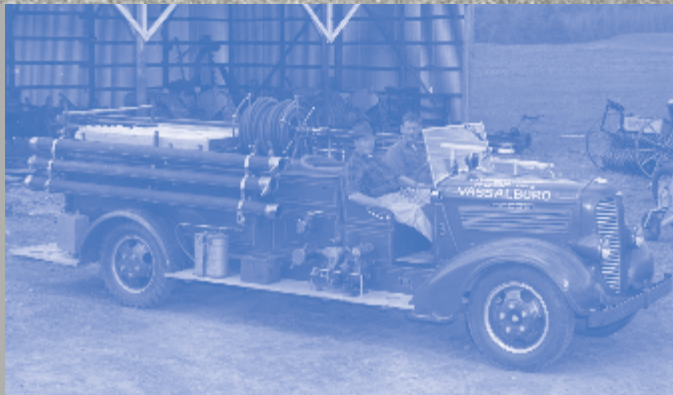


# VASSALBORO 2019

ANNUAL REPORT

VASSALBORO FIRE DEPARTMENT  
RIVERSIDE STATION

1395



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## PHOTOGRAPHY

Front Cover and Fire Services Story Photos provided by Don Breton, Vassalboro Fire Department and Vassalboro Historical Society

Various Staff and Scenic Photos courtesy of Mary Sabins

## ANNUAL REPORT DESIGN

A<sup>2</sup> - [annmaryabbott@gmail.com](mailto:annmaryabbott@gmail.com)



# DEDICATION

This year's annual report is dedicated to former Fire Chief Eric Rowe who retired in the Spring of 2020 after 30 years of service as the Chief of the Vassalboro Fire Department. Eric joined the fire department on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 1980 and was promoted to Lieutenant in January, 1984. After only a few more years, he was promoted again to the level of Captain on November 17<sup>th</sup>, 1987. Still moving his way up the ladder to the top rung, he was again promoted to Deputy Chief on June 13<sup>th</sup>, 1989 before being selected by his peers and members of the department to become Fire Chief on February 13<sup>th</sup>, 1990.

A life-long resident of Vassalboro, Eric is well known for having a long record of dedicated community service and is a pillar of the community. Throughout his years in a leadership role, Eric always promoted teamwork and organizational effectiveness. He was instrumental in the construction of both the North and Riverside fire stations, and acquisition of much of the apparatus and equipment owned by the Department. Our residents have benefited from his knowledge of the job, knowledge of the community, and dedication to the fire service.

Eric is the third generation of his family to join a Fire Department. His Grandfather, Urban Rowe was a firefighter, and his father, Urban (Sonny) Rowe, Jr. was one of the founders of the Riverside Fire Department and a firefighter as well. Today, the Rowe tradition continues as his twin boys, Benji and Bennie are both members of the Vassalboro Fire Department as Captains.

Eric could always be counted on to respond to calls, whether it be in the middle of the day or the middle of the night. He was so dedicated, that fellow responders recently recalled when the department was dispatched one evening to a fire call on the Gray Road, it wasn't until Eric arrived at the scene and got out of the truck that he then realized he still had his slippers on!

He has demonstrated what a true volunteer is. For 40 years, 30 of those years as Chief, he has spent countless hours of his own time not just firefighting, but also maintaining the vehicles when repairs could be done by himself. He was also very instrumental in setting up 'dry hydrants' that you see throughout the town, another source for water supply.

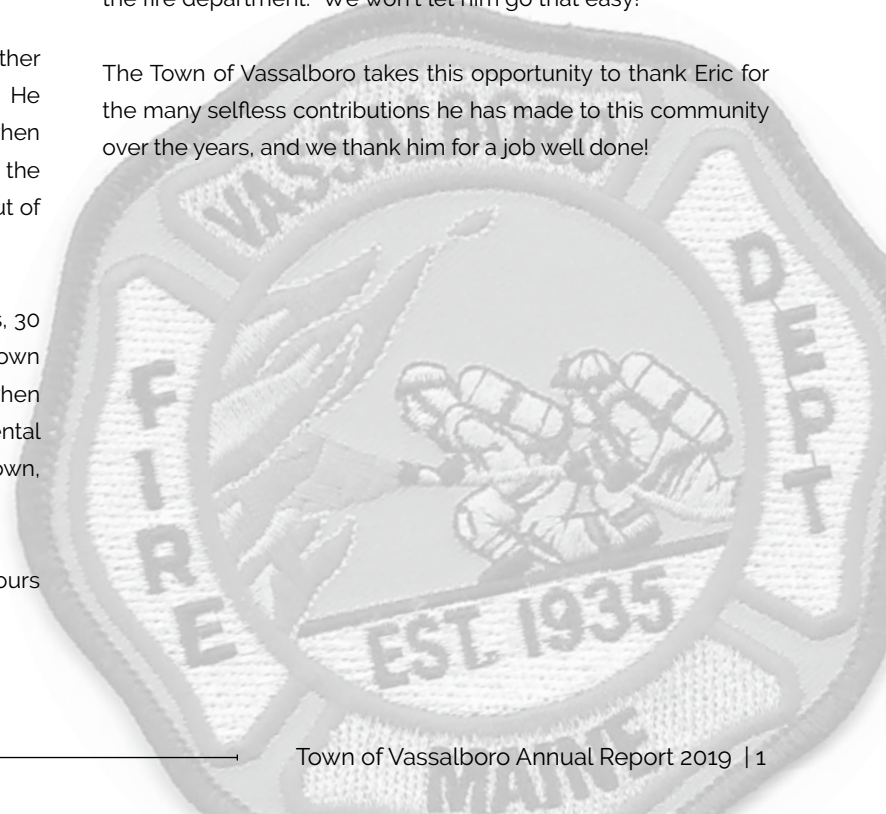
We would like to thank his wife Debbie, for the countless hours Eric has spent time away from her and their family.



Former Fire Chief Eric Rowe

Although Eric is retiring as Chief, he will still remain a member of the fire department. We won't let him go that easy!

The Town of Vassalboro takes this opportunity to thank Eric for the many selfless contributions he has made to this community over the years, and we thank him for a job well done!





# TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

MARY SABINS, Town Manager

A major component of what makes Vassalboro a great place to live and work is our wonderful town staff and volunteers. I am pleased to note special recognition was given in October 2019 to our own Public Works Director Gene Field as he was awarded the Public Works Leader of the Year Award from the American Public Works Association at the annual Maine Municipal Association Convention! With nearly 40 years of dedicated service to the townspeople of Vassalboro, we thank him for a job well done and hope he stays with us many more years!

On a more recent development, long-time veteran Fire Chief Eric Rowe has stepped down from his role as Chief and has handed over the reigns to new Chief Walker Thompson. It is with much appreciation that we thank Eric for his dedicated service! To recognize Eric and his fire department volunteers, this annual report is dedicated to Eric and the centerfold story is all about the history of the Vassalboro Volunteer Fire Department. Be sure to check out those stories in this report.



Photo by Mary Sabins

PW Director Gene Field proudly displays his PW Leader of the Year Award.

At the Annual Town Meeting in June of 2019, the Selectmen awarded the annual Spirit of America Award to Mary Grow of China. Mary is a reporter for the free weekly Town Line Newspaper. She has covered all of our Selectmen, Planning Board and School Committee Meetings for many years, keeping our residents informed of the happenings in town. The Selectmen and I have much appreciated Mary's dedication to consistent fair reporting. On occasion at our meetings, we find ourselves relying on Mary's memory to remind us of past decisions and past protocols used by former administrations in years past! Thank you again Mary for a job well done!



Photo by John Melrose

Town Clerk Cathy Coyne swears in Bob Williams (Center) and Walker Thompson (R) as new Assistant Fire Chief and Fire Chief respectively.



Photo by Mary Sabins

Selectman Lauchlin Titus presents Spirit of America Award to Town Line Reporter Mary Grow.

# TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Throughout the past year, the Selectmen and I have been busy implementing projects and purchasing equipment that were approved at the 2019 Annual Town Meeting. Within a month after town meeting, a new Ford Police Interceptor cruiser was ordered to replace the 2007 Chevy Impala that was significantly showing its years. After waiting for many months for our order to be filled, the new cruiser arrived in March 2020. Police Chief Mark Brown is commended for his thorough work to research and outfit the new cruiser with the equipment needed to be an effective and dependable vehicle for many years to come.

The Selectmen appointed a Solar Committee, with John Melrose as Chair, to create a set of bid specifications to find a solar company to help the town move forward with a solar project to reduce electricity costs. Progress is still being made by the Committee, and the Selectmen have accepted the Committee's recommendation to work with a company named Revision Energy. The Select Board will move methodically forward while ensuring the town's best interest in energy savings.

Distribution of the Town's Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) Development Fund has been a big topic of discussion this past year, with receipt of large grant requests from both the Alewife Restoration Initiative and the Vassalboro Sanitary District, which are both approved projects in the TIF Plan. The Select Board has wrestled with distributing the funds equitably so that each

project is funded and in a timely manner. Suggestions from members of the public have also prompted the Select Board to consider if some of the TIF funds could also be used for major town projects such as large culvert replacement or transfer station layout renovation projects. Possibly, there are other uses for the TIF fund that the Selectmen should be contemplating. To answer these questions, the Board has hired a consultant from the Central Maine Growth Council to research our options and to generate ideas for consideration. His report is due back to the Board by the first of June 2020.

Other enhancement projects are also underway such as the clean-up and restoration of town trails, and improvements to the park at the Civil War Monument next to the China Lake Boat Launch in preparation for the town's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration in 2021. Volunteers and ideas will be needed soon as we make plans for the big birthday celebration. Let us know if you would like to help with planning the fun!

In closing, I appreciate the opportunity to serve you as your Town Manager, and I encourage residents to call me at 872-2826 or email me at [msabins@vassalboro.net](mailto:msabins@vassalboro.net) with any comments or concerns about your town government functions. I wish to extend sincere thanks to all of my dedicated, talented staff and the volunteers who are the heart of the community. Job well done, one and all!



# DIRECTORY OF OFFICIALS

## SELECTMAN/OVERSEERS OF THE POOR

- 2020 Lauchlin Titus, Chairman
- 2022 Robert Browne
- 2021 John Melrose

## SCHOOL COMMITTEE

- 2022 Kevin Levasseur, Chairman
- 2021 Jolene Clark Gamage
- 2020 Erin Libby Loiko
- 2020 Susan Tuthill
- 2022 Jessica Clark

## PLANNING BOARD

- 2020 Virginia Brackett, Chair
- 2020 Betsy Poulin
- 2021 Douglas Phillips
- 2021 Sally Butler
- 2020 John Phillips
- 2021 Marianne Stevens, Alternate

## BUDGET COMMITTEE

- 2020 Rick Denico, Jr., Chair
- 2021 Donald Breton
- 2021 Christopher French
- 2020 Barbara Redmond
- 2020 Douglas Phillips
- 2020 Joe Suga
- 2021 Peggy Schaffer
- 2021 William Browne
- 2020 K. Peter Allen
- 2021 Phillip Landry

## BOARD OF APPEALS

- 2019 Kathy Lees, Chair\*
- 2020 Gary Coull\*
- 2021 Leon Duff
- 2021 John Reuthe
- 2020 Rebecca Lamey

## SANITARY DISTRICT

- 2022 Ray Breton, Chairman
- 2021 Lee Trahan
- 2022 Alfred Roy
- 2020 Paul Mitnik
- 2020 Rebecca Goodrich, Treasurer

## RECREATION COMMITTEE

- 2020 Danielle Sullivan, Director
- 2020 Steve Polley
- 2020 Jacob Marden
- 2020 Mary Presti
- 2020 Marc Cote



(Select Board Members L-R) John Melrose, Lauchlin Titus, Robert Browne

- 2020 Kyle Allen
- 2020 Scott Fitts
- 2020 Sarah Lavallee

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

- 2020 Betsy Poulin
- 2022 Steve Jones
- 2020 Holly Weidner
- 2021 Chris French
- 2021 David Jenney
- 2022 Patricia King
- 2021 Laura Jones, Chair

## TOWN CLERK

- 2020 Catherine Coyne

## CEMETERY COMMITTEE

- 2020 Jane Aiudi
- 2020 Russell Smith
- 2020 Tom Richards
- 2020 Steve Asante
- 2020 David Jenney
- 2020 Sue Haines, Chair
- 2020 Sandra Toohey
- 2020 Richard Lees
- 2020 Jody Kundreskas

## FAVOR COMMITTEE

- 2020 Vicki Schad
- 2020 Jim Schad
- 2020 Leon Duff
- 2020 Rose Fortin
- 2020 Cindy Ferland
- 2020 Rachel Kilbride

## TRAILS COMMITTEE

- 2020 Maverick Lowery
- 2020 Richard Behr
- 2020 Phil Allen
- 2020 Holly Weidner
- 2020 John Melrose, Chair
- 2020 Kevin Wood

## SOLAR COMMITTEE

- 2020 John Melrose, Chair
- 2020 Clough Toppan
- 2020 John Reuthe
- 2020 Jessica Clark
- 2020 Arthur Kingdon
- 2020 Donald Breton
- 2020 Barbara Redmond

## FIRST RESPONDERS

- 2020 Dan Mayotte, Director
- 2020 Paul Begin, Ass't Director

## FIRE CHIEF

- 2020 Eric Rowe \*
- 2020 Walker Thompson

## POLICE CHIEF

- 2020 Mark Brown

## HEALTH OFFICER

- 2020 Morgan Titus Rau

## KENNEBEC WATER DISTRICT TRUSTEE

- 2022 Frank Richards

## STATE SENATOR DISTRICT 15

Matthew Pouliot  
441-9418 - cell | 287-1505 - office  
287-1583 - TTY  
Matt.Pouliot@legislature.maine.gov

## STATE SENATOR DISTRICT 80

Richard T. Bradstreet  
861-1657 - cell | 287-1400 - office  
TTY - use Maine Relay 711  
Dick.Bradstreet@legislature.maine.gov

\* Resigned

Dear Friends,

As 2019 ends and 2020 begins, I am pleased to report that Congress made progress on a number of issues important to Maine families despite the polarization in our country.

In a major win for surviving military and retiree spouses to whom we are deeply indebted, I was proud to co-lead the repeal of what is often referred to as the "Military Widow's Tax," an unfair offset of survivor benefits that has prevented as many as 67,000 surviving spouses—including more than 260 from Maine—from receiving the full benefits they deserve.

The high cost of health care and prescription drugs continues to be a top issue for families and seniors. To provide continued relief for more lower- and middle-income individuals, I led the charge to extend for another two years the medical expense tax deduction that I included in the 2017 tax law. Without this extension, nearly 20,000 Mainers and millions of Americans with high medical expenses, including many with preexisting conditions, would have faced an increased tax burden. In other good news, the CREATES Act I cosponsored became law. It will prevent pharmaceutical companies from blocking access to a sufficient supply of brand-name drugs needed for the studies that allow less expensive alternatives to enter the marketplace.

Improving people's health and wellbeing remains my priority. On a per capita basis, Maine has the highest incidence of Lyme disease in the country. In August, I held a Senate hearing at the University of Maine's Tick Lab on this growing public health crisis. A comprehensive public health strategy to combat this epidemic is needed, and the new law I authored will do just that.

In addition, I helped champion another \$2.6 billion increase for the National Institutes of Health, our nation's premiere biomedical research institution, including significant boosts for Alzheimer's disease and diabetes research. Last year, NIH funded more than \$111 million for research at 14 Maine institutions.

To help prepare the graduates of Maine Maritime Academy, I secured \$300 million for a new training ship, which will ensure rigorous instruction for MMA students for decades to come.

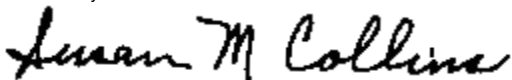
Significant federal funding was approved for work at Bath Iron Works and Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. Funding appropriated by Congress will pay for three new destroyers, make a down payment on an additional ship, and finance infrastructure improvements at PNSY.

As Chairman of the Transportation and Housing Appropriations Subcommittee, I have led efforts to improve our nation's crumbling infrastructure and ensure that Maine's housing needs are addressed. For Maine's roads, bridges, airports, and seaports, tens of millions in federal funding will help make urgently needed upgrades and improve safety. Funding will also support housing assistance to low-income families and seniors and aid communities in reducing homelessness among our youth. The Community Development Block Grant program will assist numerous towns and cities in our State.

The Aging Committee I chair has continued its focus on financial security for our seniors. A new law I authored will make it easier for small businesses to offer retirement plans to their employees. Our Aging Committee's Fraud Hotline fielded more than 1,200 calls this year. Congress passed a new law to crack down on robocallers who are often the perpetrators of these scams. And a new law I authored will expand the IRS' Identity Protection PIN program nationwide to prevent identity theft tax refund fraud.

At the end of 2019, I cast my 7,262nd consecutive vote. In the New Year, I will keep working to deliver bipartisan solutions to the challenges facing Maine and the nation. If ever I can be of assistance to you, please contact one of my state offices or visit my website at [www.collins.senate.gov](http://www.collins.senate.gov). May 2020 be a good year for you, your family, your community, and our state.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins  
United States Senator

# SENATE OF MAINE

Dear Friends,

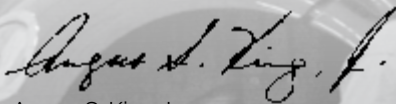
The beginning of a new year provides the opportunity to reflect on the progress of the past 12 months. If you've been watching cable TV, you might think that every waking moment of 2019 in Washington has been consumed by divisive, partisan issues – and while there's no shortage of those debates, there have also been opportunities for bipartisan cooperation. You sent me to the Senate to make the most of those opportunities, so as we enter into the New Year, I wanted to take a moment to update you on my efforts to work with members of both parties to make life better for the people of Maine.

One of my most important priorities this past year has been emphasizing preventive healthcare. Maine's distinction as the oldest state in the nation brings us wisdom, of course – but it also creates unique challenges, particularly relating to healthcare. The key to addressing these obstacles is being proactive, because the cheapest, safest medical procedure is the one that doesn't need to happen. That's why I've introduced legislation to incentivize healthier living, expand mental health screenings, and help more Americans access regular check-ups. We're making progress, but we've got a long way to go – and I'd like your help, because I know that the best ideas are the ones that come from families and communities on the front lines of these challenges. To strengthen this effort, I convened a policy forum on prevention in Bangor in October, which has already given me exciting new ideas that I'll carry with me into 2020. If you have additional thoughts on encouraging preventive healthcare, please share them with my office.

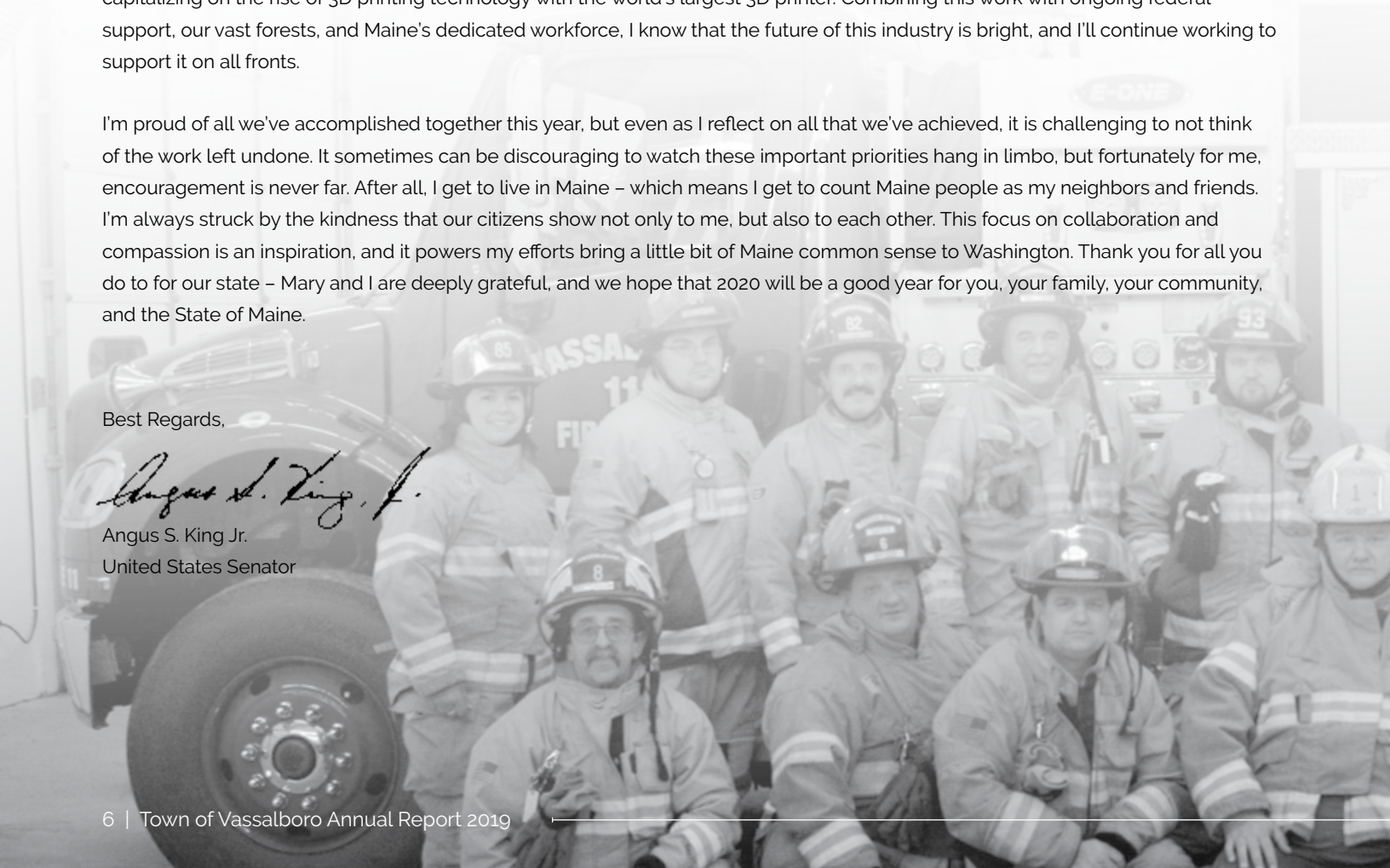
This year has also continued the growth of Maine's forest products industry – a key focus of my work to revitalize Maine's rural economy and communities. We've seen significant investment in mills across the state, creating good jobs to support rural Maine. I'm also pleased that the investments aren't just in our mills – the industry is thriving because of its commitment to innovation. We're fortunate to have the University of Maine's top-notch researchers exploring cutting-edge ways to use our forest resources, including capitalizing on the rise of 3D printing technology with the world's largest 3D printer. Combining this work with ongoing federal support, our vast forests, and Maine's dedicated workforce, I know that the future of this industry is bright, and I'll continue working to support it on all fronts.

I'm proud of all we've accomplished together this year, but even as I reflect on all that we've achieved, it is challenging to not think of the work left undone. It sometimes can be discouraging to watch these important priorities hang in limbo, but fortunately for me, encouragement is never far. After all, I get to live in Maine – which means I get to count Maine people as my neighbors and friends. I'm always struck by the kindness that our citizens show not only to me, but also to each other. This focus on collaboration and compassion is an inspiration, and it powers my efforts bring a little bit of Maine common sense to Washington. Thank you for all you do to for our state – Mary and I are deeply grateful, and we hope that 2020 will be a good year for you, your family, your community, and the State of Maine.

Best Regards,



Angus S. King Jr.  
United States Senator





# SENATE OF MAINE

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

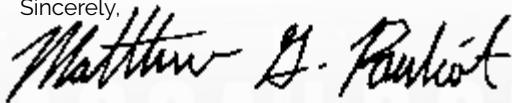
Let me begin by thanking you for allowing me the privilege of serving you in the Maine Senate. I am honored that you have put your trust in me and can assure you I will continue to work tirelessly on your behalf.

Maine is in the midst of one of the greatest periods of prosperity in its history and has led the nation in a number of economic categories over the last several years. Unemployment is at record low levels, wages are up, and state government has had seven straight years of surpluses. The number of children living in poverty is in a steep decline, and Maine now leads the nation in equality for women in the workplace and politics.

Though we have accomplished a great deal in the past year, there is still much more to be done. Maintaining the prosperity that you have built over the last several years tops the list. We can do this by holding the line on government spending, doing our best to stay out of the way of local businesses so that they can thrive as a result of their own hard work, and making sure that government is the most fiscally responsible steward of your tax dollars. These will be a few of my priorities this coming year.

Again, thank you for electing me to serve you in the State Senate. The 129th Legislature certainly has a great deal more work to do; but I believe that if we come together, there is nothing we can't accomplish. Please feel free to contact me at 287-1505 or Matt. Pouliot@legislature.maine.gov if you have comments, questions or if you would like assistance in navigating our state's bureaucracy.

Sincerely,



Matthew G. Pouliot  
State Senator

*Photo by Sue Vashon*



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Dear Vassalboro Neighbors,

It's an honor and privilege to serve as your State Representative for House District 80. I realize having a responsive state government is important and am encouraged by those who have reached out to me on various concerns and I am able to assist you at the state level. I urge all of you to stay informed and engaged as we in Augusta try to do what's right and improve the lives of our friends and neighbors.

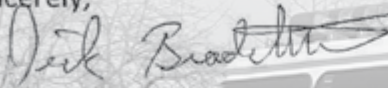
One of the highlights of this past regular legislative session was to make sure all qualified Maine homeowners receive checks for a minimum of \$100 through the Homestead Exemption. This is a small but good start. One of my goals going forward is to ease local property tax relief by making sure public education is adequately funded, Revenue Sharing is increased, and the State properly prioritizes its budget so that our overall tax burden is alleviated as much as possible. This will help ensure that Mainer's will be given the best opportunity possible to succeed and prosper right here in our home state.

As I am writing this, Maine is facing the serious threat of the potentially deadly Coronavirus. It is the goal of the entire Legislature and indeed all of Maine government that this crisis is faced with diligence and the highest of priorities. The health and welfare of all our citizens is paramount.

I periodically send out emails throughout the year regarding legislative issues that are important to many of you. Should you wish to receive this correspondence, please contact me by phone at 207-287-1440 or email me at [Dick.Bradstreet@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Dick.Bradstreet@legislature.maine.gov).

Again, thank you for the opportunity to serve you in the Maine House of Representatives.

Sincerely,



Rep. Dick Bradstreet



# CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you well. It's a privilege to represent you and your family and I am thankful for the opportunity to update you on my work in Washington and Maine.

In 2019, I was honored to work with my colleagues to pass hundreds of bills that address everything from fighting climate change to raising the minimum wage. And while Congress has become an increasingly partisan place, I was proud to continue my habit of reaching across the aisle, introducing a number of bipartisan bills and cosponsoring even more.

On the House Appropriations Committee, I worked to support programs important to Maine, such as rural broadband investment, Head Start, PFAS clean up, and shipbuilding at Bath Iron Works. Further, I firmly believe we need to make substantial investments in all aspects of our infrastructure, from safe drinking water and modernized schools, to upgraded highways, transit, and rail. From my seat on the Appropriations Committee I advocated for increased funding for the BUILD grants program which funds investments in transportation infrastructure by states, local governments, and transit agencies. I also pushed for increased funding for the Community Development Block Grant program, our national park system, local and organic agriculture, election security, and the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Since my time in the Maine State Senate, lowering the cost of prescription drugs has been one of my top priorities. This year I introduced two bills that would help Americans afford their prescription medications. I also voted for a bill that would allow the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to directly negotiate prices for certain drugs. I look forward to continuing this important work in 2020 so Americans are no longer faced with the choice of picking up prescriptions they desperately need or putting food on the table.

I am sure this coming year holds many challenges and opportunities for our country, and I promise that the interests and principles of Mainers will continue to guide my work. If there is anything my offices in Washington or Maine can do to be of assistance – whether you, your town, or your organization is applying for a grant; you're facing an issue with a federal agency; or if you'd just like to share a thought or opinion – please do not hesitate to reach out.

Best wishes,



Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress





## TOWN ASSESSOR

ELLERY G. BANE, C.M.A., Town Assessor

Once again it has been my pleasure to serve as the Assessor for the Town of Vassalboro. Looking back on the previous year, I am astounded by the explosion of the real estate market in Vassalboro. Sales of properties in the last year are approaching the 2007 market prices and it appears we have fully recovered from the 2008 catastrophe. I do take this trend with a full dose of caution, knowing just how volatile markets can change. New construction also appears to still be on the uptick as well. The building permits seem to be holding steady and I assessed 14 new residential houses and 4 mobile homes for the 2019 tax year.

On another front of importance, the Maine State Treasury has been working with assessing offices in the State to issue \$104 reimbursement checks to all qualified residents receiving a Homestead Exemption as of April 1<sup>st</sup> 2019. There have been a few bugs in the process but I have been working with the treasury to ensure that all qualified members enjoy the benefit of the issuance.

For the 2019 tax year the town had a total valuation of \$305,215,600 and issued a total of 1,181 homestead exemptions. There were also 122 veterans exemptions granted in this last year. There are also residents who have applied and entered State classified programs such as tree growth, farm land and open space. All of these programs are applied locally and can be a help to taxpayers in easing the burdens they face in regards to property tax. I can assure you that in these trying economic times, where we are continually faced with State cuts to aid municipalities, the town of Vassalboro is diligently working to keep the impact on property taxes to a minimum. Any help that I can offer in explaining any programs and exemptions is encouraged so please feel free to contact me at the town of Vassalboro assessing office 872-2826 or on the town's website at [ebane@vassalboro.net](mailto:ebane@vassalboro.net). As always, I look forward to working with you in the future.

## SANITARY DISTRICT

RAY BRETON, Chair

The Vassalboro Sanitary District board members – Al Roy, Lee Trahan, Becky Goodrich, Paul Mitnik, and chair-person Raymond Breton – are still working with Mary Sabins, Richard Green and Dan Marks, Hoyle and Tanner Engineering, along with Chuck Applebee and Norton True, Water Quality and Compliance. Construction for the Vassalboro Sanitary District sewer project started in May 2019 with approximately 8 miles of pipe installed to connect to the Town of Winslow. Two pump stations have been installed, one at North Main Street by the Baptist Church and one at South Main Street by St. Bridgett's Center, sending approximately 2/3 of the flows to the Town of Winslow to be

received by KSTD. Construction was shut down during the winter months but is scheduled to start up late March/April which will include installing new pump stations at East Vassalboro, Willow Street, China Lake, Stanley Hill Road, and the Oak Grove Road. We realize the project last summer was an inconvenience for traveling through the construction; however, we would like to thank you for your patience and understanding. We would also like to thank everyone involved with this project. We meet the third Thursday of every month at 6:00 P.M. at the Vassalboro Sanitary District on Cemetery Street.

# REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

CATHERINE COYNE, Registrar of Voters



Ready for Election Day! Photo by Cathy Coyne

I am pleased to submit my Voter Registrar report to the Selectmen and to the residents of Vassalboro.

## During the past year we have had two elections in Vassalboro:

- June 11, 2019 was the date of the Municipal Election. Elected were Robert C. Brown Jr. for Selectman/Overseer of the Poor and Jessica Clark and Kevin Levasseur for School Committee.
- The State Referendum Election was held on November 5, 2019. There were 416 ballots cast.

The total number of voters as of March 17, 2019 is 3,177 with the following party affiliation breakdown:

Democrats: 953	Republicans: 1055
Green: 138	Unenrolled: 1031

No absentee ballots can be issued after the Thursday before any election unless the voter signs an application, designed by the Secretary of State, stating one of the following reasons for requesting an absentee ballot after the deadline:

- An unexpected absence from the municipality during the entire time the polls are open on election day;
- A physical disability; or
- An incapacity or illness that has resulted in the voter being unable to leave home or a treatment facility.



# TOWN CLERK REPORT

CATHERINE COYNE, Town Clerk

I am pleased to submit my Town Clerk's report to the Selectmen and to the residents of Vassalboro.

Certified Copies of Death, Birth, and Marriage Certificates can be obtained at a cost of \$15.00. Additional copies are \$6.00 each.

You must have proof of having held a previous hunting license or proof of having taken a Hunter Safety Course in order to purchase a Hunting license. You do not have to be a resident of Vassalboro in order to obtain a license at our office.

All dog licenses expire December 31<sup>st</sup>. You must have a rabies certificate in order to license your dog. You will also need to provide proof of Spay or Neutering. A spayed/neutered dog is \$6.00 and the fee for an unaltered dog is \$11.00. There is a \$25.00 late fee after January 31<sup>st</sup>. For the past several years we have held a Rabies Clinic at the North Vassalboro Fire Station in November. Dog licensing is available at the clinic. Part of the proceeds goes to the Vassalboro Food Pantry. You can reach the Animal Control Officer, Peter Nerber at 242-6251.



Town Office Staff (L to R):  
Front row: Debbie Johnston-Nixon, Cathy Coyne, Jean Poulin  
Back row: Mary Sabins, Paul Mitnik, Ellery Bane.

General Assistance is a program that provides assistance with basic needs for eligible applicants who cannot provide for themselves and their families. General Assistance is administered on each Wednesday by appointment unless there is an emergency. Any person who has been assisted with General Assistance in any municipality in the state of Maine must retain all receipts to keep their eligibility. You can call 872-2826 to set up an appointment.

## THE FOLLOWING ARE MARRIAGE LICENSES THAT WERE RECORDED FROM MARCH 2, 2019 – MARCH 2, 2020.

### PARTY A

Butterworth, Lisa Marie  
Parady, Angela Marie  
Shepherd, Lynn Marie  
Trask, David Norman  
Turcotte, Jenna Lyn  
Wood, John Lawson  
Belanger, Emily Kate  
Dow, Kelly Marie  
Charette, Olin James  
Caron, Heather Nicole  
Bentley, Hannah Faith  
Pelkey, Daniele Regina  
Cyr, Laura Mellisa  
Peloquin, Karen Claire  
Marinez, Nicole Diane  
Joler, Sierra Lynn  
Benevento, Brianna Elizabeth  
Costigan, Rebecca R.  
Millette, Gerald Frank  
Parrilli, Nicole Alexandria  
Pullen, Elizabeth Vivian  
Wright, William S.  
Palmer, Kerstin Rayna  
Breton, Carissa Jean  
Lane, Rachel Marie  
Poole, Leslie Grace  
Labbe, Amy Jane  
Haskell, Desmond John

### PARTY B

Wynter, Ostene George  
Lane, Travis Charles  
Reid, Jon  
Nadeau, Crystal Lynn  
Jackson, Cody Alexander  
Wood, Heather Rae  
Carter, Jonathan Kinsley  
Burbank, Kaleb Hunter  
Pauley, Christa Dawn  
Fisher, Brandon Lewis  
Vashon, Jacob Elliot  
Martin, Kolby Scott  
Rodda, Charles Ingalls  
Howard, Ronald George  
Hastings, Frank Anthony  
Thompson, Walker Mark  
Matteson, Evan David  
Forbes, Scott Harland  
Skehan, Dawn Albert  
Brown, Nathaniel Tilden  
York, Zachery Clayton  
Zeiders, Norman Franklin  
Mitchell, Travis Scott  
Curry, Christopher D.  
Switzer, Michael Aaron  
Lacroix, Luke Leonel  
McCann, Charles Alfred  
Fitzpatrick, Siena Emily

### DATE MARRIED

04/05/2019  
04/22/2019  
05/10/2019  
05/20/2019  
06/06/2019  
06/10/2019  
06/29/2019  
06/29/2019  
08/01/2019  
08/10/2019  
08/23/2019  
09/01/2019  
09/01/2019  
09/14/2019  
09/14/2019  
09/14/2019  
09/22/2019  
09/27/2019  
09/28/2019  
09/28/2019  
09/28/2019  
10/02/2019  
10/05/2019  
10/06/2019  
10/13/2019  
11/10/2019  
11/16/2019  
12/12/2019

# TOWN CLERK REPORT

Hendsbee, Tamra Lee	Gray, Frank David	12/24/2019
Dumont, Phillip John	Walker, Nina Lynn	01/09/2020
Hopper, David Corey	Grover, Kaitlyn Ashley	01/24/2020
Elwell, Melissa Ann	Alexander, Edward Wayne	02/19/2020
Martin, Amanda Grace	Trainor, Ross Leland	02/22/2020

THERE WERE 45 BIRTHS TO VASSALBORO RESIDENTS FROM MARCH 2, 2019 – MARCH 1, 2020.

VITAL STATISTIC INFORMATION LISTED BELOW PERTAINS TO DEATHS FROM MARCH 2, 2019 – MARCH 1, 2020.

## IN MEMORY OF

NAME	AGE	LOCATION	DATE OF DEATH
Beck, Timothy James	44	Whitefield	05/17/2019
Beckim, Andrew James	41	Augusta	01/06/2020
Bennett, Sandra M	77	Augusta	06/02/2019
Bernhardt, Esther C.	81	Vassalboro	11/14/2019
Blaschke, Nicholas Alan	26	Vassalboro	02/12/2020
Bubar, Arlene Harmon	68	Augusta	03/18/2019
Bullen, John T.	58	Vassalboro	02/25/2020
Bullen, Robert V.	79	Augusta	01/15/2020
Chamberlain, Rita Joan	95	Togus USVA	11/10/2019
Chase, Donna Louise	71	Vassalboro	06/08/2019
Clark, Ruth A.J.	85	Portland	10/01/2019
Clement, Arden Lee	89	Hallowell	01/30/2020
Cloutier, Eugene D.	71	Portland	03/10/2019
DeMello, Raymond Alfred	80	Augusta	07/13/2019
Duguay, Omer r.	83	Augusta	10/22/2019
Farrell, Jeannette Marjorie	77	Vassalborio	03/29/2019
Giguere, Tucker R.	<1	Palermo	08/14/2019
Gray, James Watson	98	Vassalboro	07/22/2019
Hartman-Nutting, Alexander Charles	30	Vassalboro	07/02/2019
Heckman, Ethel M.	76	Augusta	01/26/2020
Hills, Elmer Jay	83	Togus USVA	04/22/2019
Hughes, William John	58	Vassalboro	06/23/2019
Langton, Robert Neil	74	Portland	08/20/2019
Lindberg, Ereik Charles	76	Augusta	07/31/2019
McCormick, Christine Anne	61	Waterville	08/18/2019
Mosher, Clyde F.	91	Augusta	10/27/2019
Nickerson, Claire Elizabeth	94	Augusta	09/11/2019
O'Clair, Yvonne J.	87	Vassalboro	04/16/2019
O'Keefe, Donald G.	92	Portland	11/02/2019
Pelotte, Janice	51	Lewiston	03/09/2019
Powning, Pamela Kick	65	Vassalboro	01/31/2020
Rodrigue, Laurianne Yvonne	80	Augusta	10/02/2019
Roux, Rita A.	90	Vassalboro	07/22/2019
Saunders, Sandra P	50	Vassalboro	08/31/2019
Storey, Jo Ann	73	Vassalboro	02/14/2020
Sylvain, Leo Dennis Jr.	58	Vassalboro	07/09/2019
Therriault, Pearl Geraldine	85	Vassalboro	04/11/2019
Trudeau, Robert Marion Lee	55	Vassalboro	12/13/2019
Vashon, Peter E. Sr.	61	Augusta	08/28/2019
Weeks, Ronald A	86	Togus USVA	10/23/2019
Wentworth, David M. Jr.	58	Vassalboro	12/30/2019
Wenz, Randall K. Sr.	82	Waterville	06/26/2019
Weston, Dennis R.	67	Vassalboro	10/26/2019
Wilbur, Evelyn Alice	87	Vassalboro	11/18/2019
Wyman, Reid F.	76	Togus USVA	04/17/2019

# UNPAID PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES

AS OF: 02/29/2020

ACCT		NAME	YEAR	ORIGINAL TAX	PAYMENT / ADJUSTMENTS	AMOUNT DUE
184	P	BRAGDON, PETER	2018	363.08	124.56	238.52
99	P	BUTTERFIELD, LINDA	2015	319.21	0.00	319.21
99	P	BUTTERFIELD, LINDA	2016	327.37	0.00	327.37
99	P	BUTTERFIELD, LINDA	2017	339.02	0.00	339.02
99	P	BUTTERFIELD, LINDA	2018	108.15	0.00	108.15
201	P	CAIN & SONS EQUIPMENT	2016	42.15	0.00	42.15
201	P	CAIN & SONS EQUIPMENT	2017	42.20	0.00	42.20
201	P	CAIN & SONS EQUIPMENT	2018	44.80	0.00	44.80
391	P	CUTT-IT-OUT	2018	46.35	0.00	46.35
390	P	HEAVENLY DELIGHTS	2017	46.56	0.00	46.56
390	P	HEAVENLY DELIGHTS	2018	44.80	0.00	44.80
242	P	MCCAUGHEY FARM TRUST	2017	82.94	0.00	82.94
242	P	MCCAUGHEY FARM TRUST	2018	88.07	0.00	88.07
314	P	NOLL, ETHAN E.	2015	102.75	0.00	102.75
314	P	NOLL, ETHAN E.	2016	105.38	0.00	105.38
314	P	NOLL, ETHAN E.	2017	109.13	0.00	109.13
314	P	NOLL, ETHAN E.	2018	115.87	0.00	115.87
139	P	SLEAMAKER, WILLARD V	2018	169.95	0.00	169.95
146	P	SYLVESTER, FRED	2018	20.08	0.00	20.08
153	P	UNDERWOOD, JAY R	2017	26.19	0.00	26.19
153	P	UNDERWOOD, JAY R	2018	27.81	0.00	27.81
<b>TOTAL FOR 21 BILLS: 10 ACCOUNTS</b>				<b>2,571.86</b>	<b>124.56</b>	<b>2,447.30</b>



# UNPAID REAL ESTATE TAXES

AS OF: 02/29/2020

ACCT	NAME	YEAR	ORIGINAL TAX	PAYMENT / ADJUSTMENTS	AMOUNT DUE
71	L BAILEY, PAULA	2018	1,358.78	0.00	1,358.78
92	L BATCHELDER, DANIELLE	2018	996.73	0.00	996.73
117	L BECKWITH, ALEX & VICKY	2018	920.62	0.00	920.62
854	L BIBBER, LINWOOD	2018	2,221.19	0.00	2,221.19
1201	L BIBBER, LINWOOD E.	2018	3,793.48	0.00	3,793.48
163	L BLUMBERG, SARA (HEIRS OF)	2018	1,754.53	0.00	1,754.53
2287	L BOURGET, BRUCE K & MARY N	2018	1,588.39	0.00	1,588.39
212	L BRAGDON, PETER	2018	303.68	0.00	303.68
3332	L BRAGDON, PETER	2018	797.55	0.00	797.55
1869	L BREARD, RHONDA L & PAUL C	2018	674.34	0.00	674.34
273	L BROCK, CARL	2018	364.58	0.00	364.58
2582	L BROCK, CARLETON E	2018	195.53	0.00	195.53
3261	L BROWN, TRACY	2018	112.95	0.00	112.95
2541	L BURNS, PETER & CHERYL	2018	933.24	0.00	933.24
2480	L BURNS, RICHARD	2018	3,229.66	0.00	3,229.66
1524	L BUTTERFIELD, LINDA	2018	2,713.12	0.00	2,713.12
1528	L BUTTERFIELD, LINDA	2018	2,029.80	0.00	2,029.80
1302	L CAIN, RICHARD B JR	2018	3,096.30	0.00	3,096.30
1353	L CAYOUCETTE, MICHAEL R & BRENDA L	2018	4,686.68	0.00	4,686.68
1203	L CHANG, HUICHEN	2018	1,468.57	0.00	1,468.57
1332	L CHARENTE, OLIN C.	2018	1,820.60	0.00	1,820.60
402	L CHARENTE, OLIN J.	2018	1,832.25	0.00	1,832.25
447	L CONARY, CRAIG D.	2018	1,260.33	0.00	1,260.33
1682	L COX, DAVID	2018	415.41	0.00	415.41
503	L COX, DAVID, MARY A & MARY I	2018	1,161.89	0.00	1,161.89
551	L DALBECK, DANA A	2018	1,014.52	695.15	319.37
1125	L DIXON, MARK	2018	543.02	0.00	543.02
1126	L DIXON, MARK	2018	326.03	0.00	326.03
2869	L DUTTON, DAVID H. JR.	2018	185.48	0.00	185.48
689	L DUTTON, DAVID JR	2018	357.10	0.00	357.10
3276	L DUTTON, DAVID JR.	2018	221.10	0.00	221.10
339	L EVERETT, WENDY J.	2018	3,355.97	0.00	3,355.97
1137	L EWING, PETER	2018	970.81	0.00	970.81
317	L FARRINGTON, MATTHEW L.	2018	1,072.19	227.31	844.88
454	L FINLEY, MICHAEL O	2018	673.21	0.00	673.21
3458	L FROST, EMILY L.	2018	1,606.37	0.00	1,606.37
856	L FULLER, KEITH L.	2018	800.21	475.09	325.12
2777	L GIDNEY, ADAM J	2018	1,382.43	0.00	1,382.43
2099	L GRAY, PATRICIA C & CHARLES H	2018	1,161.23	0.00	1,161.23

# UNPAID REAL ESTATE TAXES

AS OF: 02/29/2020

ACCT	NAME	YEAR	ORIGINAL TAX	PAYMENT / ADJUSTMENTS	AMOUNT DUE
3350	L HALLETT, LLEWELLA CLARY	2018	871.07	0.00	871.07
2955	L HAMMOND, BARBARA	2018	698.14	0.00	698.14
1002	L HAYWARD, TERENCE L	2018	1,828.05	0.00	1,828.05
1820	L HOWARD, KEITH W. & LISA A.	2018	1,067.31	0.00	1,067.31
3136	L IBBITSON, THOMAS S.	2018	279.40	0.00	279.40
1107	L JENNESS, ROSE	2018	1,339.54	387.30	952.24
1041	L JONES, GARY D. & MARY L. & JODIE A.	2018	81.17	0.00	81.17
1153	L JOSEPH, FRANCIS E, TRUSTEE	2018	1,369.47	0.00	1,369.47
2936	L JURDAK, STEVEN	2018	819.57	0.00	819.57
555	L KADILLAC PROPERTIES, INC.	2018	959.81	0.00	959.81
2429	L KARTMAN, MICHAEL J SR	2018	698.14	0.00	698.14
3341	L KELLEY, MICHAEL P.	2018	843.23	0.00	843.23
1350	L KERBY, TODD & JODY	2018	429.99	0.00	429.99
3032	L KINRADE, DARCIÉ	2018	130.95	0.00	130.95
1835	L LEWIS, JORDAN	2018	127.19	64.31	62.88
1608	L LIVINGSTONE, MARYANNE	2017	1,746.98	-9.80	1,756.78
1608	L LIVINGSTONE, MARYANNE	2018	1,861.41	0.00	1,861.41
1643	L LOISEL, TERRY	2018	357.23	0.00	357.23
1311	L LONDON, KENT G & LORI B	2018	1,802.14	0.00	1,802.14
1975	L LUCZKO, CHARLENE TIFFANY & KEVIN	2018	5,867.41	0.00	5,867.41
448	L LUCZKO, KEVIN L.	2018	1,195.89	0.00	1,195.89
1545	L MASON, LEVI	2018	772.61	0.00	772.61
2885	L MCCAUSLAND, CRAIG	2018	1,120.76	0.00	1,120.76
2318	L MCKEE, DAREN L & MELISA L	2018	890.82	0.00	890.82
1467	L MEADER, JASON R.	2018	1,272.98	0.00	1,272.98
1523	L MORNEAU, PAUL J	2018	250.89	0.00	250.89
1527	L MORNEAU, PAUL J	2018	1,896.05	0.00	1,896.05
245	L MORRISON, MATTHEW H	2018	116.18	0.00	116.18
123	L MURPHY, DONALD E.	2018	2,002.40	0.00	2,002.40
1593	L NOLL, ETHAN	2018	2,130.56	1,401.85	728.71
2523	L PEASLEE, DANIEL	2018	2,317.70	0.00	2,317.70
1735	L POOLER, KIMBERLY A.	2018	2,451.13	1,787.37	663.76
1750	L POULIN, JAMES & BRENDA	2018	391.13	0.00	391.13
1814	L RATTE, JOANNE	2018	810.19	0.00	810.19
2910	L RICHARDS, JEFF & MICHELLE	2018	178.67	0.00	178.67
1865	L RICHARDS, PATRICIA A	2018	302.39	0.00	302.39
1866	L RICHARDS, REBECCA	2018	998.33	0.00	998.33
1303	L RONCO, EILEEN LINDBERG & JAMES F JR	2018	1,481.20	0.00	1,481.20
1950	L ROWE, URBAN JR & ROSEMARY	2018	963.03	0.00	963.03

# UNPAID REAL ESTATE TAXES

AS OF: 02/29/2020

ACCT	NAME	YEAR	ORIGINAL TAX	PAYMENT / ADJUSTMENTS	AMOUNT DUE
977	L SABBAGH, BETH H.	2018	2,674.26	0.00	2,674.26
2862	L SEAMANS, NARISSA & DANIEL	2018	219.49	0.00	219.49
1997	L SHIPLEY, EUGENE E SR & JR	2018	1,126.48	0.00	1,126.48
2980	L SMITH, BERTELLE & KIMBERLY	2018	302.39	0.00	302.39
78	L SOPER, RUSSELL H	2018	292.35	0.00	292.35
599	L STARRATT, ROBERT W., JR.	2018	183.22	0.00	183.22
3253	L STONE ROAD CORPORATION	2018	400.84	0.00	400.84
3255	L STONE ROAD CORPORATION	2018	389.49	0.00	389.49
3256	L STONE ROAD CORPORATION	2018	412.18	0.00	412.18
690	L SUGA, RICHARD	2018	258.00	0.00	258.00
2576	L SUGA, RICHARD J	2018	305.63	0.00	305.63
2127	L SUGA, RICHARD J. & RHONA R.	2018	2,368.54	0.00	2,368.54
2457	L SUGA, RICHARD JOSEPH	2018	817.64	0.00	817.64
1143	L THOMPSON, DEBORAH	2018	95.45	0.00	95.45
2172	L THOMPSON, PETER	2018	1,185.20	0.00	1,185.20
2088	L TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2000	380.14	-12.93	393.07
2088	L TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2001	396.09	-12.93	409.02
2088	L TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2002	405.29	-5.00	410.29
2088	L TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2003	442.38	-12.64	455.02
2088	L TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2004	401.51	-12.64	414.15
2088	L TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2005	363.35	0.00	363.35
2088	L TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2006	382.04	-8.32	390.36
2088	L TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2007	294.44	0.00	294.44
2088	L TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2008	305.37	-8.54	313.91
2088	L TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2008	16,087.40	-8.54	16,095.94
2088	L TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2009	905.45	0.00	905.45
2088	L TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2010	894.63	-8.75	903.38
2088	L TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2011	885.66	0.00	885.66
2088	L TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2012	977.03	0.00	977.03
2088	L TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2013	998.62	-9.74	1,008.36
2088	L TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2014	1,026.19	0.00	1,026.19
2088	L TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2015	1,096.35	0.00	1,096.35
2088	L TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2016	1,122.21	0.00	1,122.21
2088	L TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2017	1,160.11	-9.80	1,169.91
2088	L TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2018	1,234.76	0.00	1,234.76
243	L WATERHOUSE, JASON M.	2018	697.79	0.00	697.79
2382	L WOOD, SHANE	2018	814.71	0.00	814.71
2451	L WOOD, SHANE	2018	828.97	0.00	828.97
2384	L WOOLEY, MARCIA L.	2018	901.52	0.00	901.52
<b>TOTAL FOR 117 BILLS: 97 ACCOUNTS</b>			<b>142,154.15</b>	<b>4,918.75</b>	<b>137,235.40</b>

# VASSALBORO FOOD STATION PANTRY

CINDY FERLAND, Executive Director

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

As of December, 2019, we have 156 registered Vassalboro families consisting of 98 seniors, (35 not on food stamps), 185 adults and 96 children. Of these registered families 93 do not have EBT cards and are not on SNAP-food stamps. We assist 50-55 families weekly. In addition, we were able to assist with Easter (58 families), Thanksgiving (81 families), Christmas (80 families) with holidays dinners with the fixings.

We provide 2 programs for food assistance: The WEEKLY PROGRAM is open to anyone who has provided the food pantry with proof of Vassalboro residency and/or are in an emergency situation. The MONTHLY PROGRAM is allowed once during a month and is open to anyone who has given the food pantry proof of address and meets the USDA income guidelines (EBT card). It provides them with no less than 30 extra meals adjusted to their family size. Included would be hygiene products such as toilet paper, bar soap, deodorant, toothpaste, laundry detergent, diapers and sanitary napkins.

The Vassalboro Food Station Pantry, Board Members, and volunteers Wish to Extend a Huge THANK YOU to these Generous and Loyal Supporters of the pantry in 2019. \*\*\*Insource Renewables-donated Solar System & Labor, \*\*\*Maine Savings Federal Credit Union of Vassalboro-Employees for the Ending Hunger donations yearly. \*\* Ray Haskell Ford of KMD Oakland-for sponsoring pantry van every year with maintenance, \*\*Mid State Machine Foundation, \*\* Town of Vassalboro and employees, \*\* Maine State Credit Union-Feed Maine Walk, the two \*Hannaford Stores of Augusta for donating every Thursday, \*Country Kitchen of Waterville for weekly donations, \*Gary Clark for plowing, \* Tambara & Jeremy Boudreau (Boudreau Heating), Dana Sumner,

Riverside Congregation Church, Vassalboro United Methodist Church, Johnny Green for weekly trash removal, Bonnie Cartagena, Danny Wacekens & Sappi of Skowhegan, John & Elizabeth Reuthe, Erika Matthies Praul DMV/Darryl Praul DVM-Rabies Clinic annually, William Brown, John & Molly Melrose, Jim & Rachel Kilbride-St. Bridget Center, Ferris Mkt. employees & Richard Ferris, Vassalboro Rural Mail carriers-Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive, George Jones, Mark Jones, Laura Jones, Kim & Gary Wright, Greg & RoseMarie Fortin, Brenda Davis of Old Town, Jim & Evelyn Ashton, Don & Lisa Breton, Fields of Green-Albion, United Way, Cami Denico & the Denico family, David & Ann Souza(Country Store), Hair Builders, KC's Auto, Dostie Towing & Repairs-Benton, Harvey Boatman, Richard Lemieux & family-Lemieux Orchard, Priscilla Doel, In Memory of James Horner, Betty Hensing in Memory of her brother Elmer Hill, and the many more Thoughtful Anonymous Donors.

The pantry is open every Thursday from 11 to noon for any Vassalboro resident in need of food assistance. For more information about the VFSP or to Volunteer call 873-7375, please leave message. You can also check us out on Face Book. Don't forget to click the "LIKE" icon so you can get our updates.

The pantry is run by about 20-25 volunteers.

The Board Members are also non paid volunteers: Cindy Ferland-Executive Director, Albert Ferland-Building Maintenance Supervisor, Mary White-USDA Chair, Diane Bailey-Treasurer, & Josi Haskell-Weekly Assistance.

Photo by Cindy Ferland



# ALEWIFE RESTORATION INITIATIVE

MATT STREETER, ARI Project Manager

*Aerial view courtesy of [www.pointofviewhelicopterservices.com](http://www.pointofviewhelicopterservices.com)*

We are pleased to report that the Alewife Restoration Initiative took important steps forward in 2019 and we are grateful for all the support and assistance we've received. We are not done but we can see the finish line!

The Ladd Dam fishway was the primary focus of our efforts this year. We worked closely with Ray Breton every step of the way to make sure that the swimming hole and recreation area would be there for future generations. This year however the swimming was disturbed by the construction which was necessary to construct the upstream fishway that will allow alewives to swim past the dams. An estimated 178 yards of concrete was used to create the fishway, using baffles to control the energy of the water in the fishway. Two other barriers, the Masse and Lombard Dams, have been removed. In addition to completing the upstream fish passage at the Ladd dam, this year partners have:

- Brought 5th and 6th graders to learn about water quality, and grow native plants and trees along the Outlet Stream. Thank you to Elaine Philbrook for her help with this valuable educational opportunity.
- Organized volunteers to remove invasive plants near Outlet Stream. Thanks, to Ellen Batchelder, Ashlynn Thatcher, Hayley Gibbs, Robert Riversong, Tom Aversa, Frank Siviski and Dan Hill from the Sebasticook Regional Land Trust, as well as Richard Dillenbeck.

- Supported an Alewife Restoration Initiative internship for Vassalboro resident and recent USM graduate Kala Freytag-Wistar.
- Finalized designs for work to make the Box Mill site fish-friendly. It's the first barrier that in-migrating fish face on their way to China Lake. Partners hope to go to construction in the summer of 2020.

China Lake offers a great deal of spawning habitat for migratory alewives. The Maine Department of Marine Resources estimates that the China Lake run will bring back nearly one million adult alewives each year—and can create billions of young fish. This new life will reconnect the food webs in the lake, providing food for many other creatures including eagles and osprey. Once complete and when the alewife run is sustainable the Town can work on plans to harvest and sell the fish.

Funding and support for the 2019 work has come from the Natural Resource Conservation Service, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Town of Vassalboro alewife fund, China Lake Association, The Nature Conservancy in Maine, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Maine Department of Marine Resources, the Maine Community Foundation and others.

# OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

**KEN MASON**, Sheriff | **ALFRED G. MORIN**, Chief Deputy

**LIEUT. CHRIS READ**, Law Enforcement | **CAPT. RICHARD E. WURPEL**, Corrections Administrator

## "FIRST TO SERVE — 1799"

The Kennebec County Sheriff's Office is pleased to make the following report regarding the services we provided to the people of Kennebec County in 2019. These services include the Law Enforcement Division, Corrections' Services, Civil Process and Transport Division. We provided many regional assets to our communities including Drug Investigations, K-9, Dive Team, Sex Offender Registry, Veterans Advocacy, and Accident Reconstruction.

In 2019 Deputy Sheriffs serving in the Law Enforcement Division both in full-time and part-time capacity logged thousands calls for service. As a result deputies made 735 arrests or summonses, 544 traffic summonses issued, thousands of warnings and responded to 691 motor vehicle accidents. Deputy Sheriffs also responded to 338 alarms, 139 domestic disturbances, and assisted other agencies 498 times. Deputies and Detectives made 33 drug seizures. This is merely a snapshot of what we do during the year.

Deputy Michael Sayers resigned his position as a patrol deputy and will be working in the private sector. We wish Michael and his family well.

Deputies Zachary Carey and Elijah Curtis were hired to fill two vacant positions. We are very excited to have them join our Kennebec family. Both are very motivated and understand their responsibilities to the citizens of our county.

In December of 2019, Brenda Grimes, a 30-year employee of the correctional facility retired. Brenda's ability to communicate with and control a block of inmates was noteworthy. She will be missed. This summer Brenda plans on taking a trip to Southeast Asia and to see the world. We are in hopes that Brenda will continue to knit hats for Justice Fuller, so his ears stay warm in the winter months.

Our Civil Process deputies served legal documents on behalf of attorneys, the courts, citizens local and state government, landlords and other entities. In 2019, the three civil deputies received over 9,722 requests for service in Kennebec County – 691 more calls for document service than in 2018.

In 2019, our Correctional Facility managed 2,686 inmates, a slight dip from 2018. The offenses committed by defendants included everything from harassment to homicide.

The CARA Program (Criminogenic Addiction Recovery Academy) continues and we have added two weeks to the program. The last two weeks of the program involve the participants working at area businesses. Upon their release, the participants have steady employment and a brighter future. Our program not only benefits Kennebec County inmates, it benefits all 16 counties who have individuals that meet the criteria to attend C.A.R.A.

Our correctional facility also helps out our fellow counties whom have serious overcrowding issues. Overcrowding can create an unsafe working environment for the corrections officers as well as the inmates. All county correctional facilities within our state have had a dramatic increase of individuals being held on class A, B, or C crimes. The majority of crimes involve the sale of heroin or fentanyl.

Qualifying inmates at the Kennebec County Correctional Facility are asked to work and earn time off their sentences if applicable. Inmates who are considered to be a risk to the community work inside the facility cleaning and cooking, while others are supervised by our programs officers on outside projects.

The outside work crews have partnered with local municipalities providing snow removal to those individuals who are elderly or have disabilities. Program Officers Gagnon and Matthews and their work crews raised over 10,000 pounds of produce which gleaned nearly 5,000 pounds of produce for the inmate kitchen, area food pantries, churches, homeless shelters, schools and elder programs in 2019. We would have had hundreds of pounds of cucumbers however, the deer population near the garden enjoyed their tasty goodness.

We are committed to providing innovative programs to reduce crimes, assist victims, and to provide enhanced public safety. We acknowledge the ever-growing opiate addiction problem nationwide and have committed to partnerships at the Federal, State and Local levels to combat this problem. Our approach is aggressive enforcement, education, treatment and recovery for those afflicted with this horrible substance use disorder.

In 2019 we began a M.A.T. (Medical Assisted Treatment) program within the correctional facility. The facilitator of the program is ENSO Recovery. The monies for this program comes from federal grants managed by the Maine D.H.H.S. in the amount of 1.5 million dollars.

# OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

Highway fatalities and serious injury accidents continue to soar as a result of individuals using electronic devices when operating a motor vehicle. Please do not be a statistic or make others a statistic because of carelessness. In 2019 Maine adopted the "Hands Free Law" not allowing operators of a motor vehicle to have an electronic device in their hand while operating.

As your Sheriff, in 2020 my focus will remain on providing professional services to the people of Kennebec, our visitors, risk management and my staff, creating a healthier, safer place to live.

## VASSALBORO CONSERVATION COMMISSION

LAURA JONES, Chair

THE VASSALBORO CONSERVATION COMMISSION helps residents better enjoy, protect and plan for the Town's natural resources and open areas. In 2019, projects included the continued improvements to Town Forest trails and rehabilitation/beautification of the Civil War Monument Park.

The Town Forest is located behind the recreation fields on Bog Road. The trails this year were fortunate to have the support of a local church volunteer group that generously donated 2+ hours of work. Thank you Samantha Lessard for organizing and included us! The volunteers cleared brush, removed old bog bridging that had been replaced and laid down bark mulch that was donated from the town to improve the walkability of the trail. If you haven't ventured over to the Town Forest, it is definitely worth taking a stroll through it. In the spring you will see a variety of wildflowers and wildlife.

In preparation for Vassalboro's sescentennial anniversary in 2021, the Civil War Monument Park moved into the next phase of improvements. In August, hydrangeas were planted along the line where new trees were installed the previous year. The

area immediately around the monument was prepared for plantings and a cobble stone path around the monument which will occur in 2020. With the shoreline now cleared, there is an amazing view of the lake where one can relax and enjoy watching the ducks and loons. Coming years will have more improvements to come!

The Trails committee was re-activated as well so we look forward to continued partnership with them. We hope this partnership will allow more trails to be used for a multitude of outdoor activities. And will further increase awareness in the Vassalboro community as to the plethora of trails that exist in our own back yards.

Members of the Commission include David Jenney, Steve Jones, Holly Weidner, Patricia King, Chris French, Betsy Poulin and Laura Jones. If you would like any additional information please contact any of us. Additionally, all meetings are open to the public and are held on Thursday nights of every other month at the Town Office.



Photo by John Melrose



Photo by Laura Jones

# VASSALBORO CEMETERY COMMITTEE

SUE HAINES, Chair



Photos on this page are by Jody Kundreskas

The Vassalboro Cemetery Committee is continuing the projects of the past year. We are fortunate to have on our committee a member trained in cleaning and restoring stones, along with a couple of others who assist and clean stones. We continue to monitor dead and dying trees, and with the town road crew, are able to take care of some of them. When trees or branches fall, they may knock stones over and possibly break them. Our other big project, mentioned last year, is to map and digitize the information in the cemeteries. We purchased software for this and hope this year to hire an intern to begin the work. The purpose of this is two-fold: to preserve the information in the cemeteries and to help the town know who is buried where, so future burials can be determined.



Before stone straightening and after.



Before stone straightening and after.





# VASSALBORO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

JAN CLOWES, President

In 2019, the Vassalboro Historical Society (VHS) Board of Directors voted to change our membership categories to offer a new family membership to encourage younger community members to develop an interest in history. In addition to the reasonably priced family membership rate of \$25 per year, we are also creating a children's room where children of all ages will be able to handle tools, play games, dial phones, use typewriters, and learn about artifacts from days of old.

A business membership was also created. For a \$200 annual membership fee, businesses will not only be supporting VHS, but will be named as supporters in our quarterly newsletters and on our website (VHSME.ORG).

For those who needed more comfortable seating during our programs, the Society was able to purchase several new padded chairs with a contribution in memory of Milton and Barbara Breault. We also received several large farm items which were originally owned by Dr. Samuel Cates. This generous donation helped to catalyze our long-term plan of additional storage for not only the farm equipment, but also for large items we have, including items from Masse's mill, wagons, a post office display, and more. Fundraising is underway to assist with the purchase of a 32'x60'x18' steel building which will be delivered this spring.



The Vassalboro Historical Society lost a board member, contributing editor, and most importantly a dear friend, with the passing of Esther Bernhardt. Esther's contributions to the Society were numerous and she will be sorely missed. Her legacy includes being co-editor of the Vassalboro Anthology, a wonderful assortment of stories from our town's residents. We have a limited number of Anthologies available for purchase for \$19.99. From its creation, all monies raised from the Anthology sales have been donated by Esther and her co-editor, Vicki Schad, to the Vassalboro Historical Society.



*Esther Bernhardt*

The Society meets every two months. Membership is not limited to Vassalboro residents; it is open to all who are "interested in the history of Vassalboro, Maine," upon request and payment of annual dues.

Membership begins on January 1 each year. Our membership classes include:

- \$12 Active (Under 65); \$8 Active (65 and Older)
- \$25 Family; \$200 Business
- \$150 Lifetime

If you are interested in helping the Vassalboro Historical Society "celebrate and protect the heritage of our community" please send your name, address, contact phone number and payment to:

ATTN: Membership Secretary, Vassalboro Historical Society, P.O. Box 13, North Vassalboro, ME 04962

We have much to offer everyone, whether long-time residents or newcomers to the area – everyone can contribute to the Society's work. You are all welcome!

*Photos by Jan Clowes*

# LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

BRIAN STANLEY, Library Director



*Snowpond Arts After School - Music and Motion Event*

As many library members are no doubt aware, noticeable changes have occurred at your community library this year. Your previous Director Donna Lambert accepted a full-time library position in her hometown. So you now have a new Director and a new Assistant. I, **Brian Stanley**, feel very fortunate to be your new Director. I worked for nearly three years in the Buffalo and Erie County system in New York. I started in circulation and reference, and later received training as Technical Services Clerk. I have worked at Vassalboro Library for three years, two as the Assistant and now as your Director since late May 2019. I will carry on in the tradition of your many great Directors – most recently Donna Lambert and Dawn Thistle- and the legacy of Betty Taylor, Julie Lyons, and Vickie Limberger.

Your new Assistant is **Alexis Burbank**. She has a B.A. in Fine Arts and 10-years-experience volunteering with the Jay Memorial Library and Historical Society. She is very creative and parents with school-aged children should take advantage of her ongoing crafts, which are available whenever we are open.

The Vassalboro Library will continue to be a place "**Where Everyone is Welcome.**" We are here to help you find the information you need. Come in and browse our collection. If we do not own what you are looking for we will get it, either through interlibrary loan or by purchase. We are also always willing to help with your research, and have open and reliable Wi-Fi with three computers for library visitors. Every community member is welcome at the Vassalboro library: children, teens, and every age of adult. We are a welcoming community space for everyone to use. Please always feel free to come visit our library!

*Photos in this story by Brian Stanley*

Since May 2019, I have implemented some changes to your library, which have increased services for the community. First-and-foremost are the library programs, which I believe are an important resource for libraries to offer. Alexis and I have been working out ways to provide programs for children with a focus on science and art. We have had some recurring programs I would like to mention first. We have offered a **Stories and Craft Hour** for two days a month since July, and increased that to four days a month in February. We now offer Stories and Craft Hour on the second and fourth Wednesdays at 11am and first and third Fridays at 4pm. We are also lucky to have a very knowledgeable member of **Central Maine Permaculture** – Barbara Russell- visit us one day a month (second Friday) for our **Garden Club**. Look for our library garden in the spring! These will continue to be ongoing monthly programs so be sure to check our website and Facebook for any updates or changes to those times.

We have also had many notable visits from our **local Fire Department**, the **LC Bates Museum**, **Face-paint Amy**, **Snow-pond -Arts after School- Music and Motion**, and the very well attended **Chewonki- Owls of Maine- and Mr. Drew and his Animals Too** programs.

For Adults and Teens, we have had far fewer programs. This was a strategic choice at least to start. We believed the best place to start programs was with children. However, we have had a **Wreath Making and Card Making Class**. Alexis also hosted two **Paint Nights** with more to come in the near future. We also had two very informational meetings with **Marine Mammals of Maine** and visiting professor Lenny Reich from the **Union of Concerned Scientists**.



*Chewonki - Owls of Maine presentation.*

As I wrap up our program achievements, I would like to say that Alexis and I are grateful for the community's encouragement and participation throughout this process. We have worked hard to increase programs for the community, and will continue to do so. A kind word of encouragement goes a long way, so thank you! We will continue to do our best to provide you with quality programs and a welcoming community space. Some months may have more programs than others, but be sure to check for updates on our website and Facebook page, as well as the Town Office website.

Another recent change I should mention is our Library's open hours. For as long as anyone can remember the hours have been about the same. Yet, after review, we decided being open until 8pm did not seem to be the best use of those hours. Very few community members visited us after 6pm even in the summertime. In addition, Saturday afternoons could be very slow from 3pm until 6pm. Therefore, with the encouragement of the Library Association, we changed the open hours to four six-hour days per week - Mondays and Fridays 12-6pm and Wednesdays and Saturdays 10-4pm. Please give us your feedback about our new hours or if you have any suggestions.

There are numerous ideas of what a community library can offer. The Library Association and I will strive to increase our services through grants and programming. In the very near future, please always feel welcome to visit us at the Vassalboro Public Library and relax with your family, or alone with good books, conversations and connections, quality programming, woodstove heat in the winters, and a community garden in the nicer months.



*Mr. Drew and his animals too*

A very special thank you Sylvia Michaud, Lore & Chuck Ferguson, Irene Forster, Teri Wadding, Anna Granquist, Mya C-B, Sue Haines, Debbie Clarke, Aleigha, Liberty and Aly, Valerie Sugden, Helen LaFleur, Art & Linda Kingdon, Susan Taylor, Susan Bouchard, Liz McMahan, Russell Smith, Susan Kiralis, Jody & Bernie Welch, Conor Quincy, Victor Esposito and the JMG students, Vicki Limberger, Laura Jones, and Linda and Lauchlin Titus.

Thank you for your support Vassalboro! Have a great year!



*Mr. Drew and his animals too presentation*

# VASSALBORO FIRE P

From the "History of Vassalborough Maine" it is noted, in accordance "with the law the town was divided into 3 Fire Districts." Although it is not defined where those districts were.

In 1909, taxes were assessed and committed for fire hose for North Vassalboro in the amount of \$1200. On the town meeting warrant dated March 21<sup>st</sup> 1910, an article existed to see if the town would vote and raise the sum of \$500 for "some means" of fire protection at East Vassalboro. It was approved. The following year in 1911, fire apparatus was purchased from Badger Fire Extinguisher Co. for \$450. It was not clear where this apparatus was housed. However, in 1911 the town of Vassalboro paid \$3.00 to the American Woolen Company for rent of a hose house. A fee that continued for years to follow. During the year of 1913, it was noted that 51 residents were paid to fight forest fires. The total expense to the town for this was \$155.52. At the annual town meeting in 1914, an article existed that asked the taxpayers to vote and raise money to establish a fire and water system at East Vassalboro. The following year, the town began paying fees of \$125 to L. Z. Masse to maintain the fire hydrants. That same year, ladders were purchased from Rollins, Dunham Co in the amount of \$7.00. In 1918, an additional \$750 was raised to go along with \$500 raised from the prior year to purchase a Ford Chemical Truck to be kept in the village of North Vassalboro.



1

1890 Murray Hotel Fire - Photo contributed by Donald Breton

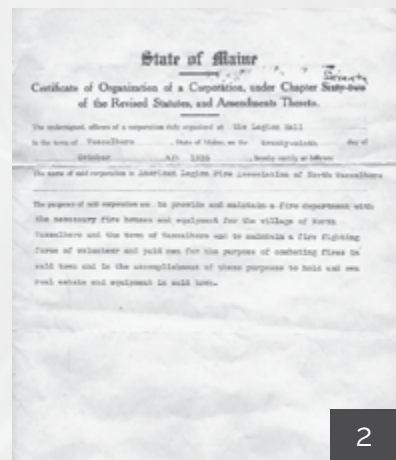
One of the first pieces of firefighting equipment known to exist in the North Village was actually located at the American Woolen Co. There was a hose house on the grounds of the mill, and it is believed to have contained a hose cart with approximately 600' of fire hose that when used, was supplied with pressured water from a steam pump in the mill. Any structure on fire beyond that was likely not to survive. Many of the volunteer firefighters were actually employed at the mill. In the picture of the Murray Hotel Fire of 1890 on Oak Grove Road, you can see what appears to be fire hose lying in the road from the hotel towards the mill. (see picture #1)

In 1926, \$200 was allocated for fire hose for East Vassalboro. In 1930-31 East Vassalboro purchased a Model A fire truck. The small building to the right of the Black Smith Shop in East Vassalboro was the fire station. (see picture #14). It housed the fire truck, fire hose, a 20' wooden ladder that was made by resident Hermon Masse, and other equipment.



East Vassalboro Fire House by Donald Breton

On October 29<sup>th</sup>, 1935, the American Legion Fire Association of North Vassalboro was organized and certified by the State of Maine. (see picture #2) They had 43 members. The first fire station in the North Village still stands today. It is located on Oak Grove Road adjacent to the west side of the stream. The building had one fire bay on the first floor and a hall on the second floor that was used for meetings and a variety of other functions. It was known as the "Vassalboro Fire Station". (see pictures #3, #4)



2

VFD Cert. of Organization Vassalboro Fire Dept. photo



3

First Fire Station - North. Photo contributed by Donald Breton



4

First Fire Station - North - Vassalboro Historical Society file photo

# PROTECTION SERVICE

In 1945, the Firemen's Auxiliary was formed. These ladies would help by bringing lunches and drinks to fire fighters at fire scenes, hot coffee during winter fires, conduct fund raisers and assist in anyway they could to support the fire department. (see picture #5)



Ladies Auxilliary - Vassalboro Fire Dept. file photo

In 1949, the American Legion Association along with the American Woolen Co. and local businesses completed the new Vassalboro Fire Station. It was almost directly across the street from the existing one on the east side of the stream, on land deeded to the American Legion Association from the American Woolen Co. (see picture #6) It was dedicated on September 17<sup>th</sup>, 1949. (see picture #7)



New Station Being Built - North Vassalboro Historical Society



New Station Dedication - North. Photo contributed by Tom Richards

## *The need to expand the fire protection service....*

With the establishment of the Vassalboro Fire Department situated in the North Village, and the thought that they didn't have accurate fire protection, residents of the rural and farming area of Riverside began to discuss the idea of having a fire station located in that area as well. Some of the original residents who spearheaded the project were, Loydd Smith, Hubert Carter, Mac Pellerin, Urban "Sonny" Rowe, Keith Peaslee, Ed Gagnon, Dick Jerolmon and others.

About that same time, Arthur Carter, who was a resident of Vassalboro, was also a member of the Augusta Fire Department. Augusta Fire Department was in the process of receiving a new fire truck, but had no room for it until they disposed of one of the older ones they had. Here was an opportunity to purchase a fire truck at a reasonable cost. Donations were solicited from area residents, and before long, the 1937 Dodge open cab fire truck was purchased in the fall of 1963. However, there was no fire station to put it in. Another town resident, Paul Browne offered the men the use of the pole barn at the Maine Breeding Coop business located on Riverside Drive to store the fire truck in. (see picture #8)

Later that fall, seeing the need for land to build a fire station on, resident Edgar Bailey donated the land that the current fire station sits on. Dick Jose and others with donated equipment, labor and materials began preparing the site for a new fire station. The gravel was hauled in and compacted with the same trucks that were hauling it, and soon the slab was poured, the



8

Riverside Hose Company Fire Truck - Vassalboro Historical Society file photo

walls and roof erected. The Riverside Hose Company #1 with two bays was established.

One of the first fires that the Riverside Hose Company #1 responded to was an old barn converted to a chicken house on the Quarry Road. It was in February during a snow storm, when both Herbert Carter and Dick Jerolmon drove the 1937 Dodge fire truck to the scene, each of them leaning out on each side of the windshield to see, since the ice and snow was building up on the windshield. The 1937 Dodge fire truck was acquired at a later date by the Boothbay Railroad Museum and is currently housed at that attraction.

The first major improvements to the Riverside Hose Company #1 was to build a kitchen. With much of the equipment donated from the state surplus, and the kitchen now set up, public suppers, field days and other events were held and funds raised. Not long after the station was built, the name was changed to the Bailey Fire Station in memory of Edgar Bailey who donated the land for the station to be built upon.

As a result of family ties and friendships with residents of Riverside, Robert Patterson of East Fishkill, New York, created a Departmental bond. Many enjoyable exchange visits and a

great deal of donated fire service gear and apparatus resulted from this partnership. This close bond and friendship exist today and is prized by both East Fishkill and Vassalboro Fire Departments. Loydd Smith was the first Captain of the fire department for 1-2 years, followed by Captain Hubert Carter, and then Chief Jerry Dore.

## ***Time to unite the fire protection service....***

As the Vassalboro Fire Department and the Bailey Fire Station co-existed, each fire department had their own Board of Directors. On January 16<sup>th</sup> 1980, they agreed that a new Board of Directors would be elected to represent both stations, that would consist of Fire Chief, President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and (4) at large members, two from the Bailey Fire Station and two from the Vassalboro Fire Department. Monthly meetings would alternate between the two departments.

On March 11<sup>th</sup>, 1986, the membership voted that the two departments would 'merge' their books and become one organization. Through the following years, as the fire trucks were becoming bigger and heavier, a building committee determined that the existing station in the North Village would need extensive repairs to carry the weight of new fire trucks, but was too small to house the bigger fire trucks. Under the leadership of Chief's Jerry Dore, Tom Richards and Eric Rowe, a proposal was put forth to build a new fire station. One site that was considered was on the corner lot of Oak Grove Road and Main Street, but the current site of the Vassalboro Fire Station on Rt.32 prevailed. It was the summer of 1990 when the land was cleared and the building of the station began. The fire trucks and the equipment were moved into the new fire station in April of 1991 and an open house was held that October.



Picture taken Aug. 9, 1947 next to the  
 L to R: Bert Surman, Joseph Dutil, James Gratto, Edward  
 Joseph Cosgrove Sr., Arthur Patnaude, Carleton  
 Ephraim Cooper, George Cooper, John Hallaley,  
 Linwood Miller, Donald O'Keefe, Perley Gallant,

As new equipment was being purchased and housed at both stations, it became clear that soon, the Bailey Fire Station would have to be replaced. This organization was still owned by the membership of the Vassalboro Fire Department. And so not to create a tax burden on the Vassalboro residents, a fund-raising campaign began with a goal of raising enough funds to build a new fire station on the same lot as the existing one. After several years of raising over \$75,000, and \$5,000 support from the Town of Vassalboro, groundwork was prepared and the slab was poured for a (3) bay fire station, with a kitchen, office and meeting room. Many of the members volunteered to help with what they could, including erecting walls and ceilings, insulating, painting, etc. In July of 2000, the new Vassalboro Fire Department "Riverside Station" was completed. (see picture # 9)



New Riverside Station Open House - Vassalboro Fire Dept. file photo

The following have served as Fire Chief for the American Legion Association/Vassalboro Fire Dept.

J. Orville Jeffery	1935-1940
Ephraim Cooper	1940-1944
Walter Beaulieu	1944-1946
Abbott Cates	1946-1952
William O'Keefe, Jr	1952-1963
Norman E. Duplessie	1963-1978
Gerald (Jerry) Dore	1978-1989
Thomas F. Richards	1989-1990
Eric Rowe	1990-2020
Walker Thompson	2020-

In the Annual Report of the Officers of the Town of Vassalboro, for the Municipal Year Ending February 10, 1936, the first report of the Legion Fire Association, Inc. was written by Chief J. Orville Jeffrey on February 15, 1936 for the year 1935-1936. A portion of that report is noted below.

*No. of calls, 18. 18 chemicals used. 1,000 ft. hose laid. 163 men responded. One man got burned hands. Fire damages estimated, \$370.00*

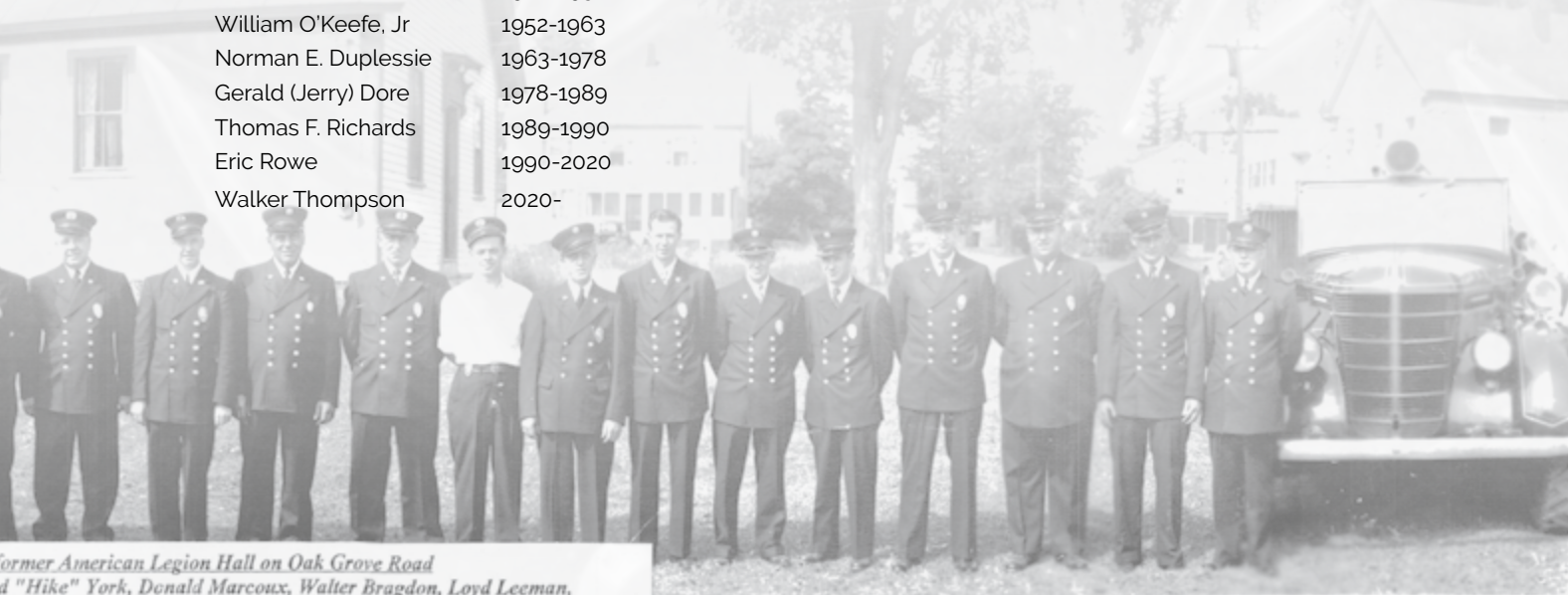
*There has been no expense to the Town at the time of this report. The Association has acquired and owns the following:*

<i>Hose House at 83-84 Bridge Street</i>	<i>2 24-foot Ladder Poles</i>
<i>1 48-foot Extension Ladder</i>	<i>1 Pick Pole</i>
<i>1 52-foot Extension Ladder</i>	<i>1 First Aid Kit</i>
<i>1 12-foot Ground Ladder</i>	<i>2 Smoke Mask</i>
<i>1 14-foot Roof Ladder</i>	<i>2 Electric Lanterns</i>
<i>1 20-foot Roof Ladder</i>	<i>3 Fire Axes</i>
	<i>20 Firemen's Helmets</i>

*We have a balance in the treasury of \$200.00. We have no outstanding bills. There are 43 Volunteer Firemen.*

The rest they say is "history".

Written by Donald Breton, with contributions from Dick Jerolmon, Tom Richards, Raymond Breton, Kent London, the Vassalboro Historical Society & the Vassalboro Fire Department.



*Former American Legion Hall on Oak Grove Road  
"Hike" York, Donald Marcoux, Walter Bragdon, Loyd Leeman,  
Fournier, Norman Duplessie, Edward Dyer, Harold Smith, Abbotte Cates,  
Horace Fisher, Emile Duplessie, Ralph Halliday, Clarence O'Keefe,  
George Razoyk, Robert Leach, William O'Keefe Jr.*



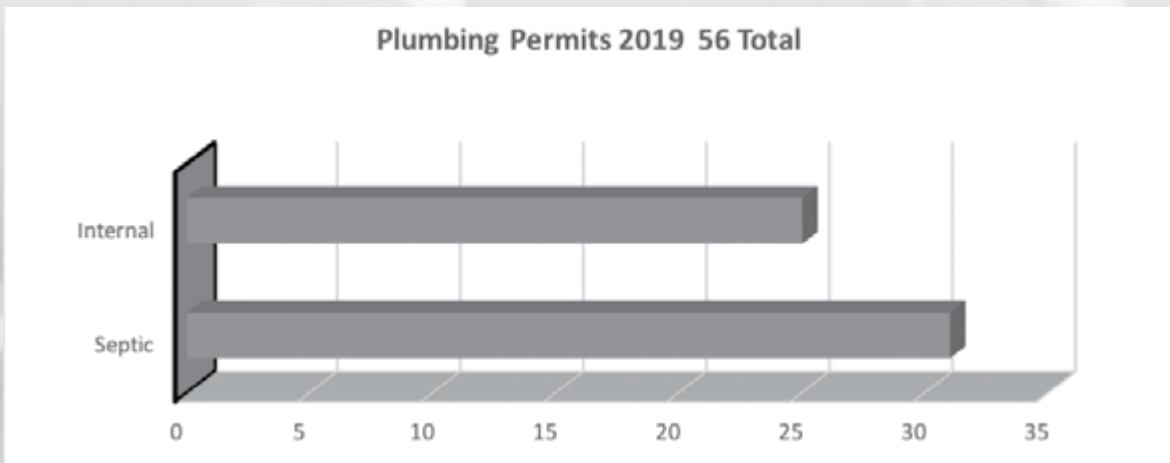
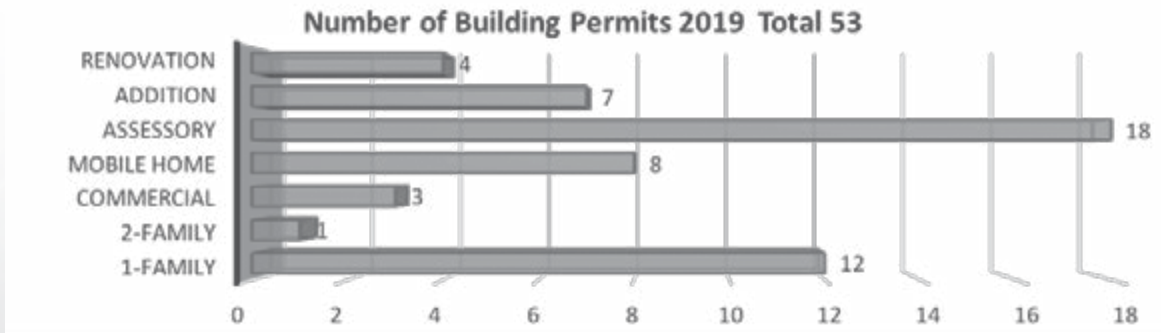
# CODE ENFORCEMENT

PAUL MITNIK, CEO/LPI/BI/ 911-Addressing Officer

Richard (Dick) Dolby left this position in August, so I am once again the Town's CEO, LPI, BI, and AO. In case you haven't met me before, I was employed in this position from 2006 to 2010 and left for work in Manchester, and most recently China. I am also the plumbing inspector of Palermo and have also worked for Readfield, Wayne, and Chelsea. I am a resident of the town, having resided at Cross Hill Rd for the past 35 years. I formerly worked as an environmental engineer for Maine DEP for 25 years and have been doing code enforcement for the last 15 years after retiring from DEP. I am happy to be back here.

Dick did a real good job in his tenure here and I have inherited this position with the records in good order. I am very happy about that too!

A total of 56 plumbing permits and 53 building permits were issued in 2019 valued at nearly three million dollars.



In general, my style is to give folks time to comply with state a local standards which I enforce. Frequently people do not know they are violating a code or law, and have to be told that they are. If you aren't sure about something, check with me first. I will do my best to keep you out of trouble. If you are in the shoreland zone which is generally within 250 feet of a stream, lake, river or wetland regulation is a lot stricter to protect the water resource. If you are doing any clearing or cutting of trees here be sure to check with me prior to doing the clearing.

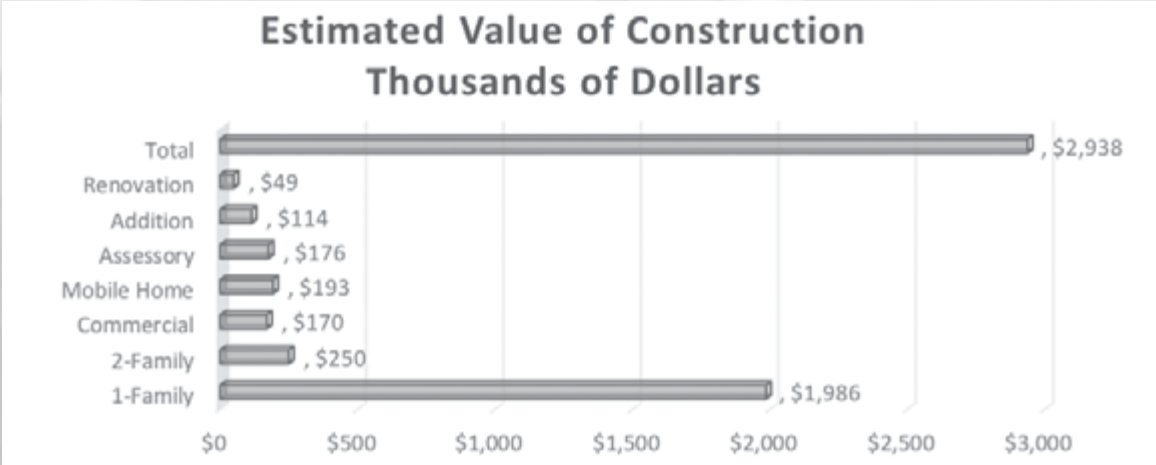
Vassalboro is enforcing a statewide building code referred to as the Maine Building and Energy Code (MUBEC). When you apply for a building permit, I will also have you fill out paperwork that tells me how your improvement will be constructed. This is the plan review required by the code and my paperwork will relieve you of the expensive obligation to submit plans prepared by an architect or



# CODE ENFORCEMENT

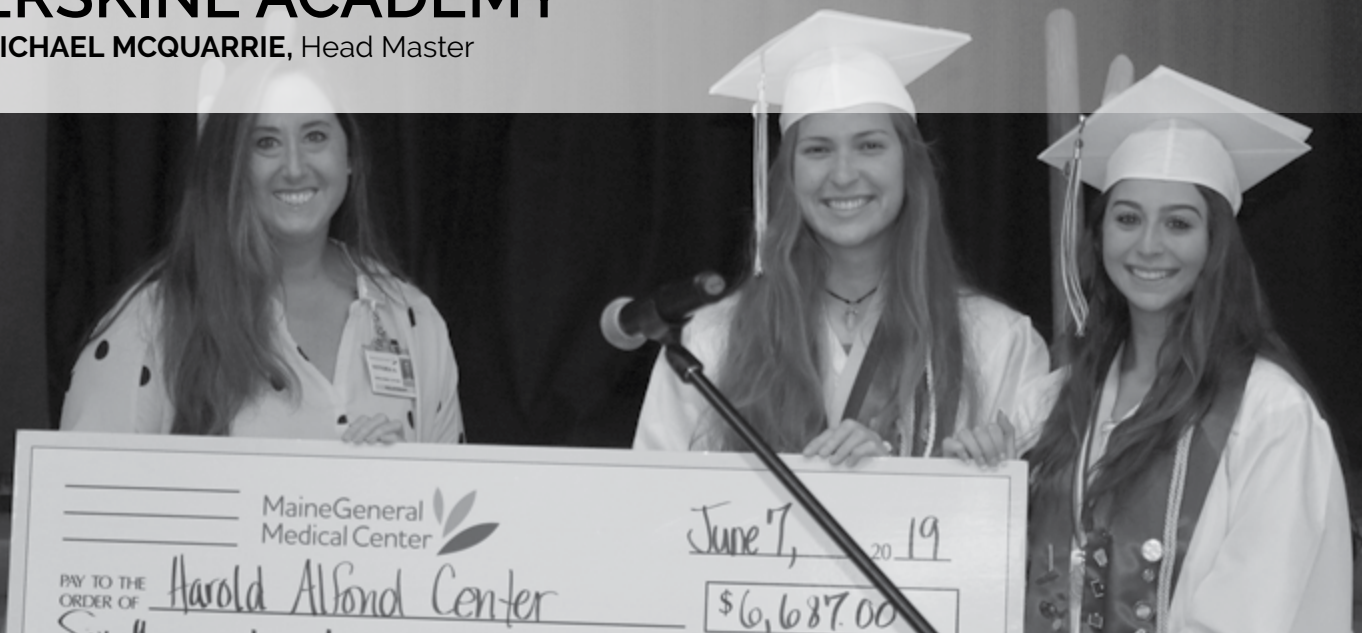
structural engineer. The paperwork becomes our building agreement. As long as you follow this agreement, the inspections that I will do in various stages of construction should go smoothly for both of us.

I am generally available to help you with any applications or paperwork that you need help with. If you are doing any construction in the shoreland zone, it may need Planning Board review. New or expanded businesses may also need Planning Board review as do subdivisions of land. I am the person to get you on the Board's Agenda and help you fill out paperwork. I work on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM and Fridays from 8:00 AM to 11:30 AM.



# ERSKINE ACADEMY

MICHAEL MCQUARRIE, Head Master



Contributed Photo

We who work at, attend, and support Erskine Academy appreciate this annual opportunity to share with you highlights from our last year and an optimistic look ahead to a promising new year and decade. Committed to providing a high-quality education to all of our learners, we put to work our core values—*Scholarship, Leadership, Stewardship, and Relationships*—to produce desirable results. We have much to celebrate about our past, be proud of at present, and look forward to in the future.

In its 137th year, Erskine Academy continued to be your high school of choice that combines an independent school education with the democratic ideal of a quality education for all. We focused our efforts on improving our school, expanding opportunities for learning in and out of the classroom, and accelerating student achievement. A few facts about Erskine Academy today attest to our vitality and value:

- With 560 students in grades nine through twelve, we are the largest town academy in Maine to serve a nearly 100% local student body on a 100% school choice basis
- A 13:1 professional teacher to student ratio
- A 98% four-year graduation rate
- A dropout rate of less than one percent
- Of 144 graduates in 2019, 85% were accepted to higher or continuing education (now a seven-year trend), many to highly selective colleges and universities
- For a fifth consecutive year, we are one of three Maine high schools to make the *Washington Post's* list of *America's Most Challenging High Schools*, a distinction based on the number of Advanced Placement courses and exams taken by our students

Having no enrollment contracts with any community for a whole or portion of their high schoolers, we operate independently and on a school choice basis exclusively. This structure provides us with stability, enables us to be nimble in our operation, and expedites problem-solving and decision making while we focus on the essential processes of teaching and learning. Although independent, we commit to our publicly-funded students by admitting all students from our eight sending towns who have completed the eighth grade and can benefit from our programs. Each student and family has a choice to attend Erskine Academy or any public high schools in the region; our market share generally exceeds 60% of the students from our collective towns. To maintain this local heritage, for a tenth time, we hosted nearly 250 area sixth-graders for our "Touch of Class" program to build their familiarity with and confidence in doing high school-level work.

Regardless of differences in residence, prior learning, interests, abilities, or personal circumstances and backgrounds, here, all of our students matter and belong. All who attend here experience a school program that blends traditional values with contemporary programs and best practices to become the most academically and personally prepared young people in our region. Each of our graduates leaves us with an academic and a personal success story to tell.

We have always considered industry certificates, two-year degrees, apprenticeships, and military service as higher education and, as such, viable pursuits. Therefore, we have created and sustained a comprehensive academic program to reflect and facilitate access to these as well as four-year degree programs. We are one of the few high schools in

# ERSKINE ACADEMY

the state to continue to offer shop technology, family and consumer economics, and business courses for exposure and entry-level work.

Staffed by three teachers and two educational technicians, Erskine's Special Education program educates and provides specialized support to students eligible for such services through an Individual Education Plan (IEP). Valuing all students and believing they deserve a welcoming school and professional teachers who will build on their strengths, 20% of our students receive academic assistance or special education services to support their learning.

As a seven-year *MELMAC Education Foundation* school, we increased students' preparedness and aspirations for continuing their education beyond high school, reduced barriers to accessing their higher education, and significantly reduced their need to take remedial courses. Relatedly, our guidance program and personnel were recognized by the *Finance Authority of Maine (FAME)* for having 72% of graduating seniors complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which is the third-highest completion rate among the state's largest high schools (those with 100 or more seniors).

Now in its ninth year, our *Jobs for Maine Graduates (JMG)* program has increased student exposure to various forms of higher education and vocational trades programs and has taught essential work seeking, training, and employment retention skills. With 83 students pursuing a certificate in a craft or trade the Capital Area Technical Center, our enrollment there is second only to its host, Cony High School. Last year, and planned again for this spring, we produced an on-campus career fair featuring 20 local vendors, 15 skilled craftspeople, and the Army National Guard—potential employees of our graduates.

Last year, 106 students enrolled in one or more of our 12 *Advanced Placement* courses, and 421 students took at least one of our 13 dual enrollment courses with nearby colleges including Kennebec Valley Community College, Thomas College, the University of Maine, and Husson University taught here by our teachers. For their efforts in these early college experiences, nearly one-half of our graduates earned college credits while in high school, collectively saving an estimated \$525,000 in college tuition at the University of Maine rate.

Through our *International Student Program* and *American Field Service (AFS)* club, our students gain understanding and interpersonal skills for living more globally and interdependently in a culturally diverse world. For a second time, AFS students made a humanitarian trip to Guatemala to build homes for impoverished families; a ninth trip to Costa Rica to do the same is planned for this spring. Our educational travels abroad last year included Peru and Machu Picchu; students will visit Greece and Germany later this year. Eye-opening experiences such as these fire the heart and mind and inspire our students to look beyond EA and the familiar to a world that truly needs them.

With 27% of our students receiving free and reduced breakfast and lunch, our student body is socioeconomically diverse. As is the case for many Maine schools, our most significant vulnerable students are those living and learning in poverty. Inspired by twice accepting *WGME 13/Fox 23's School Spirit Challenge*, through which we raised a record-breaking 281,696 pounds of food for the Good Shepherd Food Bank of Maine and our local



Contributed Photo

# ERSKINE ACADEMY

food pantries, we have established a school-based clothing and supplies cupboard for our members. Currently, we are instituting the "Eagles Nest," an open-access food pantry and backpack program from which students can obtain food for after school and weekends.

Other examples of our student and staff's goodwill include the sixth annual *Trunk or Treat* program that last year provided a safe observation of Halloween for a record-breaking 700 youngsters and their parents; our twelfth community *Cancer Walk* yielded \$6,700 for Maine General Medical Center's Alford Center, bringing our historical contributions to over \$50,000; we contributed thousands of hours to community service and raised substantial funds for important causes such as the Home for Little Wanderers, the Ronald McDonald House, the Center for Grieving Children, and the United Way's Day of Caring. Through our embrace of volunteerism and responsible stewardship, we engage meaningfully with our communities, and we experience giving back in appreciation and with humility.

School safety is of utmost priority, and it is among the main reasons that parents choose independent schools. This past fall we completed a second year of partnership with the *ALICE Training Institute*. *ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuation)* is an enhanced safety program comprised of proactive, age and ability appropriate, options-based strategies for use in the event of a violent intrusion on the school. Staff and student training included eLearning and advisory sessions, physical exercises, and the conducting of active-shooter drills facilitated by administrators in cooperation with officers from the Maine State Police and the Kennebec County Sheriff's Department. As a result of this training, students report feeling more confident and better equipped to respond to a significant, violent assault on themselves or their school. Subsequently, we are one of ten Maine schools to be an ALICE Certified Organization, and the only such school in Kennebec County.

Erskine Academy reflects proudly and appreciatively on its 137 years of progress and performance. Since our founding in 1883, Erskine Academy has remained true to its mission while evolving to meet new demands, challenges, and uncertainties. Because there is no limit to what we can do, pursuing excellence and implementing our mission are continuous and unyielding works in progress. This fact was affirmed recently by our school accrediting agency, *The New England Association of Schools*

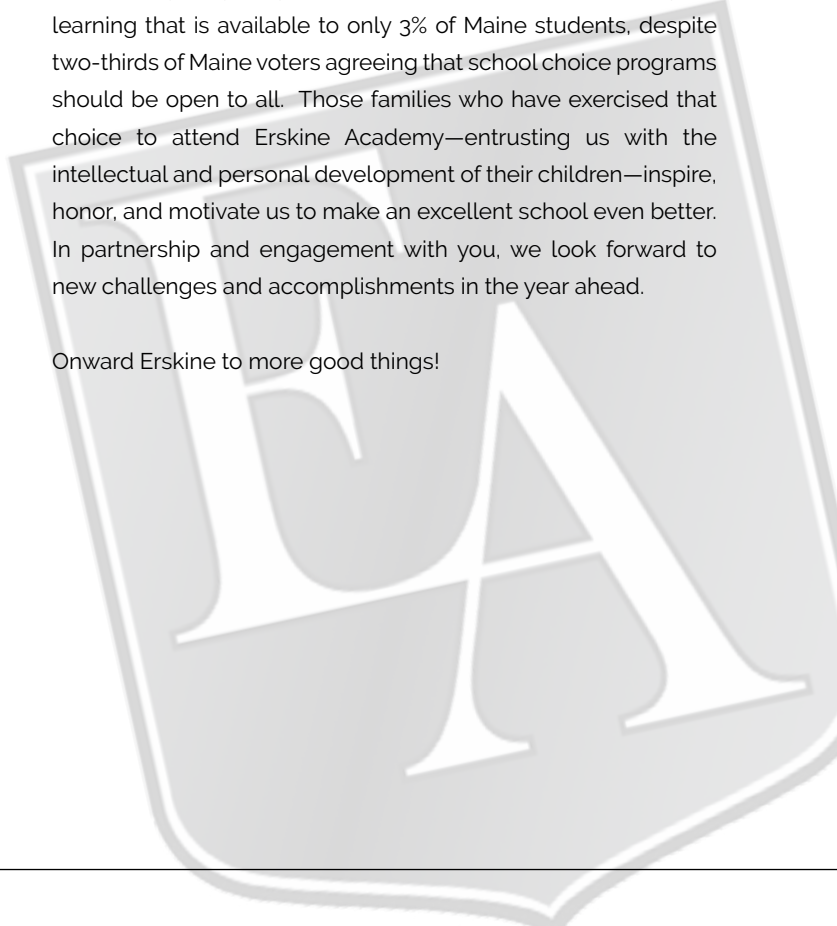
*and Colleges, Inc. (NEASC)*, who in response to our Five-Year Interim Report states, "...the Commission wishes to note the level of attention which the school gives its students. You have developed a truly extensive and effective program—one that is singularly focused on students maximizing their experience and on the post-secondary experiences available to them."

We have heartfelt gratitude for our alumni and friends who believe strongly enough in our values and results that they give their time, talents, and financial donations. Their investment enables us to invest in programs and enhancements that state-set tuition alone cannot support, and raises the expectations we have for ourselves. One example of their generosity is their contribution made to last summer's complete replacement of our outdoor track, a facility to be enjoyed by our student-athletes and the community at large.

We are grateful as well to our students, families, and sending communities for their confidence in and support for Erskine Academy. Together, we create a school and legacy that adheres to what we know is right and good for our young people and aids them in constructing a strong start for adulthood.

Thank you, Vassalboro residents, for sustaining high school choice for your young people and families, an opportunity for learning that is available to only 3% of Maine students, despite two-thirds of Maine voters agreeing that school choice programs should be open to all. Those families who have exercised that choice to attend Erskine Academy—entrusting us with the intellectual and personal development of their children—inspire, honor, and motivate us to make an excellent school even better. In partnership and engagement with you, we look forward to new challenges and accomplishments in the year ahead.

Onward Erskine to more good things!



# VASSALBORO COMMUNITY SCHOOL

ALAN W. PFEIFFER, Superintendent of Schools –Vassalboro

The 2019-2020 school year has again brought new faces to the Vassalboro Community School. Along with our new students, VCS welcomed the following group of new teachers. Joining the staff are Monica Fallaw, Kathryn Shipman, Tracy Jolicouer and Tabitha Sagner. New support staff include Katherine Michaud, Jennifer Pappas, Erika Johnston, Amanda Calderella and Heather Bassett. The new staff are supported in their first year at VCS through a new teacher group, facilitated by instructional specialist Michelle Lake. This professional development initiative provides opportunities for the new teachers to learn about the culture and expectations of their new school in a supportive setting, while encouraging these educators to share their wealth of knowledge and experience.

In addition to the new teacher group, a variety of professional development activities have supported teachers in their efforts to meet the needs of all students. These activities have included ongoing professional development in math facilitated by Maine Math and Science Association consultant Cheryl Tobey, book study groups focused on topics such as math instruction and supporting students in poverty, participation in conferences and trainings sponsored by the Department of Education and state organizations, and work with grade level teams on aligning assessments with instructional goals.

The current school enrollment for Pre-K through Grade 8 is at 420. Our all-day Pre-K is at full capacity with 18 students.

Vassalboro Community School continues to look for ways to support and enhance student academic, social and emotional growth. This year, time in the schedule has been set aside to provide students with enrichment opportunities and academic support. After school hours, the Homework Club has been expanded, and busing has been provided to participants. As in years past, this spring students will be able to take advantage of a variety of after-school activities. School counselor Megan Swanson has been instrumental in organizing these programs, which have been supported with federal funds. We are also a host site for Girls on the Run, a program offering for girls in grades three through five. In addition, programming such as JMG (Jobs for Maine Graduates), co-curricular offerings, and an ever-growing number of students participating in the offerings of the music program help to provide students with other valuable experiences.

Another major focus has been the move to becoming a "PBIS" school. PBIS stands for "Positive Behavioral Interventions and Strategies." This cultural shift targets supporting positive behaviors across our school. It focuses on determining the reason for a behavior instead of just reacting to the behavior itself. PBIS introduces and teaches strategies to our students in order to help them be successful in the classroom. We are part of a three-year cohort with the University of Maine and Maine's Department of Education. This three-year timeline is deemed necessary to truly integrate the PBIS framework into the school. This year we are determining common expectations throughout the school in our non-classroom settings, such as the playground, hallways, and cafeteria. This may sound like a relatively simple task, yet the reality of designing behaviors with students Pre-K-8<sup>th</sup> that are appropriate, and which are used consistently and with fidelity, is a work in progress. The staff is careful and thoughtful in developing processes and procedures to meet the needs of all students' behaviors. We are already seeing changes in behavior and are excited for full implementation. We are also beginning to build capacity for providing supports for students who need interventions beyond the school-wide practices that are in place.

The entire staff, including administration, teachers, secretarial, custodial, food service, bus drivers, maintenance, guidance, and health, and the many parents who volunteer are to be thanked and recognized for their dedication each and every day.

A special thank you to the Vassalboro School Board for their ongoing work and support to ensure a quality education and safe learning environment is in place for "ALL" students, staff and community members. Chairman Kevin Levasseur, Susan Tuthill, Jolene Gamage, Jessica Clark and Libby Loiko deserve our sincere appreciation for their dedication to the Vassalboro School Community.

A thank you for the continued support from the Town as we work collaboratively on many fronts.

In closing, I am honored to serve and work with so many dedicated individuals at the Vassalboro Community School. I have had worthwhile and ongoing discussions with committees and other entities in many areas of the Town. We will continue to put forth our best efforts on all fronts to provide a strong, quality education for all students at the Vassalboro Community School.

# ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

EUGENE FIELD, Road Commissioner



PW Staff (L to R): Shawn Bragg, PW Director Gene Field, Brian Lajoie, and Shane Cole.

As Road Commissioner for the Town of Vassalboro, it is a pleasure working with the Town Manager, staff and citizens of Vassalboro.

In the summer of 2019 the Public Works crew prepared the roads to be paved by replacing culverts, ditching, cutting brush and trees back on the various roads scheduled to be paved as follows:

- Nelson Road – all of it, approximately 3.9 miles.
- Whitehouse Road – all of it, approximately .6 miles.  
The ditching on this road was done in the summer of 2018.
- Three Mile Pond Road, approximately .1 miles.

The Town received eight bids for paving and went with the low bid from Hopkins' Paving for \$64.00 a ton for the 9.5mm mix. This was a combined bid with Vassalboro and the Town of China. The Nelson and Whitehouse Roads were shimmed first then surfaced with 9.5 mm mix of pavement. The Three Mile Pond road was surfaced with 12.5 mm mix of pavement.

As of this writing, the paving plan for the summer of 2020 is to do the following roads:

- Dunham Road
- Station Hill Road
- Alpine Street
- Getchell Corner Road
- Bog Road Extension
- Lombard Dam Road

Some of the additional work completed by the public works crew was extensive ditching and culvert replacements at various places on the Dunham Road. We also put out shoulder gravel on all the roads that were paved. The public works crew cleaned up all the leaves and debris from all the Cemeteries in town so they would be ready for the Cemetery Contractor to mow them. The roadside mowing is done by contracting it out to Aggressive Cuts, which they do the first mowing in June. Aggressive Cuts has been doing a second mowing in September but they could not get here

until October so I canceled the second mowing this year. We also hauled gravel at the top of the hill on the Town Farm Road to the end, building that section of road up a foot with base gravel and skimmed it over with surface gravel. We also finished the Dow Road to the end with crushed gravel from Pike Industries.

We had to do some major work on the old Dresser grader. We had to do a brake job and rebuild the rear end. Where the grader is a 1991, Anderson Equipment had trouble getting replacement parts for it and had some parts machined. The cost for the repairs were just under \$25,000.00.

**In hopes to clear up some confusion, the following roads are State roads:** Route 3, Route 201, Route 32, Oak Grove Road, Stanley Hill Road, South Stanley Hill Road, Bog Road from Route 32 to the Webber Pond Road intersection and the Webber Pond Road. The Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) are responsible for doing all the maintenance work on these roads. We do plow and salt the following roads for the MDOT which are Route 32, Oak Grove Road, Stanley Hill Road, South Stanley Hill Road, Webber Pond Road and the Bog Road from Route 32 to the Webber Pond Road intersection.

I would like to thank former worker J J (James Wentworth) for his dedicated years of service to me and the Town. I would also like to thank retired Fire Chief Eric Rowe for all the times he and his department has helped the Public Works crew out in the various wind storms we had throughout the years. I also like to welcome new Fire Chief Walker Thompson aboard and for our departments to continue working together.

Lastly, I would like to thank my crew of Shawn Bragg, Shane Cole, and new member Brian Lajoie for their dedication and hard work. If you have questions about any road project, please don't hesitate to contact the Public Works Garage at 923-3985 or E- Mail at [vasspublicworks@fairpoint.net](mailto:vasspublicworks@fairpoint.net).

<b>PAVING COST:</b>	
Nelson Road Shim - 1,596.15 tons	\$102,153.60
Surface - 2,954.08 tons	<u>189,061.12</u>
	\$291,214.72
Whitehouse Road	
Shim - 345.78 tons	\$ 22,129.92
Surface - 511.9 tons	<u>32,761.60</u>
	54,891.52
Three Mile Pond Road	
Surface - 130.18 tons of 12.5 mm mix	\$ 8,331.52
<b>GRAND TOTAL -</b>	<b>\$354,437.76</b>

# RECREATION DEPARTMENT

DANIELLE SULLIVAN, Director



Our 2019-2020 year started off with a new director, Danielle Sullivan, and many new board members:

- Jamie Willett - Soccer Commissioner
- Kyle Allen - Baseball Commissioner
- Mary Presti - Softball/ Cheerleading Commissioner
- Scott Fitts - Basketball Commissioner
- Stephen Polley- Secretary
- Marc Cote - Fundraising
- Jacob Marden - Treasury
- Sarah Lavallee - Snack Shack Commissioner

Vassalboro Rec offered Basketball, Cheerleading, Softball, Baseball & Soccer to over 120 children in our little town this year. Parents and volunteers came together to paint dugouts, work the snack shack, coach sports and so many other things that benefited the children. We were ecstatic to add Cheerleading to our options for the kids this year; I believe this will become a huge part of our program in the future.

Our committee members had two great fundraisers: the Flagship movie booklets and the 2nd Annual Cornhole Tournament. Fundraisers like this help us to benefit the program overall.

This Soccer season we had enough volunteers to open up the snack shack almost daily and if you volunteered to work the snack shack, then you know how much fun it was to be a part of. We have plans to move the snack shack closer to the baseball fields this season to make it easier for all to enjoy!

Vassalboro Recreation teamed up for the first time ever with the Vassalboro Business Association (VBA) and Jobs for Maine Graduates (JMG) to host our first ever Color Me Fun Too run. We cannot thank the JMG kids enough for all they do behind the scenes for us, from umpiring games to keeping scores. They surely are team players.

It truly takes a village to raise a child and together we are making sure we meet the needs of every child in our community with your help. We are always looking for volunteers so please don't hesitate to ask "How can I help?"

*From Left to Right: Head Coach Zachary Smith, Players: Landon Sullivan, Leigha Sullivan, Reid Willet, Matthew Phillips, Tristyn Brown, Judson Smith, Baylee Fuchswanz, Brooke Reny, Kaleb Charlebois, Grayson Atwood, Ryleigh French. Assistant Coach: Lisa Reny  
Photo Credit: Jamie Willett  
Team Sponsor: New England Battery & Tire- Mike Fuchswanz*



# VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

WALKER THOMPSON, Chief

As we continue to look for other sources of revenue to support the Vassalboro Fire Department's budget, we were again very successful in being awarded several grants, which in turn helps to reduce the tax dollars that we ask for you in support of the Fire Department.

A grant was awarded to the fire department from the Sukeforth Foundation in the amount of \$1,000. A donation of \$1,000 from Betsy Cole towards the new truck fund. Again, this year, the Maine Municipal Association of which the town of Vassalboro is a member of, was awarded a grant for \$2,000 in the spring of 2019 and another grant for \$2,000 in the fall of 2019. These two grants will also be matched by town funds and enable us to purchase (4) new sets of turn out gear. We again received a grant from Maine Dept. of Conservation and Forestry Service that allowed us to purchase some collapsible backpack firefighting pumps for use for grass and forest fires. Duratherm Window (Pella) also provided a grant to the fire department in the amount of \$15,000 for the purchase of new radios for the trucks. With the assistance of these grant awards, it helps us get the equipment we need without additional tax burdens on the Vassalboro residents.

**Last year, the Vassalboro Fire Department responded to 145 emergency calls, a record number for the dept. Listed below are some of the types of calls we responded to in 2019.**

- |                      |                              |                                 |
|----------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| (12) Structure Fires | (26) 10-55 Vehicle Accidents | (28) Tree Down/Power Line Calls |
| (5) Grass/Woods Fire | (19) Mutual Aid Calls        | (7) Carbon Monoxide/Gas Alarms  |
| (2) Chimney Fires    | (14) Fire Alarms             | (4) Unauthorized Burning        |
| (8) Medical Assist   | (5) Vehicle Fires            |                                 |

Last year, we more than doubled the number of motor vehicle accidents we responded to than the prior year. In one incident, two vehicles were involved that resulted in a double fatality. It is calls like this that take a toll both on family members and the members of the fire department. Please be careful in your homes and on the roads.

Again, we remind you to please place 4" high numbers on both sides of your mailboxes and on your house, to assist us in finding you in the event of an emergency. Every minute counts when there is an emergency. A reminder that fire permits can be obtained after 5pm on weekdays and after 9am on weekends online at [www.wardensreport.com](http://www.wardensreport.com) for no fee.

Thank you to both the residents of the North Village and the Public Works Dept. for taking the time to clear away the snow from the fire hydrants during this past winter. It certainly makes it easier to locate and get access to the hydrant in the event of an emergency. We really do appreciate it!

The Vassalboro Fire Department members continue to participate in town functions, such "Touch a Truck" during the "Vassalboro Days", educating the Pre-K to 4<sup>th</sup> graders about fire prevention at the Vassalboro Community School, and standing watch during "Halloween at The Olde Mill". We also were present at the annual Maine State Federation of Firefighters Memorial Service held in Augusta to honor our fallen brothers and heroes.

This year, Eric Rowe has decided to retire as Fire Chief, but still remain a member of the Vassalboro Fire Department. Eric has been on the fire department for 40 years, and has served as Fire Chief for 30 years. Myself and the rest of the fire department members would like to take this time and say "thank you" for all that you have done for the fire department and the residents of Vassalboro. As a result of Eric retiring, the members of the fire department elected myself as their new Fire Chief. As Fire Chief, I appointed Robert (Bob) Williams as Deputy Fire Chief. The Board of Selectman then authorized the Town Manager to appoint both of us in our new roles.



Photo by Sue Vashon

Retired Chief Eric Rowe





Photo by Joe Labbe

Scott "Scoot" Higgins

I would also like to take a moment to dedicate this report to a fallen Brother, Captain Scott "Scoot" Higgins from the Winslow Fire Department. Scott gave over 18 years of his life serving his community and the surrounding communities. He always had a huge smile and was willing to help any one that needed it. He was a great mentor and was deeply involved in the Central Maine Fire Attack School program. It was evident how his life affected others by the support of over hundreds of firefighters from all over who attended his memorial service in the days to follow. He will be greatly missed, but never forgotten.

We have several members from the town who are currently enrolled in the fire attack school program. They are expected to finish this spring, and will then be certified. Last but not least, I would like to again thank all of the members of the Vassalboro Fire Department for the countless hours they have spent making Vassalboro a safer place to live and in protecting our town. And thanks to their families for the times they spend away from you. Thanks to the town officials and you, the Vassalboro residents for your continued support of the Vassalboro Fire Department. We are fortunate and thankful to enjoy such a supportive community.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

MARK BROWN, Police Chief



Photo by Charlene Brown



I want to thank our Town's residents for the continued support throughout the past years. As we know, public safety has had many unfortunate incidents over this past year, and many residents have reached out with their gratitude for all that public safety continue to provide every day. I would

also like to thank the Town Officials and residents for the support with my department decisions and focuses and hope to continue providing the much-needed police services the Town of Vassalboro requires.

The calls for service in our Town continue to be very busy for our community. There appears to be an increase in accidental 911 calls into our communications center. Should this occur, please remain on the line with the dispatcher and answer their questions until we determine the situation is handled properly. I continue to work with the Vassalboro Community School Officials, Kennebec County Sheriff's Office, Maine State Police, Vassalboro Fire and Vassalboro First Responders to provide our student's safety throughout the school year. I have been in attendance during many school events, as well as summer recreation events to provide a visible presence and assist with traffic control.

The Town and its residents approved the purchase of a new police cruiser. I have decided to mark the cruiser to make the presence more noticeable for everyone to see. In times past, our police cruiser has been unmarked, however; with today's environment, I felt a higher visibility would be best.

Complaints of speeding vehicles have decreased over the past few years. Some may have noticed the Town's digital speed sign posted throughout the Town in order to monitor and deter speeding vehicles. This has provided me with good feedback on reports from Town residents.

I have assisted in delivering donations to the less fortunate within our community and continue to check on our elderly residents during the winter months.

Please call me with any questions or concerns within our Town. I can be reached on my **cell phone (207) 557-4601** or email me at **mbrown@vassalboro.net**. Our Town's Regional Communications Center can be contacted at **(207) 624-7076 or 911 for all emergency calls**.



# VASSALBORO TRANSFER STATION

GEORGE HAMAR, Transfer Station Manager

It's our pleasure serving those who utilize our wonderful transfer station and recycling facility here in Vassalboro. I am grateful for the opportunity to share what's been going on at the facility in 2019. As always, our focus is to operate in accordance with the Maine Department of Labor and Environmental Protection regulations and standards, to provide a clean, safe and friendly place to dispose of household wastes and recyclables.

In January the Board of Selectmen decided to enter into a contract with Coastal Resources of Maine (Fiberight) and to put all of our recyclables except for Corrugated Cardboard (OCC) together with the household trash and haul it to their facility in Hamden where their technology will separate and process the materials at a cost of \$70 per ton.

After several test loads from other towns and working out other details of their operation, Fiberight started processing the MSW from Vassalboro. Some of these loads were diverted to the landfill in Norridgewock on a temporary basis until the Fiberight operation was running at full capacity. A Bypass Protocol letter was sent out in December from fiberight explaining the procedure of alternative disposal sites if needed.

In March our one-year solid waste hauling contract with Bolsters Rubbish expired and was put out to bid again after reviewing those whom submitted their bids Bolsters was awarded a one year hauling contract for the MSW to be hauled to fiberight for \$235 per trip and if at any time needed to be diverted would be hauled to the Crossroads landfill in Norridgewock. The OCC would be hauled to their destination of choice at \$150 per trip.

In April there was recommendations on a new layout for the transfer station to increase public safety by relocating the entrance and creating a drive thru facility without the need of traffic to back up to dispose of their trash. With a discussion panel appointed on this topic there will be further research and planning in the future on these changes.

With the aging trash compactor that was installed in 1988, vendors of this industry were sought for obtaining prices for a new compactor to be purchased and installed. Local engineers were also contacted for pricing and recommendations to the concrete pad that it will be affixed to and ideas for a roof structure that will house or cover the trash compactor and tipping area.

There were changes to the mercury lamp recycling program this past year. Now not only can we accept mercury bulbs from households but this now includes businesses, schools and nonprofit etc. Only ten or fewer non CFL bulbs can be recycled per person per visit. There is no limit for CFL bulbs.

Any non-household entities now must have record showing they responsibly recycled their bulbs so they will be provided with a universal waste recycling log sheet upon disposal.

I would like to thank everyone for their dedicated efforts separating and recycling corrugated cardboard and being open to new technological advancements to process and sort other recyclable materials from the trash. Also, our Vassalboro public works and town office staff for all their services they provide.

I look forward continuing to serve the residents of Vassalboro. We are open for discussion with any of those who seek a sensible, balanced and sustainable solution to increase recycling and reduce the waste that tax dollars are paying to dispose of. Please join us in keeping your transfer station a clean and fun place to dispose of all your household wastes and recyclables.

You can pick up our current transfer station fee schedule either at the town office or the transfer station. Please stop by the transfer station today to learn what can be recycled and save your tax dollars! And don't hesitate to ask if you have any other questions.

**In 2019 Vassalboro Residents disposed of 1456 tons of MSW and 424 tons of Bulky waste items at the transfer station**

## Recycled in 2019

- 9.93 tons of Zero Sorted recyclables
- 66 tons of Corrugated Cardboard
- 8 tons of Electronics
- 10.3 tons of Clothing
- 120.8 tons of misc. Metals
- 1,193 Used Tires
- 1292 gallons of Waste Oil & Antifreeze
- 45 tons of Compost
- 6 tons of reusable items (swap shed)

# KENNEBEC LAND TRUST

KIM VANDERMEULEN, President



*Photo by Richard Behr*

Since 1988, with the support of 1,100 member households and over forty Maine businesses, the Kennebec Land Trust (KLT) has worked cooperatively with landowners and communities to conserve our region's natural assets. KLT holds conservation easements on, accepts gifts of, and purchases significant lands to further the mission of the organization.

KLT is proud to own and manage the Davidson Nature Preserve, the Seaward Mills Conservation Area, and the Vassalboro Wildlife Habitat. On these properties residents and visitors can hike, collect blueberries, observe wildlife, and enjoy the natural scenery. KLT also leases land to a local farmer. As land owners in your town, we contribute to Vassalboro's local tax base since our properties are enrolled in the open space tax program.

KLT offers a great selection of outings and educational programs for the public and we collaborate with schools and other

organizations to engage youth and share our conservation message with the community. Please join us on Thursday, October 1, for a Full Moon Walk at the Vassalboro Wildlife Habitat. We are grateful to the town of Vassalboro for your cooperation and support. Thank you to Vassalboro residents who support KLT as members or volunteers and who serve on the Conservation Commission or Trails Committee.

We welcome this opportunity to communicate with Vassalboro residents and the Selectboard about our conservation work. Do not hesitate to contact us for more information, 207-377-2848 or [info@tklt.org](mailto:info@tklt.org). You may also visit our website, [www.tklt.org](http://www.tklt.org) for trail maps, directions, and more information about our organization. Thank you very much for your past support of KLT and land conservation.

Kennebec  
Land Trust  
Inc. 1988

# MUNICIPAL EXPENDITURES

JULY 1, 2018 - JUNE 30, 2019

## ADMINISTRATION

Appropriation:	\$445,805.00
Expenditures:	
Personnel service	\$342,759.20
Insurance	7,649.31
Utilities	7,269.16
Building/Grounds Maintenance	9,059.59
Printing/Advertising	4,259.04
Audit/Legal/Dues	17,989.96
Office Supplies/Equipment	7,665.49
Technology/Postage/Other	39,731.25
Registry of Deeds	6,320.09
Balance	3,101.91

## PUBLIC WORKS

Appropriation:	\$485,053.00
Expenditures:	
Personnel Services	\$264,136.29
Insurance	\$18,314.06
Sand/Salt/other contracts	72,869.19
Vehicle Expenses/Equip.	101,588.13
Garage Utilities/Supplies	19,053.90
Bridges/Culverts/signs	5,861.48
Balance	3,229.95

## SOLID WASTE

Appropriation:	\$306,500.00
Carried forward from FY18 for backhoe maintenance:	+\$3,700
Expenditures:	
Personnel Services	\$ 63,307.33
Insurance	2,811.60
Bldg. Maintenance/Water Monitoring	5,890.42
Utilities/Supplies	5,486.55
Disposal/Hauling/Recycling	181,377.24
Backhoe Maintenance	8,648.85
Balance	42,678.01

## ROAD PAVING/GRAVEL ROADS

Appropriation:	\$373,940.00
Carried forward from FY 18:	+\$9,415.00
Expenditures:	
Paving	\$359,414.67
Striping	12,513.60
Gravel Roads/Maintenance	9,421.03
Balance	2,005.70

## FIRST RESPONDERS

Appropriation:	\$13,250.00
Expenditures:	
Equipment/Radios	\$3,639.78
Licensing Fees	250.00
Malpractice/Work Comp Ins.	1,291.03
Operations/Misc. fees	3,568.00
Balance	4,501.19

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

Appropriation:	\$67,540.00
Expenditures:	
Utilities	\$ 9,122.18
Insurances	9,271.51
Repairs	18,965.97
Training/Equipment/Supplies	10,286.64
Radios	1,539.69
Bldg. Maintenance	6,214.95
Firefighter stipend	8,517.00
Chief Stipend	3,200.00
Balance	422.06

## PUBLIC SAFETY/POLICE & ANIMAL CONTROL

Appropriation:	\$69,797.00
Expenditures:	
Employee Costs	\$24,902.85
Insurances	1,620.84
Supplies/Vehicle Maintenance	4,921.04
Humane Society	6,900.60
Public Safety Dispatch fees	27,418.00
Balance	4,033.67

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT/RESERVES

Appropriation and Reserve Use:	\$43,500.00
Expenditures:	
Transfer Station Containers from Reserve	6,000.00
Public Works Plow Truck Reserve	25,000.00
Riverside Fire Station Roof Reserve	12,500.00
Balance	.00

## RECREATION/SUMMER YOUTH

Appropriation:	\$ 15,430.00
Carry forward from previous years:	+ 5,835.13
Expenditures:	\$ 21,265.13
Balance	.00

# MUNICIPAL EXPENDITURES

JULY 1, 2018 - JUNE 30, 2019

## LIBRARY

Appropriation:	\$ 33,929.00
Expenditures:	\$ 33,929.00
Balance	00

## UTILITIES

Appropriation:	\$ 38,700.00
Expenditures:	
Street Lights	\$ 18,245.07
Hydrant Rental	20,224.84
Balance	230.09

## CEMETERIES

Appropriation:	\$ 28,000.00
Carried from FY18:	+4,250.00
Expenditures:	
Care of Cemeteries	\$ 24,000.00
Carried into FY 2020	8,250.00
Balance	.00

## GENERAL ASSISTANCE

Appropriation:	\$3,000.00
Reimbursement from State:	+3,037.07
Expenditures:	
Shelter	\$1,943.51
Balance	4,093.56

## ASSESSMENT

Appropriation:	\$ 44,750.00
Expenditures:	
Contract Assessor Costs:	\$ 27,249.96
Maps/Dues/Supplies	2,545.27
Postage/Tax Billing	2,312.00
Quarterly Review	12,500.00
Balance	142.77

## SOCIAL SERVICES

Appropriation:	\$ 16,292.00
Expenditures:	
Hospice	\$ 1,600.00
Food Pantry	2,000.00
Family Violence	4,925.00
KV Mental Health	3,500.00
Spectrum Generations	1,000.00
Sexual Assault & Crisis Center	1,417.00
Literacy Volunteers	500.00
KVCAP Transportation Service	1,350.00
Balance	00

## MISCELLANEOUS REQUEST

Appropriation:	\$ 14,150.00
Expenditures:	
Historical Society	\$ 4,150.00
Snowmobile Club	1,500.00
C.R.L.A.	7,500.00
F.A.V.O.R.	795.54
Balance	204.46

## DEBT SERVICE

Appropriation:	\$63,625.00
Expenditures:	
Fire Truck Lease (payment #3 of 5)	\$ 63,625.00
Balance	00

## COUNTY TAX

Appropriation:	\$325,338.00
Expenditures:	\$325,337.03
Balance	.97

## EDUCATION

(Local funds only.)	
Appropriation:	\$ 3,697,908.00
Expenditures:	\$3,367,908.00
Balance	00



## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Board of Selectmen  
Town of Vassalboro  
Vassalboro, Maine

### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Vassalboro, Maine, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019 and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town of Vassalboro, Maine's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

### Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Vassalboro, Maine as of June 30, 2019 and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

## Other Matters

### *Required Supplementary Information*

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison information and pension and OPEB information on pages 4 through 10 and 64 through 73 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

### *Other Information*

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Vassalboro, Maine's basic financial statements. The Schedule of Departmental Operations - General Fund, combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements and capital asset schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by Title 20-A MRSA §6051, Sub-chapter 1(K) of the Maine Revised Statutes as amended and is also not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The Schedule of Departmental Operations - General Fund, combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements, capital asset schedules and the schedule of expenditures of federal awards are the responsibility of management and were derived from and related directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Schedule of Departmental Operations - General Fund, combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements, capital asset schedules and the schedule of expenditures of federal awards are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated January 23, 2020, on our consideration of the Town of Vassalboro, Maine's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Town of Vassalboro, Maine's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

*RHR Smith & Company*

Buxton, Maine  
January 23, 2020

*The full Audit Report is available at the Town Office for public inspection.*

# REVENUES AND EXPENSES

## Revenues and Expenses

Revenues for the Town's governmental activities increased by 9.68%, while total expenses increased by 2.03%. The increase in revenues was mainly due to capital grants and contributions. The increase in expenses was primarily due to education and capital outlay.

**Table 2**  
**Town of Vassalboro, Maine**  
**Change in Net Position**  
**For the Years Ended June 30,**

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
<b>Revenues</b>		
<i>Program revenues:</i>		
Charges for services	\$ 156,791	\$ 159,429
Operating grants and contributions	5,133,509	5,047,006
Capital grants and contributions	582,985	65,804
<i>General revenues:</i>		
Taxes	5,530,688	5,196,072
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs	429,759	342,653
Other income	288,679	241,273
Total Revenues	<u>12,122,411</u>	<u>11,052,237</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
General government	433,362	443,101
Public safety	261,645	280,692
Public works	821,582	1,072,673
Culture and recreation	57,223	55,787
Social services	15,198	16,012
Education	8,501,473	8,300,997
County tax	325,337	312,452
Solid waste	266,130	279,670
Other	36,528	188,986
Interest on long-term debt	3,937	5,195
State of Maine on-behalf payments	441,114	497,326
Unallocated depreciation (Note 4)	12,947	14,047
Capital outlay	523,721	-
Total Expenses	<u>11,700,197</u>	<u>11,466,938</u>
Change in Net Position	422,214	(414,701)
Net Position - July 1, Restated	<u>7,385,387</u>	<u>7,800,088</u>
Net Position - June 30	<u>\$ 7,807,601</u>	<u>\$ 7,385,387</u>



# FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE TOWN'S FUND STATEMENTS

## Financial Analysis of the Town's Fund Statements

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

**Table 3**  
**Town of Vassalboro, Maine**  
**Fund Balances - Governmental Funds**  
**June 30,**

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Major Funds:		
General Fund:		
Assigned	\$ 43,514	\$ 38,138
Unassigned	1,502,362	1,442,492
School Fund:		
Nonspendable	46,887	51,954
Unassigned	(64,999)	(286,589)
Total Major Funds	<u>\$ 1,527,764</u>	<u>\$ 1,245,995</u>
Nonmajor Funds:		
Special Revenue Funds:		
Nonspendable	\$ 7,709	\$ 7,735
Restricted	505,714	262,467
Assigned	100,301	80,200
Unassigned	(123,428)	(94,110)
Capital Projects Funds:		
Committed	171,954	105,430
Unassigned	-	(3)
Permanent Funds:		
Nonspendable	95,810	95,810
Restricted	21,980	17,586
Total Nonmajor Funds	<u>\$ 780,040</u>	<u>\$ 475,115</u>

The general fund total fund balance increased by \$65,246 from \$1,480,630 to \$1,545,876 due to positive budgetary variances in both revenues and expenditures that exceeded net transfers to other funds. The school fund total fund balance increased by \$216,523 from (\$234,635) to (\$18,112) due to revenues and a transfer from the general fund that exceeded expenditures. The nonmajor funds total fund balances increased by \$304,925 from \$475,115 to \$780,040 due to revenues and net transfers from other funds that exceeded expenditures.

# STATEMENT C

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS - JUNE 30, 2019

	General Fund	School Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 816,738	\$ 364,892	\$ -	\$ 1,181,630
Investments	1,167,055	-	-	1,167,055
Accounts receivable (net of allowance for uncollectibles):				
Taxes	329,970	-	-	329,970
Liens	89,663	-	-	89,663
Due from other governments	-	17,804	132,424	150,228
Inventory	-	-	7,709	7,709
Prepaid items	-	46,887	-	46,887
Due from other funds	153,700	-	793,607	947,307
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 2,557,126</b>	<b>\$ 429,583</b>	<b>\$ 933,740</b>	<b>\$ 3,920,449</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
Accounts payable	\$ 13,311	\$ 11,222	\$ -	\$ 24,533
Due to other governments	36,635	-	-	36,635
Accrued expenses	7,373	324,005	-	331,378
Accrued compensated absences	38,176	6,453	-	44,629
Due to other funds	687,592	106,015	153,700	947,307
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>783,087</b>	<b>447,695</b>	<b>153,700</b>	<b>1,384,482</b>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>				
Prepaid taxes	2,967	-	-	2,967
Deferred tax revenues	225,196	-	-	225,196
<b>TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	<b>228,163</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>228,163</b>
<b>FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS)</b>				
Nonspendable	-	46,887	103,519	150,406
Restricted	-	-	527,694	527,694
Committed	-	-	171,954	171,954
Assigned	43,514	-	100,301	143,815
Unassigned	1,502,362	(64,999)	(123,428)	1,313,935
<b>TOTAL FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS)</b>	<b>1,545,876</b>	<b>(18,112)</b>	<b>780,040</b>	<b>2,307,804</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS)</b>	<b>\$ 2,557,126</b>	<b>\$ 429,583</b>	<b>\$ 933,740</b>	<b>\$ 3,920,449</b>

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

# STATEMENT E

## STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

	General Fund	School Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>REVENUES</b>				
Taxes:				
Property	\$ 4,652,347	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,652,347
Excise	856,768	-	-	856,768
Intergovernmental revenues	1,012,744	3,910,668	781,727	5,705,139
Charges for services	77,398	-	79,393	156,791
State of Maine on-behalf payments	-	291,000	-	291,000
Other revenues	102,505	159,243	26,931	288,679
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>6,701,762</b>	<b>4,360,911</b>	<b>888,051</b>	<b>11,950,724</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
Current:				
General government	487,055	-	-	487,055
Public safety	154,917	-	-	154,917
Public works	837,057	-	-	837,057
Culture and recreation	52,515	-	-	52,515
Social services	15,198	-	-	15,198
Education	-	7,551,296	758,259	8,309,555
County tax	325,337	-	-	325,337
Solid waste	267,522	-	-	267,522
Other	33,814	-	2,714	36,528
State of Maine on-behalf payments	-	291,000	-	291,000
Debt service:				
Principal	59,688	-	-	59,688
Interest	3,937	-	-	3,937
Capital outlay	523,721	-	-	523,721
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>2,760,761</b>	<b>7,842,296</b>	<b>760,973</b>	<b>11,364,030</b>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>3,941,001</b>	<b>(3,481,385)</b>	<b>127,078</b>	<b>586,694</b>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>				
Transfers in	13,500	3,697,908	191,347	3,902,755
Transfers (out)	(3,889,255)	-	(13,500)	(3,902,755)
<b>TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>	<b>(3,875,755)</b>	<b>3,697,908</b>	<b>177,847</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>65,246</b>	<b>216,523</b>	<b>304,925</b>	<b>586,694</b>
<b>FUND BALANCES - JULY 1</b>	<b>1,480,630</b>	<b>(234,635)</b>	<b>475,115</b>	<b>1,721,110</b>
<b>FUND BALANCES - JUNE 30</b>	<b>\$ 1,545,876</b>	<b>\$ (18,112)</b>	<b>\$ 780,040</b>	<b>\$ 2,307,804</b>

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

# SCHEDULE 1

## BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGETARY BASIS

### BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts	Variance Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
Budgetary Fund Balance, July 1	\$ 1,480,630	\$ 1,480,630	\$ 1,480,630	\$ -
Resources (Inflows):				
Taxes:				
Property taxes	4,666,730	4,666,730	4,652,347	(14,383)
Excise taxes	807,000	807,000	856,768	49,768
Intergovernmental revenues:				
State revenue sharing	170,000	170,000	177,218	7,218
Local road assistance	64,000	64,000	65,264	1,264
State park sharing	2,500	2,500	-	(2,500)
Homestead exemption	224,915	224,915	208,119	(16,796)
Tree growth	16,000	16,000	15,364	(636)
Veterans exemptions	3,000	3,000	3,280	280
Other	3,080	520,801	543,499	22,698
Charges for services	57,250	57,250	77,398	20,148
Interest income	-	-	27,763	27,763
Interest/fees on taxes	38,000	38,000	38,433	433
Sale of town property/assets	-	-	14,494	14,494
Miscellaneous revenue	21,000	23,000	21,815	(1,185)
Transfers from other funds	13,500	13,500	13,500	-
Amounts Available for Appropriation	<u>7,567,605</u>	<u>8,087,326</u>	<u>8,195,892</u>	<u>108,566</u>
Charges to Appropriations (Outflows):				
General government	490,555	490,555	487,055	3,500
Public safety	189,287	196,287	154,917	41,370
Public works	858,993	883,408	837,057	46,351
Culture and recreation	53,509	59,282	52,515	6,767
Social services	19,292	19,292	15,198	4,094
County tax	325,337	325,337	325,337	-
Solid waste	306,500	310,200	267,522	42,678
Debt service:				
Principal	59,688	59,688	59,688	-
Interest	3,937	3,937	3,937	-
Capital outlay	6,000	523,721	523,721	-
Other	64,622	83,872	33,814	50,058
Transfers to other funds	3,859,255	3,889,255	3,889,255	-
Total Charges to Appropriations	<u>6,236,975</u>	<u>6,844,834</u>	<u>6,650,016</u>	<u>194,818</u>

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

# ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

JUNE 22, 2020 - JULY 14, 2020

## GREETINGS:

In the name of the State of Maine you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Vassalboro in said Kennebec County, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the Vassalboro Community School on Monday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020, at 6:30 in the evening to elect a moderator to preside at said meeting, then and there to act on Articles 1 through 56, all of said articles being set out below to wit: and further to warn said voters to meet at the Vassalboro Community School building in said Town on Tuesday, the 14<sup>th</sup> day of July 2020, then and there to act on Articles numbered 57 to 58. The polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**ARTICLE 1:** To choose a **Moderator** to preside at said Meeting, and to pay a sum not to exceed \$200.00 for his/her services.

**ARTICLE 2:** To elect from the floor, under the rules of this meeting, five (5) members of the **Budget Committee** to serve two-year terms.

### Terms Expire in 2020:

**K. Peter Allen, Rick Denico, Jr., Douglas Phillips, Barbara Redmond, Joe Suga**

**ARTICLE 3:** To see if the Town will vote to fix the **due dates of taxes** as follows, and to set the rate of interest at the prevailing allowable State rate: 8.00%. Interest will begin to accrue 7 days after the due date.

**One-fourth of taxes due on 09-28-20**

**One-fourth of taxes due on 11-23-20**

**One-fourth of taxes due on 02-22-21**

**One-fourth of taxes due on 04-26-21**

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

## REVENUES

**ARTICLE 4:** To see if the Town will vote to use the following **anticipated revenue** amounts and from the sources named to reduce the 2020-2021 tax commitment:

Excise Tax	\$ 800,000
Agent Fees	17,000
Snowmobile agent fees	2,750
Boat Excise Tax	7,000
Interest/Penalties	42,000
State Revenue Sharing	280,000
State Road Assistance	66,000
Tree Growth Reimbursement	15,750
Veterans Exemption	3,000
Miscellaneous	5,000
Permit Fees	10,000
Solid Waste/Recycling	40,000
Franchise Fee/Cable Fees	25,000
Clerk Fees	8,000
TIF Development Fund	2,000
Alewife Reserve	14,500
Surplus	166,000
<b>TOTAL REVENUES:</b>	<b>\$1,504,000</b>

*Selectmen Recommend: \$1,504,000*

*Budget Committee recommends: \$1,504,000*

## GENERAL GOVERNMENT

**ARTICLE 5:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$474,295 for **Administration**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$474,295*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$474,295*

**ARTICLE 6:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$46,700 for **Assessment Costs**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$46,700*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$46,700*

**ARTICLE 7:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$151,500 for **Capital Improvements or Reserves** as follows:

Plow Truck Reserve:	\$61,000
Transfer Station Reserve:	25,000
Culvert work (Gray & Cross Hill Rds.)	54,000
PW Guard Rails (Dunham Rd.)	5,000
Standby Generator for PW garage	6,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$151,500</b>

*Selectmen Recommend: \$151,500*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$151,500*

## PUBLIC WORKS

**ARTICLE 8:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$504,856 for the **Public Works Department**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$504,856*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$504,856*

**ARTICLE 9:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$424,337 for **paving work** to allow the Town to pave all or portions of the following roads: Dunham Road, Station Hill Road, Alpine Street, Getchell Corner Road, Bog Road Extension, and Lombard Dam Road; and for **road striping and paved road maintenance** and if any of said sums remain, the Selectmen at their discretion could do additional paving.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$424,337*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$424,337*

## SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL

**ARTICLE 10:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$331,017 for the cost of operating the Town's **Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Facility**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$331,017*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$331,017*

## PUBLIC SAFETY

**ARTICLE 11:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$85,947 for the **Public Safety Department** that includes the Police, Animal Control, and Dispatch expenses.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$85,947*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$85,947*

**ARTICLE 12:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$13,100 for lease payment number two of three for the **2020 Ford Interceptor Police Cruiser**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$13,100*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$13,100*

**ARTICLE 13:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,750 for the cost of operating the **Vassalboro First Responder Service**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$12,750*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$12,750*

**ARTICLE 14:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum not to exceed \$5,000 from SURPLUS to be used as local match dollars for new First Responder Service equipment. These funds will be expended only in the event of a **First Responder Service grant award**.

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

*Budget Committee Recommends: Approval*

**ARTICLE 15:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,050 for the **Fire Department**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$75,050*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$75,050*

**ARTICLE 16:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum not to exceed \$25,000 from SURPLUS to be used as local match dollars for new Fire Department equipment. These funds will be expended only in the event of a **Fire Department grant award**.

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

*Budget Committee Recommends: Approval*

**ARTICLE 17:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$63,625 for lease payment number five of five for the **2017 E-One Pumper Fire Truck**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$63,625*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$63,625*

**ARTICLE 18:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,500 for **fire hydrant rental**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$20,500*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$20,500*

**ARTICLE 19:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,000 for **Street Lights**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$12,000*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$12,000*

## **SPECIAL ARTICLES AND TOWN POLICY**

**ARTICLE 20:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen on behalf of the Town to **dispose of any real estate** acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes thereon, on such terms as they may deem advisable, except for property tax-acquired from certain elderly, low-income taxpayers who qualify for the special sale process required pursuant to 36 M.R.S. Section 943-C.

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

**ARTICLE 21:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen or their designee to submit **grant applications for State of Maine, Federal Government, or any other duly authorized authority funding** and if said program is approved, authorize the municipal officers to accept said grant funds, to make such assurances, assume such responsibilities, and exercise such authority as necessary and reasonable to implement such program, and to disburse such funds for the purpose granted.

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

**ARTICLE 22:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a **lease/purchase agreement for a fire truck** in the original principal amount of up to three hundred thirty four thousand dollars (\$334,000.00) financed for a period of up to 5 years, and to raise and appropriate the annual estimated payment of \$72,058.10, (which agreement includes interest currently estimated at 2.58%) and to further authorize the Selectmen to do any and all things necessary to award and enter into such agreement on behalf of the Town to accomplish the purpose of this Article. For clarification, the first payment which would be due July of 2022 would come from the current fire truck reserve balance. The second payment due July 2023, thru the 5<sup>th</sup> payment due July 2026, would come from taxation at an estimated annual payment of \$72,058.10. This lease would only occur in the event that the Vassalboro Fire Dept. is not successful in obtaining a FEMA truck grant that has been submitted to FEMA.

## **TREASURER'S FINANCIAL STATEMENT TOWN OF VASSALBORO, MAINE**

### **1. Total Town Indebtedness as of 6-30-19**

a. Bonds/lease outstanding and unpaid:	\$304,982.00
b. Bonds authorized and unissued:	38,000.00
c. Lease to be issued if this question is approved:	<u>334,000.00</u>

**TOTAL** **\$676,982.00**

### **2. Costs**

At an estimated maximum interest rate of 2.58%, the estimated costs of this lease will be: Five (5) Years

Principal	\$334,000.00
Interest	<u>26,290.50</u>

**TOTAL DEBT SERVICE** **\$360,290.50**

### **3. Validity**

The validity of the lease agreement and of the voters' ratification of the lease agreement may not be affected by any errors in the above estimates. If the actual amount of the total debt service for the lease issue varies from the estimate, the ratification by the electors is nevertheless conclusive and the validity of the lease issue is not affected by reason of the variance.

*Mary Sabins, Treasurer, Town of Vassalboro, Maine.*

*Selectmen Do Not Recommend*

*Budget Committee Does Not Recommend*

**ARTICLE 23:** To see if the Town will vote to establish an **Accrued Comp Payout Fund** in the amount of \$35,000 to be appropriated from SURPLUS and used in the event that it is needed to pay earned benefits to Town staff upon separation from employment, or for accrued sick leave. Once established, the fund will be replenished from SURPLUS as needed at the end of each fiscal year to maintain a balance of up to \$35,000, or not to exceed the accrued comp total liability if less than \$35,000.

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

*Budget Committee Recommends: Approval*

**ARTICLE 24:** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate from **overlay** those sums which it is obligated to pay for approved tax abatements including any interest due thereon.

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

**ARTICLE 25:** To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen, for the fiscal year 2020-2021, to **transfer funds** between appropriation accounts so long as the grand total of all appropriations is not exceeded. Any such transfers to be approved only at a properly called public meeting of the Selectmen and Budget Committee.

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

**ARTICLE 26:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Municipal Officers under Maine statutes, Chapter 12 Section 6131 and amendments thereto, to promulgate such regulations compatible with the General Laws of the State to govern the time and manner in which **river herring (alewives)** shall be taken therein *for the calendar year 2021*.

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

**ARTICLE 27:** To see if the Town will authorize the Municipal Officers to sell surplus **river herring (alewives)** for one or more years, or take any action relative to the same.

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

*Budget Committee Recommends: Approval*

**ARTICLE 28:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the revenues received in FY 2020-21 from the Natural Gas Pipeline Municipal Development and Tax Increment Financing District into a fund designated as the **Development Program Fund** to be used for projects, loans and/or grants for economic development within the Town as outlined in the Development Program for the District to be expended on such projects at the discretion of the Board of Selectmen.

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

*Budget Committee Recommends: Approval*

**ARTICLE 29:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to **dispose of Town owned property** with a value of \$10,000 or less, under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

*Budget Committee Recommends: Approval*

**ARTICLE 30:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize an amount not to exceed \$15,000 from SURPLUS to serve as a **contingency fund** to be spent by the Selectmen in the event of an emergency and to avoid overdrafts.

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

*Budget Committee Recommends: Approval*

## LIBRARY

**ARTICLE 31:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$33,929 for the Town's share of the **Library's** budget.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$33,929*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$33,929*

## HEALTH AND WELFARE/OUTSIDE AGENCIES

**ARTICLE 32:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 for **General Assistance** and to authorize the Selectmen to expend any and all reimbursement funds received from the State.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$3,000*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$3,000*

**ARTICLE 33:** To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the fiscal year 2020-2021 budget for the following purposes, or act thereon:

	Agency Request	Selectmen Recommend	Budget Comm. Recommends
Vassalboro Food Station	2,000	2,000	2,000
Hospice of Waterville	1,600	1,600	1,600
Family Violence Project	4,925	4,925	4,925
KV Behavioral Health	3,500	3,500	3,500
Spectrum Generations	1,000	1,000	1,000
Sexual Assault Crisis	1,519	1,417	1,417
Literacy Vols. - Waterville	500	500	500
Town Line Newspaper	1,000	-0-	-0-
FAVOR	400	400	400
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>\$16,444</b>	<b>\$15,342</b>	<b>\$15,342</b>

## RECREATION

**ARTICLE 34:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$23,545 for the **Recreation Department**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$23,545*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$23,545*

**ARTICLE 35:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to use the balance of the **Recreation Department Tractor Donation fund** in the amount of \$2,114.96 for the operational expenses and maintenance needs of the Recreation Department.

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

*Budget Committee Recommends: Approval*

**ARTICLE 36:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,500 for the **Kennebec Trail Riders Snowmobile Club** for the maintenance of snowmobile trails with the understanding that such trails will be open for the use of snowmobiles during snowmobile season.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$1,500*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$1,500*

## MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS AND REQUESTS

**ARTICLE 37:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,500 for the support of the **Vassalboro Historical Society** to assist this organization with the maintenance of the former East Vassalboro school building. (Note: \$5,000 of this request is for the construction of a new building.)

*Selectmen Recommend: \$2,500*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$2,500*

**ARTICLE 38:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$42,000 for the Town's share in the **Maintenance of Cemeteries and Public Grounds and for Memorial Day expenses**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$42,000*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$42,000*

**ARTICLE 39:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the necessary sum to cover the assessment from **Kennebec County Government** (currently estimated at \$363,625).

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: Approval*

**ARTICLE 40:** To see if the Town will vote to take from the Alewife Reserve Fund the following amounts for the following purposes:

1. The sum of \$15,000 for the support of the **China Region Lakes Alliance**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$7,500*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$7,500*

2. The sum of \$5,000 for **Outlet Stream Dam House Repairs**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$5,000*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$5,000*

3. The sum of \$2,000 and authorize the Selectmen to accept and expend monetary gifts and donations of labor, materials and equipment for **the Town's 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$2,000*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$2,000*

**ARTICLE 41:** To see if the Town will vote to increase the **property tax levy limit** of \$527,763.90 established for the Town of Vassalboro by State Law in the event that the municipal budget approved under the preceding articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than that property tax levy limit. (Written ballot)

## **SCHOOL BUDGET ARTICLES TO APPROPRIATE MONIES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR**

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### **ARTICLES PURSUANT TO 20-A M.R.S.A. SECTION 1485**

**ARTICLE 42:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$4,425,065.26 for **Regular Instruction**.

*School Committee Recommends: \$4,425,065.26*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$4,425,065.26*

**ARTICLE 43:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$1,468,585.42 for **Special Education**.

*School Committee Recommends: \$1,468,585.42*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$1,468,585.42*

**ARTICLE 44:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$10,500.00 for **Career and Technical Education**.

*School Committee Recommends: \$10,500.00*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$10,500.00*

**ARTICLE 45:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$61,468.69 for **Other Instruction**.

*School Committee Recommends: \$61,468.69*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$61,468.69*

**ARTICLE 46:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$308,449.59 for **Student and Staff Support**.

*School Committee Recommends: \$308,449.59*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$308,449.59*

**ARTICLE 47:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$170,975.16 for **System Administration**.

*School Committee Recommends: \$170,975.16*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$170,975.16*

**ARTICLE 48:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$368,125.62 for **School Administration**.

*School Committee Recommends: \$368,125.62*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$368,125.62*

**ARTICLE 49:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$608,660.36 for **Transportation and Buses**.

*School Committee Recommends: \$608,660.36*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$608,660.36*

**ARTICLE 50:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$506,767.38 for **Facilities Maintenance**.

*School Committee Recommends: \$506,767.38*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$506,767.38*

**ARTICLE 51:** To see what sum the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend for **Debt Service and Other Commitments**.

*School Committee Recommends: \$ .00*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$ .00*

**ARTICLE 52:** To see what sum the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend for **All Other Expenditures**.

*School Committee Recommends: \$40,000.00*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$40,000.00*

### **ARTICLES PURSUANT TO 20-A, M.R.S.A. Section 15690**

**ARTICLE 53:** To see what sum the municipality will appropriate for the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act (Recommend \$6,667,207.55) and to see what sum the municipality will raise as the municipality's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688.

*Statutory Recommendation: \$2,585,970.66*  
*School Committee Recommendation: \$2,585,970.66*  
*Budget Committee Recommendation: \$2,585,970.66*

*"Explanation: The school administrative unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act is the amount of money determined by state law to be the minimum amount that a municipality must raise in order to receive the full amount of state dollars."*



**ARTICLE 54:** To see what sum the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate in additional local funds for school purposes under Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, §15690.

**School Committee Recommends: \$1,133,477.17 for additional local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services model by \$1,133,477.17: costs for special education, salaries and benefits, and tuition.**

**Budget Committee Recommends: \$1,133,477.17**

*Explanation: The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above the school administrative unit's local contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and local amounts raised for the annual payment on non-state funded debt service that will help achieve the municipality/district budget for educational programs.*

**ARTICLE 55:** To see what sum the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021 from the school administrative unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, non-state-funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy and other receipts for the support of schools.

**School Committee Recommends: \$7,968,597.48**

**Budget Committee Recommends: \$7,968,597.48**

**ARTICLE 56:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend such other sums as may be received from federal or state grants or programs or other sources during the fiscal year for school purposes provided that such grants, programs or other sources do not require the expenditure of other funds not previously appropriated.

**School Committee Recommends: Approval**

**Budget Committee Recommends: Approval**

**The following articles will be decided by secret ballot election. The polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at the Vassalboro Community School.**

**ARTICLE 57:** Do you favor approving the Vassalboro Community School's budget for the upcoming school year that was adopted at the June 22, 2020 Annual Town Meeting?

**ARTICLE 58:** To elect all necessary municipal officers/officials by secret ballot.

**Given unto our hands this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020, AD**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lauchlin W. Titus, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert C. Browne, Jr., Selectman

\_\_\_\_\_  
John G. Melrose, Selectman

A true copy. Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ Town Clerk of Vassalboro

**RETURN**

Kennebec, ss. State of Maine

I certify that I have notified the voters of the Town of Vassalboro of the time and place of the Town Meeting by posting an attested copy of the within warrant at Ferris' Market, Main Street; No. Vassalboro Post Office, Main Street; Vassalboro Library, Bog Road; Vassalboro Town Office, 682 Main Street; and Getchell's Corner Post Office, Riverside Drive, being conspicuous public places within the Town of Vassalboro on \_\_\_\_\_, 2020 which is at least seven (7) days prior to the date of the start of the Annual Town Meeting.

Signed and dated at the Town of Vassalboro this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Brown, Resident  
Town of Vassalboro

# VARIANCE IN PROPOSED BUDGET

ACCOUNT	CURRENT YEAR 2019-2020	SELECTMEN'S PROPOSED BUDGET	\$ CHANGE	% CHANGE	
<b>TOWN BUDGET:</b>					
ADMINISTRATION	\$463,134.00	\$474,294.60	\$11,160.60	2.41%	
PUBLIC WORKS	\$590,805.00	504,856.30	-85,948.70	-14.55%	
SOLID WASTE	\$320,060.00	331,017.00	10,957.00	3.42%	
PAVING/MAINTENANCE PROGRAM	\$390,062.00	424,337.00	34,275.00	8.79%	
FIRST RESPONDERS	\$12,750.00	12,750.00	0.00	0.00%	
FIRE DEPARTMENT	\$66,100.00	75,050.00	8,950.00	13.54%	
PUBLIC SAFETY	\$85,213.00	85,947.00	734.00	0.86%	
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT/RESERVES	\$97,450.00	156,500.00	59,050.00	60.60%	
RECREATION	\$15,730.00	25,545.00	9,815.00	62.40%	
LIBRARY	\$33,929.00	33,929.00	0.00	0.00%	
UTILITIES	\$39,000.00	32,500.00	-6,500.00	-16.67%	
CEMETERIES	\$32,000.00	42,000.00	10,000.00	31.25%	
GENERAL ASSISTANCE	\$3,000.00	3,000.00	0.00	0.00%	
ASSESSMENT COSTS	\$33,200.00	46,700.00	13,500.00	40.66%	
SOCIAL SERVICES	\$14,942.00	14,942.00	0.00	0.00%	
MISCELLANEOUS REQ.	\$60,000.00	11,900.00	-48,100.00	-80.17%	
DEBT SERVICE (Fire Truck Lease)	\$63,625.00	76,725.00	13,100.00	20.59%	
<b>TOTAL MUNICIPAL BUDGET</b>	<b>2,321,000.00</b>	<b>2,351,992.90</b>	<b>30,992.90</b>	<b>1.34%</b>	
<b>REVENUE BUDGET:</b>					
GENERAL REVENUES	1,327,650.00	1,338,000.00	10,350.00	0.78%	
SURPLUS	150,000.00	166,000.00	16,000.00	10.67%	
HOMESTEAD AND BETE REIMB (est.)	235,708.40	320,229.00	84,520.60	35.86%	
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>1,713,358.40</b>	<b>1,824,229.00</b>	<b>110,870.60</b>	<b>6.47%</b>	
<b>TAX LEVY REQUIREMENT - TOWN BUDGET</b>					
MIL RATE MUNICIPAL	607,641.60	527,763.90	-79,877.70	-13.15%	
	1.99	1.72	-0.27	-13.71%	
<b>COUNTY TAX:</b>					
COUNTY TAX MIL RATE	331,435.00	363,624.82	32,189.82	9.71%	
	1.09	1.18	0.10	9.00%	
<b>SCHOOL BUDGET:</b>					
REGULAR INSTRUCTION	4,248,025.27	4,425,065.26	177,039.99	4.17%	
SPECIAL EDUCATION	1,451,449.97	1,468,585.42	17,135.45	1.18%	
CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION	17,941.00	10,500.00	-7,441.00	-41.47%	
OTHER INSTRUCTION	60,231.37	61,468.69	1,237.32	2.05%	
STUDENT & STAFF SUPPORT	337,562.42	308,449.59	-29,112.83	-8.62%	
SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION	155,663.18	170,975.16	15,311.98	9.84%	
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION	356,049.89	368,125.62	12,075.73	3.39%	
TRANSPORTATION & BUSES	541,730.82	608,660.36	66,929.54	12.35%	
FACILITIES MAINTENANCE	535,254.31	506,767.38	-28,486.93	-5.32%	
DEBT SERVICE & OTHER COMMITMENTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	
ALL OTHER EXPENDITURES	0.00	40,000.00	40,000.00		
<b>TOTAL SCHOOL BUDGET</b>	<b>7,703,908.23</b>	<b>7,968,597.48</b>	<b>264,689.25</b>	<b>3.44%</b>	
<b>TAX LEVY REQUIREMENT - SCHOOL BUDGET</b>					
SCHOOL MIL RATE	3,671,488.09	3,719,447.83	47,959.74	1.31%	
OVERLAY (estimated)	12.03	12.11	0.08	0.65%	
Overlay mil rate	27,715.17	25,000.00	-2,715.17	-9.80%	
	0.09	0.08	-0.01	-10.38%	
TIF DISTRICT	123,083.50	125,000.00	1,916.50	1.56%	
TIF mil rate	0.40	0.41	0.00	0.90%	
<b>COMBINED TAX LEVY REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>4,761,363.36</b>	<b>4,760,836.55</b>	<b>-526.81</b>	<b>-0.01%</b>	
<b>ESTIMATED COMBINED NET MIL RATE</b>	<b>15.60</b>	<b>15.50</b>	<b>-0.10</b>	<b>-0.66%</b>	
VALUATIONS (estimated as of 4/2/20)	305,215,600.00	307,215,600.00	2,000,000.00	0.66%	
<b>BUDGET TOTALS GROSS AMOUNTS</b>					
COUNTY TAX	331,435.00	363,624.82	32,189.82	9.71%	% of Budget
MUNICIPAL BUDGET	2,321,000.00	2,351,992.90	30,992.90	1.34%	5.52%
SCHOOL BUDGET - local portion raised	3,671,488.09	3,719,447.83	47,959.74	1.31%	35.72%
OVERLAY	27,715.17	25,000.00	-2,715.17	-9.80%	56.48%
TIF DISTRICT	123,083.50	125,000.00	1,916.50	1.56%	0.38%
<b>TOTAL ASSESSMENTS FOR TAX COMMITMENT</b>	<b>\$6,474,721.76</b>	<b>\$6,585,065.55</b>	<b>\$110,343.79</b>	<b>1.70%</b>	<b>100%</b>

# MUNICIPAL DIRECTORY

Emergency.....	911
Town Office .....	872-2826
Public Works.....	923-3985
Transfer Station .....	923-3051
School .....	923-3100
Library .....	923-3233
Animal Control.....	242-6251
Police Chief - Non Emergency .....	557-4601

## VASSALBORO TOWN OFFICE

682 Main Street ~ PO Box 129  
North Vassalboro, Maine 04962  
Phone: (207) 872-2826  
Fax: (207) 872-5414

## HOURS

### Monday thru Wednesday

8:00am to 4:00pm

### Thursday

8:00am to 6:30pm

### Friday

8:00am to 12pm

**Closed Saturday, Sunday and all Holidays.**



VASSALBORO.NET



