4%	5.4%	3.4%
Supplies and equipment	0.4%	0.6%	0.7%	0.6%
Abatements and bad debt	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.0%
Community services	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
All other expenditures	2.7%	2.5%	2.2%	2.6%
Total Variable and Discretionary Costs	9.4%	14.5%	13.9%	11.5%
Total Expenditures	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Town of Durham FY2026 Budget



Town of Durham FY2026 Budget



**Town of Durham
FY2026 Budget**

FUNDING SOURCES		FY2023	FY2024	FY2024	FY2026	FY24 - FY26
		Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	% Norm Var
Excise Taxes						
11-6100	Motor Vehicle Excise	\$ 1,070,148	\$ 1,095,000	\$ 1,140,564	\$ 1,715,000	4.4%
11-6105	Other Excise	6,292	5,000	4,006	6,000	-20.0%
	Total Excise Taxes	1,076,440	1,100,000	1,144,570	1,721,000	4.3%
Permits and Fees						
12-6200	Town Clerk Fees	25,945	26,000	30,356	45,000	15.4%
12-6205	Lien Fees	529	-	1,380	2,000	
12-6210	Planning Board Fees	4,735	3,000	10,671	15,500	244.4%
12-6215	Code Enforcement Fees	41,350	45,000	43,395	65,000	-3.7%
12-6220	Dog Licenses	1,457	1,400	1,273	1,600	-23.8%
12-6299	Miscellaneous Permits and Fees	2,050	-	275	-	
	Total Permits and Fees	76,066	75,400	87,350	129,100	14.1%
Intergovernmental						
13-6300	State Revenue Sharing	740,214	638,052	680,649	925,000	-3.4%
13-6305	Homestead Exemption	302,687	269,001	262,933	260,000	-35.6%
13-6310	Business Equipment Tax Exemption	14	3,021	4,460	1,500	-66.9%
13-6315	Veterans Exemption	3,142	3,000	2,743	2,800	-37.8%
13-6320	Tree Growth	37,147	35,000	11,301	12,000	-77.1%
13-6325	Local Road Assistance Program	63,108	65,000	63,916	65,000	-33.3%
13-6330	Snowmobile Program	-	-	2,032	4,000	
13-6345	General Assistance	-	-	-	-	
13-6399	Miscellaneous Intergovernmental	126	-	1,370	-	
	Total Intergovernmental	1,146,438	1,013,074	1,029,404	1,270,300	-16.4%

**Town of Durham
FY2026 Budget**

FUNDING SOURCES		FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Budget	FY2024 Actual	FY2026 Budget	FY24 - FY26 % Norm Var
Charges for Services						
14-6425	Eureka Rental Fees	\$ 2,205	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,350	\$ 3,250	8.3%
14-6430	Cemetery Lots	-	-	60	-	
14-6450	Junkyard Fees	-	-	120	120	
14-6451	User Fees and Trash Tags	30,194	30,000	38,661	50,000	11.1%
14-6460	Cable Franchise Fees	42,596	45,000	37,462	51,000	-24.4%
14-6470	Ambulance Fees	92,612	95,000	117,780	175,000	22.8%
14-6499	Misc Charges for Services	335	-	146	-	
	Total Charges for Services	167,942	172,000	196,579	279,370	8.3%
Other Revenues						
19-6900	Interest on Property Taxes	16,124	20,000	34,716	52,000	73.3%
19-6910	Interest Income	28,929	20,000	112,776	200,000	566.7%
19-6950	Private Donations	2,000	-	-	-	
19-6999	Miscellaneous Revenue	(10,668)	25,000	4,651	-	-100.0%
	Total Other Revenues	36,385	65,000	152,143	252,000	158.5%
Other Financing Sources						
99-8000	Transfers In	47,754	-	-	-	
	Total Other Financing Sources	47,754	-	-	-	
TOTAL FUNDING SOURCES		\$ 2,551,025	\$ 2,425,474	\$ 2,610,046	\$ 3,651,770	0.4%

**Town of Durham
FY2026 Budget**

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS		FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Budget	FY2024 Actual	FY2026 Budget	FY24 - FY26 % Norm Var
General Government						
20	Administration	\$ 497,447	\$ 473,656	\$ 480,279	\$ 808,250	13.8%
23	Assessing	20,525	22,800	19,669	32,700	-4.4%
26	Information Technology	47,752	47,000	54,301	108,600	54.0%
27	Planning and Code Enforcement	43,023	124,300	114,924	193,510	3.8%
	Total General Government	608,747	667,756	669,173	1,143,060	14.1%
Public Safety						
30	Fire Department	517,334	603,845	582,702	1,026,920	13.4%
39	Other Public Safety	18,406	18,650	12,339	29,000	3.7%
	Total Public Safety	535,740	622,495	595,041	1,055,920	13.1%
Public Works						
40	Public Works	1,268,718	1,454,228	1,363,565	2,102,500	-3.6%
41	Municipal Buildings	37,589	22,235	20,138	52,250	56.7%
42	Solid Waste	374,150	389,000	446,787	725,800	24.4%
	Total Public Works	1,680,457	1,865,463	1,830,490	2,880,550	2.9%
Community Services						
69	Other Community Services	-	16,700	16,100	1,000	-96.0%
	Total Community Services	-	16,700	16,100	1,000	-96.0%

**Town of Durham
FY2026 Budget**

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS		FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Budget	FY2024 Actual	FY2026 Budget	FY24 - FY26 % Norm Var
Town-wide						
92	Debt Service	958,390	780,349	782,712	805,318	-31.2%
96	Assessments and Fixed Costs	6,393,743	6,830,432	6,830,432	10,838,789	5.8%
97	Abatements and Bad Debt	8,386	19,751	9,105	-	-100.0%
99	Other Financing Uses	152,596	616,836	616,836	595,652	-35.6%
	Total Town-wide	7,513,115	8,247,368	8,239,085	12,239,759	-1.1%
TOTAL FUNDING REQUIREMENTS		\$ 10,338,059	\$ 11,419,782	\$ 11,349,889	\$ 17,320,289	1.1%

Proposed

**Town of Durham
FY2026 Budget**

General Government		FY2023	FY2024	FY2024	FY2026	FY24 - FY26
		Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	% Norm Var
Administration						
20-7000	Department Head Wages	\$ 100,877	\$ 110,000	\$ 111,450	\$ 171,420	3.9%
20-7015	Full Time Staff Wages	128,270	93,000	116,143	217,950	56.2%
20-7020	Part Time Staff Wages	16,632	45,000	26,509	-	-100.0%
20-7026	Election Worker Wages	3,673	4,000	7,080	6,600	10.0%
20-7030	Elected Official Wages	11,180	11,500	11,017	15,480	-10.3%
20-7050	Payroll Taxes	14,720	8,400	8,327	11,490	-8.8%
20-7055	Health Insurance	24,334	15,600	19,819	67,030	186.5%
20-7070	Workers Comp	5,847	3,256	3,541	2,420	-50.5%
20-7075	Retirement	8,628	14,100	19,079	34,310	62.2%
20-7105	Training and Development	2,677	4,000	2,395	6,000	0.0%
20-7110	Travel and Mileage	1,887	500	52	500	-33.3%
20-7200	Heat	308	2,500	1,328	3,750	0.0%
20-7201	Electricity	60	4,000	3,432	6,000	0.0%
20-7210	Telephone and Internet	274	6,300	4,419	7,000	-25.9%
20-7220	Legal	3,088	10,000	8,505	22,500	50.0%
20-7221	Auditor	18,500	13,000	15,000	17,000	-12.8%
20-7222	Business Services	44,658	30,000	30,854	65,000	44.4%
20-7223	Payroll Processing Services	-	10,000	4,916	10,000	-33.3%
20-7250	Equipment Rentals	3,885	4,300	3,840	5,000	-22.5%
20-7253	Building Repairs and Maint	-	5,000	3,375	7,500	0.0%
20-7340	General Insurance	39,156	45,000	45,081	72,000	6.7%
20-7350	Advertising	80	1,500	-	1,500	-33.3%
20-7351	Printing and Copying	2,597	5,000	4,629	10,000	33.3%
20-7352	Postage and Freight	1,463	1,500	4,449	7,000	211.1%
20-7354	Dues and Subscriptions	14,166	14,500	15,505	22,000	1.1%
20-7356	Software Licenses	44,322	-	-	-	
20-7400	General Supplies	5,974	6,500	4,020	7,000	-28.2%
20-7800	Lien Costs	141	1,500	2,150	3,000	33.3%
20-7801	Election Costs	(223)	2,200	2,374	3,000	-9.1%
20-7999	Miscellaneous Expenditures	273	1,500	990	5,800	157.8%
	Total Administration	497,447	473,656	480,279	808,250	13.8%

**Town of Durham
FY2026 Budget**

General Government		FY2023	FY2024	FY2024	FY2026	FY24 - FY26
		Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	% Norm Var
Assessing						
23-7228	Mapping	2,225	2,800	203	2,800	-33.3%
23-7235	Assessing Services	18,000	19,200	18,800	28,800	0.0%
23-7400	General Supplies	212	250	-	250	-33.3%
23-7802	Deeds Costs	-	300	426	600	33.3%
23-7999	Miscellaneous Expenditures	88	250	240	250	-33.3%
	Total Assessing	20,525	22,800	19,669	32,700	-4.4%
Information Technology						
26-7020	Part Time Staff Wages	\$ 25,976	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
26-7050	Payroll Taxes	1,788	-	-	-	
26-7212	IT Services	13,109	15,000	17,496	51,000	126.7%
26-7213	Website	2,415	3,000	5,696	10,100	124.4%
26-7351	Printing and Copying	1,928	-	-	-	
26-7356	Software Licenses	1,033	24,000	27,359	40,000	11.1%
26-7400	General Supplies	202	-	-	-	
26-7404	Hardware	1,301	5,000	3,750	7,500	0.0%
	Total Information Technology	47,752	47,000	54,301	108,600	54.0%

**Town of Durham
FY2026 Budget**

General Government		FY2023	FY2024	FY2024	FY2026	FY24 - FY26
		Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	% Norm Var
Planning and Code Enforcement						
27-7015	Full Time Staff Wages	-	60,500	58,042	93,810	3.4%
27-7020	Part Time Staff Wages	33,352	40,000	40,390	65,100	8.5%
27-7035	Committee Member Wages	2,300	6,000	1,100	5,400	-40.0%
27-7050	Payroll Taxes	2,732	4,400	3,655	8,430	27.7%
27-7070	Workers Comp	-	-	-	2,430	
27-7055	Health Insurance	302	1,200	1,797	870	-51.7%
27-7075	Retirement	25	5,400	5,536	8,270	2.1%
27-7110	Travel and Mileage	-	2,000	1,982	3,000	0.0%
27-7220	Legal	630	-	-	-	
27-7350	Advertising	111	500	365	700	-6.7%
27-7352	Postage and Freight	889	1,500	264	1,500	-33.3%
27-7354	Dues and Subscriptions	1,280	1,300	658	1,750	-10.3%
27-7400	General Supplies	950	1,000	650	1,500	0.0%
27-7999	Miscellaneous Expenditures	452	500	485	750	0.0%
	Total Planning and Code Enforcement	43,023	124,300	114,924	193,510	3.8%
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT		\$ 608,747	\$ 667,756	\$ 669,173	\$ 1,143,060	14.1%

**Town of Durham
FY2026 Budget**

Public Safety		FY2023	FY2024	FY2024	FY2026	FY24 - FY26
		Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	% Norm Var
Fire Department						
30-7000	Department Head Wages	\$ 76,179	\$ 81,035	\$ 80,664	\$ 125,810	3.5%
30-7020	Part Time Staff Wages	202,136	262,222	232,391	458,850	16.7%
30-7050	Payroll Taxes	21,987	21,600	19,055	42,800	32.1%
30-7055	Health Insurance	2,449	2,500	2,440	3,750	0.0%
30-7070	Workers Comp	50,670	33,238	35,273	64,320	29.0%
30-7075	Retirement	3,436	7,250	7,370	11,090	2.0%
30-7100	Stipends	4,943	4,600	3,480	14,600	111.6%
30-7105	Training and Development	3,310	7,000	4,355	10,000	-4.8%
30-7200	Heat	11,326	8,000	6,217	10,000	-16.7%
30-7201	Electricity	7,908	9,000	7,273	12,000	-11.1%
30-7210	Telephone and Internet	827	5,900	6,855	13,500	52.5%
30-7229	Dispatch Services	31,662	27,000	27,977	35,000	-13.6%
30-7230	Ambulance Services	16,665	20,000	32,876	45,000	50.0%
30-7252	Equipment Repairs and Maintenance	49,542	20,000	25,723	35,000	16.7%
30-7253	Building Repairs and Maintenance	10,931	12,000	7,340	18,000	0.0%
30-7255	Vehicle Repairs and Maintenance	-	40,000	28,641	60,000	0.0%
30-7354	Dues and Subscriptions	2,160	3,000	1,480	4,500	0.0%
30-7400	General Supplies	1,651	4,800	1,645	7,200	0.0%
30-7502	Radios	-	6,000	4,068	10,000	11.1%
30-7504	Safety Equipment	13,423	15,000	35,356	25,000	11.1%
30-7550	Gas and Diesel	5,790	10,700	7,872	16,000	-0.3%
30-7999	Miscellaneous Expenditures	339	3,000	4,351	4,500	0.0%
	Total Fire Department	517,334	603,845	582,702	1,026,920	13.4%
Other Public Safety						
39-7240	Animal Control	18,406	18,650	12,339	29,000	3.7%
	Total Other Public Safety	18,406	18,650	12,339	29,000	3.7%
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY		\$ 535,740	\$ 622,495	\$ 595,041	\$ 1,055,920	13.1%

**Town of Durham
FY2026 Budget**

Public Works		FY2023	FY2024	FY2024	FY2026	FY24 - FY26
Public Works		Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	% Norm Var
40-7000	Department Head Wages	\$ 73,486	\$ 77,200	\$ 76,919	\$ 119,820	3.5%
40-7015	Full Time Staff Wages	279,138	263,000	247,396	378,650	-4.0%
40-7016	Overtime Wages	3,516	30,000	23,053	46,420	3.2%
40-7020	Part Time Staff Wages	12,636	15,000	21,103	34,160	51.8%
40-7050	Payroll Taxes	23,689	5,700	6,039	16,370	91.5%
40-7055	Health Insurance	91,439	99,715	97,652	166,840	11.5%
40-7070	Workers Comp	40,926	25,063	28,740	34,800	-7.4%
40-7075	Retirement	14,222	33,000	30,396	47,990	-3.1%
40-7100	Stipends	2,040	1,200	1,500	1,800	0.0%
40-7105	Training and Development	469	1,000	1,050	2,250	50.0%
40-7200	Heat	6,317	7,000	5,819	10,000	-4.8%
40-7201	Electricity	9,052	8,000	6,744	10,500	-12.5%
40-7210	Telephone and Internet	6,651	5,100	4,747	8,000	4.6%
40-7249	Other Contracted Services	7,928	10,000	9,491	40,000	166.7%
40-7250	Equipment Rentals	3,412	10,000	9,779	15,000	0.0%
40-7252	Equipment Repairs and Maintenance	128,414	40,000	30,624	60,000	0.0%
40-7253	Building Repairs and Maintenance	14,393	12,000	12,319	15,000	-16.7%
40-7254	Grounds Maintenance	-	10,000	6,306	-	-100.0%
40-7255	Vehicle Repairs and Maintenance	-	80,000	73,311	120,000	0.0%
40-7256	Tree Services	5,200	6,000	3,500	9,000	0.0%
40-7257	Paving and Road Work	285,158	400,000	379,157	400,000	-33.3%
40-7258	Road Painting and Striping	-	16,000	18,858	20,000	-16.7%
40-7259	Crack Sealing	-	15,000	15,000	20,000	-11.1%
40-7400	General Supplies	5,054	4,500	4,063	6,750	0.0%
40-7450	Salt	160,214	147,000	133,120	294,000	33.3%
40-7451	Liquid De-Icer	-	16,000	14,854	32,000	33.3%
40-7452	Winter Sand	-	7,000	6,456	7,000	-33.3%
40-7454	Gravel, Asphalt, Tar, Concrete	26,961	31,000	29,317	46,500	0.0%
40-7455	Erosion Control	2,867	3,500	3,688	5,200	-1.0%
40-7456	Signs	3,519	4,000	4,047	6,000	0.0%
40-7457	Culverts	4,926	5,000	5,000	5,000	-33.3%
40-7500	Small Equipment	2,081	3,500	2,502	5,200	-1.0%

**Town of Durham
FY2026 Budget**

		FY2023	FY2024	FY2024	FY2026	FY24 - FY26
		Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	% Norm Var
Public Works						
Public Works						
40-7501	Tools	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 689	\$ 1,500	0.0%
40-7502	Radios	2,187	2,500	572	3,000	-20.0%
40-7503	Uniforms	2,017	2,750	2,932	6,500	57.6%
40-7504	Safety Equipment	2,760	3,000	3,252	4,500	0.0%
40-7549	Miscellaneous Equipment	4,992	7,500	7,325	11,250	0.0%
40-7550	Gas and Diesel	43,054	45,000	35,639	90,000	33.3%
40-7999	Miscellaneous Expenditures	-	1,000	606	1,500	0.0%
	Total Public Works	1,268,718	1,454,228	1,363,565	2,102,500	-3.6%
Municipal Buildings						
41-7020	Part Time Staff Wages	\$ 4,311	\$ 6,300	\$ 5,713	\$ 12,420	31.4%
41-7050	Payroll Taxes	327	485	437	1,080	48.5%
41-7070	Workers Comp	-	-	-	500	
41-7200	Heat	4,066	-	-	500	
41-7201	Electricity	7,607	6,200	5,763	9,000	-3.2%
41-7210	Telephone and Internet	7,136	650	656	-	-100.0%
41-7249	Other Contracted Services	3,530	-	-	-	
41-7253	Building Repairs and Maint	2,116	5,000	4,617	8,500	13.3%
41-7254	Grounds Maintenance	1,823	-	-	15,000	
41-7359	Street Lights	2,215	-	-	-	
41-7362	Security	1,728	1,600	1,698	1,500	-37.5%
41-7400	General Supplies	649	1,000	391	750	-50.0%
41-7808	Flags	1,103	1,000	863	3,000	100.0%
41-7820	Union Church Costs	978	-	-	-	
	Total Municipal Buildings	37,589	22,235	20,138	52,250	56.7%

**Town of Durham
FY2026 Budget**

Public Works		FY2023	FY2024	FY2024	FY2026	FY24 - FY26
Solid Waste		Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	% Norm Var
42-7231	Hauling	361,304	375,000	429,672	690,000	22.7%
42-XXXX	Composting Program	-	-	-	-	
42-7407	Tags	1,858	2,000	2,080	3,000	0.0%
42-7815	Bulky Waste Day	10,988	12,000	15,035	32,800	82.2%
	Total Solid Waste	374,150	389,000	446,787	725,800	24.4%
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS		\$ 1,680,457	\$ 1,865,463	\$ 1,830,490	\$ 2,880,550	2.9%

Proposed

**Town of Durham
FY2026 Budget**

Community Services	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Budget	FY2024 Actual	FY2026 Budget	FY24 - FY26 % Norm Var
Other Community Services					
69-7805 General Assistance	\$ -	\$ 600	\$ -	\$ 1,000	11.1%
69-7807 Outside Organizations	-	16,100	16,100	-	-100.0%
Total Other Community Services	-	16,700	16,100	1,000	-96.0%
 TOTAL COMMUNITY SERVICES	 \$ -	 \$ 16,700	 \$ 16,100	 \$ 1,000	 -96.0%

Proposed

**Town of Durham
FY2026 Budget**

Town-wide		FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Budget	FY2024 Actual	FY2026 Budget	FY24 - FY26 % Norm Var
Debt Service						
92-7900	Debt Service Principal	848,060	691,867	693,296	698,798	-32.7%
92-7901	Debt Service Interest	110,330	88,482	89,416	106,520	-19.7%
	Total Debt Service	958,390	780,349	782,712	805,318	-31.2%
Assessments and Fixed Costs						
96-7910	County Tax	677,388	742,140	742,140	816,323	-26.7%
96-7915	Education	5,716,355	6,088,292	6,088,292	10,022,466	9.7%
	Total Assessments and Fixed Costs	6,393,743	6,830,432	6,830,432	10,838,789	5.8%
Abatements and Bad Debt						
97-7970	Tax Abatements	8,386	19,751	9,105	-	-100.0%
	Total Abatements and Bad Debt	8,386	19,751	9,105	-	-100.0%
Other Financing Uses						
99-8500	Transfers Out	152,596	616,836	616,836	595,652	-35.6%
	Total Other Financing Uses	152,596	616,836	616,836	595,652	-35.6%
TOTAL TOWN-WIDE		\$ 7,513,115	\$ 8,247,368	\$ 8,239,085	\$ 12,239,759	-1.1%

**Town of Durham
FY2026 Budget**

Fund #	Fund Name	FY24 Beginning Fund Balance	Revenue	Transfers In (Transfers Out)	Expenditures	FY24 Ending Fund Balance
01	General Fund	\$ 3,683,470	\$ 10,930,597	\$ (616,836)	\$ (10,733,053)	\$ 3,264,178
02	ARPA Fund	169,630	-	-	(63,873)	105,757
03	Zoning Compliance Fund	5,000	-	-	(5,000)	-
04	River Park Donations Reserve	8,021	180	-	-	8,201
05	Scholarships Reserve	12,797	333	-	(1,000)	12,130
06	Heating Assistance Reserve	10,956	100	2,089	-	13,145
07	Giving Tree Reserve	1,884	205	(2,089)	-	-
08	Historic District Commission Reserve	1,330	-	-	-	1,330
09	Jackson-Tupper Memorial Reserve	123	-	-	-	123
	Total Restricted	209,741	818	-	(69,873)	140,686
70	Emergency Reserve	16,953	-	-	-	16,953
71	Grants Matching Reserve	27,077	22,446	2,293	(24,968)	26,848
72	Recreation Reserve	23,742	-	-	-	23,742
73	Telecommunications Reserve	78,824	-	-	(5,293)	73,531
74	Revaluation Reserve	60,000	-	160,000	-	220,000
75	Eureka Capital Reserve	3,719	-	50,000	(4,903)	48,816
76	Fire Rescue Capital Reserve	142,091	-	180,000	-	322,091
77	Municipal Building Capital Reserve	90,512	4,413	10,000	(34,039)	70,886
78	Public Works Capital Reserve	139,015	-	205,000	(14,215)	329,800
79	Union Church Restoration Reserve	21,633	649	9,543	-	31,825
	Total Committed	603,566	27,508	616,836	(83,418)	1,164,492
80	Cemetery Permanent Fund	7,733	174	-	-	7,907
	Total Governmental Fund Balances	\$ 4,504,510	\$ 10,959,097	\$ -	\$ (10,886,344)	\$ 4,577,263

Notes

- A
- B
- C

**2025
Durham Town Warrant**



FISCAL YEAR 2026 DURHAM TOWN WARRANT ARTICLES

To: Kimberly Garneau, 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 Durham Eureka Community Center, 606 Hallowell Road, Durham, Maine on Friday, April 4, 2025 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, April 5, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., then and there to act upon Articles 3 through 34 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 of Durham will vote to raise and appropriate an amount not to exceed one-and-a-half times the 2024 Durham Municipal Budget for any budget articles **not** approved in this warrant.

OPERATING BUDGET ARTICLES

Note that all requested amounts to be raised and appropriated below are for an eighteen-month period running from January 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026. This period is referred to as “Fiscal Year 2026” and “FY26” in these warrant articles.

- Article 5** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$1,143,060** for General Government.

	<u>FY24 Appr</u>	<u>FY26 Req</u>
Administration	\$ 473,656	\$ 808,250
Assessing	22,800	32,700
Information Technology	47,000	108,600
Planning and Code Enforcement	124,300	193,510

Select Board recommends \$1,143,060
Budget Committee recommends \$1,065,375

FISCAL YEAR 2026 DURHAM TOWN WARRANT ARTICLES

Article 6 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$1,055,920** for Public Safety.

	FY24 Appr	FY26 Req
Fire Department	\$ 603,845	\$ 1,026,920
Animal Control	18,650	29,000

Select Board and Budget Committee recommend Approval.

Article 7 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$2,880,550** for Public Works.

	FY24 Appr	FY26 Req
Public Works	\$ 1,454,228	\$ 2,102,500
Municipal Buildings & Grounds	22,235	52,250
Solid Waste Hauling	375,000	690,000
Tags	2,000	3,000
Bulky Waste Day	12,000	32,800

Select Board and Budget Committee recommend Approval.

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

	FY24 Appr	FY26 Req
General Assistance	\$ 600	\$ 1,000
Outside Organizations	16,100	0

Select Board and Budget Committee recommend Approval.

Article 9 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$805,318** for Debt Service.

	FY24 Appr	FY26 Req
Debt Service	\$ 780,349	\$ 805,318

Select Board and Budget Committee recommend Approval.

FISCAL YEAR 2026 DURHAM TOWN WARRANT ARTICLES

ADDITIONS TO RESERVES ARTICLES

Article 10 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$270,000** 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 and Budget Committee recommend Approval.

Article 11 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$305,500** 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 Approval.

Article 12 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$15,000** 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 and Budget Committee recommend Approval.

Article 13 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$3,152** for the Grants Matching 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 Approval.

FUNDING SOURCES ARTICLES

Article 14 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.

	<u>FY24 Est</u>	<u>FY26 Est</u>
Excise Taxes	\$ 1,100,000	\$ 1,721,000
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	75,400	129,100
Intergovernmental Revenue	1,013,074	1,270,300
Charges for Services	172,000	279,370
Other Revenues	65,000	252,000

Select Board and Budget Committee recommend Approval.

FISCAL YEAR 2026 DURHAM TOWN WARRANT ARTICLES

- Article 15** To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to appropriate up to **\$740,000** 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 and Budget Committee recommend Approval.

APPROPRIATION FROM RESERVES

- Article 16** To see if the Town will vote to consolidate the Telecommunications Reserve and Eureka Center Capital Reserve with the Municipal Buildings Capital Reserve and to revise the stated purpose of the reserve as follows:

The Municipal Buildings Reserve shall be used to pay for acquisitions, construction, or improvements of municipal buildings and grounds, including equipment, furniture, information technology, and other necessary items to furnish and equip them. Unexpended balances of the reserve shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year but shall, instead, carry forward from year to year.

- Article 17** To see if the Town will vote to rename the Emergency Reserve as the Contingency Reserve and to establish the stated purpose of the reserve as follows:

The Contingency Reserve shall be used to pay for unplanned, unbudgeted, or underbudgeted expenditures if they arise during the fiscal year. Unexpended balances of the reserve shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year but shall, instead, carry forward from year to year.

- Article 18** To see if the town will vote to transfer \$33,047 from the Municipal Buildings Capital Reserve to the Contingency Reserve to bring the Contingency Reserve balance to \$50,000.

FISCAL YEAR 2026 DURHAM TOWN WARRANT ARTICLES

ORDINANCE WARRANT ARTICLES

Article 19 To see if the Town will vote to adopt the updated General Assistance Ordinance, as recommended by the Select Board, to bring the ordinance into compliance with State law (22 M.R.S. § 4305) and the most recent Maine Municipal Association (MMA) model ordinance, including any future updates to maximum assistance levels as required by the Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Explanation: This article updates Durham's General Assistance Ordinance to reflect current State law and guidance from the Maine Municipal Association. The ordinance governs financial assistance for residents in need. Adoption ensures compliance with State requirements and eligibility for reimbursement.

Article 20 To see if the Town will vote to enact amendments to the Land Use Ordinance as set forth in the document "Town of Durham, Land Use Ordinance as Adopted at Town Meeting, April 6, 2024, Proposed Revisions for Town Meeting, April 5, 2025, PART 1 – DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO THE RESOURCE PROTECTION DISTRICT TO MATCH THE LATEST STATE DATA & GIVE RELIEF FOR BUILDINGS IN THE RP DISTRICT (Article 2 & Zoning Map)" to remove areas previously designated as Beginning with Habitat 6+ natural resource values and to grant relief to landowners with existing buildings in Resource Protection.

Article 21 To see if the Town will vote to enact amendments to the Land Use Ordinance as set forth in the document "Town of Durham, Land Use Ordinance as Adopted at Town Meeting, April 6, 2024, Proposed Revisions for Town Meeting, April 5, 2025, PART 2 – DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO APPLY CONTRACT ZONING TO ANY LARGE BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE OR SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM & ENACT BESS STANDARDS (LUO Articles 2, 3, 5, & 19)" to require contract zoning approval for large-scale energy projects and enact safety and other performance standards to apply to commercial and industrial scale battery energy storage systems.

Article 22 To see if the Town will vote to enact amendments to the Land Use Ordinance as set forth in the document "Town of Durham, Land Use Ordinance as Adopted at Town Meeting, April 6, 2024, Proposed Revisions for Town Meeting, April 5, 2025, PART 4 – DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO REVISE THE PROCESS AND STANDARDS FOR PROJECTS INVOLVING HISTORIC PROPERTIES (LUO Articles 5, 12, & 19)" to bring Durham's historic preservation standards and regulatory process into consistency with State law and Durham's comprehensive plan.

FISCAL YEAR 2026 DURHAM TOWN WARRANT ARTICLES

BUSINESS ARTICLES

- Article 23** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to accept a deed from the Durham Cemetery Association for the cemetery property described in a deed from said Association recorded in the Androscoggin County Registry of Deeds at Book 7532, Page 346 and depicted on the Town's tax maps as Map 006, Lot CEM, and to take all other actions necessary to assume contracts and other responsibilities related to care and management of said cemetery.
- Article 24** To see if the Town will vote to change the Annual Town Meeting from the first Saturday in April to the second Saturday in June starting with June 13, 2026.
- Article 25** 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 26** To see what action the Town will take in regard to fixing interest on delinquent taxes and establishing a date for interest to start. Interest shall begin to accrue on all unpaid taxes forty-five days after the date taxes are committed. The interest rate on delinquent taxes shall be the maximum allowable by State Law.
- Article 27** To see if the Town will vote to leave the appointment of standing committee members and officials in the hands of the Select Board.
- Article 28** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to dispose of town owned property which they determine is no longer needed or usable by the town, on such terms as they deem advisable.
- Article 29** 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 and allow the Select Board to authorize the Treasurer to waive automatic lien foreclosures when it is in the best interest of the Town.

FISCAL YEAR 2026 DURHAM TOWN WARRANT ARTICLES

- Article 30** 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 MRSA § 506-A.
- Article 31** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector or Treasurer to accept prepayments of taxes not yet due or assessed, and to pay interest thereon at an interest rate of 0% pursuant to 36 MRSA § 506.
- Article 32** 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 33** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to borrow money on notes approved by at least three members of the Select Board and countersigned by the Select Board Chair, to pay for the operating costs of the Town.
- Article 34** 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.

Given under our hands this 25th day of March 2025 by the Durham Select Board:

Joseph Roy, Chair

Josh Klein-Golden, Vice Chair

Joseph Tomm

Heather Roy

Deborah Oliver



Janet T. Mills
GOVERNOR

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

Dear Maine Resident:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Janet T. Mills
Governor



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United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904

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

Dear Friends:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins
United States Senator

www.collins.senate.gov

ANGUS S. KING, JR.
MAINE

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(202) 224-5344
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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 1, 2025

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
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SUBCOMMITTEE
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NATURAL RESOURCES
CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL PARKS
SUBCOMMITTEE
INTELLIGENCE
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Dear Friends,

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

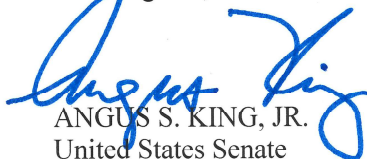
First, it was a true honor to be reelected to the United States Senate for another six-year term. Throughout my travels around the state, I heard many concerns about the cost of living and affordability of housing. Many of you also shared your concerns about access to medical and mental health services.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

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

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

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

Best Regards,



ANGUS S. KING, JR.
United States Senate

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Bruce Bickford
Senator, District 20

THE MAINE SENATE
132nd Legislature

3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve as your State Senator. It is truly an honor to represent you and work towards making our state a better place to live, work, and do business. I want to assure you that I will continue to work tirelessly on behalf of the people of Senate District 20.

On December 4, 2024, I was sworn in for my first term as a State Senator, marking the first day of the First Regular Session of the 132nd Maine State Legislature. The ceremony was rich in tradition and attended by families and friends.

Many of you have reached out to me with concerns about the rising costs of energy, childcare, housing, education, mental health, substance abuse, workforce development, and community safety, among other important issues. As your State Senator, I am committed to advocating for practical and effective solutions to these challenges.

The 132nd Maine Legislature has much work ahead of us regarding our anticipated budget gap and setting our spending priorities for the next biennium. However, I believe there is nothing we cannot accomplish if we work collaboratively. As your State Senator, I will continue to do all I can to advocate for your priorities in Augusta.

Again, thank you for electing me to serve you in the State Senate. Please feel free to contact me by calling 207-287-1505 or email Bruce.Bickford@legislature.maine.gov if you have comments, questions or if you would like assistance in navigating our state's bureaucracy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruce Bickford".

Bruce Bickford
State Senator

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*



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Kilton Webb

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Cell: (207) 458-0172

Kilton.Webb@legislature.maine.gov

February 2025

Dear Neighbors:

It is an honor to have the opportunity to serve you in the Maine House of Representatives. Over the next two years, I will be working hard as your advocate in Augusta to make life better for everyone in our district and in our state.

As I write this, we are entering our second month of the first session of the 132nd Legislature. We have a lot of work ahead of us, which will include doing more to lower costs for Maine families, build an economy that works for everyone, increase access to housing and health care, and more. I'm looking forward to working with all of my colleagues to tackle these challenges head-on.

Our most significant priority will be crafting a two-year state budget, which will shape the direction of our state in the near future. I will be fighting to ensure that the budget includes policies that will provide relief and make it easier for more Maine families to build their lives here and make ends meet. My other top goal for the budget includes supporting ongoing funding for pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs to help strengthen Maine's workforce.

This session, I have been appointed to serve on the Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee, where we will work to develop and support sound policy that includes, but is not limited to, energy, tele-communications and local utilities.

Please feel free to contact me if you ever need my help. My phone number is (207) 458-0172, and my email is Kilton.Webb@legislature.maine.gov. I also send out monthly e-newsletters that provide updates on our work at the State House and offer helpful information and resources. Please let me know if you would like to receive them.

I am so grateful to be entrusted with this great responsibility, and I look forward to connecting with you over the next two years.

Sincerely,

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

Kilton Webb
State Representative

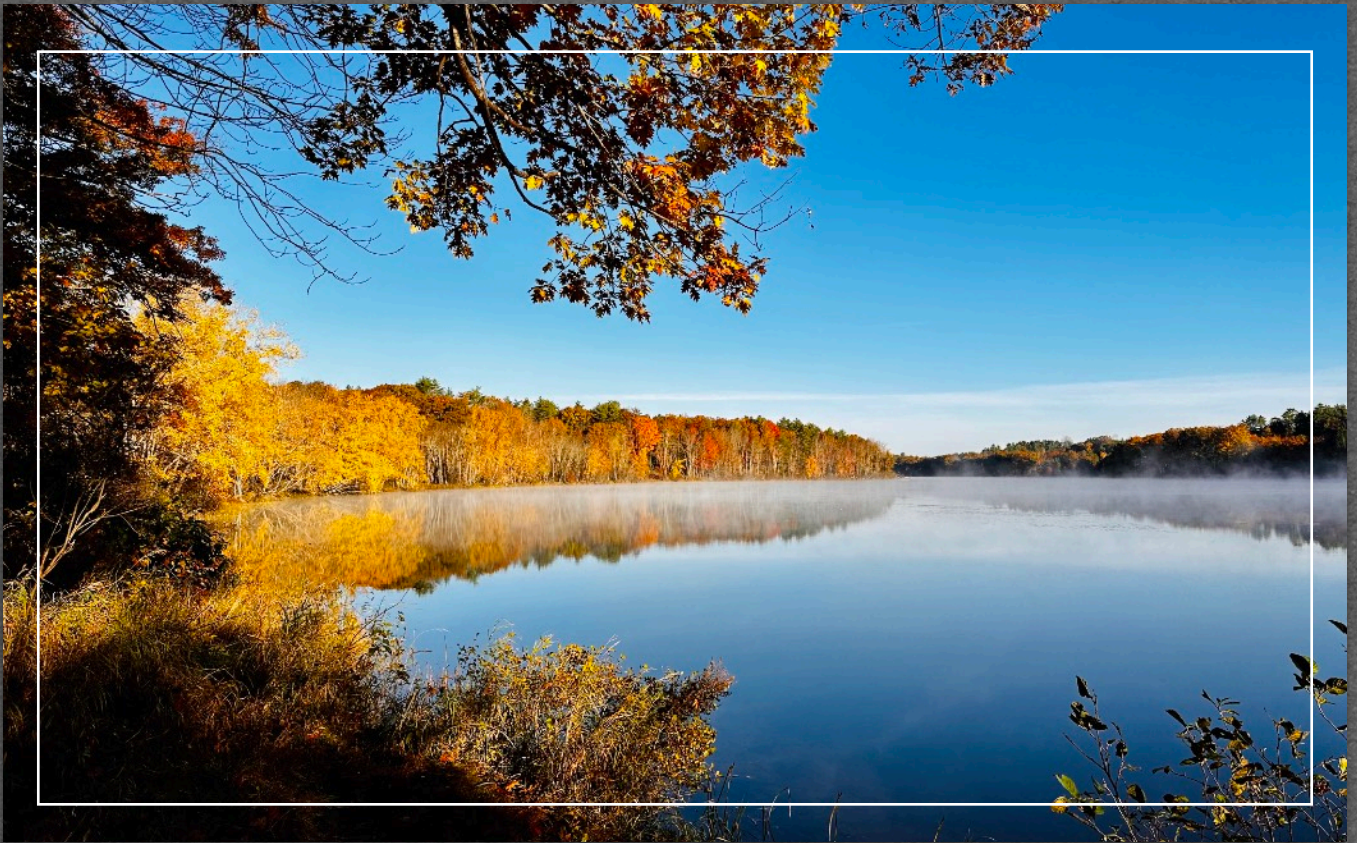
District 98: Durham, Pownal, and parts of Bowdoin, Lisbon and Topsham



New Year's Day	Wednesday, January 1, 2025
Martin Luther King Day	Monday, January 20, 2025
President's Day	Monday, February 17, 2025
Patriot's Day	Monday, April 21, 2025
Memorial Day	Monday, May 26, 2025
Juneteenth	Thursday, June 19, 2025
Independence Day	Friday, July 4, 2025
Labor Day	Monday, September 1, 2025
Indigenous People's Day	Monday, October 13, 2025
Veteran's Day	Tuesday, November 11, 2025
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 27, 2025
Thanksgiving Friday	Friday, November 28, 2025
Christmas	Thursday, December 25, 2025
New Year's Day	Thursday, January 1, 2026







Early morning fog on the Androscoggin River - Cedar Pond Road, Durham, Maine 2024