

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MUNICIPAL OFFICERS
OF THE
TOWN OF LIBERTY
MAINE
FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR
2024



*The Town's new solar array,
located on the Community Hall!*

TOWN OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 10 am – 6 pm

Tuesday: 10 am – 2:30 pm

Wednesday CLOSED

Thursday 7:30 am – 2:30 pm

Friday CLOSED

No weekend office hours

**(We will be closed on Federal and
State Holidays)**

****Inclement Weather Policy:
If RSU 3 is closed,
the Town Office will be closed. ****

**SELECTBOARD
MEETINGS**

The 1st & 3rd Tuesday

Of every Month

@ 6 pm

In the Overlock Room

LIBERTY TOWN OFFICE

7 WATER STREET

(PO BOX 116)

LIBERTY, ME 04949

207-589-4318

www.libertymaine.us

Did you know...?

So far, the Town's solar
array has saved 49,329lb
of CO2 emissions.

**This is equivalent to
planting approximately
373 trees!**

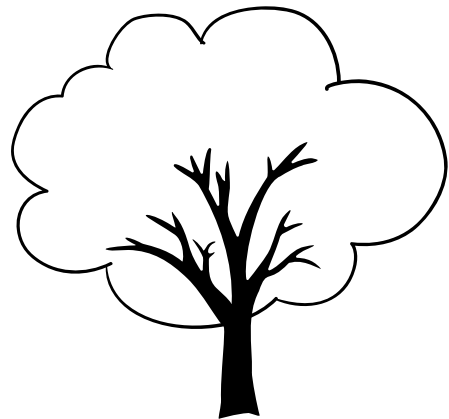
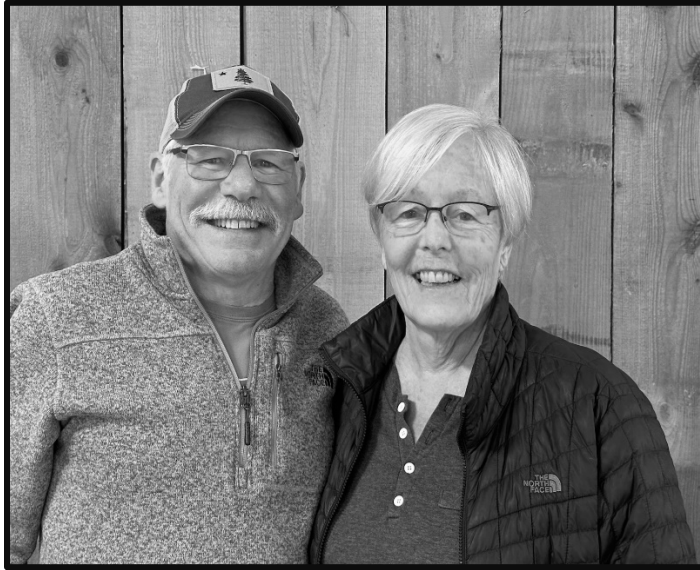


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2024 TOWN REPORT DEDICATION



Danny and Carol McGovern

set their roots down in Liberty in 1983. Although Carol was born and raised here, she traveled around the northeast with her family, met Danny, and settled down back in her hometown. She and Danny have two children, Mary and Elizabeth. Danny was employed for many years with Hannaford, and Carol spent most of her

career in schooling; from teaching to being the principal at Walker school for 9 years.

The McGoverns have dedicated over 40 years of service to the Town of Liberty in various ways. Danny served on the planning board, the TCSMO board, and the Budget Committee and has also served as a selectman. Danny remembers when Liberty printed the first tax bill that totaled more than \$1,000.00. Carol is currently on the Planning Board and the Library Board and was blessed to teach and meet so many wonderful children and community members throughout her school tenure.

Together with their daughter Elizabeth and son in law Jeffery, they own and operate Lake St. George Brewery. The brewery has fast become the thread that keeps us all together in Liberty. It's not only a brewery but it's a place to meet your neighbors, share together in a fundraiser, or play trivia.

The Town of Liberty is grateful for everything the McGovern's contribute to our community.

**For last year's Annual Report, we had to give Tammy a distraction so that she wouldn't catch on that we were dedicating the book to her. The McGovern's were also nominated for dedication that year, so we sent Tammy off to interview them, with the intention of using that dedication for our next book. Since this dedication was written, we have been lucky enough to have Danny elected as our 2nd Selectman, and Carol as chair of the newly created 'Walker's Future Committee'.*

TOWN OFFICIALS AND VOLUNTEERS 2024

Selectmen, Assessors & Overseers of the Poor

First Selectman.....Melinda Steeves

Second Selectman..... Danny McGovern

Third Selectman..... Duane Jewett

Town Clerk / Town Agent..... Lindsey Pottle

Town Administrator / Tax Collector..... Nicole Gates

Treasurer..... Hannah Hatfield

Deputy Treasurer..... Betsy Davis

Fire Chief..... Bill Gillespie

Emergency Management Director..... Elise Brown

Code Enforcement Officer / Plumbing Inspector..... Cindy Abbott

911 Addressing Officer / Registrar of Voters..... Gail Philippi

RSU3 School Board Member..... Richard Frost

Animal Control Officers.....Arnold Oulton, Robin Dow, Henry Dow

Road Commissioner Tammy Reynolds

Planning Board..... **Chair-** Steve Fountain, **Co-Chair-** Carol McGovern

Members: Kristine Gorman, Carrie Mancini, Bill Stoops, Jeremy Hart

Secretary- Lindsey Pottle

Budget Committee..... **Chair:** Teresa Butler

Members: Jane Liebler, Kristine Gorman, Ken Wunderle, Dana Philippi,
Joe Meadows, Peter Beckford

Board of Appeals..... **Chair:** Dana Valleau, **Members:** Richard King, Steve Chapin

TCSWMO Committee Representative..... Henry Hall, Alternate: Dana Philippi

Overlock Memorial Scholarship Committee.....**Chair:** Toni Clark

Members: Christine Brackett, John Morris, and Lucille Peavey **Secretary-** Barb Rehmeyer

Boston Post Cane Holder..... Charlene Sherman

SELECTMAN'S REPORT 2024

Our Town meeting is the finest form of Democracy! Please get involved and come to our annual meeting; Saturday March 29, 2025, at 9:00AM at the Community Hall. Have a say in how your tax dollars are spent!

We have openings on the Planning Board, one regular and two alternates. The Planning Board meets on the second Thursday of each month. Please let the selectmen know if you are interested or know of anyone who would be willing to step up to the plate.

This year we had an all-new Budget Committee, and all enjoyed learning about the process and the pride that comes with helping our town. The Committee worked hard to deliver a flat budget. On this warrant we want to start a maintenance reserve account. We are looking to paint the interior of the community hall; any leftover money can go into this account and build up over the years.

The mold remediation for the town office went well but the foundation still has a leak. We hope to repair it.

The Walker school, as of the end of June 2025, is now closed. The School Board is still undecided as to what they will do with the building, they tell us they will let us know at the end of June. 'Walker's Future' Committee was created to collect information about the closure and to help determine what is best for Liberty. You can follow updates on our Town website, libertymaine.us, or reach out to the office if you would like to be added to the email list for updates.

Our energy efficiency project was completed but this is our first winter with heat pumps in the office and the fire department and solar panels. (so far so good)

The money spent on the upgrade to Stevens Pond Dam we thought was to come from FEMA money. That money was not available for this project so we ended up paying for it from our unexpended funds, which put us 3% lower than the auditor would like for us to have in reserve.

We look forward to seeing you on March 29th!

TOWN WARRANT STATE OF MAINE TOWN OF LIBERTY

To: **Nicole Gates**, Resident of the Town of Liberty, in the County of Waldo, the 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 Liberty in said county and state, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the **Liberty Community Hall** in said Town, on **Saturday, the 29th day of March, 2025 at 9:00** in the forenoon, then and there to act on the following articles to wit:

ARTICLES

ELECTION OF TOWN OFFICIALS

1. To elect by a written ballot a moderator to preside at said meeting.
2. To elect a First Selectman to serve on the Selectboard, Board of Assessors and Overseers of the Poor for a three-year term. *(Melinda Steeves' term is ending)*
3. To elect the following positions:
 - a. Fire Chief (one year).
 - b. Road Commissioner (one year)
4. To elect a Budget Committee not to exceed 8 members to assist the Selectboard by meeting periodically with the Selectboard and Treasurer to review the financial accounts of the Town and assist in budgeting town funds.

*The current members are: Theresa Butler, Jane Liebler, Kristine Gorman,
Ken Wunderle, Dana Philippi, Joe Meadows, Peter Beckford.*

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

5. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to transfer unexpended balances to any account requiring said funds for the purpose of balancing accounts.

6. To fix compensation, from taxation, for the following Town Official positions:

Officials	<i>2025 Budget</i>	Budget Committee Request FY26
Select Board	\$15,000.00	\$16,000.00
Town Adminstrator	\$20,800.00	\$21,840.00
Tax Collector	\$3,000.00	\$5,000.00
Town Clerk	\$39,750.00	\$35,000.00
Benefits	<i>(new line)</i>	\$6,000.00
Deputy Clerk	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Registrar of Voters	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
Treasurer	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Deputy Treasurer	\$2,000.00	<i>(combined with Deputy line)</i>
Fire Chief	\$9,500.00	\$9,500.00
Emergency Management	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Road Commissioner	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Code Enforcement	\$5,250.00	\$5,250.00
100-75 Plumbing Inspector	\$500.00	\$500.00
Animal Control Officer	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
E911 Address Coordinator	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
	\$133,300.00	\$137,590.00

7. To see what sum of money the Town will raise, from taxation, for the following accounts:

Accounts	<i>2025 Budget</i>	Budget Committee Request FY26
Legal Services	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Assessing Agent	\$10,125.00	\$10,125.00
Software and Computer Services	\$15,500.00	\$18,000.00
Tax Mapping	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
Insurance	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Tri County Contract	\$29,325.00	\$33,203.00
General Administration	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00
Streetlights	\$3,300.00	\$3,300.00
General Assistance	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Payroll Expenses	\$13,000.00	\$13,000.00
Planning Board	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Town Building Snow Shoveling	\$600.00	\$600.00
Office Equipment Reserve	\$3,600.00	\$2,000.00
Community Hall Reserve	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
EMA Supplies	\$250.00	\$250.00
Totals	\$147,200.00	\$151,978.00

- 8. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to take a loan in anticipation of taxes, as necessary, for the purpose of paying Town obligations.
- 9. To see what sum if any, the Town will raise and appropriate for interest on any tax anticipation note taken out for the purpose of paying Town obligations.

Recommend: \$4,000.00 from Property Tax Interest.

- 10. To see what sum of money the Town will raise, from taxation to complete mold remediation and fix the leak in the Town Office.

The Budget Committee recommends \$12,500.

- 11. To see if the Town will authorize the creation of a designated Maintenance Reserve Account to pay for necessary maintenance to Town buildings.

The Budget Committee recommends \$15,000.

- 12. To see if the Town will move and vote to adopt the updated General Assistance Ordinance and Appendices as suggested and prepared by Maine Municipal Association in September 2024. Copies of the proposed ordinance and appendices are available at the Town Office.

LIBERTY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

- 13. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, to operate the Liberty Volunteer Fire Department, pay Fire Department volunteer firefighters while on the job, and contribute to the Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund.

	<i>2025 Budget</i>	Budget Committee Request FY2026
Fire Department Operations	<i>\$ 60,000</i>	\$60,000
Fire Department Payroll Expenses	<i>\$ 25,000</i>	\$25,000
Fire Department Capital Reserve	<i>\$ 25,000</i>	\$25,000
TOTAL	<i>\$110,000</i>	\$110,000

- 14. To see if the Town will add any unspent monies from the Operations account to the LVFD Capital Reserve account.

- 15. To see if the Town will add any unspent monies from the Payroll Account to the LVFD Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP).
- 16. To see if the Town will use any donations to the LVFD to offset LVFD Operations or Payroll budget overruns and add any surplus to the LVFD Capital Reserve account.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

- 17. To see if the Town will allow the Treasurer to accept and use revenue from Liberty Volunteer Ambulance Service billing to pay Liberty Fire & Rescue expenses.
- 18. To see if the Town will appropriate from Liberty Fire & Rescue revenue \$50,000 for expenses for FY26.
- 19. To see if the Town will accept funds from other Municipalities (Palermo and Montville) to defray the cost of payroll expenses.
- 20. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate funds, from taxation, \$80,500 to be used for payroll and training expenses for Liberty Fire & Rescue.

HIGHWAYS

- 21. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate from taxation for the Roads and Bridges accounts to be used for the maintenance, sand/salt and snowplowing of contracted Town roads and to be used as Town matching funds for any FEMA/MEMA grants received in FY26.

Roads and Bridges	<i>2025 Budget</i>	Budget Committee Recommendation FY2026
RDB Maintenance	<i>\$60,000.00</i>	\$60,000.00
Road Signs	<i>\$1,000.00</i>	\$1,000.00
Paving	<i>\$204,024.00</i>	\$178,000.00
Salt and Sand	<i>\$60,000.00</i>	\$60,000.00
Snow Plowing	<i>\$206,700.00</i>	\$214,500.00
Parking Enforcement	<i>\$3,000.00</i>	\$3,000.00
Totals	<i>\$534,724.00</i>	\$516,500.00

- 22. To see if the Town will add any unspent monies from the RDB Maintenance, and Salt & Sand Accounts to the Paving Capital Reserve account.
- 23. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate from taxation, to be used to rectify Snow Plowing Contract discrepancy. **Requested amount: \$39,000.**
- 24. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate from taxation, to be used to assure proper operation of the Lake St. George and Stevens Pond dams.

Budget Committee Recommendation: \$1,000.

RECREATION ACCOUNT

- 25. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, for the following recreation requests:

	<i>2025 Budget</i>	Budget Committee Request FY26
Recreational Requests	<i>\$3,100.00</i>	\$1,500.00
Mowing	<i>\$4,900.00</i>	\$4,900.00
Town Parks	<i>\$2,350.00</i>	\$1,550.00
Totals	<i>\$10,350.00</i>	\$7,950.00

- 26. To see if the Town will accept reimbursements from the Town of Montville for maintenance of the recreation area. Montville has been formally requested to raise \$3,000 for this account.
- 27. To see if the Town will accept funds from the State of Maine for Recreational Account.

LIBERTY LIBRARY

- 28. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, to help support the operation of the Liberty Library.

	<i>2025 Budget</i>	Budget Committee Request FY26
Liberty Library Operations	<i>\$ 15,000</i>	\$ 13,500

SPECIAL FUNDS

29. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate from taxation for the principle in the Willard Overlock Memorial Scholarship account.

(Request is \$1500, Budget Committee Recommendation is \$0).

MILEAGE

30. To see what rate the Town will vote to authorize as travel expenses for essential travel by any Town Official when such travel is on town business, out of town and Code Enforcement Officer on town business in town, to be paid from the Administration Account. **Recommendation:** Adopt State Standard Mileage Rate: Current rate \$.56/mile

SOCIAL REQUESTS

31. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation for the following:

Program	Request	Budget Committee Suggestion
Winslow Community Cupboard	open	\$0.00
Waldo Community Action Partners	\$7,015	\$4,724.00
Hospice Volunteers of Waldo County	\$500	\$500.00
Waldo County Woodshed	\$1,000	\$1,000.00
Waldo County YMCA	\$500	\$500.00
Waldo County Pet Food Pantry	\$500	\$500.00
Waldo County Bounty	\$200	\$200.00
Belfast Area Childcare Services	\$500	\$500.00
Liberty Historical Society	\$2,700	\$2,700.00
Citizens Association of Liberty Lakes	\$800	\$800.00
Midcoast Conservancy	\$1,500	\$0.00
Sweetser	\$500	\$500.00
New Hope Midcoast	\$1,000	\$1,000.00
Life Flight	\$934	\$0.00
Total:	\$17,649	\$12,924.00

DEBT SERVICE

32. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, for the following loans:

ITEM	2025 Budget	Budget Committee Request FY26
Fire Truck Bond	\$33,710.27	\$33,710.00
Energy Efficiency Bond	\$13,950.00	\$13,950.00
Energy Efficiency - Overage	\$2,427.00	---
TOTAL	\$50,087.27	\$47,660.00

PROPERTY TAXES

33. To see if the Town will vote to have all taxes due and payable to the Tax Collector immediately upon Commitment and:

- a. To see if the Town will determine that the first half of taxes not paid 30 days after Commitment are considered delinquent and second payment delinquent 1 day after due date. **Recommendation: pass**
- b. To see what sum of interest the Town will vote to charge on all liens and delinquent taxes. **Recommendation: 6%** (The maximum rate of interest that may be charged: 8.5%)
- c. To see if the Town will vote that a taxpayer who pays an amount more than that finally assessed shall be repaid the amount of the overpayment plus interest from date of the overpayment at an annual rate set 4% below that established in the preceding Article. **Recommendation: 2%**
- d. To see if the Town will vote to authorize any action necessary, by the Selectboard and Treasurer, to collect any delinquent taxes outstanding for prior years; and to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard, on behalf of the Town, to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired for non-payment of taxes thereon, using terms as deemed advisable, by the Selectboard and the State, authorize execution of Quit-Claim deeds for such property sold, and that the Municipal Officers shall use the special sale process required by 36 M.R.S __943-C for qualifying homestead property if they choose to sell it to anyone other than the former owner(s). **Recommendation: pass**

- e. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayment of taxes for the 2026-27 year not yet committed. **Recommendation: pass**
 - f. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the payment of tax abatements and applicable interest from the property tax overlay account.
Recommendation: pass
34. To see if the Town will accept and carry over any Education Block Grants, Emergency Protective Measure Grants, FEMA Grants, State Revenue Sharing and any other funds as may be available to be used toward Budget appropriations. **Recommendation: pass**
35. Should a vacancy in any elected office arise during the Town Meeting, to vote for a replacement of said official. **Recommendation: pass**
36. To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit established for the Town of Liberty by State law in the event that the FY26 Municipal budget approved under the preceding articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than the property tax levy limit. (Vote must be by written ballot.) **Recommendation: pass**

**We hope to see you all at our Town Meeting,
Saturday March 29, 2025,
starting at 9am at the Liberty Community Hall**

Have a say in where your tax dollars are going!

TOWN OF LIBERTY, MAINE
Management's Discussion and Analysis

For the Fiscal Year Ended June,30, 2024

Management of the Town of Liberty, Maine provides this *Management's Discussion and Analysis* of the Town's financial performance for readers of the Town's financial statements. This narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Town is for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. We encourage readers to consider this information in conjunction with the financial statements and accompanying notes that follow.

The financial statements herein include all of the activities of the Town of Liberty, Maine (the Town) using the integrated approach as prescribed by Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 34.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS – PRIMARY GOVERNMENT

Government-wide Highlights:

Net Position – The assets of the Town exceeded its liabilities at fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 by \$4,484,616 (presented as “net position”). Of this amount, \$962,171 was reported as “unrestricted net position”. Unrestricted net position represents the amount available to be used to meet the Town's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

Changes in Net Position – The Town's total net position increased by \$381,320 (a 9% increase) for the year ended June 30, 2024.

Fund Highlights:

Governmental Funds – Fund Balances – As of the close of the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024; the Town's governmental funds reported a combined ending fund balance of \$1,001,218 with \$282,254 being general unassigned fund balance. This unassigned fund balance represents approximately 13% of the total general fund expenditures for the year.

Long-term Debt:

The Town's total long-term debt obligations increased by \$70,427 (23%) during the current fiscal year. A new bond for heat pumps and solar panels was issued for \$100,000. Existing debt obligations were retired according to schedule.

Additional information on the Town's long-term debt can be found in Note 3E of the notes to the financial statements on page 23-24 of this report.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This discussion and analysis are intended to serve as an introduction to the Town's basic financial statements. The Town's basic financial statements include three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains additional required supplementary information (budgetary comparison) and other supplementary information. These components are described below:

Government-wide Financial Statements

The Government-wide financial statements present the financial picture of the Town from the economic resources measurement focus using the accrual basis of accounting. They present governmental activities and business- type activities (if applicable) separately. These statements include all assets of the Town (including infrastructure) as well as all liabilities (including long-term debt). Additionally, certain elimination entries have occurred as prescribed by the statement in regards to interfund activity, payables and receivables.

The government-wide financial statements can be found on pages 9-10 of the audit report.

Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements include statements for each of the three categories of activities – governmental, business-type and fiduciary (if applicable). The governmental activities are prepared using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. The business-type activities are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the Town government. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of these funds available to support the Town’s own programs. Reconciliation of the fund financial statements to the Government-wide financial statements is provided to explain the differences created by the integrated approach.

Notes to the Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and the fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found immediately following the fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found on pages 14-25 of this report.

Required Supplementary Information

This section includes a budgetary comparison schedule, which includes a reconciliation between the statutory fund balance for budgetary purposes and the fund balance for the general fund as presented in the governmental fund financial statements (if necessary). Required supplementary information can be found on page 26-27 of this report.

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

Net Position

74% of the Town’s net position reflects its investment in capital assets such as land, buildings, equipment and infrastructure (roads, bridges and other immovable assets); less any related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. The Town uses these assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although, the Town’s investment in its capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

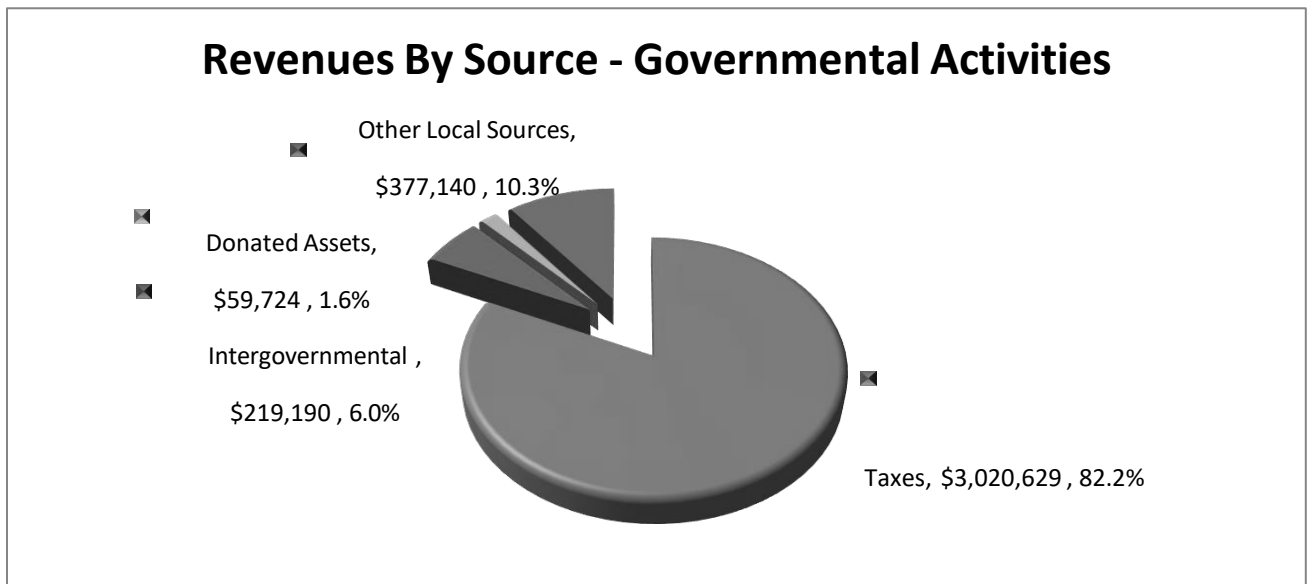
Governmental Activities

	<i>Total 2024</i>	<i>Total 2023</i>
Current Assets	1,363,415	1,046,499
Capital Assets	3,714,838	3,416,578
Total Assets	5,078,253	4,463,077
Current Liabilities	228,785	60,648
Other Liabilities	342,361	280,500
Total Liabilities	571,146	341,148
Property Taxes Collected in Advance	22,491	18,633
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	22,491	18,633
Net Position:		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	3,334,338	3,106,505
Restricted	188,107	179,750
Unrestricted	962,171	817,041
Total Net Position	4,484,616	4,103,296
Total Liabilities and Net Position	5,078,253	4,463,077

Changes in Net Position

Approximately 82 percent of the Town’s total revenue came from property and excise taxes, approximately 6 percent came from State subsidies and grants, and approximately 12 percent came from services, investment earnings and other sources. Depreciation expense on the Town’s governmental activity assets represents

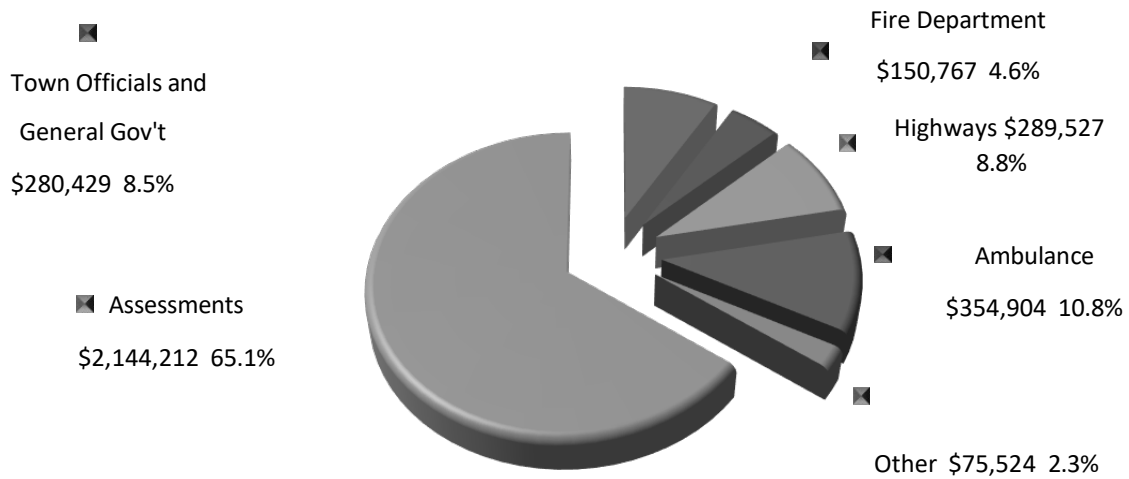
\$320,494 of the total expenses for the year.



Governmental Activities

	<i>Total 2024</i>	<i>Total 2023</i>
Revenues:		
Taxes	3,020,629	2,766,625
Intergovernmental Revenues	219,190	245,534
Departmental Revenues	59,724	91,682
Other Local Sources	377,140	371,535
Total	3,676,683	3,475,376
Expenses:		
Town Officials	123,270	110,579
General Government	157,159	173,779
Highways	289,527	584,697
Dam Maintenance	33,615	5,801
Fire Department	150,767	147,439
Recreation	12,103	9,454
Ambulance	354,904	302,699
Other	23,805	25,860
Capital Outlay		11,000
Debt	6,001	4,562
Assessments	2,144,212	1,942,747
Total	3,295,363	3,318,617
Changes in Net Position	381,320	156,759

Expenditures By Source – Governmental Activities



FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE TOWN'S INDIVIDUAL FUNDS

Governmental Funds

The focus of the Town's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of expendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the Town's financing requirements. In particular, unassigned fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the year.

At the end of the year, the Town's governmental funds reported ending fund balances of \$1,001,218, an increase of \$86,001 in comparison with the prior year. Approximately 28 percent of this total amount constitutes unassigned fund balance. The remainder is reserved to indicate that it is not available for spending because it has been committed to liquidate contracts and commitments of the prior year or for a variety of other purposes.

GENERAL FUND BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

Variances between actual General Fund revenues and expenditures and the final amended budget included the following:

- \$75,341 negative variance in property taxes. The variance is due to unfavorable property tax collections this year.
- \$14,030 positive variance in emergency fund. This fund is carried over every year.
- \$11,877 positive variance in salt and sand. The variance is due to milder winter and not needing as much.
- \$28,814 negative variance in Steven's Pond Dam maintenance. The variance is due to purchasing part for dam repair.

CAPITAL ASSET ADMINISTRATION

Capital Assets

The Town's investment in capital assets for its governmental activities amounts to \$8,246,391, net of accumulated depreciation of \$4,531,553, leaving a net book value of 3,714,838. Current year additions included \$86,000 for solar panels, \$41,738 for heat pumps, 207,550 for paving \$28,815 for side gate, \$9,959 for culvert, and \$244,692 in spring paving. Additional information on the Town's capital assets can be found in Note 3D of the notes to the financial statements on page 23 of this report.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Town's finances for all citizens, taxpayers, investors and creditors. This financial report seeks to demonstrate the Town's accountability for the money it receives. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional information should be addressed to: Town of Liberty, P.O. Box 116 Liberty, Maine 04949.

A complete postaudit report is on file at the Town Office

TREASURER'S REPORT JULY 1, 2023 TO JUNE 30, 2024

BANK ACCOUNTS FY 2024	
Town of Liberty Checking	
\$61,128.84	Balance as of 7/1/2023
\$1,442,098.63	Deposits and interest
\$2,327,000.00	Transfers ICS/Savings
-\$3,745,681.85	Warrants
\$84,545.62	Balance as of 6/30/2024
Business Savings	
\$7,208.08	Balance as of 7/1/2023
\$2,206,997.70	Deposits
\$6.39	Interest
-\$1,739,000.00	Transfers to ICS
-\$475,000.00	Transfers to Checking
\$212.17	Balance as of 6/30/2024
ICS Savings	
\$193,704.93	Balance as of 7/1/2023
\$3,763.86	Interest
-\$76,000.00	Net Transfers
\$121,468.79	Balance as of 6/30/2024
Hoit CD	
\$91,624.22	Balance as of 7/1/2023
\$2,821.15	Interest
-\$6,665.44	Transfer to Hoit Check
\$87,779.93	Balance as of 6/30/2024
Hoit Savings	
\$1,879.42	Balance as of 7/1/2023
\$2.84	Interest
\$6,665.44	Transfer from Hoit CD
\$8,547.70	Balance as of 6/30/2024
Due to General: \$8,276.00	
WOMS Savings	
\$3,881.35	Balance as of 7/1/2023
\$2.10	Interest
\$3,883.45	Balance as of 6/30/2024
WOMS CD First National	
\$70,584.98	Balance as of 7/1/2023
\$1,493.01	Interest
\$72,077.99	Balance as of 6/30/2024
Due to/from other funds -\$1931.44	
CEM/WOMS Checking Androscoggin	
\$8,519.47	Balance as of 7/1/2023
\$13.13	Interest
\$8,532.60	Balance as of 6/30/2024
Due to other funds : \$8,506	
CEM CD First National	
\$4,694.17	Balance as of 7/1/2023
\$99.28	Interest

FUND BALANCES FY 2024	
CEMETERY FUND	\$4,820.00
HOIT FUND	\$88,051.00
OFFICE EQUIPMENT RESERVE	\$4,001.00
LVFD CAPITAL RESERVE	\$57,735.00
LOSAP	\$11,877.00
COM HALL RESERVE	\$4,641.00
WOM SCHOLARSHIP FUND	\$74,030.00
PAVING RESERVE	\$4,810.00
AMBULANCE FUND BALANCE	\$338,337.00
UNDESIGNATED FUND BALANCE	\$282,254.00

REVENUE FY 2024	
2024 Commitment	\$2,744,615.22
RE Lien/Tax Costs and Interest	\$11,423.11
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	\$411.35
Motor Vehicle Excise	\$192,121.28
Motor Vehicle Agent Fee	\$7,983.58
Boat Excise	\$3,357.80
Boat Agent Fees	\$605.00
Animal Control Fees	\$748.00
Dog Agent Fees	\$122.00
Vitals Agent Fees	\$809.60
Planning Board Permits	\$2,910.00
Bank Interest	\$3,759.07
Insurance Claim Proceeds	\$1,469.00
URIP/LRAP	\$26,784.00
FEMA	\$24,852.30
Maine Revenue Sharing	\$129,092.30
Snowmobile Refund	\$685.00
State Park Fee	\$5,272.42
Homestead Reimbursement	\$71,981.61
Renewable Energy Reimbursement	\$450.00
Tree Growth Reimbursement	\$4,500.00
Veterans Exemption Reimb.	\$561.00
BETE Reimbursement	\$68.00
Property Tax Stabilization	\$260.00
Efficiency Bond	\$100,000.00
Rec Field From Montville	\$1,000.00
Misc State Rev	\$370.00
Uncategorized	\$1,036.72
Total Revenue	\$3,337,248.36

TOWN OF LIBERTY

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT 2024/2025

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday 10:00 am – 6:00 pm
 Tuesday 10:00 am – 2:30 pm
 Thursday 7:30 am – 2:30 pm

The Town Office will be closed when RSU3 schools are cancelled due to the weather. It is suggested that you call ahead if you have any questions as to whether the office is open.

The following is a list of the 2025/2026 State and Town Office Holiday Closures:

HOLIDAY	DATE OBSERVED
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
Veterans' Day	Tuesday, November 11, 2025
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 27, 2025
Christmas Day	Thursday, December 25, 2025
New Year's Day	Thursday, January 1, 2026
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Monday, January 19, 2026
President's Day	Monday, February 16, 2026

EXCISE TAX REPORT

Total Excise Tax Collected 2022/23: \$185,989.47

All new registrations must be done in the Town Office. You can do re-registrations online. Please go to our website, Libertymaine.us, then go down the Homepage to questions. Follow the link available there. Feel free to call us at the Office if you have any questions.

Recreational Vehicles Registered

Boats 138

ATV's 43

Snowmobiles 29

Hunting and Fishing Licenses Issued 54

Reminders for Recreational Vehicle Registrations:

Boats: Expire **December 31** EACH YEAR. Registration is required if the boat has a motor. All freshwater boat registrations are also required to have Lake and River Protection Stickers.

ATVs: Expire **June 30** EACH YEAR. Registration is not required for an ATV operated on land on which the owner lives or on land on which the owner is domiciled, as long as the ATV is not operated elsewhere within the jurisdiction of the State.

Snowmobiles: Expire **June 30** EACH YEAR. Registration is not required for a snowmobile operated over the snow on land on which the owner lives or on land on which the owner is domiciled, provided the snowmobile is not operated elsewhere within the jurisdiction of the State.

****Hunting and Fishing Licenses and ATV, Boat and Snowmobile Registrations can be issued directly with the Department of Inland Fisheries**

ONLINE AT: <https://www.maine.gov/ifw/about/index.html>

Dog Licenses Issued: 127

Dog Registrations are due on or before **January 31st** EACH YEAR.

- If, between January 1 and October 15, the dog reaches the age of 6 months or a person becomes the owner or keeper of a dog 6 months of age or older, the owner/keeper must obtain a license within 10 days of this event. To obtain a license, the owner/keeper must file with the Clerk proof that the dog is immunized against rabies (except for wolf hybrids).
- **The license fees are \$11 for each unaltered dog and \$6 for each Spayed/Neutered dog.** Police dogs and trained guide, hearing, service and search/rescue dogs must be licensed but are exempt from the payment of fees.
- Late Fees are imposed when an owner/keeper required to license a dog by January 31st fails to apply for a license until **after January 31st. The late fee is \$25 in addition to the license fee.**

Registrations can be completed in the office, during regular business hours, through the mail (please include a check, rabies information if necessary, and a self-addressed stamped envelope), or online. The online service is only available from November through January 31st.

Calendar Year 2024 Vital Records

Births - There were 6 babies born to Liberty residents. Congratulations to the families!

Marriages – There were 2 Marriage Licenses issued.

Deaths – There were 9 Deaths to report in 2024. Our sincere condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have passed.

Name	Date of Death
Carr, Richard Wayne	07/23/2024
Choate, David Turner	01/03/2024
Colby, Sewell H.	09/11/2024
Davenport, James	11/09/2024
Jewett, Trixie A.	01/30/2024
Mann, Henry	12/10/2024
McFadden, Daryl Virginia	04/09/2024
Overton, Gary Lyn	02/05/2024
Pepler, Russell A.	11/20/2024

*Thank you for a great year, I look forward to serving you in the years to come,
Lindsey Pottle- Town Clerk*

Tax Collector's Report, Fiscal Year 2024

Real Estate Taxes Payable, Totals as of: 06/30/2024

Interest and costs have accumulated on all accounts that have not been paid in full

Accounts with payments made since 06/30/2024 are indicated with:

*** Partial Payment **Full Payment**

	Acct	Name	Original Tax	Balance As Of 6/30/2024
**	295	41 KIRB LLC	6,373.88	6,368.10
	594	ALBINO, ARIA	937.83	937.83
**	15	ANDERSON, PETER R	1,942.67	1,942.66
**	27	ARD JR., WARREN	1,789.74	1,789.74
*	26	ARD, JR., WARREN	1,009.86	1,009.86
	173	BAKER, COLLEEN	2,141.99	2,141.99
	293	BARBOZA, LYNN	1,106.17	1,106.17
**	912	BATTLES, MICHAEL D	1,525.42	779.76
	619	BEAL, BEATRICE (HEIRS)	1,143.19	1,143.19
*	672	BEAULIEU, JAMES A. &	1,775.00	1,775.00
**	759	BILLINGS, BRENDA M	1,977.51	1,977.51
	77	BILLINGS, CYNTHIA	703.50	703.50
**	48	BOULAY, LUKE P & JACKIE	414.56	414.56
**	750	BOULAY, LUKE P & JACKIE	771.34	771.34
**	115	BRACK, HAROLD G	5,668.54	2,834.26
**	116	BRACK, HAROLD G	2,475.32	1,237.66
	606	BROCK CHARLES E III	588.09	588.09
	812	BRUNEAU, HENRY	1,943.00	1,943.00
**	1088	CARPENTER, AMY	1,459.26	1,459.25
**	224	CARPENTER, AMY RUTH	827.12	827.12
**	154	CASH, GLENN A	1,230.79	209.78
	160	CHADWICK, DAPHYNE	1,037.16	1,037.16
**	1282	CHURCH, LIBERTY BAPTIST	1,528.10	37.08
**	175	CLARK, JAMES A	1,161.95	17.00
**	255	CLEVELAND, JEFFREY	1,055.25	45.28
**	184	COCHRAN-GAMMON, SHELBY	1,784.04	40.91
**	1345	COHEN, BETH A	605.51	605.51
**	706	CRAM, MATTHEW A	4,545.28	4,545.28
	141	CULLIVAN, BRAD A	1,355.08	1,355.08
**	1055	DARIGAN, MICHAEL	446.89	446.89
**	1284	Darigan, Michael	433.83	433.83
**	76	DEMING, JEFFREY N	2,214.02	116.32
	407	DOURANT, TERRY M	1,128.95	1,128.95

	Acct	Name	Original Tax	Balance As Of 6/30/2024
**	1219	ELLIS, CHARLES W	376.88	376.88
**	930	FAGIN FOOD VENTURES,	6,347.58	6,347.58
**	704	FLYE, CATHY LEE	2,393.24	2,393.24
**	951	FLYNN, MICHAEL	3,081.67	12.63
	585	FOSTER, DONALD R	899.98	899.98
	1352	GALLOWAY, DEBORAH L	848.22	380.62
**	1029	GARRIGAN, BERNARD B JR	2,060.42	2,060.42
**	1220	GARRY OWEN MC	54.27	54.27
**	1401	GATES, GATESY	398.82	199.41
**	66	GATES, GATESY RCD	1,474.34	737.17
**	363	GENEWICZ, JOHN J	1,379.36	1,135.76
**	1359	GENEWICZ, MICHAEL J	3,351.68	25.71
**	298	GENTHNER, RICK	602.00	301.00
	117	Gorman, Kristine C	1,313.54	657.96
**	860	HALL, AARON S	1,389.41	694.76
	393	HANCOCK, LAWRENCE D	975.86	975.86
	281	HARRIMAN, ANGIE	792.11	792.11
**	636	HARWELL, TARA MARPLE	309.88	309.88
**	1233	HARWELL, TARA MARPLE	309.88	309.88
**	300	HASKELL, PAMELA	5,190.99	2,595.49
	703	HAYER, MICHELLE	635.66	60.18
**	1009	HEROLD, LISE	1,113.17	499.92
	623	HEROUX, PAULINE MAKER	696.63	696.63
	435	HOLBROOK, DAVID	1,647.53	1,647.53
**	412	HOWARD, KARIN	2,556.39	1,315.18
*	446	HURD, KEVIN L	1,175.52	1,158.45
**	1265	JACKSON, PATRICK T	795.63	10.90
**	1051	JEWETT, DANIEL	284.75	284.75
**	472	JEWETT, STEVEN	310.71	310.71
	1260	JEWETT, STEVEN	150.75	150.75
**	470	JEWETT, TRIXIE	434.16	216.13
**	1261	JEWETT, TRIXIE	577.88	288.81
**	166	KASABUSKI, WILLIAM	800.15	400.07
**	1381	KNOWLTON, LEE A &	2,973.46	25.77
	529	KNOWLTON, VIOLET	35.18	35.18
	920	LAFOLLETTE, DUANE J	1,077.86	1,077.86
**	545	LANDFORD, FRANK	835.99	835.99
**	527	LANPHERE, RYAN D	4,429.71	4,429.71
*	551	LATNO, GERARD R	2,683.52	2,683.52

	Acct	Name	Original Tax	Balance As Of 6/30/2024
**	320	LATNO, GERARD RAYMOND	301.50	301.50
**	817	LeCAPTAIN, JESSICA	1,342.85	1,342.85
**	711	LEWIS, PETER	1,307.84	662.97
*	1289	LEWIS, PETER	120.10	68.57
**	448	LIBERTY INN, LLC	8,964.27	11.05
**	838	LIBERTY TWO, LLC	10,614.98	5,309.22
**	1104	LINDAHL, R SCOTT	1,123.93	562.61
**	1408	MacDougall, Krystyn E	309.88	309.88
	942	MARCHAND, DANIEL R	3,672.94	3,672.94
**	643	MARPLE HEIRS, RAMONA	988.25	494.12
**	1103	MARPLE, BRICE	881.72	440.86
**	92	MARPLE, TARA A	2,469.96	2,469.96
**	172	MARTIN, JACK A	1,497.45	15.53
**	1298	MCBRIEN-BOYER, MOLLI	64.32	32.16
**	1025	MCDERMOTT, ROBERT B JR	924.27	924.27
**	1250	MCDERMOTT, ROBERT B JR	507.02	506.73
**	792	MCDONALD, DONALD E	2,232.94	11.42
**	803	MCENTEE, MAUREEN	1,031.13	515.88
	662	MCFADDEN, JACK	2,641.31	2,641.31
**	642	MCGRAY, LORI	463.64	463.64
**	444	MCILHENNY, GUSTAF RW	757.27	378.63
**	579	MCPMAHON, STEVE	777.54	777.54
**	1273	MILLAY, DANIELLE J	354.26	354.26
*	1188	MILLER, DANIEL H	1,103.99	1,103.99
**	567	MITCHELL, MORGAN	1,778.01	889.00
*	694	MODARRES, ANDREA	1,725.25	1,725.25
**	230	MOORE, AARON	5,640.23	5,640.23
*	701	MORDAUNT, CHRISTOPHER	201.00	201.00
	1159	MORGAN, COREY JAMES	402.00	402.00
**	1057	MOSHER, ARTHUR	2,579.17	2,579.17
**	455	MOSHER, ARTHUR JR	968.82	968.82
*	1087	MUNRO, PAUL	3,504.94	1,574.07
**	1014	MURPHY, MICHAEL	427.13	427.13
	768	NORMAND, DONALD W	418.75	418.75
	1251	O'LEARY, KAITLYN R	19.77	19.77
	981	ONEIL, ROBERT A	2,238.30	1,119.15
	1318	ONEIL, ROBERT A	104.69	53.02
	1319	ONEIL, ROBERT A	841.35	432.20

	Acct	Name	Original Tax	Balance As Of 6/30/2024
**	660	OPPER, THOMAS	2,576.65	1,288.32
**	1283	PARADY, CORINNE M. &	2,168.62	2,168.62
*	133	PERKINS, JONATHAN	324.11	324.11
*	822	PERMATTEO, MICHAEL	3,075.80	3,070.83
**	1187	PETERS, ROBERT	483.07	241.63
**	1015	PHILLIPS, MAGGIE A &	2,830.42	2,830.42
**	1203	REAL, MICHAEL	518.41	468.85
	839	RUDEK, ROBERT W	879.38	879.38
**	277	SALLY ECCLESTON IRREVO	417.91	417.91
**	1294	SALLY ECCLESTON IRREVO	260.63	260.63
	796	SANDNER, JEFFREY R	1,190.76	1,190.76
	797	SANDNER, JEFFREY R. & B	1,407.00	1,407.00
**	854	SCHELBLE, PAUL	2,445.17	1,224.43
*	869	SHERMAN, DOUGLAS L II	854.25	854.25
	108	SMITH, RANDALL	1,542.01	857.87
**	710	SOULE, NANCY	402.00	205.86
**	901	SOULE, NANCY	2,585.03	455.59
	902	SOULE, NANCY	2,377.50	2,377.50
**	1069	SPROWL, GREGORY	2,569.28	1,284.64
**	1170	ST. CLAIR, RYAN	2,921.54	2,921.54
**	1169	ST. CLAIR, RYAN W	372.19	372.19
**	1112	The Liberty 009-39 Land Tr	4,197.38	4,197.38
**	118	THE MARGUERITE J BRACK	1,059.44	533.17
**	974	TORREY, JR LARRY	756.77	756.08
	979	TOWNSLEY, JOSHUA R	2,702.95	2,702.95
	837	VAN DUYSSEN, AUDREE E	4,843.43	3,701.65
	1221	VAN DUYSSEN, AUDREE E	1,942.00	1,942.00
	1377	VANDERBRUG, MICHAEL J	1,498.62	1,498.62
	992	VATTER, JOSEPH T	1,669.14	1,669.14
*	1253	Walton, Courtney S	477.88	477.88
**	1013	WEEKS, ELWIN	536.00	468.24
*	978	WELLS, BENJAMIN	2,129.76	2,129.76
**	43	WENTWORTH, CHRISTOPH	1,290.42	19.39
**	3	Wick, Philip	1,331.63	1,331.63
**	1190	WING FINANCE LLC	443.88	221.94

The Town's fiscal year runs July 1 – June 30 each year.

Per Title 30-A MRS §2801(2), our Annual Report must contain a statement of delinquent taxpayers for the fiscal year. To avoid being posted in the Annual Report, please be sure to make tax payments before June 30 of each year.

WILLARD A. OVERLOCK SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Applicants for this scholarship must be a resident of Liberty for at least five years and entering their second year of study in the University of Maine System or any Maine Community College. The Administration of the Scholarship is delegated to a Board of five administrators. Applications should state the applicants' name, address and campus attending. The applicant should make a brief statement of need and any circumstance that might make the need of the fund especially essential. The applicant should state other funds or grants they are receiving or expect to receive. The deadline for the application is August 1, 2025.

We are pleased to announce that our 2024 recipients were:

Greta Blake & Andrew Abelon.

Each recipient received \$1614.36.

Respectfully Submitted,

Toni Clark, Chairman

2024 ROAD COMMISSIONERS REPORT

The summer of 2024 was perhaps one of the driest on record. So dry that we did not have to open the gate at St. George other than for a cleaning during the summer and fall. The Stevens Pond dam new gate was installed which allows for easier operation of the dam.

Much of the road work that happened this year was shoulder upgrades on the newly and existing paved roads. Shoulders are important to in a couple ways, they allow for easier transition when leaving a road and they help to allow the water to quickly exit the road and not undermine an existing road.

Paving this year is projected to be a section of the Plummer Road in Hostile Valley by the bridge, Marshall Shore Road from Route 3 to the Ponderosa Road, A section of Water Street, the Town Office Entrance and Kager Mountain Road which is currently gravel. A goal for the road department is to start paving some of the gravel roads, in small amounts, on the ones that are a constant battle of mud, potholes and dust. For some of our gravel roads we have put in a Major portion of the maintenance budget just trying to keep up with the maintenance and as you know, if you live on a gravel road, that also leads to maintenance on your vehicles. Thankfully Liberty Residents understand that when it's spring you will undoubtedly deal with all these problems if you are on a gravel road, but it would be a great cost cutting move, to at least do the sections of gravel roads where this occurs the most.

I receive calls often about state roads in our town, residents don't realize sometimes that we as a town have no control over. As a reminder, The Pinnacle Road (Rt 220), Burketville Road (Rt 105), Stevens Pond Road (Rt 173), Trues Pond Road and Main Street are all State Roads. If you have a concern about any of these roads, I urge you to call the state garage located on Rt .3 In Montville at 589-4303.

**As Always if you have any questions or concerns about the roads,
I can be reached at 207-322-2339.**

-Tammy Reynolds

Road By Road - July 23-June 24

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| ➤ Prescott Hill-
16709.50 | ➤ Gove Rd-2245.00 | ➤ Marshall Shores-
36.00 |
| ➤ Valley -7890.00 | ➤ Back Palermo-
1928.00 | ➤ Culverts- \$16107.12- |
| ➤ Mclain-7447.50 | ➤ Robert Shores-
1805.00 | ➤ Tree Life – trimming
of Tree at Sand Shed- |
| ➤ Percy-6164.00 | ➤ Bolin-1417.50 | 645.00 |
| ➤ Jacques-4900.00 | ➤ Fishtown-1000.00 | ➤ Signs-421.51 |
| ➤ Boynton-4876.00 | ➤ Kager 1220.50 | |
| ➤ Trask-4612.00 | ➤ Stickney Hill-880.00 | |
| ➤ Ridge School -
3504.00 | ➤ Water Street-748.00 | |

Total-\$84,556.63 Maintenance

LIBERTY FIRE & RESCUE

I would like to once again express my gratitude to the residents of Liberty for placing their trust in me to lead our agency. As you will see in my report, it has been a busy year for Liberty Fire and Rescue, with a significant number of ambulance and fire calls. We continue to work collaboratively to provide the highest level of service possible to Liberty and the surrounding communities.

I am pleased to report that our department responded to 524 calls for service, comprising over 383 EMS calls and 141 fire calls. Notably, we have maintained a perfect response record for over three years, without missing a single call for service. Furthermore, we have provided assistance to other areas when their services were unable to respond.

The breakdown of ambulance responses by town is as follows:

- Palermo - 154 calls (40%)
- Liberty - 109 calls (29%)
- Montville - 90 calls (23%)
- Searsmont - 9 calls, Freedom - 8 calls, Unity - 3 calls, Somerville - 2 calls, Thorndike - 1 call, Appleton - 1 call, Belfast - 3 calls, Washington - 3 calls (9%)

On the fire side, we responded to 141 calls for service, with the following nature of calls:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Structure Fires - 16 | • Petroleum Spill - 1 | • Medical assist - 28 |
| • Weather Hazards - 19 | • Basement Pumping - 1 | • Odor Investigation - 2 |
| • Wildfires - 4 | • Smoke Investigation - 1 | • Chimney Fires - 4 |
| • Alarm investigations - 15 | • Auto Accidents - 31 | • Watercraft Assist - 1 |
| • Vehicle Fires - 3 | • Station Coverage - 4 | • Car/Deer - 10 |
| | | • Traffic Hazard - 1 |



We have continued to welcome new members to our department and currently have 19 active firefighters and 16 EMS providers. We maintain regular monthly meetings and training sessions to ensure our readiness to respond to any incident. During 2024, we sent four of our newest members to complete a Basic Fire School training course through the Waldo County Firefighters Association. This 80-hour course certifies them as interior firefighters, demonstrating our department's commitment to providing high-quality service. Our department's commitment to additional training hours exceeded 500 hours.

We continue to engage with our community by offering CPR/First Aid classes at the station.

We invested in the purchase of a new Ice Water Rescue Sled, enabling us to safely perform rescues on any level of ice. This equipment was put into service in February. We also received a generous donation to assist in purchasing a Lucas Device, which significantly enhances the quality of compressions administered during CPR. This device can be rapidly deployed by two providers.

Liberty Engine Company 7 remains active in fundraising efforts, including our annual Fourth of July Chicken BBQ and summer Boot drives.

I would like to extend my gratitude to our firefighters and EMS providers for their dedication to our community and the surrounding towns we serve. We have received numerous thank-you cards and gifts at the station, which are greatly appreciated.



Sincerely,
Chief Bill Gillespie



E911 REPORT - 2024

Please call us as soon as you know or need to know if you will need an address.

Not much has changed with this process. This past year we have continued to address more properties for new buildings, new driveways, a new road, roads that get lengthened with new development and a future subdivision. We still need to measure on foot with a measuring wheel if a new road or building doesn't yet show in aerial photos. Every new dwelling needs a number, and a driveway must be named if there is more than one building or lot accessed by the same driveway. A long driveway with just one house does not need a name. This applies to public and private roads.

Naming a road does not make it a Town Road. Please note that you should never post your own road sign with the name of your choosing if it has not been approved by the town and is not in the system. This can lead to confusion in an emergency or for mail delivery.

The phone company, CMP and insurance companies usually require property owners to get an address before they provide service. They are requesting the information earlier in the process than they used to. The Town provides the address and gives it to the property owner, and the Postal Service. Please call the Town Office at 589-4318.

As ever, we still have a problem with sign loss. If you know of a damaged or missing street sign, please let us know. **Missing signs can be a safety issue and more than an inconvenience in an emergency.**

There are still property owners who have not **put-up house #s** and in a few cases need to **remove old RR#s and old CALL camp #s**. These old #s could lead to confusion in an emergency. **Numbers should be at least 3" high and contrast with your building or be reflective. If the house is not visible from the road, they should be posted at the end of your driveway or on your mailbox if you have one.**

When you call 911 from a cell phone, the dispatcher will not necessarily know where you are. This is less likely to happen than it used to be as technology is much improved. Regular "land lines" will show your location automatically when the emergency call is received. From a cell phone you may still need to supply all the information starting with the Town you are in, directions from the Fire Station / ambulance to your house or directions to wherever you are if you are not home or if you need the police.

For all callers, Be Specific:

- ✓ Use official road names, right and left turns, distances even if approximate, and any landmarks you can think of.
- ✓ If you are at home, leave an outside light on or a car with lights flashing where it can be seen from the road.
- ✓ Do not assume people will know where you are. There are always new people joining the emergency services and there are new residents, homes, and road names.
- ✓ Write the directions to your house from the Fire Station and leave them by your phone. You, a visitor, or renter of your home or camp who may not be familiar with your location, can simply read the directions over the phone to the dispatcher.

Please do not forget to shovel out your mailbox, trim branches and keep your address visible year-round! Thank you.

Respectfully submitted, Gail Philippi

2024 REGISTRAR OF VOTERS ANNUAL REPORT AND NOTICE

All residents of the Town of Liberty wishing to vote in any Town Meeting or Election, Annual or Special, **MUST BE ON THE VOTING LIST AS A REGISTERED VOTER.**

In November 2024 we had a turnout of 84.4%. This is Liberty's highest turnout, at least the highest since 1996! Thank You all for voting! Between November 2023 and November 2024, we had four voting days plus the December 10, 2024 vote on keeping Walker School open.

The Town of Liberty currently has 757 active registered voters: 264 Republican, 241 Democrat, 20 Green Independent, 2 Libertarians, 15 No Labels and 215 Unenrolled in a party. There are also 92 voters designated as Inactive. They have not voted, responded to mailings, or signed a petition but will become active again if they vote in Liberty again or sign a petition. The **official political parties** in which you may register are: Democratic, Republican, Green Independent, Libertarian, and No Labels. Voters do not need to select a political party though; you may register to vote and be Unenrolled in a party. Libertarian and No Labels party members did not have a Primary in 2024. For the first time in 2024, Maine had a **Semi-Open Primary** which means that those voters who are Unenrolled in a party could choose a Democratic or Republican ballot for the March 5th and June 11th Primaries.

All Liberty residents at least aged 18 can **register** at any time in the Town Office, online, at the Bureau of Motor Vehicles or on voting day. A 17-year-old who will be 18 on Election Day in November can register ahead of time and 16-year-olds can now pre-register. Bring **identification and proof of residency**. Voters new to Liberty are required to supply either a Maine driver's license or photo ID for identification at the time of your first registration in Liberty. If your mailing address is a P.O. Box, that alone is not proof of residency. We must also see mail you receive at a Liberty address (example: an insurance bill or bank statement sent to your street address) to prove residency. The Bureau of Motor Vehicles will now put a residence address on the back of your driver's license if your mailing address is a P.O. Box.

No one may switch parties less than 15 days before any voting day or caucus **UNLESS** you are currently Unenrolled in a party. Once a voter has chosen or switched to a new party you must stay in that party for at least 3 months.

We have **Accessible Voting** equipment which is useful to anyone who has difficulty seeing or reading. And assistance is always available. This equipment can be used by anyone with no reason required to prove need and it will be available at all state and federal elections.

When you sign a **petition**, please be sure to sign and print your name in the correct columns. Use your street address, even if you have a P.O. Box. Using just the P.O. Box could be declared ineligible in Augusta even though we know who you are here in Town. Where you reside, not where you get your mail is what is required. There are so many petitions, and they can circulate for long enough that it can be hard to remember what petition issues you have already signed. The Registrar has to certify all signatures and duplicates are eliminated at the State level.

Absentee ballots may now be requested in person, by phone, and online through the Secretary of State's office at maine.gov. You must still leave enough time for us to mail the ballot to you and for you to mail it back. Absentee ballots must now be requested **no less than 3 business days** before an election unless you have one of four Special Circumstances situations. This is the Thursday before voting day.

Many thanks go to Retiring Election Warden Karen Fitzmaurice who was our Warden for 12 years! and our new Warden Kelly Hassanein who worked with Karen for several elections, Town Clerk Lindsey Pottle, and all the election clerks and ballot counters** for putting in long hours. If you would like to help at the polls, please contact anyone in the Town Office. And you do not need to wait for us to call, please do not hesitate to call us first!

Polling hours are 8:00 am until 8:00 pm. Any voter already in line at 8:00 pm can vote.

Respectfully submitted, Gail Hansen Philippi, Registrar of Voters

***Election Clerks: Katharine Ahlefeld, Danielle Blake, Elise Brown, Mildred Burke, James Casella, Tammy Casella, Steven Chapin, Michael Cyr, Betsey Davis, Celie Deagle, Judith Fuller, Nicole Gates, Kristine Gorman, Debra Harriman, Kelly Hassanein, David Holbrook, Dana Keniston, Robert Kohl, Peter Mallow, Sara Melanson, JoAnn Peavey, Lucille Peavey, Bridget Simard, Marilyn Stumpff, Sylvia Sim and Dorothy Wyman.*

2024 LIBERTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY REPORT

And so, another year slips quietly into the books. With each passing year Liberty's bicentennial year approaches ever nearer. We, at LHS, have drawn up an interesting outline for the 200th birthday of our town. Several businesses have reached out and pledged their support within their specialty. The question is: How big and for how long? Lessons from neighboring towns, Belfast had a quiet presentation. Others have left lingering reminders in the form of signage and memorials. We are hoping to bring more citizens on board whether as side shoots or as regular members with specific presentations. We are hopeful of new members. Please contact us if you would like to participate.

Another change has come to be. With the aid of a lawyer and his recommendations for the proper transfer of ownership, a committee was formed and incorporated with the intent of transferring the AmVets building in the Village to the Liberty Historical Society. Essentially the AmVets building was abandoned by the former members and operators of the food pantry. This transfer has occurred. Paperwork was drawn up and a former Post Commander signed off on the deed which was recorded in the Waldo County Registry of Deeds.

The purpose of this endeavor is twofold. First, we hope to slowly deter further deterioration of and to preserve the building. This will be prioritized with regard to weather, etc. Second, we, the LHS, will in the future have our own heated space to meet year-round. Additional space will allow for larger displays of our past, and better storage of pertinent relics, i.e. tools and images. We look forward to joining with local resources to help preserve the unique aspects of the building and to move into the future and present a fuller view of our past.

We plan on continuing our program of virtual walks down various streets of our town. Look for announcements of dates, meeting times and which roads. All are welcome to attend and learn and contribute if desired. We also publish a calendar annually and appreciate our contributors and all our local advertisers. We are very appreciative of continuing support from the Town of Liberty.

Octagonal Post Office Museum hours are Saturday 1 – 4 pm between July 4th and Labor Day. If you are interested in joining the Society, in being a host or assisting at the Octagonal Post Office please contact us at 589-4730 or any member of the LHS. Officers are Dana Philippi, President; Elizabeth Wilson, Vice President; Gail Philippi, Treasurer and Matthew Kopishke, Secretary. Members include Katie Light, Dot Wyman, Sarah and Andrew Kuhn, and others who support us in the background.

*Thank You, Dana Philippi
President*

TRI COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Union, Maine

To all Tri County patrons,

As most readers of this letter will remember, I traditionally share some minute glimpse of history (indeed, at times, antiquity) to illuminate my annual message. My faithful Muse has somehow failed me this year. Perhaps, for some, the accompanying recycling data reads a bit like the passenger list for the Normandie (for you trivia folks, there were 139 such lists).

Perhaps the most visible change at the station this year was the retirement of our faithful backhoe (22+ years of service), and the subsequent purchase of a new backhoe/loader.

Our trash continues to be delivered to a waste to energy facility. We continue our endeavor to separate recyclable materials from loads of trash and demolition debris. For those customers who understand that this is fundamental to our mission, and assist us in this effort, we extend our sincere gratitude.

Again, this year, the compilation of our recycling activities:

Metal- 196 tons	Cardboard- 274 tons
Glass -17 tons	#2 plastic- 6 tons
Mixed paper - 90 tons	Tin cans - 8 tons
Rigid (large) plastic - 6 tons	Fluorescent lamps- 811
CPU's and laptops - 1,543 lbs.	HID lamps- 9
Lithium batteries - 31 lbs.	Flat screen monitors -174 lbs.
Printers- 2,426 lbs.	Televisions -15,656 lbs.
Misc. electronics -166 lbs.	PCB lamp ballasts- 26
Sealed lead acid batteries- 319 lbs.	Sm. rechargeable batteries- 206 lbs.

We continue to promote the reuse and repurposing side of what we do. The “free section” and clothing bin continue to be successful. Larger items such as outdoor power equipment, bicycles, filing cabinets, shelving and a host of items too numerous to categorize find homes on a regular basis.

As always, to those of you on whose faithful support we depend, thanks again.

Regards. David Stanley, manager

WALDO BROADBAND CORPORATION (WBC)

UPDATE FOR LIBERTY TOWN MEETING – 2025

The five towns of the Waldo Broadband Corporation (WBC), which includes Liberty, **remain on schedule for installation of fiber optic broadband** by Direct Communications. As a reminder, Director Communications (I'll just call them "DC" in the rest of this note) is the Idaho-based company that purchased Unitel, in Unity, a few years ago. They are not affiliated with DirectTV in any way. DC is a family-owned company focused on providing internet in rural communities across the country. They will own and operate the network, with the WBC serving as the not-for-profit liaison working on behalf of the towns and their residents to make sure the needs of our community are well-served by the network.

So far, more than 7,200 utility poles have been inspected, and hardware materials have begun to arrive at Direct Communications (DC) warehouse. Contractors for Phase I and II of the project have been selected and construction of the network "backbone" has begun. You might have noticed a few poles being upgraded around town to prepare for installation of fiber optic cable. **DC is under a contractual obligation with the state to complete all installations to residents of our towns by October 15, 2026. Many residents should receive service this year (2025)**, with those near the main lines (basically the main roads) generally receiving service first.

Although things are on schedule, all of this has taken much longer than any of us would like. I've been working on this project for over four years, and I know how hard it is to wait. It's like watching sap boil – it seems to take forever but, in the end, the final product will be sweet. This is a \$15 million network, and we haven't had to pay a penny as a town to have it built, so it doesn't get much better than that, even if it does take some time. We have been told by DC and the state that a very small number of locations in each town will not be served under this grant, and we're trying to figure out which, how many, and where those locations will be. Thankfully, it looks like the number of locations affected will be very small, with almost all residents able to get service. And for the very small number of locations that won't be served, plans are already underway to try to make service available through other programs, and even other technologies.

WBC is a not-for-profit corporation of which the town is a “member”, and while the network is being built, there’s not much we can do outside of collaborating with other organizations such as the Liberty Library, which is conducting some fantastic classes to help people learn more about the tools one uses in a “digital” world.

If you haven’t checked out those classes at the library, you might want to do so.

They’re better than what we see offered in many towns that are much larger than ours, thanks to leadership and hard work by Barb and some very dedicated volunteers. Once the network buildout is well underway WBC looks forward to helping our towns and residents make use of the network through things like additional educational programs, veteran outreach and support programs, business support programs, working on availability of improved telehealth services, and even access to free or low-cost internet equipment and computers for those residents that need a little help in affording them. **If you have an interest in volunteering to help promote any of those efforts, WBC has active committees that are eager to have your help. Feel free to reach out to me at liberty.director@waldobroadband.org and I’d be happy to get you in touch with the right people.**

The best thing you can do if you want to receive broadband service when it’s available is to sign up now. You’re not obligated to have service installed by just “raising your hand” through DCs website, but it gives them a good idea about where people most want service, and **it allows you to check on whether service is planned to be available at your location. You can learn more and sign up at <https://directcom.com>.** Click on the “residential” item in the menu bar. Any locations that are not listed as available should call (207) 948-3900 (DC’s office) to obtain further information and verification.

Finally, if you want to stay up to date on activities related to the buildout of the network, check out the WBC website at <https://waldobroadband.org>.

Joe Meadows

Liberty Director and Vice President,

Waldo Broadband Corporation



Town of Liberty

Emergency Management Agency

P.O. Box 116

Liberty, ME 04949

Dear Townspeople,

As Liberty's Emergency Management Director, I assess the emergencies our town might face, develop strategies to prevent those emergencies, and plan for ways to respond to the emergencies should they happen. I work closely with the Town Select Board, Fire & Rescue Chiefs, and the Road Commissioner.

Liberty Community Hall as a Warming Center – As many of you know, we are fortunate to have the Community Hall available as a Warming Center if we need one in the event of an emergency. It has generator power and a communications radio for coordinating services.

A Warming Center is a facility that provides temporary day-use shelter and limited services (e.g. charging phones). It is NOT an Emergency Shelter with overnight facilities, showers, etc. Whenever an Emergency Shelter is needed, Waldo County will coordinate opening an approved facility. Currently, our closest approved shelters are Mount View High School in Thorndike and the Waldo County YMCA and Troy Howard Middle School in Belfast.

Readiness is the best thing you can do for yourself & your family to be able to safely ride out a storm. Here are a couple of things you can do to improve your readiness:

1. Pick up a copy of the Storm Readiness guide at the Town Office or go to www.ready.gov to find useful information on how to prepare your family & your pets. Review the guide and select a few things to work on and practice this year.
2. Sign up for cellphone hazard and threat alerts.
 - a. Open your phone's Settings app.
 - b. Tap Notifications. Tap Government or Wireless emergency alerts. There are a number to choose from (including AMBER alert for missing children, Emergency Alerts, Public Safety Alerts, and Test Alerts).

- c. If you sign up for Test Alerts, then the Waldo County Emergency Management Agency can send test alerts to your phone.
- d. Choose how often you want to receive alerts and which settings you want on. If you can't find Apps & notifications, get help from your device manufacturer.

Waldo County Hazard Mitigation Plan – Liberty is participating in Waldo County’s Hazard Mitigation Plan, which seeks to identify our community’s public infrastructure vulnerabilities and hazards and then plan how to mitigate them.

WE NEED YOUR INPUT. Please take a few minutes to consider the possible hazards to our town’s public infrastructure and let us know what you think. Can you think of a road that frequently floods or washes out, a culvert about to fail, a bridge that needs replacing?

**PLEASE LOOK FOR A LIBERTY INFRASTRUCTURE HAZARD SURVEY AT THE
UPCOMING ANNUAL TOWN MEETING & FILL IT OUT! Thank You**

I always end my annual report with a heartfelt thanks to our Town’s Fire & EMS first responders. THANK YOU! Please consider joining Liberty Fire & Rescue. All levels of ability welcome.

I also want to send a “thank you” to all the folks who make it possible to travel our roads safely:

- The folks who maintain our roads – Road Commissioner Tammy Reynolds, Liberty’s Road Committee, & Dave’s World
- Those who plow & sand them – Jim Butler and crew
- And the folks like Brian Totman, Totman’s Enterprises, who pull disabled vehicles off the roads and out of ditches

Finally, thank you Liberty residents for your continued support of our local agencies.

Sincerely,

Elise Brown

Emergency Management Director

592-2970

ebrown@libertymaine.us



Liberty Library Annual Report 2024

The Liberty Library Association celebrates our 30th Anniversary this year! We have come a long way from when residents of Liberty gathered at Camp Kieve in Nobleboro, Maine, in 1993 to discuss the town's future and participants expressed interest in starting a public library. On July 27, 1995, the Liberty Library Association was formed. Montville joined the library in 1998. We continue to grow and evolve every year and are proud to serve the Liberty/Montville community.

The library averages 140 visitors a week. In 2024, we loaned:

- 2788 adult books
- 4359 children books
- 1102 DVDs
- 1105 items borrowed interlibrary loan from other libraries

In addition, we loaned passes for the Farnsworth museum, a Maine State Park Vehicle pass, tickets for the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, Discovery Kits, and more, bringing the total circulation to **8567** physical items.

The library subscribes to two digital services and their use has skyrocketed this year! We loaned **2632** digital items (audiobooks, eBooks, movies, music, etc.). These users may never set foot in the building but still use the library's services.

2218 citizens used our high-speed, 24/7 WiFi and public access computers. Many enjoyed the use of the color printer and the privacy booth purchased with funds from a Remote Workers grant from the Maine State Library.

Liberty Library worked with other libraries in Waldo County to join the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, a program that mails free books directly to the homes of children age birth to five every month. We are funding this program for 24 children in Liberty (9) and Montville (15).

This was the third year of a 3-year grant from the Maine Public Library Fund. In collaboration with the Friends of Haystack Mountain, we set up three StoryWalks® on the Haystack Mountain Trail.

Twenty-four programs were held throughout the year, including author and speaker visits, magic show, puppet show, art and craft workshops, and raffle/ice cream social. Bea Turner was the winner of the 6th March Madness Cribbage Tournament! Gatherings for Scrabble, Mahjong, Lego, handicrafts, and book discussions met regularly. Story Time was held weekly on Friday mornings, and a Homeschool Group was held monthly September-June. Most programs will continue in 2025 plus we are planning exciting new ones. In June, we will host a "Within The Whale" program that invites learners of all ages to step inside a life-size inflatable humpback whale.

The Liberty Library connects our community in ways that can benefit everyone. To learn more about your library, go to liberty.lib.me.us. You can also read and subscribe to our newsletter.

Thank you for your support.



PAWS is the contracted Animal Shelter for the town of **Liberty**.

123 John St, Camden, ME.
Tuesday - Sunday 12:30 - 4:00pm
(207) 236-8702



**Greetings from your
Animal Control Officers**

Arnold Oulton, Robin Dow, Henry Dow.

We as a family have been doing Animal Control since 2016. We started with the town of Liberty on July 1st, 2024, within that time we responded to 13 calls, 2 of them being dog bites, 5 for dogs running at large. This is a very big concern for us.

If you get Summoned for this, it is going to cost you lots of money, so please be a good neighbor and keep your dog on your own property.

All dog licenses run out December 31st,

You can license as early as **Oct. 15th**, for the following year.

You **Must** show proof of up dated **Rabies**.

You have until **Jan. 31st**, as of **Feb. 1st**, you will face a late charge of **\$25.00** per dog, a visit from **Animal Control** and a possible **Court Summons**.

Maine Law states:

All Cats and Dogs must be rabies vaccinated at the age of **3 months**.

Maine Law requires that dogs wear their tags at ALL Times!

It is a violation to put the wrong tags on your dogs. You can be fined!

Do Not Feed Stray Cats !

We had 6 stray cat complaints, once you feed them they belong to **you** and **you** are **responsible for them**.

We have Haveaheart traps you can borrow to have them removed.

Please, Please, make sure you give the Town Office a working phone number.

That along with the dog tags help us get your fur baby back to you.

(we do not like to have to take them to the shelter.)

Liberty A.C.O. Face Book page is there for you to post pictures of lost or found pets.

The best way to reach us is by phone.

Office: 324-3259 , Arnold 322-0645, Henry 322-4705, Robin 323-9490

Waldo Dispatch at 388-2040

CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION OF LIBERTY LAKES (C.A.L.L.) 2024 REPORT

C.A.L.L. is a volunteer-based nonprofit whose mission is to help maintain and improve the exceptional quality of the beloved lakes in Liberty. Our close partnership with the Town of Liberty, Lake St. George State Park, Lake Stewards of Maine, and the State Department of Environmental Protection serves to benefit all those who live, work, and recreate in the watershed. We educate, monitor, and advocate to protect our waterbodies, including Lake St. George, Stevens Pond, and Cargill Pond, which are vital resources impacting the tax base of the Town. They also help fuel our local economy and benefit our quality of life.

2024 was highlighted by an increase in membership and donations, onboarding of a new dedicated Coordinator for the Lake Keepers Camp, a successful year of Courtesy Boat Inspections, boosted communications to our community, and the welcoming of new C.A.L.L. Board members. These highlight details included:

- The Courtesy Boat Inspection Program ran from Memorial Day through Labor Day at Lake St. George and Stevens Pond, it was coordinated by Volunteer Kerry Black, and the inspectors were supervised by Julie Beckford. C.A.L.L. funded this work with a 50% grant from the DEP., The goal was to prevent the spread of all invasive plant species. In 2024, inspectors performed 1469 inspections over 143 shifts for a total of 499.5 hours. Our invasive species work is overseen by volunteer Charlie Evans, who was happy to relate that no invasive plants were reported in 2024. Volunteer Barbara Edmond enters all inspection data to the State online.
- We welcomed Sheri Scovil as our dedicated Lake Keepers Camp Coordinator, the camp took place July 29 - August 2, 2024. It was attended by nine campers and four junior campers who learned about lakeside erosion control, fish life, the aquatic food chain, water clarity, invasive plants and more. C.A.L.L. is in great need for more adult volunteers to assist with the program in 2025.
- Volunteers Rick Hurwitz, Wayne Rancourt and Dana Valteau oversee and perform water testing and readings on dissolved oxygen and temperature readings. Volunteers Charlie Hudson, Al Collinson, Richard Whittier, and Ken Wunderle also assist with water quality monitoring. Rick conducts the e-coli testing following the State of Maine protocols; our summer e-coli testing found no areas of concern.
- The annual Maine Audubon loon count took place on July 15th, coordinated by Pam Page with 30 volunteers. Six bodies of water were covered resulting in a count- of 24 adults and no chicks, this number was down from previous years. Though no chicks were seen on count day, they were on Lake St. George seen prior to and after the count.
- The 2024 Annual Meeting featured guest speaker Ron Joseph who shared stories of growing up in rural Maine, as featured in his book "Bald Eagles, Bear Cubs and Hermit Bill: Memories of a Maine Wildlife Biologist". The meeting also featured a fundraising raffle for a quilt handmade and donated by C.A.L.L. Board member Kerry Black. The quilt featured beloved Liberty Graphics Designs and was displayed at the Liberty Graphics Outlet Store on Main Street prior to the raffle. The quilt was a big hit and yielded over \$1,500 in raffle proceeds which will directly aid our mission toward water quality preservation.
- Communications and membership drives were prioritized in 2024. Board member Jeff Melanson produces our popular bi-annual newsletters with the latest news and happenings. Digital communications are led by volunteer Kate Ahlefeld who maintains our website and periodic email bulletins. These include timely news about upcoming events and lake stewardship. The implementation of online payments for dues and donations has increased our accessibility.
- C.A.L.L. was fortunate to welcome new Board members in 2024. The Board rotates leadership and actively seeks new volunteers to help us maintain organizational strength and forward momentum. The current Directors are President, Barbara Edmond, Secretary, Jeff Melanson, Treasurer, Gail Philippi, and Board Members Kate Ahlefeld, Kerry Black, Jim Caldwell, Laura Hummer, Elizabeth Johnston, Teresa Smith, Dana Valteau, Hugh Mahon, Valentina McLaughlin, and Anne Shure.

Membership to C.A.L.L. is open to anyone who cares about the lakes and would like to support this work by making financial or volunteer contributions. Volunteer opportunities are available to anyone interested in making a difference to our community and mission through our programs including the Lake Keeper's Camp, Boat Inspection Program, Water Quality, Newsletter Committee, Invasive Plant Survey Committee, Membership Committee, or serving on the C.A.L.L. Board of Directors. **For more information, please visit us online at www.libertylakes.net or follow us on Facebook CALL: Citizens' Association of Liberty Lakes.**

Respectfully submitted by Valentina McLaughlin, C.A.L.L. Board Member

WALDO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

*6 Public Safety Way
Belfast, ME 04915*

SHERIFF
Jason W. Trundy

Administrative Offices
207-338-6786
Fax
207-338-6784

CHIEF DEPUTY
Matthew C. Curtis

Citizens of Waldo County,

The Members of the Waldo County Sheriff's Office are proud to provide law enforcement, correctional and civil paperwork services to the citizens of our great county and we want to thank the members of the public for their continued support.

In 2024, our patrol division handled 7,536 calls for service. These calls included all types of incidents from domestic violence, robberies, burglaries, thefts, child abuse, sexual abuse, drug overdoses, and much more. During 2024, to increase traffic safety, the Sheriff's Office shifted greater focus on traffic safety, including the assignment of a deputy sheriff specifically to traffic enforcement. The increased focus on traffic safety resulted in a significant increase in traffic stops from an average of around 1,500 stops annually to 2986 stops in 2024.

Our corrections division finished its fifteenth year in the operation of our 72-hour intake and the Maine Coastal Regional Re-entry Center. The seventy-two-hour holding and booking facility processed 835 people who were arrested in Waldo County by all the law enforcement agencies serving our County.

In 2024, the participants of the reentry provided 3,375 hours of community service throughout Waldo County. This translated to a savings in labor costs of \$49,443 to citizens and non-profit agencies. Residents also provided more than 32,000 pounds of fresh vegetables to local food pantries and those in need from the County's Garden Project. The residents also paid \$10,566 in room and board to the County and \$5,799 toward their fines and restitution.

Our Civil Service Division served 1,123 sets of legal paperwork all over the county in 2024.

It has been an honor for all of us to be of service to the citizens of Waldo County in 2024. It is my goal as Sheriff to focus the resources of the Sheriff's Office on enhancing traffic safety, addressing substance abuse, and identifying operational efficiencies and cost savings in our correctional services. These issues are critical to the quality of life of everyone in Waldo County. We look forward to providing the citizens of Waldo County with professional law enforcement services based on our core values of Integrity, Teamwork and Compassion. We wish everyone a safe and productive 2025.

Respectfully,

Sheriff Jason W. Trundy



Waldo County Sheriff's Office
 • 6 Public Safety Way Belfast Maine 04915 •
 • 207-338-2040 •



Total Number of Complaints received in 2024 for Liberty

<u>Nature of Call</u>	<u>Total Calls Received</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
911 Disconnect	6	3.14%
911 Misdial	9	4.71%
911 Open Line	4	2.09%
ATV Complaint	1	0.52%
Abandoned Vehic	1	0.52%
Agency Assist	11	5.76%
Alarm	7	3.66%
Assault	1	0.52%
BOLO	1	0.52%
Burglary	2	1.05%
Business Check	1	0.52%
Car/Deer PD	11	5.76%
Child Custody	1	0.52%
Civil	6	3.14%
Crim Mischief	1	0.52%
Crim Trespass	9	4.71%
Detail K-9	1	0.52%
Detail Misc	5	2.62%
Detail Radar	2	1.05%
Detail School	1	0.52%
Disorderly	2	1.05%
Disturbance	6	3.14%
Domestic	1	0.52%
Drugs	2	1.05%
Escort	1	0.52%
Fatal Accident	1	0.52%
Fraud	3	1.57%
Friendly Caller	2	1.05%
Harassment	2	1.05%
House Check	1	0.52%
Identity Theft	1	0.52%
Information	12	6.28%
Juvenile Prob	1	0.52%
Late 10-55	1	0.52%
MV Complaint	13	6.81%
Mental Medical	2	1.05%
MessageDelivery	1	0.52%
Motorist Assist	4	2.09%
PD Accident	6	3.14%
PI Accident	4	2.09%
Property Watch	3	1.57%
Public Assist	2	1.05%
Reported Death	1	0.52%
Service PO	2	1.05%
Sex Offense	1	0.52%
Suspicious	11	5.76%
Theft	1	0.52%
Traffic Offense	5	2.62%
Violation PO	1	0.52%
Wanted Person	1	0.52%
Welfare Check	15	7.85%
Wildlife Prob	1	0.52%
Total Complaints Reported: 191	Total Traffic Stops: 83	



March 13, 2025

Dear community members and friends:

We at Georges River Land Trust (GRLT) are grateful for the opportunity to conserve and care for the lands and waters that sustain us. For nearly forty years, we have worked with our community members throughout the 19 towns in our service area to protect 5,179 acres of land with extraordinary conservation value across 20 preserves and 55 easements.

We believe that healthy ecosystems help ensure we have a healthy and thriving community. We offer year-round public access, recreation opportunities, and nature-based education across the lands we steward. With our network of 150+ volunteers, we steward the lands we hold and maintain our network of 73 miles of hiking trails to ensure community access to the exceptional nature we all call home.

This year was a big year for us, thanks to our growing staff and volunteers. We are thrilled that Searsmont native, Natalie Curry, joined us as our Stewardship Manager. Natalie and her team of volunteers assessed and advanced plans to safeguard our 55 easements and addressed large swaths of invasives, such as multiflora rose, barberry, and Norway maples. We are also delighted that Linnea Patterson joined our team as Land Conservation Manager, working to protect ecologically significant areas of our watershed and work with community members to protect lands with significant public benefit. Linnea also worked with Natalie to fully integrate GIS, a software tool for geospatial analysis, so that we can swiftly map critical habitat corridors and incorporate ecological values, such as soil type, water resources, and wetlands into our analysis and conservation work. Please contact them if you would like to learn more!

The town of Liberty and its community are vital partners in the work we do, and we are grateful for our partnership. In 2020, Georges River Land Trust, with support from the community, purchased Quigg Island Community Forest Preserve on Stevens Pond from the Robbins brothers, who expertly managed it for the past 50+ years. Quigg Island is accessible by water from the Stevens Pond public boat launch - come visit the island this summer and walk our beautiful trail through tall and healthy white pines and hemlocks! We are happy to share this 40-acre parcel with the community, the beavers, the herons, and the loons.

Many of our 1,000+ members and our 150+ volunteers are Liberty residents. Please join us all in helping protect and care for our local nature and expand and enhance recreational access across our extraordinary watershed. Reach us at 594.5166 or www.georgesriver.org to get involved.

We hope to see you on the trails,
Georges River Land Trust Team



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



Committee on Armed Services
Committee on Small Business

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

Dear Friends,

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

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

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

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

6 State Street, Suite 101
Bangor, ME 04101
Phone: (207) 249-7400

7 Hatch Drive, Suite 230
Caribou, ME 04736
Phone: (207) 492-6009

179 Lisbon Street
Lewiston, ME 04240
Phone: (207) 241-6767

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

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

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

I wish you a healthy and prosperous year to come.

Respectfully,



Jared Golden
Member of Congress

SUSAN M. COLLINS
MAINE

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

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
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.

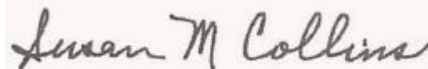
Another important bill that I coauthored was the *Social Security Fairness Act*. Since 2003, when I led the first-ever Senate hearing on the Windfall Elimination Provision and the Government Pension Offset, I have sought to end these provisions of the *Social Security Act* that unfairly reduce the Social 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

ANGUS S. KING, JR.
MAINE

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

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 1, 2025

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
CHAIRMAN, STRATEGIC FORCES
SUBCOMMITTEE
ENERGY AND
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.

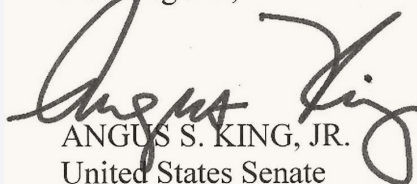
First, it was a true honor to be reelected to the United States Senate for another six-year term. Throughout my travels around the state, I heard many concerns about the cost of living and affordability of housing. Many of you also shared your concerns about access to medical and mental health services. 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

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

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

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

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

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



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: Maine Relay 711

D. Michael Ray

40 Quarry Road

Lincolntonville, ME 04849

Phone: (207) 930-0371

Michael.Ray@legislature.maine.gov

v

Dear Liberty 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.

We have just begun the first session of the 132nd. 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 much 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. Some of my other top budget goals include funding recommendations from the Infrastructure Rebuilding and Resilience Commission, which was formed following the 2023-24 winter storms and has reported on recovery and resiliency rebuilding priorities.

I am happy to share that I have been appointed to serve on the Transportation Committee. The committee oversees the Department of Transportation, the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, the Maine Turnpike Authority and the Highway Fund, as well as policies related to bridge and highway construction, driver education and highway safety. This is a fitting assignment, as I have heard frustrations from many folks regarding proposed changes to the state ferry service as well as the need for public transit throughout Waldo County. I am looking forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support our island and inland communities.

If there is anything I can do to be of assistance to you or your family, please feel welcome to reach out. I always enjoy connecting with constituents – whether you have concerns about local matters, questions about state programs or would like to discuss thoughts on legislation. I can be reached at 207-930-0371 or Michael.Ray@legislature.maine.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DMR".

Mike Ray

State Representative



Glenn "Chip"
Curry Senator,
District 11

THE MAINE
SENATE 132nd
Legislature

3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

January 12, 2025

Dear Friends and Residents of Liberty,

Thank you for once again placing your trust in me as your State Senator. With the First Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature now underway, I'm excited to share updates on our work in Augusta, including my new committee assignments.

I have been appointed to serve as Senate Chair of the newly formed Housing and Economic Development Committee. This committee merges the roles of the previous Joint Select Committee on Housing and the Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business Committee — reflecting how closely housing opportunities, affordability, and economic growth are intertwined. Our goal is to address Maine's ongoing housing challenges, expand economic innovation, and ensure that every Mainer has a safe, secure place to call home.

I am also pleased to serve on the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee, where I will continue working to keep our communities safe and well-served. Drawing from my experiences on the Blue Ribbon Commission on Emergency Medical Services and the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission, I'm eager to support the crucial work of first responders and strengthen our public safety infrastructure across the state.

In the coming months, my colleagues and I will tackle a wide range of issues, including cost-of-living concerns, child care needs, and critical workforce initiatives. Throughout these discussions, I will keep Waldo County's unique needs at the forefront of my priorities.

Please remember that I am here to help. If you need assistance connecting with a state agency, have questions about legislation, or wish to share your thoughts, feel free to reach out at Chip.Curry@legislature.maine.gov or call my legislative office at (207) 287-1515. I look forward to continuing our work together to build a stronger future for our district and all Mainers.

Thank you again for the privilege of serving as your State Senator.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chip Curry".

Chip Curry
State Senator, District 11
Representing the twenty-six rural, coastal, and island communities of Waldo County

To save paper, we are not including a 'Property Declaration' form with the book this year.

Please come in or contact the office for a form if there have been changes made to your property.

LIBERTY ASSESSORS' REPORT

TITLE 36, SECTION 706 M.R.S.A.:

Before making an assessment, the Assessors shall give reasonable notice in writing to all persons liable to taxation in the municipality to furnish to the Assessors TRUE AND PERFECT LISTS of all their estates, not by law exempt from taxation, of which they were possessed on the first day of April of the same year.

The notice to owners may be by mail directed to the last known address of the taxpayer or by any other method that provides reasonable notice to the taxpayer. If the person after such notice does not furnish such list, that person is thereby barred of the right to make application to the Assessors or the County Commissioners for any abatement of taxes, unless the person furnishes such list with an application and satisfies them that they were UNABLE to furnish it at the time appointed.

The Assessors may require the person furnishing the list to make oath to its truth. They may also require the person to answer, in writing, all proper inquiries as to the nature, situation, and value of the property, liable to be taxed in the State. The Assessors are not bound to accept such list and answers as final.

VETERAN'S EXEMPTION

Certain estates of Veterans, widows and minor children are exempt up to \$6,000 of taxable valuation (\$7000 for World War I, or prior Veterans) in the municipality where the veteran is a legal resident. Refer to M.R.S.A., Title 36, Section 653, or contact the Assessors' Office for information and applications

TREE GROWTH

The Maine Tree Growth Tax Law provides for the valuation of land which has been classified as forest land on the basis of productivity value, rather than the fair market value. Any parcels of land with at least 10 acres of forest land may be classified at the election of the owner. For specific criteria regarding the rules, classification, application and penalties for withdrawal, refer to M.R.S.A., Title 36, Sections 571 to 584-A, or contact the Assessors' Office for information and applications.

FARM & OPEN SPACE

The Farm and Open Space Tax Law provides for the valuation of land which has been classified as farmland or open space land based on its current use as farmland or open space, rather than its potential fair market value for more intensive uses other than agriculture or open space. For specific criteria regarding the rules, classification, application and penalties for withdrawal; refer to M.R.S.A., Title 36, Sections 1101-1118 or contact the Assessors' Office for information and applications.

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

State Police	800-452-4664
Waldo County Sheriff	800-660-3398
Central Maine Power Outages	800-696-1000
WCAP	800-498-3025
Oil Spills (Emergency)	800-482-0777
Poison Control Center	800-442-6305
Department of Human Services – Child Abuse	800-452-1999
Department of Human Services – Adult Abuse	800-624-8404

Animal Control Officer – Arnold Oulton	342-3259
Assessor’s Agent – Maine Assessment&Appraisal	234-2822
Code Enforcement Officer – Cindy Abbott	505-0743
E911 Coordinator – Gail Philippi	589-4730
Emergency Management Director – Elise Brown	592-2970
Fire Chief – Bill Gillespie	542-3794
First Selectman – Melinda Steeves	589-4450
Health Officer – Corey Bonnevie	670-4215
Liberty Library	589-3161
Mt. View Junior High	568-7561
Mt. View Senior High	568-3255
Planning Board Chair – Steve Fountain	505-0515
Plumbing Inspector – Cindy Abbott	505-0743
Post Office	(800) 275-8777
Registrar of Voters – Gail Philippi	589-4730
Road Commissioner – Tammy Reynolds	322-2339
RSU#3 Board Director – Richard Frost	604-0412
RSU#3 Superintendent’s Office	948-6136
Second Selectman – Danny McGovern	542-9180
Snow Plowing – Jim Butler	505-2685
Third Selectman – Duane Jewett	323-3577
Town Administrator/Tax Collector – Nicole Gates	589-3014
Town Clerk- Lindsey Pottle	589-4318
Town Office FAX machine	589-3160
Treasurer – Hannah Hatfield	589-4318
Tri-County Transfer Station	785-2261
Walker School	589-4330

State Representative – Michael Ray	930-0371
US Senator – Angus King	622-8292
US Senator – Susan Collins	945-0417
