

2015 Town of Orono, Maine



207th
Annual
Report

Year Ending
June 30, 2015





Two Hundred Seventh

Annual Report

of the

Municipal Officers
Town of Orono, Maine

For the year ending June 30, 2015

TOWN OF ORONO, MAINE

- Government: Incorporated: March 12, 1806
 Council/Manager Charter: 1969
- Population: 10,362 (2010 U. S. Census)
- Land Area: Approximately 20 square miles
- Meetings: Town Council Meetings - Second Monday of each Month at 7:00 PM
 Planning Board Meetings - Third Wednesday of each Month at 7:00 PM
- Schools: Asa C. Adams Elementary, Orono Middle, Orono Senior High, University of
 Maine
- Banks: Bangor Savings, Camden National, People’s United, University Credit Union
- Libraries: Orono Public Library and Raymond H. Fogler Library (University of Maine)
- Industries: Byer Manufacturing Co., NexxLinx, Shaw & Tenney, and Sensor Research and
 Development
- Recreation: Nadeau-Savoy Memorial Park at Gould’s Landing, Municipal Pool, Webster
 Park, Marden Park, Keith Anderson Community House, Senior Citizens Center,
 University of Maine Fitness Center, Orono Bog Boardwalk, Orono-Old Town
 Bike Path
- Other Facilities: Penobscot Valley Country Club, Gass Riding Stables, Orchard Hill Farm,
 Alford Ice Arena
- Places of
Worship: Orono United Methodist Church, Church of Universal Fellowship, Our Lady of
 Wisdom Chapel (Newman Center), Maine Christian Association (Wilson Cen-
 ter), Faith Baptist Church, Orono Friends Meeting, Islamic Center of Maine
- Service: American Legion, Kiwanis, Orono Health Association, Knights of Columbus,
 Senior Citizens Club, Masonic Lodge, Rainbow Girls, Eastern Star
- Town
Website: www.orono.org
- Cover Photos: Beautification Committee flowers in the Orono Village District and the
 Stillwater River.

MAINE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

As of December 2014

U. S. Senate**Senator Susan M. Collins**

District Office:
202 Harlow Street, Room 20100
Bangor, ME 04401
Tel: (207) 945-0417
collins.senate.gov

Senator Angus S. King, Jr.

District Office:
383 US Route 1, Suite 1C
Scarborough, ME 04074
Tel: (207) 883-1588
king.senate.gov

U. S. House of Representative**Representative Bruce Poliquin**

(2nd District)
District Office:
426 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Tel: (202) 225-6306
poliquin.house.gov

Maine State Senator - Senate District 5**Senator Jim Dill**

Email: jdill@umext.maine.edu

3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003
Tel: (800) 423-6900

REPRESENTATIVES TO THE LEGISLATURE

As of December 2014

District 124

State Representative:

Hon. Aaron Frey

P. O. Box 74
Bangor, ME 04402
(207) 249-9969
Aaron.Frey@legislature.maine.gov

District 123

State Representative:

Hon. Ryan Tipping-Spitz

279 Main Street
Orono, ME 04473
(207) 866-4333
Tipping-Spitz@legislature.maine.gov

State House Message Phone: (800) 423-2900
State House TTY Line: (207) 287-4469
State House Website: www.maine.gov/legis

State Address: House of Representatives
2 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0002

**2015 ELECTED OFFICIALS
Town of Orono****Members of the Town Council
*Three-year term***

Thomas Perry 2015
136 Bennoch Road
Orono, Maine 04473

Judith Sullivan 2015
214 Forest Avenue
Orono, Maine 04473

Mark Haggerty 2016
27 Winterhaven Drive
Orono, Maine 04473

Thomas Spitz 2016
16 Kell Street
Orono, Maine 04473

Geoffrey Gordon 2017
22 Hamlin Street
Orono, Maine 04473

Cynthia Mehnert, Chair. 2017
21 College Heights
Orono, Maine 04473

Samuel Kunz 2018
29 Mainewood Avenue
Orono, Maine 04473

**Members of the RSU #26
School Board
*Three-year term***

Megan Sanders 2016
1 Ledge Hill Road
Orono, ME 04473

Jacob Eckert , Chair. 2017
24 College Heights
Orono, ME 04473

Shari Kinnison 2017
165 Forest Avenue
Orono, ME 04473

Mark Brewer 2018
4 Sylvan Road
Orono, ME 04473

Brian McGill 2018
4 Peters Street
Orono, ME 04473

TOWN COMMITTEES, 2015
Town of Orono

Planning Board
Five-year terms

Phil Ruck, Chair.	2016
Christa Schwintzer	2017
David Thompson	2018
John Beckett	2018
Judson McIntosh	2019
Lisa Buck	2019
Mark Kittridge	2020
Michael Costello, Assoc.	2017
Jason Charland, Assoc.	2017

Board of Appeals
Three-year terms

Jennifer Jain	2016
Shane Martin	2016
William Devoe, Chair.	2017
Mary Cathcart	2017
Paul Smith	2017
Gary Noyes	2018

Board of Assessment Review
Three-year term

George Eaton, II	2016
Brett Grandchamp	2017

Library Trustees
Three-year terms

Judith Hakola, Chair	2016
Francois Amar	2016
Janet Elvidge	2017
Fredrica Smith	2017
Allison Applebee	2018
Fredrica Smith	2018
<i>Associate Trustee: two-year term</i>	
Frances Neubauer	2016
Judy Stickles	2016
<i>Youth Member: one-year term</i>	
Erin Luthin	2016
Stephen Nelson, Assoc.	2016

Voter Registration Appeals Board
Chairperson - four-year term - (Oct.)
Others - three-year term - (Oct.)

Mary Cathcart, Chair	2015
DEM - Anita Wihry	2016
REP - Carol Mower	2016
DEM - Fiona Sorensen-Hamilton	
(Alternate)	2016
REP - Douglas Flagg (Alt.)	2016

Community Beautification Committee
Three-year term

Lisa Colburn, Chair.	2016
Lenore Tipping	2016
Robin Beckett	2016
Claudia Lowd	2016
Robert Klose	2016
Cynthia Fellencer	2016
Sam Hunting	2016
Ginny Hackney	2016

Orono-Veazie Water District Trustees
Five-year term (December)

Paul Smith	2015
Joan Perkins - VZ	2016
Kenneth Borneman - VZ	2017
Jason Bolton	2018
Farahad Dastoor	2019

Tree Board
Three-year term

David Lambert	2016
Sonia Franklin	2016
Cynthia Blease, Co-Chair	2016
David Thompson, Co-Chair	2017
Patricia Thompson	2017
Jack Blease	2018
Matthew Ewing	2018

TOWN COMMITTEES, 2015
Town of Orono

Trail Committee
Two-year term expiring 2015

Cassandra Babbit	David Frankel
David Thompson, Chr.	Gail White
Glen Koehler	Jeffery Boal

Orono Economic Development Corporation
Board of Directors

Stevenson Sheppard, Pres.	
Mark Erhardt, VP	Dorathy Martel
Bob Bass, Treas.	Stephanie Welcomer
Paul Riechmann	Jay Shields
Paul Melrose	Michele Goldman
David Thompson	Geoff Gordon
Judy Sullivan	Michael Jones
Kate Dawson	

Community Health Advisory Committee

Jamie Comstock	Marlene Doucette
Ginny Hackney	John Hackney
Trudy Trembly	Mary Anne Hillery
Gary Noyes	Susan Owen
Marisue Pickering	Eloise Ricciardelli
Susan Riley	Thomas Spitz
Susan Habeeb	

Community Development Advisory
Committee - Downtown Facade Improvement

Heather Furth	Keith Manaker
Evan Rickert	

Comprehensive Plan Committee

Mark Kittridge	Phil Ruck
Judson McIntosh	Christa Schwintzer
Vinal Applebee	David Thompson
Abe Firth	Dennis Cross
Farahad Dastoor	John Jemison
Ryan Tipping-Spitz	Dan McConville
Sharon Quinn-Fitzgerald	John Beckett
Johanna Anderson	

Orono Village Association
Board of Directors

Deb White-Rideout	Tracey Whitten
Cindy Mehnert	Duska Hayman
Wanda Cunningham	Jim Rose
Heather Furth	Linwood White
Keith Manaker	Lenore Tipping
Tim Gallon	

**REPORT OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
2014-2015**

This year was marked by many accomplishments of Council and Staff. First in March the town elected and the Council welcomed new Council member Sam Kunz. He has brought new energy and new insights to Council discussions. We look forward to Sam's continuing participation and enthusiasm on Council. Council was also proud to learn that based upon Council's nomination, our Town Manager, Sophie Wilson received the MTCMA Leadership Award for 2015. Council is extremely grateful for Sophie's leadership of the Town Staff who all work tirelessly to meet the goals and needs of the town.

This year marked the Council's turn to review and work with the Town's Comprehensive Plan. After many volunteers put in many hours to formulate a Comprehensive Plan, it was given to Council for review. Council worked to make sure that the document drafted by the Comprehensive Plan Committee was consistent with the Town's goals and visions. Council discussed the plan throughout the year to make sure all of this effort would keep Orono in compliance with Maine law and to give direction to Orono's future planning.

Orono is an amazing town with so many residents active in town committees and events. The volunteers in this town work on matters such as town planning, the library, beautification, trail management, tree management, town health issues, the water district, youth sports, rink maintenance, and festivals. Thank you to all of the volunteers who commit their time for one day or for several years. All of your efforts are essential to make Orono what it is. As Council continues to strive to balance the essential services of the town while managing costs, volunteers play a vital role in providing important services to the town which enhance the Orono way of life.

Lastly, Council would like to acknowledge the efforts of the Orono Historical Society in renovating the Civil War Monument. The Statue in honor of the soldiers of the Civil War has been fully restored and looks wonderful. The historical society has also spent many hours trying to locate the appropriate home for the statue. The town hopes to give it a home next Spring.

We are all looking forward to another great year,

Cynthia M. Mehnert
Council Chairperson



Town Council: (Front L-R) Thomas Perry, Cynthia Mehnert (Chair), Samuel Kunz. (Back) Thomas Spitz, Judith Sullivan, Mark Haggerty and Geoffrey Gordon



*Town Manager,
Sophia Wilson*



*Assistant
Town Manager,
Belle Ryder*

REPORT OF TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE 2014-2015

We are pleased to present the Town of Orono's 207th Annual Report to our citizens. The past year has been full of many changes and opportunities. Here are a few highlights:

Comprehensive Plan: The Orono Town Council began formal consideration of the updated Comprehensive Plan after the Comprehensive Plan Committee completed its draft last year. The updated Plan proposes policies and actions covering housing, the local economy, land use, transportation, utilities, recreation, open space, capital investments, and other topics.

Three ordinances to help balance the needs of year-round residents and the student population were proposed for update and/or adoption: Noise, Disorderly Property & Fee for Police Services, and student homes. The Noise ordinance was repealed and replaced in April 2015 and assigned sound pressure levels to every zoning district, incorporated Department of Environmental Protection standards, and changed measurement procedures to improve enforceability. The Disorderly Property and the Fee for Police Services ordinances were considered for revision over the course of multiple meetings. Ultimately, the Council agreed that more data on the types of violations that cause community harm was needed before changing the ordinances. The Town Council also spent a significant amount of time discussing student homes and whether to enact a moratorium on the conversion of a single family home to a student home while the Council would consider developing a new ordinance regulating student homes. During a public hearing on the moratorium, several residents spoke for and against a moratorium. Councilors elected not to develop language for a moratorium but to fast-track the issue and consider the results of the research conducted by the University of Maine Engaged Policy Studies class on the impact of student homes in established neighborhoods. The research presented by the class indicated the need for a broad approach to the issue and Council decided to consider this during the Comprehensive Plan review.

The Town Council also made some significant moves to help stabilize our thriving, vibrant full-service community while improving the attraction and retention of new families. The Council decided on a strategy to grow taxable value in Orono and authorized a new full-time Economic Development Director position in the FY16 budget, supported the formation of the Old Town-Orono Fiber Corporation, a non-profit corporation formed by the Town of Orono, City of Old Town, and University of Maine System to deploy ultra-high speed broadband

in the growth areas of the municipalities, and adopted a new policy for credit enhancement agreements in the Downtown and Transit-Oriented Tax Increment Finance District to incentivize investment in downtown real estate.

Continued Investment in Orono's Environment: The Town of Orono prides itself on being green and caring about the environment. To protect our natural resources, the Town invests environmentally necessary infrastructure. These investments include upgrading and replacing the sanitary and stormwater sewer collection systems as they age and dedicating resources to complying with the Town's general permit for municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4).

In addition to complying with State and Federal mandates around environmental protection, the Town continues to enjoy wonderful outdoor amenities and works to better utilize and promote these resources.

Public Works Facility: The Orono Public Works Facility has long been identified as not meeting basic standards. The Town purchased a site on Kelley Road as the new location for the garage in 2013 and floated a bond to finance the construction this year. Site work was started and the garage will be complete and ready to move in December 2015.

This report details the initiatives and activities carried out by every town department during FY15. I encourage you to read the reports and ask questions. Town government is an inclusive process and we invite participation! Our website, www.orono.org is a great resource to use if you need information about town activities and departments. To receive notices about Town meetings and events throughout the year, please contact the Town Office at info@orono.org and sign up for our email notification service.

In closing, I would like to recognize the Town employees who regularly go beyond what is expected of them in the course of the work day to ensure that the needs of Orono citizens are met cheerfully and competently. Staff is similarly grateful to our Council and all of the volunteers who serve individually and on the Town's Boards and Committees striving to make Orono a wonderful community in which to work, live and enjoy all of its unique charm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sophia L. Wilson
Belle A. Ryder

REPORT OF FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION 2014-2015

The Finance and Administration Department employees serve as the first line of contact for many of Orono’s residents. Staff not only provides general front counter service but also fulfills the job duties of Town Clerk, Tax Collector/Treasurer, General Assistance Administrator, Registrar and Finance Director. ***In general, the office staff serves as the public relations ambassadors for the town striving to make each visit as enjoyable and efficient as possible!*** Town Office staff is available to assist with a variety of information, *such as:*

- maps of city streets,
- garbage pickup/recycling schedules,
- information about available rental units,
- assists businesses including general licensing,
- tax and sewer bill setup, billing and updates,
- vital records/genealogy research,
- preparation of council agendas/ minutes, preservation of meeting records and town ordinances,
- and cemetery lot sales and openings.

Having satisfactorily met mandatory state auditing processes, this office is also approved to serve as an “authorized agent” for many state agencies. Participation in these programs allows Orono’s residents the convenience of staying local, *such as:*

- registering new and older vehicles from start to finish up to 26,000 pounds,
- transit, specialty and lost plate sales,
- Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife Sales which includes resident and non-resident fish and wildlife licenses, ATV, boat and

- snowsled registrations,
- annual dog licensing through the Animal Welfare program,
- recording and issuance of vital records and marriage licenses,
- and coordination of federal and state elections in conjunction with the Secretary of State Elections Division.

In regards to matters of Finance, this department coordinates the Town of Orono’s financial activities including receipting payments made for each of the town’s departments. Once reconciled on a daily basis, those funds are deposited. Employee payroll and accounts payable invoices are processed on a weekly basis. Once generated, expenditures are accounted for by each town department in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The Finance & Administration department prepares monthly financial reports and works alongside independent auditors to issue the Town’s audited financial reports.

FY2015 Tax Revenue Collections	
Motor Vehicle Excise	\$690,114.06
Boat Excise Tax	\$4,204.90
Real Estate Tax	\$9,797,946.33
Personal Property	\$307,565.27
Interest on Property Tax	\$47,233.23
Village Tax	\$8,149.40
Tax Lien Penalties	\$21,892.47



Town Office: (L-R) Annie Brown, Nancy Ward, Jessie Daniels, Donna Emerson and Shelly Crosby

Preparation for Elections is an ongoing process and maintenance of the voter list is a daily task. The number of registered voters for Orono changes periodically due to the student population on/off campus and people moving in and out of town. New residents to the Town need to update

Election Type	Election Date	# of Votes Cast
State of Maine General Election	11/4/2014	3528
Municipal Election – Contest Races	3/10/2015	484
RSU #26 Budget Validation	6/9/2015	150

their voter registration from their previous residence as well as regular changes for existing voters. All information must be scanned into the state-wide CVR system and notification sent along accordingly. The Town of Orono currently has two polling places with three precincts.

Orono Voter Registration Statistics as of June 30, 2015						
Ward/Precinct	Democrat	Green Independent	Republicans	Unenrolled	*Libertarian/pending	Total Registered
W1/P1	1126	193	554	1171	37	3081
W1/P2	936	234	556	1665	14	3405
W1/P3	1102	120	613	788	12	2635
Total/Party	3164	547	1723	3624	63	9121

This past year there were several changes which kept the office in a constant state of flux as staff prepared to retire or left to pursue other opportunities. During the month of January, the Office said goodbye to Registrar/Assistant Clerk, Rita Sinclair who left to enjoy retirement and welcomed Shelly Crosby. In April, we wished Finance Director, Matthew Currier the best as he left to work for the City of Raleigh in North Carolina. Jessie Daniels was then offered the position in May. The remaining Office staff consisted of: Town Clerk, Donna Emerson, Deputy Clerk/Administrative Assistant, Nancy Ward, Tax Collector/Treasurer Annie Brown and part-time Assistant Clerk, Jessica Mason.

Town Office Statistics FY2015	
Motor Vehicles Registered	4010
Rapid Renewals Motor Vehicles	358
ATV/Boat/Snowsled/Hunt-Fish	592
Orono Resident Births	26
Orono Resident Deaths	45
Orono Resident Marriages	37
Certified Copies of Vitals Issued	634
Dog Licensing	401
New Voters Registered	1708
Voters Removed from List	328
Voter Changes / Updates	476

Respectfully submitted,

Shelly J. Crosby
Town Clerk/Office Manager

REPORT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING 2014-2015

Comprehensive Planning: The Town Council met throughout the year to review the Updated Comprehensive Plan, which was prepared by the Comprehensive Plan Committee and sent to the Council in June 2014. The state has approved the plan as consistent with the Maine Growth Management Program, and Council action on the updated plan is expected during FY 2016.

In addition, the Comprehensive Plan Committee completed its review of the Low Density District – an area west of I-95 around Stillwater Avenue that is a hybrid between rural and suburban land uses. In February 2015 the Committee sent its recommendations to the Council for review. Recommendations include keeping the hybrid nature of the district, its boundaries, and its general list of land uses; and converting some land uses to “conditional” uses with heightened standards to assure compatibility between rural and residential activities.

Orono Economic Development Corp: The independent, nonprofit OEDC reached a milestone with the sale in April 2015 of its property at 3 Godfrey Drive in the Maine Technology Park. The debt on this property, which was built in 2000-2001 and is currently leased by the NexxLinx call center, was held by the Town through the sale of general obligation bonds. The sale of the property provides all the funds needed to retire the debt and a modest sum for OEDC to carry out other economic development priorities.

Among OEDC’s activities during FY 2015 were the successful co-sponsorship and management of the Big Gig entrepreneurs’ networking and pitch event; helping to launch and manager a feasibility study of a regional “food hub” to support area farms and food entrepreneurs; and assistance to a local video game company for the training of students on video graphics technology.

Old Town – Orono Fiber Corp: Old Town, Orono, and the University of Maine System (Networkmaine) formed OTO Fiber to develop plans, raise funds, and build so-called “last mile” fiber optics for high speed Internet service in the two communities. OTO Fiber is an independent nonprofit corporation whose initial Board of Directors has been appointed by the two municipalities and UMS.

Downtown: The University Credit Union had the grand opening of its new headquarters at 15 Main Street in the center of downtown on Orono Festival Day in

September 2014. The building, with its village-style architecture, a plaza in front and expanded public parking along Bennoch Rd., is the culmination of a private-public partnership initiated in 2009.

Transit: The Black Bear Orono Express – the shuttle bus between Downtown Orono and UMaine, with stops in the Webster neighborhood and Orchard Trails, completed its fifth year of service in FY14-15. It carried just under 60,000 passengers during the school year. In addition, a condition of the 2014 permits for The Avenue, a new student apartment development at the end of Washburn Place, is that it either must provide a private shuttle service for its residents or finance an expansion of the public shuttle to serve the development. The Avenue is scheduled to open in August 2016. Orono also continues to participate in the regional Bangor Community Connector system.

Tax Increment Financing: A tax increment financing district for the development of the Penobscot Valley Dermatology office building on Main Street became effective at the beginning of FY14-15. The agreement reimburses a share of new property taxes on the property to help finance the development. The 10,000 sq. ft. building was completed and occupied in 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Evan Richert
Planner



*Evan Richert
Planner*

REPORT OF CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICE 2014-2015

The Rental Registration Program was adopted in 2007 as an informational program. The rental information from that Program is updated annually. This Program requires rental property owners to register their units each year and it has worked well in allowing us to document specific patterns in rental properties.

There were five construction projects at the University of Maine started during the 2014 -2015 year -- renovations to Estabrooke Hall, the Cutler Health Center, Aubert Hall, the "Dish Room" in Wells Common, and a new handicapped building entrance at Cumberland Hall. A major renovation project at the UMaine Field House, involving several phases of construction, was begun in 2013 and all work was completed in mid-2014.

The new University Credit Union building was completed and opened for business in August 2014.

The Aroma Joe's coffee shop was completed and opened for business in the fall of 2014.

The Alltown Gas Station and Convenience store, at the site of the old 103 Ultra Lounge on Park Street, was completed and opened for business in early 2015.

The old Oronoka Restaurant property was purchased by a local doctor, and the Penobscot Dermatology build-

ing was constructed and opened for business on July 1, 2015.

A new 272 unit student housing complex at the end of Washburn Drive was approved by the Planning Board and construction was started during the winter of 2014. Construction is on schedule and occupancy is planned for early 2016.

In addition to the Land Use Ordinance, the Town has several other ordinances which either require permits or have standards for property uses. If you have questions about whether or not any plans you may have will require review or approval under any of our ordinances, or if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me or to stop in to the office.

We have a helpful tool for Town use and for use by our citizens - a geographic information system (G.I.S.), which can be accessed online at www.orono.org. A list of the permits issued in the past year has been compiled by Ruth Vaughan, and follows on the next page.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bill Murphy
Code Enforcement Officer

**BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED
July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015**

Building Permits:		Demotion	3
		Facade	1
Single-family dwelling	4	Gas Pumps	1
Multifamily dwelling	20	Site Work	2
Mobile Homes	3	Pump Station	1
Garage	7	Boiler Room	1
Decks	9	Commercial Business	4
Additions	7	University of Maine	7
Alterations/Repair	18	Doors/Windows	2
Mudroom	1	Entryway	1
Dormer	1	Signs	5
Foundation	1	Fill	15
Sunroom	1	Farm Stand	1
Patio	1	Maintenance Building	1
Fire Escape	1	Clubhouse	1
Fill	4	Handicap Ramp	1
		Total Permits Issued	131

**PERMIT ACTIVITY
July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015**

<u>Type of Permit</u>	<u>Permits Issued</u>	<u>Fees Collected</u>
Building	131	\$ 174,698.39
Electrical	104	\$ 17,142.00
Heating	24	\$ 10,750.00
Home Occupations	29	\$ 870.00
Plumbing		\$ 31,560.00
Internal	61	
External	3	
Road Opening	31	\$ 1,550.00
Sewer Connection	26	\$ 228,027.28

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth Vaughan, Administrative Assistant
Code Enforcement & Planning

REPORT OF PLANNING BOARD 2014-2015

The Orono Planning Board consists of a total of 9 members, including 7 regular members and 2 associate members. The board meets monthly as needed on the third Wednesday of each month. A total of nine regular meetings were held during this past fiscal year.

Major Projects reviewed included:

- Wellness Center 291 Main Street – approved
- Prelim. Review Orion – approved
- Contract zone 384 College Avenue (fraternity/sorority) – denied
- Amended contract zone 89-93 Main Street – approved
- Brewery at 2 Main Street – approved
- Re-application Campus Crest for emergency access relocation – approved
- Sign application Woodman's – approved

- Amend. Site plan Pine Tree Holdings at 99 Park Street – approved
- The current board consists of the following members:

Phil Ruck (Chair), Mark Kittridge (Vice Chair), Judd McIntosh, David Thompson, Christa Schwintzer, John Beckett, Lisa Buck, Michael Costello, Associate.

During this last fiscal year, Vinal Applebee and Michelle Goldman left the board and Lisa Buck and Michael Costello joined the Board to fill the vacant positions. We thank them for their willingness to donate their time in service to the community.

The board is staffed by Evan Richert, Planner and Ruth Vaughan, Secretary.

Respectfully submitted,
Phil Ruck, Chairman



*William Murphy,
Code Enforcement Officer*



*Ruth Vaughan,
CEO Administrative Assistant*

REPORT OF ASSESSMENT ADMINISTRATION 2014-2015

All properties are assessed as of April 1st of each year. The fiscal year 2015 assessments are as of April 1, 2014. Fiscal year 2015 is from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

Real Estate

Taxable Valuation: \$ 441,942,900.00

Personal Property

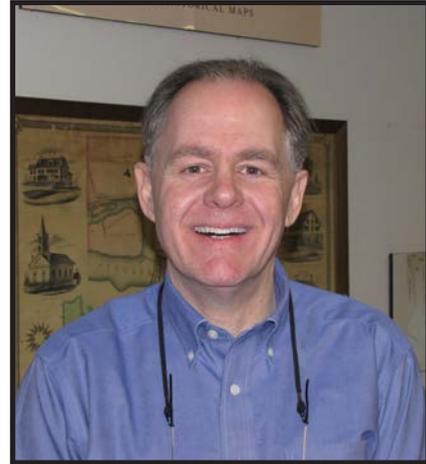
Taxable Valuation: \$ 14,579,100.00

Total Taxable

Valuation: \$ 456,522,000.00

The tax rate is calculated by dividing the total amount to be raised from the property tax by the total taxable valuation. $\$10,888,049.70 / \$456,522,000.00 = \$0.02385$ or \$23.85 per one thousand dollars of assessed value.

Fiscal year 2015 is the fifteenth year in which the assessment calculations involve Tax Increment Financing (TIF) districts. A TIF is an economic development tool that is used to provide support to a new or expanding business and/or area. The Town Council and the State of Maine (DECD) must approve TIF applications. The five active TIF districts in Orono are: (1) Maine Technology Park Omnibus Municipal Development and Tax Increment Financing District (formerly known as the Sensor Research and Development Corporation Municipal Development Tax Increment Financing District), 30 year TIF approved by DECD on March 1, 2000 and October 25, 2013; 100% of the tax funds are used by the town for certain economic development and district expenses;



Richard C. Sands, Assessor

(2) Envisionet Municipal Development Tax Increment Financing District, a 20 year TIF approved by DECD on July 13, 2000; most of the property taxes are used to fund the project costs; (3) Dirigo Pines Inn Municipal Development Tax Increment, a 30 year TIF approved by DECD on March 31, 2003; approximately 30% of the real estate taxes are returned to the business; (4) Transit-Oriented Tax Increment Financing District, a 30 year TIF approved by DECD on March 17, 2010, sheltered funds are used to fund the shuttle bus, Bennoch Road parking lot and other district improvements. (5) Webster Point Affordable Housing Development District, a 15 year TIF approved by MSHA as of February 11, 2011, approximately 85% of the real estate taxes are returned to the developer.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard C. Sands
Assessor

**OUTSTANDING
PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES**

JUNE 30, 2015

2003-2004 TAXES

AVG Acquisition, Inc	\$	<u>15.26</u>
	\$	15.26

2004-2005 TAXES

Automatic Vending & Games	\$	118.58
AVG Acquisition, Inc.		<u>208.12</u>
	\$	326.70

2005-2006 TAXES

Automatic Vending & Games	\$	97.02
AVG Acquisition, Inc.		<u>170.94</u>
	\$	267.96

2006-2007 TAXES

Automatic Vending & Games	\$	83.60
AVG Acquisition, Inc		<u>145.20</u>
	\$	228.80

2007-2008 TAXES

Automatic Vending & Games	\$	68.00
AVG Acquisition, Inc		<u>114.00</u>
	\$	182.00

2008-2009 TAXES

AVG Acquisition, Inc.	\$	<u>66.98</u>
	\$	66.98

2009-2010 TAXES

AVG Acquisition, Inc.	\$	64.48
Crow Valley Brewing Company		<u>4524.12</u>
	\$	4,588.60

2010-2011 TAXES

AVG Acquisition, Inc.	\$	53.95
Carusoe, Amanda		106.25
Fire Sign, LLC		87.13
Goldman, Jeffrey		5.80
Sader, Jessica		<u>3.95</u>
	\$	257.08

2011-2012 TAXES

AVG Acquisition, Inc.	\$	46.86
Fire Sign, LLC		82.84
First People's Initiative, Inc.		2,662.50
Goldman, Jeffrey		109.00

2011-2012 TAXES (continued)

Melanson, Paul	106.50
Orono Donuts, LLC	798.75
Prouty, Amanda Carusoe	<u>109.00</u>
	\$3,915.45

2012-2013 TAXES

AK LLC d/b/a Sushi Now	\$	221.00
Albenco, Inc.		2,466.72
AVG Acquisition, Inc.		90.72
College Dogs		324.00
Fire Sign, LLC		79.56
Knife Edge Productions		49.68
Melanson, Paul		<u>216.00</u>
	\$	3,447.68

2013-2014 TAXES

Angel Secure Networks, Inc.	\$	103.24
AVG Acquisition, Inc.		208.80
Brown, David		633.36
Burger King, Taiga Ventures, Inc.		3,702.24
Donnelly, Robert		.93
Knife Edge Productions		283.04
LaPointe's Enterprises, Inc.		220.40
McKay, Charles A.		4.64
Melanson, Paul		464.00
Mohmand, Miralam K.		2,779.36
Muzak, LLC		25.52
NexxLinx of Maine, Inc.		7,161.84
Park's Associates, LLC		296.25
Pushaw Lake Campground, Inc.		990.64
Stubbs, Nancy		<u>46.40</u>
	\$	16,920.66

2014-2015 TAXES

AVG Acquisition, Inc.	\$	212.27
Bangor Gas Company		186.01
Brown, David		577.17
Clear Wireless LLC		710.13
Community Cellular Inc.		124.02
DMCP Group, LLC		1,609.87
Donnelly, Robert		133.56
Gold Star Cleaners, Inc.		14.87
Gold Star Cleaners, Inc.		1.69
KMS Co, d/ba/ Byers of Maine		76.60

* paid after books closed

** partial payment after books closed

TAX LIENS OUTSTANDING

JUNE 30, 2015

**OUTSTANDING
PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES
(continued from previous page)**

2014-2015 TAXES (continued)

LaPointe's Enterprises, Inc.	\$ 226.58
Melanson, Paul	477.00
Mohamand, Miralam K.	2,661.66
Muzak, LLC	28.62
Nexxlinx of Maine, LLC	13,818.69
Preservation Ross, LLC	627.25
Thomas, Donald E.	26.79
Tipping, Lenore M.	48.70
Winters, Jim	9.54
Zeometrix, LLC	<u>72.74</u>
	\$21,644.36

TAX LIENS OUTSTANDING

2013-2014

April Fools, Inc.	926.25*
Bradson, John P. Jr.	5,317.64*
Bradson, John P. Jr.	2,548.12*
Bradson, John P. Jr.	5,091.23*
Clisham, John A.	2,315.85*
Cook, Linda	91.16
Dodge, Sylvia	1,082.61*
Ellis, William G. Jr.	2,402.78*
Gove, Lisa V.	3,139.78*
Grant, Brian L.	1,021.34*
Houlsen, Joanne C.	1310.00*
Hunting, Robert Samuel Coulter	6,836.72*
Lane, Jean L.	4,209.30*
Lane, Jean L.	5,276.25*
LaPointe, Perry E.	5,285.30*
LaPointe, Perry E.	1,773.87*
LaPointe, Perry E.	83.25*
LaPointe, Perry E.	62.63*
Martin, David S. TC	5,075.23*
Martin, F. Allen	1,191.44*
Marzilli, Vincent III	3,650.45*
McAfee, Matthew	104.21*
McAleer, Michael S.	8,468.19*
Miles, Shawna	92.80
Moose, John C.	3,084.40*

Northcountry Management	7,374.58*
Oakes, Kimberly R. Pers. Rep	2,021.29*
Oakes, Kimberly R. Pers. Rep	3,160.39*
Peirce, David L. Jr.	256.57*
Perkins, Robert J.	4,363.93*
Perkins, Robert J.	472.40*
Perkins, Robert J.	1,487.81*
Perkins, Robert K.	1,279.06*
Rustanavibul, Chinda	5,375.14*
Secane partners, LLC	7,060.49*
Shain, Denise C.	1,240.40*
Shorette, Jeffrey S.	1,745.45*
Slopey, Derrick R.	937.13*
Slopey, Derrick R.	2,673.31*
Slopey, Derrick R.	315.19*
Szillery, Eva J.	4,929.66*
Thomas, Glen W.	1,863.96*
Thompson, Brian J.	392.59*
Thompson, Brian J.	415.78*
Vanidestine, Thomas J. Jr.	4,891.72*
Vinal, A. Emile	<u>1,198.55*</u>
	120,245.75

2014-2015

6 Stillwater Avenue, LLC	155.19*
Anthony, Julie Lynne	1,816.81*
April Fools, Inc.	920.61
Bellefleur, Warren	4,669.55**
Bradson, John P. Jr.	5,113.16*
Bradson, John P. Jr.	4,106.67*
Bradson, John P. Jr.	4,895.83*
Clisham, John A.	2,526.96
Coakley, Ryan	420.57**
Cook, Linda	98.88
Davis, Scott	1,965.10
Dodge, Sylvia	2,244.39**
Dunn, Thomas C.	2,541.48
Ellis, William G. Jr.	2,304.19
Gove, Lisa V.	3,023.90**
Grant, Brian L.	989.91
Hewes, Pollyanne, Heirs of	473.36*
Hilton, Daryle A.	55.15*

* paid after books closed

** partial payment after books closed

TAX LIENS OUTSTANDING

JUNE 30, 2015

2014-2015

		Secane Partners, LLC	6,786.03
Houlsen, Joanne C.	1,853.73	Shain, Denise C.	1,200.30
Hunting, Robert Samuel Coulter	6,571.24	Shorette, Jeffrey S.	1,774.21*
Lane, Jean L.	4,050.89*	Slopey, Derrick	962.52*
Lane, Jean L.	5,075.39*	Slopey, Derrick	665.68
LaPointe, Perry, Heirs of	5,077.86	Slopey, Derrick R.	2,576.45
LaPointe, Perry, Heirs of	1,697.79	Szillery, Eva J.	4,736.36
LaPointe, Perry, Heirs of	88.97	Thomas, Glen W.	1,872.69*
LaPointe, Perry, Heirs of	69.17	Thompson, Brian J.	373.56*
Lukacsek, Edward L.	1,175.34*	Thompson, Brian J.	395.82*
Lutz, Leland J.	1,401.56*	Urquhart, Laura	175.58*
Martin, David S.	4,882.37**	Urquhart, Laura	215.18*
Martin, F. Allen	1,153.07*	Urquhart, Laura L.	384.78
Marzill, Vincent III	3,754.61	Urquhart, Paul Sr.	831.50
McAfee, Matthew	242.42	Vanidestine, Thomas J.	6,703.71
McAleer, Michael s.	8,121.68*	Vinal, A. Emile	1,593.83
Miles, Shawna	170.99	White, Linwood E. Jr.	2,554.18
Milheron, Carole A.	370.65*	Williams, Jarrod R.	21.24*
Milheron, Darin	502.68*	Zeisler, Lisa	<u>2,365.64*</u>
Milheron, Darin	1,892.53*		237,900.02
Mitchell, Kimberly	1,276.80*		
Moose, John C.	809.24		
Moose, John C.	3,212.55		
Morgan, Erlene M.	351.23*		
Northcountry Mgt Group	158.55*		
Oakes, Kimberly R. Pers. Rep	1,950.25		
Oakes, Kimberly R. Pers. Rep	3,044.25		
Pierce, David L. Jr.	847.95**		
Perkins, Robert J.	4,200.13		
Perkins, Robert J.	462.71		
Perkins, Robert J.	1,437.91		
Perkins, Robert K.	1,237.42		
Pika Corporation of Maine	7,224.71		
Preservation Ross LLC	70,099.85		
Preservation Ross LLC	240.12		
Preservation Ross LLC	169.41		
Pyles, Laura J. Pers. Rep	1,489.23		
Red Shield Acquisition LLC	2,125.99		
Ross, Ruth V.	4,660.50		
Ruby Realty Trust	446.49*		
Rustanavibul, Chinda	5,579.64		
Rustin, Shiela	473.90**		
Schoenberger, Karen	3,737.28		

* paid after books closed

** partial payment after books closed

PERPETUAL CARE FUNDS RECEIVED
July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Clark, David and Barbara	Map D Range 2 Lot 107	\$ 450.00

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Valuation

Real Estate	\$441,942,900	
Personal Property	<u>14,579,100</u>	
Total Valuation		\$456,522,000

Assessment

Valuation x Rate $\$456,522,000 \times .02385 =$	10,888,050	
Supplemental Taxes	<u>11,000</u>	
Total Assessment Charged to Collector		\$10,889,050

Collection and Credits

Cash Collections	10,612,710	
Tax Abatements	<u>5,087</u>	
Total Collection and Credits		<u>\$10,617,797</u>

2015 Taxes Receivable – June 30, 2015		<u>\$ 281,253</u>
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TAX ACQUIRED PROPERTY

NAME	MAP/LOT	LOCATION	AMOUNT
Young, Glenn	006-004-059	Essex Street	\$ 222.10
Cowan, Donna Gail PS Rep Estate of Kocur, Regina	027-003-031	31 Gilbert Street	5,707.93
McAleer, Anne H., Heirs of	027-003-108	1 Maplewood Avenue	17,330.25
Rich, Kimberly J.	014-000-008	Lexington Road	374.16
Fortier, Heirs of Rita	027-004-087	30 Island Avenue	<u>9,523.00</u>
			\$33,157.44

COMPUTATION OF ASSESSMENT

TAX COMMITMENT **\$ 10,888,049.70**

Requirements

Municipal Appropriation	\$ 7,438,316.00
TIF Financing Plan	887,717.16
County Tax	495,095.72
Education	5,814,358.30

Overlay **\$ 75,097.40**

Total Requirements **\$14,710,584.58**

Less

State Revenue Sharing	\$ 800,000.00
Municipal Revenue	2,872,516.00
Homestead Reimbursement	127,901.585
BETE Reimbursement	<u>22,117.295</u>

Total Deductions **\$ 3,822,534.88**

Net Requirements **\$10,888,049.70**



Certified Public Accountants and Business Consultants

Independent Auditor's Report

Town Council
Town of Orono, Maine

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Orono, Maine, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town of Orono, 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.

Auditor's 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 from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit 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.

Town Council
Page 2

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Orono, Maine as of June 30, 2015, and the respective changes in financial position, and where applicable, cash flows, thereof and the budgetary comparison for the General Fund 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, the schedule of funding progress, the schedule of Town's proportionate share of the net pension liability, and the schedule of Town contributions as listed in the table of contents 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 Orono, Maine's basic financial statements. The combining and individual fund financial statements are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The combining and individual fund financial statements are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate 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 combining and individual fund financial statements are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Town Council
Page 3

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 1, 2016 on our consideration of the Town of Orono, Maine's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant 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 Orono, Maine's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



February 1, 2016
South Portland, Maine

TOWN OF ORONO, MAINE
Management's Discussion and Analysis
June 30, 2015

As management of the Town of Orono, Maine, we offer readers of the Town's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Town for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015. The Town's financial performance is discussed and analyzed within the context of the accompanying financial statements and disclosures following this section.

Financial Highlights

- The assets and deferred outflows of resources of the Town of Orono, Maine exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$18,636,416 (*net position*, Statement 1). Of this amount, \$5,965,849 was reported as unrestricted net position (Statement 1). Unrestricted net position is the amount available to be used to meet the Town's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors. The Town of Orono, Maine's total net position increased by \$1,170,404 (Statement 2). This represents an increase of \$929,934 in governmental activities and an increase of \$240,470 in business-type activities (Sewer).
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, the Town of Orono, Maine's governmental funds reported a combined ending fund balance of \$13,471,203 (Statement 3), which is an increase of \$5,646,502 (Statement 4) from the prior fiscal year. Of the total increase, \$950,742 is shown in the General Fund, \$1,557,177 is attributable to the Katahdin Project fund, \$3,208,348 is attributable to the new Public Works Building fund, and the final (\$69,765) is shown in other governmental funds.
- The Town of Orono, Maine's General Fund reports an unassigned fund balance of \$2,364,489 (Statement 3); however, the other governmental funds have a deficit unassigned fund balance of (\$61,794) (Statement 3), leaving the Town with a total unassigned fund balance of \$2,302,695 (Statement 3). Total unassigned fund balance increased by \$1,364,214 from the prior fiscal year. This was driven by the elimination of the deficit unassigned fund balance in the Katahdin project in the prior year of (\$1,557,177) due to the issuance of long-term bonds to reimburse the Town's fund balance for expenditures incurred in FY 2014 and to finance current year expenditures. Further, \$617,928 of funds were shifted from committed to unassigned that were attributable to the sale of Town owned property located at 3 Godfrey Drive, as these funds were previously held in escrow as a safeguard to protect the Town in the event that the tenant defaulted on their rent agreement with the Town, due to the fact that the Town is responsible for repayment of the bond associated with the property.
- Assigned fund balance (Statement 3) has increased from the previous fiscal year by \$3,745,921 to \$6,327,851. This increase in assigned fund balance was driven by a shift of \$2,667,000 of funds from nonspendable to unassigned due to the sale of Town owned property at 3 Godfrey Drive and a corresponding reduction in notes receivable, as the sale of the property concluded the Town's collection of this debt.
- The Town issued \$19,776,081 in new bond debt in FY 2015. Of this debt, \$11,211,081 was for governmental activities and \$8,565,000 was for business-type activities (Sewer). Of the governmental activities bond issuances, \$3,276,081 was issued for the purpose of completing the Katahdin Parking Lot, \$5,655,000 was issued for the Town's new Public Works Building, and the remainder was used to pay off existing debt. As of June 30, 2015, the total outstanding debt principal of the Town, including Sewer fund debt, was \$22,658,750.

Overview of the Financial Statements

The Management's Discussion and Analysis introduces the Town's basic financial statements. The Town's financial statements comprise three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the basic financial statements. This report also contains required supplementary information (RSI) and other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

TOWN OF ORONO, MAINE
Management's Discussion and Analysis, Continued

Government-wide financial statements

The *government-wide financial statements* are designed to provide the readers with an overview of the Town of Orono, Maine's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The *Statement of Net Position*, Statement 1, presents information on all of the Town's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, with the difference between them reported as *net position*. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Town is improving or deteriorating. The *Statement of Activities*, Statement 2, presents information showing how the Town's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods.

Both of the government-wide financial statements distinguish functions of the Town of Orono, Maine that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities) from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges (business-type activities). The governmental activities of the Town include general government, public services, public safety, public works and education. The Town has one business-type activity, which is the Sewer fund.

Financial Analysis of the Town as a Whole - Government-wide Financial Statements

Statement of Net Position

As previously noted, the statement of net position balances all of the Town's assets and deferred outflows of resources, the resources the Town can use to provide services and operate the government, against all of its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, its obligations to turn over resources to other organizations or individuals, with the difference being reported as net position. Net position is what the Town would have left over after satisfying all of its liabilities.

The following schedule is a summary of net position for the years ended June 30, 2015 and June 30, 2014.

	Governmental Activities			Business-type Activities		
	2015	2014 (as restated)	Change	2015	2014	Change
ASSETS						
Current and other assets	\$ 14,952,490	9,271,126	5,681,364	2,399,472	2,534,808	(135,336)
Capital assets	15,578,326	12,866,465	2,711,861	12,070,356	12,328,072	(257,716)
Total assets	30,530,816	22,137,591	8,393,225	14,469,828	14,862,880	(393,052)
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES						
Deferred outflows of resources -						
related to pensions	382,635	234,994	147,641	-	-	-
Total deferred outflows of resources	382,635	234,994	147,641	-	-	-
LIABILITIES						
Current liabilities	1,004,939	886,752	118,187	128,195	339,150	(210,955)
Noncurrent liabilities	16,279,204	9,675,785	6,603,419	8,445,199	8,867,766	(422,567)
Total liabilities	17,284,143	10,562,537	6,721,606	8,573,394	9,206,916	(633,522)
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES						
Deferred inflows of resources -						
related to pensions	889,326	-	889,326	-	-	-
Total deferred inflows of resources	889,326	-	889,326	-	-	-
NET POSITION						
Net investment in capital assets	4,189,554	5,624,984	(1,435,430)	3,640,356	3,460,306	180,050
Restricted	4,840,657	1,019,362	3,821,295	-	-	-
Unrestricted	3,709,771	5,165,702	(1,455,931)	2,256,078	2,195,658	60,420
Total net position	\$ 12,739,982	11,810,048	929,934	5,896,434	5,655,964	240,470

TOWN OF ORONO, MAINE
Management's Discussion and Analysis, Continued

The Town of Orono, Maine's governmental activities assets and deferred outflows of resources exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources by \$12,739,982 and business-type activities assets exceeded its liabilities by \$5,896,434 for total net position of \$18,636,416 at the close of the most recent fiscal year. The summary above shows an increase in net position of 7.87% for governmental activities and an increase of 4.25% for business-type activities from the prior fiscal year.

A large portion of the Town's net position reflects its investment in capital assets (e.g., land, buildings and improvements, machinery, equipment and infrastructure); less any related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding and adding back any unspent bond proceeds. The Town of Orono, Maine uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens. Consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the Town's investment in its capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

It should be noted that 32% of the Town's net position is available to be used to meet the Town's ongoing obligations to its citizens and creditors.

Statement of Activities

As stated earlier, the statement of activities reports the current year change in net position. This statement includes all of the current year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The Town of Orono, Maine's net position increased \$1,170,404 during the current fiscal year. This change is broken out in the following categories:

- **Governmental activities:** The Town's governmental activities increased net position by \$929,934.
- **Business-type activities:** The Town's single business-type activity, the sewer district, increased the Town's net position by \$240,470.

TOWN OF ORONO, MAINE
Management's Discussion and Analysis, Continued

The following schedule is a summary of the statement of activities for the years ended June 30, 2015 and June 30, 2014:

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>			<u>Business-type Activities</u>		
	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>Change</u>
Revenues:						
Program revenues:						
Charges for services	\$ 1,685,058	680,102	1,004,956	1,918,064	1,561,040	357,024
Operating grants and contributions	213,388	332,317	(118,929)	-	-	-
Capital grants	239,073	98,254	140,819	-	-	-
General revenues:						
Taxes	11,453,105	10,965,040	488,065	-	-	-
Intergovernmental	1,756,108	1,806,665	(50,557)	-	-	-
Investment earnings	98,055	17,603	80,452	18,270	3,973	14,297
Miscellaneous	103,630	408,060	(304,430)	-	-	-
Loss on disposal	(16,709)	-	(16,709)	-	-	-
Transfers	122,825	120,000	2,825	(122,825)	(120,000)	(2,825)
Total revenues	15,654,533	14,428,041	1,226,492	1,813,509	1,445,013	368,496
Expenses:						
Primary government:						
General government	1,522,884	1,752,187	(229,303)	-	-	-
Public services	914,781	766,229	148,552	-	-	-
Public safety	3,127,065	3,075,196	51,869	-	-	-
Public works	1,755,038	1,704,154	50,884	-	-	-
Education	5,814,358	5,714,080	100,278	-	-	-
County tax	495,096	477,242	17,854	-	-	-
Unclassified	138,652	226,526	(87,874)	-	-	-
Interest on debt service	435,537	322,995	112,542	-	-	-
Capital maintenance	521,188	81,923	439,265	-	-	-
Sewer services	-	-	-	1,573,039	1,634,795	(61,756)
Total expenses	14,724,599	14,120,532	604,067	1,573,039	1,634,795	(61,756)
Change in net position	929,934	307,509	622,425	240,470	(189,782)	430,252
Net position, July 1	11,810,048	13,235,460	(1,425,412)	5,655,964	5,845,746	(189,782)
Net position, June 30	\$ 12,739,982	13,542,969	(802,987)	5,896,434	5,655,964	240,470

*The 2014 columns of this table have not been restated for the effects of the implementation of GASB 68 as the information is not available.

Total governmental activities revenues (\$15,654,533) (Statement 2) increased by 7.8% over fiscal year 2014. This was driven by growth in general taxes, charges for services, capital related grants, and unrestricted investment earnings, but the increase was mitigated by decreases in grants and miscellaneous revenues.

Total governmental activities expenses (\$14,724,599) (Statement 2) increased this year by 4.28% over fiscal year 2014. This decrease was driven by increases in costs for public services, public safety, public works, education, county tax, interest on long-term debt, and capital maintenance expenses, but were mitigated by decreases in general government and unclassified expenses.

Total revenues exceeded total expenditures by \$929,934 (Statement 2) resulting in a positive change in net position.

TOWN OF ORONO, MAINE
Management's Discussion and Analysis, Continued

Financial Analysis of the Government's Funds**Governmental Funds:**

As of the end of the current fiscal year, the Town of Orono, Maine's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$13,471,203, an increase of \$5,646,502 in comparison with the prior year. Just over 17% of this total amount (\$2,302,695) constitutes unassigned fund balance, which is available for spending at the government's discretion. The remainder of the fund balance (\$11,168,508) is not available for new spending because it has already been set aside in its use for various capital and other governmental purposes (\$4,840,657) or assigned to specific uses (\$6,327,851). Restricted funds include Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funds (\$1,155,627), the Public Works Building fund (\$3,208,348), and Other Governmental Funds (\$476,682).

As a measure of liquidity, it may be useful to compare both unassigned fund balance and total fund balance to total governmental funds expenditures. Unassigned fund balance (\$2,302,695) (Statement 3) represents 10.54% of the total governmental funds expenditures (\$21,841,016) (Statement 4); total governmental fund balance (\$13,471,203) (Statement 3) represents 61.68% of total governmental funds expenditures.

Business-type Activities:

The Town operates one business-type activity classified as an enterprise fund. Enterprise funds are self-sustaining funds designed to be mostly funded through user fees and grants. The Town's enterprise fund is more commonly referred to as the Sewer fund and it holds all of the financial activity related to running and maintaining the water pollution control facility (WPCF).

For a detailed look at both the fiscal year 2015 balance sheet and statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in net position, please see pages 19 and 20 of the audited financial statements.

Net position of the Town's sewer district increased by \$240,470 to \$5,896,434 (Statement 8). Operating income (operating revenues less operating expenses) was \$349,889 while net non-operating expenses and transfers out were (\$109,419). Of the total net position as of the end of the fiscal year, the amount classified as net investment in capital assets was \$3,640,356 and unrestricted net position made up the other \$2,256,078. Unrestricted net position represents 143.86% of current year operating expenses.

Fund Financial Statements

For governmental activities, these statements focus on how services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending. Fund financial statements also report the Town's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements by providing information about the Town's most significant funds. The remaining statements provide financial information about activities for which the Town acts solely as a trustee or agent for the benefit of those outside of the government.

Financial Analysis of the Town's Funds - Fund Financial Statements

Our analysis of the Town's major funds begins with the fund financial statements and provides detailed information about the most significant funds, not the Town as a whole. Some funds are required to be established by State law. However, many other funds are established to help control and manage money for particular purposes or to show the Town is meeting legal responsibilities for using certain taxes, grants, and other money. The Town reports governmental funds and a proprietary fund.

TOWN OF ORONO, MAINE
Management's Discussion and Analysis, Continued

- Governmental funds - Most of the Town's basic services are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. These funds are reported using the modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the Town's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the Town's programs. We describe the relationship, or differences, between governmental activities, reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, and governmental funds in reconciliation at the bottom of the fund financial statements (Statement 3 and Statement 5).
- Proprietary funds -The Town maintains one type of proprietary fund, an enterprise fund. Enterprise funds, as described above, are required to be used to account for operations for which a fee is charged to external users for goods or services. Enterprise funds are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. The Town's Enterprise fund accounts for sewer operations.

Noteworthy Special Revenue/Trust/Capital Project Funds

A detailed list of reserves can be found under Exhibit A-3 of the audited financial statements. This list includes beginning balances, additions, reductions and ending balances for the reserves as of the end of the fiscal year.

The capital equipment reserve fund is available to absorb the cost of equipment that would otherwise be purchased through the normal operating budget. The utilization of a reserve fund allows the Town to reach into a "savings account" for larger purchases to reduce the year-to-year impact on the taxpayer. It is funded during each fiscal year by an assigned appropriation within the operating budget as well as by transfers from the unassigned fund balance remaining at the end of the previous fiscal year. As of the end of the fiscal year, the capital equipment reserve fund had a balance of \$868,147.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual located on page 18 of the audited financial statements shows, on a budgetary basis, both the approved budget for each revenue and expenditure category as well as the effects on the budgetary fund balance at the end of the year. A more detailed and expanded version of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual can be found in Exhibit A-2 of the audited financial statements. This schedule shows the details within each revenue and expenditure category.

Capital Assets

The Town of Orono's capital assets for its governmental activities as of June 30, 2015 amounts to \$37,136,771, net of accumulated depreciation of \$21,558,445, leaving a net book value of \$15,578,326. This is an increase of \$2,711,861 from fiscal year 2014. This investment in capital assets includes land, buildings and improvements, vehicles, machinery and equipment, as well as infrastructure. Capital asset additions for the year ending June 30, 2015 included the following: infrastructure improvements related to the Benoch Road parking lot, College Avenue retaining wall, Park Street and Noyes Drive sidewalks, Kelley Road extension, etc. (\$2,708,822); 2015 Pierce Arrow Fire Truck (\$407,000); 2015 Ford SUV for the Police Department (\$28,887); and additions to construction in progress for various ongoing projects (\$2,268,892). Additionally, a 2012 ambulance that was not capitalized in the year the expenditure was incurred was added to capital assets at the full cost incurred (\$148,282) less any depreciation that would have been taken had it been properly capitalized (\$49,427), for a net increase to beginning capital assets of \$98,855.

**TOWN OF ORONO, MAINE
Management's Discussion and Analysis, Continued**

The Town of Orono's capital assets for its business-type activities as of June 30, 2015 amounts to \$18,034,729, net of accumulated depreciation of \$5,964,373, leaving a net book value of \$12,070,356. This is a decrease of \$257,716. This investment in capital assets includes land, buildings and improvements, vehicles, machinery and equipment, and sewer infrastructure. Capital asset additions for the year ending June 30, 2015 included the following: 2014 Western Star Sludge Truck (\$104,533); spare set of UV lamps and tubes (\$11,360); operations building roof replacement (\$45,316); and additions to construction in progress related to Island Avenue improvements (\$170,691).

Additionally, a fully depreciated 1996 GMC Sierra pickup truck with an original cost of \$16,299 was transferred from the business-type activities to the governmental activities to be used by the Public Works Department.

Long-term Debt

At year-end, the Town had \$22,658,750 in outstanding bonds compared to \$16,109,247 in 2014. This is comprised of governmental activities bonds of \$14,228,750 and business-type activities bonds of \$8,430,000.

State statutes limit the amount of general obligation debt a municipality may issue to 15% of its total state assessed valuation, with a further limit of no more than 7.5% of state assessed valuation in enterprise fund debt. The current debt limitation for the Town of Orono as a whole is \$62,880,000 and \$31,440,000 for its Sewer fund, far exceeding the Town's outstanding general obligation debt.

HISTORICAL ASSESSMENTS AND MIL RATES

<i>Historical Tax Commitments</i>					
<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Assessed Valuation</i>	<i>Valuation Increase/(Decrease)</i>	<i>Total Commitment</i>	<i>Mil Rate per \$1,000</i>	<i>Mil Rate Increase/(Decrease)</i>
2003	\$258,835,900	Base year	\$ 6,151,647	\$ 24.30	Base Year
2004	\$270,982,200	4.69%	\$ 6,801,653	\$ 25.10	3.29%
2005	\$289,534,200	6.85%	\$ 7,006,728	\$ 24.20	-3.59%
2006	\$308,880,270	6.68%	\$ 7,135,134	\$ 23.10	-4.55%
2007	\$343,897,190	11.34%	\$ 7,565,738	\$ 22.00	-4.76%
2008	\$392,874,635	14.24%	\$ 7,857,493	\$ 20.00	-9.09%
2009	\$417,499,265	6.27%	\$ 8,224,735	\$ 19.70	-1.50%
2010	\$408,312,500	-2.20%	\$ 8,492,000	\$ 20.80	5.58%
2011	\$415,448,300	1.75%	\$ 8,620,552	\$ 20.75	-0.24%
2012	\$413,922,200	-0.37%	\$ 8,816,656	\$ 21.30	2.65%
2013	\$418,583,000	1.13%	\$ 9,041,393	\$ 21.60	1.41%
2014	\$442,456,800	5.70%	\$10,264,998	\$23.20	7.41%
2015	\$456,522,000	3.18%	\$10,888,050	\$23.85	2.80%
2016	\$462,939,500	1.40%	\$11,295,724	\$24.40	2.30%

CONTACTING THE TOWN'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers, and creditors with a general overview of the Town's finances and to show the Town's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Town Office at 59 Main Street, Orono, Maine or call 207-866-2556. Citizens are welcome to visit with the appropriate staff on any financial matters.

REPORT OF POLICE DEPARTMENT 2014-2015

The ongoing mission of the Orono Police Department is to protect the lives, property, and rights of all community members with professional, effective, and compassionate law enforcement. Additionally, we strive to serve Orono with education, involvement, and collaboration in an effort to develop partnerships and relationships that improve the well-being of all.

Agency positions, and associated assignments:

Position	#	Role
Chief of Police	1	General oversight, budget, policy development, strategic planning, incident command, on-call emergency response
Captain	1	Operations oversight, scheduling, training and development, supervision, incident command, on-call emergency response
Sergeant	3	Patrol supervision and management
Detective	1	Investigations, court officer
Patrol Officer	7	Traffic enforcement, incident response, community service
SRO	1	Full-time assignment to Orono schools

CALEA – We are currently in a 3-year “self-assessment” phase with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. CALEA improves the delivery of public safety services by utilizing a proven, modern management model based on current nationally established standards. After achieving CALEA’s Recognition status in 2011, we are now striving for full accreditation. We expect to achieve this goal in the fall of 2016.

Community Involvement – A goal of this past year was to begin to establish a more formal philosophy of “public service” to the community of Orono. While effective and professional law enforcement is still paramount, part of our mission states “to serve with compassion and excellence, striving to provide aid and support to any and all in need”. This aid and support can take many different forms, from morning phone calls and visits to our senior citizens, to empowering women through our Rape Aggression Defense classes.

We take every opportunity available to become involved in our community by assisting with Town events, participating with various safety and wellness committees at the University of Maine, and by hosting educational opportunities for community members and students. Our programs include:

- Good Morning Program
- TRIAD
- House Checks
- Prescription Drug Collection/ Disposal
- Special Olympics fundraisers and events
- Individual Speaking Engagements
- Rape Aggression Defense/Women’s Self Defense
- Citizen/Student Police Academies
- Eastern Maine Community College Criminal Justice Program assistance

Training – developing and maintaining professional, effective, and capable police officers requires a great deal of both ongoing and progressive training. Ongoing refresher training and updates occur yearly. These trainings range from law updates and use of force, to occupational safety and all hazards refreshers.

The Orono Police Department places a great deal of emphasis on nationally recognized training courses and we are fortunate to have highly trained and capable members with our ranks.

Certified Instructors

- Situational Use of Force
- Firearms
- Defensive Tactics
- TASER
- Rape Aggression Defense
- Radar Operation
- Trends and Future Goals
- Active Shooter Threat Response
- Drug Recognition Expert
- Spike Mat Deployment
- Standardized Field Sobriety Testing
- Baton/OC Spray/Handcuffing

We have experienced a slight decrease in total calls for service (-4%), which is likely a by-product of increased education and enforcement related to underage drinking and noise problems/parties. The decrease in calls for service have allowed for increased traffic enforcement, with close to a 30% increase in traffic stops (while showing a 7% decrease in summonses issued).

Because arrests for impaired driving remain consistent, and we've seen an increase in both property damage and personal injury accidents, our officers will continue to work diligently to maintain safe travel for both vehicles and pedestrians.

We will continue to be involved in community events, conduct educational programs, and be as integrated with the community as we can in an effort to connect, build trust, and promote positive relationships.

Finally, it continues to be our main goal to have an overall positive effect on the community of Orono, helping to create a safe, secure, and peaceful environment. Our officers truly recognize and embrace the great responsibility they hold to protect and serve the Town of Orono, and I am proud to be a member of the Orono Police Department.

Respectfully,

Joshua W. Ewing
Chief of Police



Front Row: Jessica Mason, David Silk, Scott Scripture Capt), Josh Ewing (Chief), Daniel Merrill, Scott Lajoie
Back Row: Lee Cookson, Sarah Exley, Peter Wentworth, Ed Leskey, Chase Haass, Nathan Drost, Camron Barrieau.

REPORT OF FIRE DEPARTMENT 2014-2015

Please accept the enclosed information as the official annual report for the Orono Fire Department. This report provides a breakdown of services provided from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015.

The Fire Department currently employs 15 career Firefighter/Paramedics providing service to the Town of Orono 24 hours a day. In addition to the 15 on-shift personnel, we also employ one Deputy Fire Chief/Fire Inspector. All 17 members of the department are Hazardous Material Technicians.

The Fire Department training program committed 3,732 personnel hours during the year. These training classes covered a variety of topics including fire suppression, emergency medicine, hazardous materials response, confined space rescue, vehicle extrication, and other related topics. Several seminars and college level courses complemented in-service training programs.

With the increase of emergency incidents, we rely heavily on mutual aid departments to help provide the services for our community. The department continues to provide Emergency Medical Services to the Town of Veazie at an average of 150 medical calls annually.

Among many small tools and equipment, the department maintained the following apparatus during the service year:

- (2) Class A Pumpers
- (1) 100' Aerial
- (1) Haz-Mat Vehicle
- (2) Ambulances
- (1) Rescue Boat
- (1) Rescue Pick Up
- (1) Decontamination Trailer

For the time period noted above, the Fire Department responded to 1,950 calls for emergency service. The community experienced an estimated financial loss of \$135,435 during this reporting period. This figure represents estimated personal losses to the citizens from vehicle fires, fuel and boiler malfunctions, and structure fires. The estimated value of property involved in these losses, if they were to be total losses, would have been \$79,762,000.

Data indicates that the busiest days of week for responses were –running Friday’s 324 calls, Wednesday’s 285 calls, and then Sunday’s 275 calls. The busiest time for responses was between 11am and 3pm.

The following is a breakdown of the calls we responded to during the service year:

Service Calls	66
Good Intent	81
False Alarms	245
EMS/Rescue	1,431
Hazardous Conditions	81
Building Fire	10
Other Incidents	36

The Orono Fire Department, through its many fire safety and prevention programs, was able to interact with and inform over 4,000 citizens within the community. Our fire prevention program provides safety messages to all ages and is very proud of the fire prevention program. In addition to the fire prevention classes provided to all of our students at Asa Adams School each month, we also provide the following fire and life safety programs:

- Elderly Safety Presentations
- Fire Safety Classes
- Fire Extinguisher Training
- Participate in National Fire Prevention Week
- Fire Station Tours
- Provide Home Smoke Alarms
- Perform Blood Pressure Clinics
- CPR Classes
- Preschool/Daycare Fire Prevention



(L-R) Nick Chapman, Dennis Bean, Andrew Brogden, Brad Strout and Scott Luciano

The Orono Fire Department Operates one of the 4 Hazardous Material Teams in the State of Maine. All paid firefighters are trained to the highest response level known – hazardous material technician. As technician members can respond, perform rescue, control and mitigate chemical emergencies that deal with domestic terrorism issues. Orono currently has the capabilities to respond to any incidents in the State of Maine for domestic terrorism.

Fire and Emergency Preparedness were part of the department's proactive approach to prevent fires and educate the public on how to prepare themselves and their families when disaster strikes. In addition to the above noted services, the department is also an integral part of the Town's Health and Safety Inspection program. This program provides fire code enforcement inspections to ensure all residents, businesses, and University of Maine properties are safe for their tenants, students, and our community.

The hard work and dedication of our firefighters and the support of the town administration, Town Councilors, and the University of Maine has been essential to our success as a fire department and we are very grateful for their contribution. Likewise, the hard work and enthusiasm of our career staff has been essential to our high quality of service. Together both groups are responsible for providing an efficient and quality fire service for our community.

Sincerely,

Rob St. Louis
Fire Chief



*Fire Chief Rob St. Louis and
Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal
Henry Vaughan*



*(L-R) Kevin Sirois, Matt Grindle, Joel Sides, Jordan
McLaughlin and Paul Haley*



*(L-R) Kevin Peary, Mark Roy, Ben Pratt, Josh McNally
and Bryan Hardison*

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT 2014-2015

Public Works staff worked through yet another safe and busy year that included many construction and maintenance projects and a very busy winter season.

The winter season of 2014-15 saw Public Works staff called to plowing duty 46 times; up from last year's total of 41. Snow accumulation totaled around 152 inches for the season, an increase from the 102 inches we received last season. This year's winter season was a difficult one. The season started with a 12 inch storm on November 2nd. This led to over two feet of snow in the month of November alone. A somewhat quiet December gave us a quick break to prepare for what would be one of the busiest winters in history. January brought the largest storm of the season; a blizzard on January 27th that dumped nearly 24 inches of snow over Orono. We did not see our final storm until April 9th, when the final two inches blanketed Orono with wet snow. Through it all, Orono Public Works responded to keep our roads and sidewalks safe.

We also had a busy construction season this year. This year's capital road construction and general road maintenance program was highlighted by the following major projects:

- **Noyes Drive Development Drainage and Roadway Improvements:** This project started in the previous year and was completed in 2015. The project included drainage, sidewalk, and street pavement improvements on Noyes Drive, Sunrise Terrace, Haskell Avenue, Woodland Drive, and Averill Street.

New drainage structures, ditches and storm drain pipe were added in several locations and a new sidewalk was constructed on Noyes Drive. Curb and new pavement surfaces were provided for all of the roadways. Final lawn restorations were done during the summer of 2015.

- **College Avenue and Park Street Improvements:** These projects were funded through the Maine Department of Transportation Municipal Partnership Initiative (MPI) program. MPI projects are administered and constructed by the municipality and MDOT provides 50% of the funding for the project. The scope of the Park Street project included milling and paving of the pavement surface and sidewalk improvements. The College Avenue project involved the reconstruction of the retaining wall near North Main Avenue. The old precast concrete sections were removed and replaced with a new modular block construction. This project also included rebuilding the adjacent sidewalk.
- **Kelley Road Reconstruction:** This project included a new drainage ditch system and reclaiming the old pavement. A new, wider road was built in its place.
- **Island Avenue Infrastructure Improvements:** This project started in May of 2015 and was due to be completed in September. The scope includes reconstruction of both water and sewer lines, reconstruction of the drainage system, new sidewalk, and full reconstruction of the roadway.



Public Works: (L-R) Jim Thompson, Scott Ouellette, Richard Rideout, Greg Daigle, Dillon Smart, Don Wickett, Ken Beylerian, Mike Smart, Director Rob Yexxa, and Tony Boucher. (Absent: Adam Smart and Wendell Young)

Other operations and maintenance efforts performed by Public Works include:

- **General Maintenance:** This includes mowing and maintenance of all of the parks and lawns, street sweeping, minor sidewalk and pavement repairs, storm sewer maintenance and repair, hazard tree removal and brush trimming in Town right of way areas, fall and spring clean-up, pavement markings, and streetlight maintenance.
- **Operation and Maintenance of Riverside Cemetery**
- **Operation and Maintenance of the CDD Landfill:** Located on Taylor Road, the Town operates and maintains a construction and demolition debris landfill. Major efforts include DEP compliance and reporting for both landfill operations and stormwater management, providing an attendant, and maintenance of the landfill area itself.
- **Operation of the Town Garage:** Located on Penobscot Street, the Town operates a maintenance garage. All maintenance and repair of Public Works vehicles and equipment is performed there, it also acts as the base of operations for the Public Works staff.

- **Capital Equipment:** The Town added a heavy duty plow truck to the Public Works fleet this year, replacing a 2002 International with over 85,000 miles.

In closing, we would like to thank the Town Council and the Town Manager for their continued support of the Public Works Department. Kenny and all of our employees worked through a busy year with great success and should be commended for their hard work and dedication to the Town of Orono.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J Yerxa
Director of Public Works and Engineering



Facilities: (L-R) David Pinkham and Wes Nelson

REPORT OF THE TREE BOARD 2014-2015

In fiscal year 2014 to 2015 the Orono Tree Board planted one tree in the right of way. We have had few requests from landowners for trees in the past year. We also potted 15 red maple saplings for our nursery. The Nature Garden was weeded and some of the ornamental trees pruned and bushes trimmed. Mr. Allen's 5th Grade Class joined us for our Orono Arbor Day event. The students are a lot of help in the garden area. They replaced two trees, mulched all the young trees that had been planted in the last few years and raked leaves and placed them roadside for Public Works to pick up. The Arbor Day Proclamation was read and a discussion centered around the importance of trees for a healthier more beautiful community.

We are pleased to have two new members on the Board. They are David Lambert and Matthew Ewing.

2015 is the 19th year that Orono has been a Tree City USA. David Lambert attended the Tree City USA meeting that was held in Kennebunkport in May. Those meetings are held in Tree City towns around the state.

The Tree Board works with Rob Yerxa, our Tree Warden, and has looked at a large number of our street trees which are in need of trimming and many that will need to be cut down in the next year or two.

In 2015 – 2016 we plan to continue to plant trees that homeowners request in the rights of way and add new saplings to the nursery.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Blease
David Thompson
Co-Chairs

REPORT OF THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY 2014-2015

The WPCF had some high points in Fiscal Year 2014-15. We traded in our 1990 Top Kick for a 2015 Western Star. We also installed an aluminum body. The Top Kick had gone through two bodies, and in this business, aluminum stands up to corrosion much better than steel. The truck looks sharp and the staff keeps it clean and polished. They all seem very proud to drive it.

We also had a new roof installed. The old one was 25 years old. It was supposed to last 20 years when it was installed. It was decided not to change it during the upgrade, since it hadn't reached its planned life. We changed from a ballasted membrane rubber roof to an EPDM roof, also expected to last 25 years.

We purchased a set of lamps for our Ultraviolet disinfection system in 2015. The unit takes 64 lamps, each spaced about 4 inches apart. Microorganisms in the water are exposed to the ultraviolet light when they pass by the lamps submerged in the wastewater. UV energy

destroys the genetic material within bacteria, viruses and protozoa, eliminating their ability to reproduce. Unable to multiply, the microorganisms die and no longer pose a health threat.

We started the Island Avenue project in May. This is a combined project with the WPCF, Public Works and Orono- Veazie Water District, with each entity paying for their portion. This is a long awaited project since it was pushed back for 2 years prior.

We lost a valued employee in 2015. Galen Moody was forced to retire for his health. Galen came to work in Orono at the WPCF on January 19, 1990. He was often seen around Town working on the collection system in the summer months. He was an excellent employee and will be missed by all the staff.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joe Madigan
Superintendent



*WPCF: (L-R) Travis Day, Dana Cooper, Chris Prue,
Superintendent Joe Madigan and Keith Crosby*

**REPORT OF THE ORONO-VEAZIE WATER DISTRICT
2014-2015**

2015 was a year of transition for the Orono-Veazie Water District. The board of trustees concluded the search for a full-time superintendent with the appointment of Boyd Smith in June. Many of our stakeholders and municipal officials are acquainted with Mr. Smith as he grew up in Orono, and has been employed at the OVWD for a number of years. His experience and institutional knowledge have been critical to maintaining operations and retaining staff at the district during this transition. Following the hiring of a new service team member in July, the district is fully staffed. Membership of the board of trustees also changed in 2015 and early in 2016 with the appointment of two new members from Orono. These trustees, who further diversify the board's expertise, have been appointed to serve 5-year terms.

The trustees are working diligently to enhance the efficiency and transparency of operations at the Orono-Veazie water district, and together, have identified the OVWD website as a critical resource. The board is committed to ensuring consistent public access to meeting agendas and minutes, compliance testing results, annual financial reports, and other important documents and news via the web. A partnership with the Town of Orono has facilitated the sharing of audio recordings of trustee meetings on-line through the water district site, further enhancing efforts to increase transparency and keep our stakeholders informed.

A number of construction projects were completed this past year, and while the larger projects (such as Island Avenue and development of a new multi-unit housing complex in Orono) were not initiated by the district, they required substantial oversight from our staff and superintendent. We are now working to identify, and budget for, 2016 priority projects.

The signature accomplishment of 2015 was commissioning the development of a master plan for the water district. In December, the trustees received the first draft of a Comprehensive Plan and Hydraulic Model from environmental engineering firm, Wright-Pierce. This document, which is currently under review by the board, will inform the actions of the trustees and the superintendent, and guide long- and short-term planning efforts for the next 10-20 years. The final draft of this document will be widely shared to enhance understanding of the current position of the water district, and to provide perspective on the allocation of district resources to maintenance, periodic repairs, and system improvements.

Routine compliance testing for trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids in our water continues on a quarterly basis, with samples drawn from one commercial site in Veazie and one site in Orono, on the University campus. While samples from these locations have met EPA minimum safe drinking water standards for a number of consecutive quarters, efforts to improve water quality continue. Our new superintendent is assisting the board in identifying the most effective and efficient methods for improving water quality across the district, to ensure that the district is well positioned to provide a safe and adequate water supply for our communities far into the future.

The board appreciates the patience shown by our stakeholders during this critical transitional period. With a new superintendent in place, a strategic planning tool, and a commitment to partnering with our stakeholders, the trustees are prepared to utilize best practices to steward our resource in a sustainable manner.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Perkins
President

The board generally meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month – please check the OVWD website for location, and plan to attend to express your concerns or your support. We welcome your participation!

Board of Trustees for 2015:

	Term Expires December 31
Orono	
Paul Smith	2015
Jason Bolton	2018
Farahad Dastoor	2019
Veazie	
Joan Perkins	2016
Ken Borneman	2017

**REPORT OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
2014-2015**

The Orono Parks and Recreation Department has undergone significant change during the 2014-2015 fiscal year. An enormous effort was put forth by Fire Chief Rob St. Louis, assistant Town Manager Belle Ryder and Town Manager Sophie Wilson to make the departments transition seamless. As well, many thanks to all the volunteers and community members that helped keep the department moving forward during this time. With the hiring of a new Director and Programmer, the department was completed in the middle of February.

The need to establish a solid foundation on which the Parks and Recreation Department could build was the number one priority. First, an evaluation of all programming was and will continue on the basis of participation, use of resources and sustainability. Second, understanding the local programming climate, who is providing programs, what programs are available and where are the overlaps or gaps? Third, understanding the direction the town is going (new comprehensive plan) and making sure that the departments programming is in line with that direction. We recognize that this process will extend well into the next fiscal year and ongoing after that.

With change, comes opportunity. There were three places that we recognized that were important moving forward. First, is reestablishing the relationship with the Orono Schools. Specifically, helping people understand a clear educational path of programming that participants could follow from start to high school. Using Orono High School program participation as the goal and giving recreation participants the correct balance of education and fun so they are prepared for participation at the High School level if they should choose. A good example of this would be the Orono Track Club, which is seeing success at the high school level with participants that started with the Orono Track Club at the recreation level. Although this is a sports example and certainly is a positive one to follow with other sports programs, we see this as a possibility with any High School Program like Theater, Outing Club, Language programs, etc. As well, we see the importance of working closely with Asa Adams to collaborate on programming and find ways to compliment their educational efforts outside of school.

Second, with limited resources, how do we find ways to collaborate? We have found success in collaborating with the University of Maine Recreation Sports with vacation and summer camps. We see the importance of finding people, businesses or organizations that we can work with to offer unique opportunities that are less tax-

ing on our resource allowing us the opportunity to offer more with less. This could be as involved as running a program with someone's expertise or simply advertising existing programs. This is especially important when we are looking at adult and senior programming.

Lastly, we recognized very quickly that there are many programs and activities that are going on that no one knows about. We need to find ways to unite groups with common goals, advertise programs so we hit our target audience, and look at ways to minimize the duplication of effort that goes on because of lack of communication. The department is very excited to work with the Orono Public Library under the Community Services title to alleviate these issues internally and figure out ways to help centralize communication to help citizens be in the know.

The Parks and Recreation Department is very excited to be serving the citizens of Orono. We understand that there may be some missteps in this process and ask for feedback along the way to help shape the community's needs. We are excited about the future of Orono Parks and Recreation as we strive to offer fun, educational, and safe programming for the Orono community.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitch Stone
Parks and Recreation Director



Mitch Stone, Director



Matt Raymond

REPORT OF THE ORONO PUBLIC LIBRARY 2014-2015

The Orono Public Library continues to be the heart of the community where children, teens and adults come to browse, meet friends, relax, use computers, and borrow materials. According to the Maine State Library value calculator, Orono taxpayers are getting over \$6.00 return on every tax dollar spent for library services. These services include:

- programs for children, teens and adults
- Materials loaned that include: print; audio visual; and electronic
- Access to Minerva, the statewide interlibrary loan service with access to materials from over 65 Maine libraries.
- Access to free downloadable audio and e-books through Maine Infonet
- Access to Marvel: Maine's Virtual Library
- Deliveries of materials from other Maine libraries five days per week
- Daily, weekly and monthly magazine subscriptions
- Free Museum passes
- Use of the Community Room
- Indieflix: online streaming of independent films
- Free wi-fi and in-house loan of library computers to access the Internet.

Pursuing collaborative efforts with other town departments, local organizations and businesses has been a priority for staff when planning library programs. This year, these have included collaborations with:

- Gateway Seniors
- Camden National Bank
- People's United Bank
- Eaton Peabody Law Firm
- Orono Parks and Recreation
- Orono Village Association
- Orono Adult Education
- Orono Water Pollution Control

As director, I am very impressed with the amount of community and Town Council support for our public library. Our trained and dedicated staff makes customer service their number one priority and are constantly striving to meet community needs and wishes. Our hope is that members of our community take time to let us know what services meet their needs as well as those that would be a welcome addition.

Useage

The following statistics were reported to the Maine State Library as part of the annual report that is designed

to help librarians and trustees assess how well their libraries are performing, identify areas for improvement and make long range plans.

• Collection:	40,000
• Total Circulation:	61,132
• Total Interlibrary Loan:	17,976
• Card holders	4,637
• Total Visits	44,534

Librarians

The Library staff consists of three full time members and one part time member:

The director, Laurie Carpenter joined OPL as in 1985 as the Youth Services Librarian and became the director in 2009. She holds a Master's degree in Library and Information Science (MLIS) from the University of South Carolina and Bachelors in Child Development from the University of Maine.

Joyce Wiebe is the Technology Coordinator/Circulation Manager and came to OPL in 1997 after many years as Library Assistant at the Asa Adams Elementary School. She holds a Masters in Education—Instructional Technology from the University of Maine.

The Youth Services Librarian, Louise Jolliffe joined OPL in 2004 as a library assistant and moved into the position of YS Librarian in 2009. She holds a Bachelors degree in English from Boston University.

Alexis Dixon, Circulation Desk Clerk holds a Bachelors degree in Sociology from Florida State University and came to OPL in November of 2014.

Janette Landis, Youth Services Desk Clerk joined the library staff in November of 2014. She has been a part time substitute for the library since 2007. She holds a Bachelors degree in Mathematics from the University of Wisconsin.

Volunteers

The Library enjoys the services of more than 50 volunteers. Over 20 of these volunteers work 2-4 hours weekly, helping with the daily tasks involved with the interlibrary loan program or other in-house tasks while others give their time as board members or to special projects. This past year, our dedicated weekly volunteers donated over 4000 hours of their time. There are countless more hours given by the members of the three committees that support our vibrant community library:

Committee Involvement

The Friends of Orono Public Library help the

Library carry out its community mission by providing financial and other kinds of support. They believe a town's library is a valuable community resource. By offering ongoing and special programs for all age levels and many interests, the Library functions as more than a warehouse for books; it serves as a vital center for the intellectual and cultural life of our town.

The Orono Public Library Board of Trustees is appointed by the Town Council. Board members work

with the Library Director and staff on issues relevant to the Library, reflect the views of the community on those issues, and provide advice on the Library's operation, budget and policies.

The Orono Public Library Foundation was established in 2002 to build a free-standing public library for the town of Orono and to provide for the library's ongoing support. Since the completion of the building in 2009, the Foundation has continued to explore options for additional library space that would strengthen the Orono community and enhance the quality of life for all Orono citizens. Over the past three years, the Foundation Board of Directors has crafted a plan for a privately funded landscape design for the grounds directly behind the library. A deadline to raise all of the funds was met on August 31, 2015 and ground breaking is scheduled for spring, 2016. This project will transform the space directly behind the building into the Orono Village Green - an attractive public space for three-season use by members of the Orono Community - a gift from the Orono Public Library Foundation to the Town of Orono.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie A. Carpenter
Director



Library Staff (L-R) Janette Landis, Louise Jolliffe, Joyce Wiebe, Alexis Dixon and Director Laurie Carpenter

REPORT OF THE ORONO PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2014-2015

Members of the Board of Trustees at the end of FY 2014-2015 (as of May 2015) were Judy Hakola; chair; Allison Appleby, secretary; Steve Colburn, Francois Amar, and Fredrica Smith, co-treasurers; Janet Elvidge; KC Edes; and Frances Neubauer. Erin Luthin and Emily Noyes were student representatives. Dorothy Pratt was the representative from the Friends of the Orono Public Library, and Sarah Kenney represented the Orono Public Library Foundation.

The Library Board of Trustees typically provides advocacy for the Library, funds for small projects, and supplemental funding for expenses for professional development (attending conferences, etc.) of the library staff when needed. The board also makes occasional larger contributions such as to the Orono Public Library Foundation for the Village Green project.

At its monthly meetings, the Trustees typically received updates from the Library Director, Laurie Carpenter, about library usage, new programs, and budget considerations. Youth Services librarian Louise Jolliffe kept us apprised of the many programs and services offered to the town's young people.

In 2014-2015, under the guidance of the Investment Advisory Committee, which consisted of Francois Amar, Steve Colburn, KC Edes, and Fredrica Smith, plans were completed to move the endowment funds to a new investment brokerage to improve the return on our investment and thus make more funds available to support the library. The actual transfer of our accounts occurred over the summer.

The Town of Orono is very fortunate to have an accomplished professional staff, as well as a cadre of well-trained volunteers, who so effectively maximize the impact of the limited resources available to them. We especially applaud their efforts to extend library resources by cooperating with the Town of Orono Parks and Recreation Department and Adult Education as well as community groups such as the Gateway Seniors.

All Library Trustees meetings are open to Orono residents. Call the library at 866-5060 for dates and times.

Respectfully submitted,
Judith Hakola,
Chair

**REPORT OF THE
BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE 2014-2015**



Plants are picked for their ability to survive drought and somewhat hostile growing conditions, as well as provide a cohesive appearance from garden to garden. Perennial plants form the backbone. Tough, bright annuals such as low-growing zinnias are added seasonally. Tall miscanthus grass, low grey-green mounds of purple catmint, well-behaved ever-blooming yellow day lilies, bright yellow coreopsis, brown-eyed Susans, spikes of pale lavender Russian sage, and sturdy rust colored Autumn Glory sedum — all perennial plants — reappear each year as the backbone of the gardens' design

Interestingly, as the gardens have taken shape they have attracted not just compliments, but additional volunteers who now form an important part of this effort. Also, very little littering or vandalism has occurred, confirming the Committee's view that beauty attracts — well, beautiful behavior.

The Beautification Committee was formed by citizens in mid-2014 in reaction to the Town's decision to pave over the beautiful traffic island gardens at the corner of Park Street and College Avenue, and to cut down a significant tall old cottonwood tree near the bridge on Main Street. The initial goal of the our Committee was to preserve our remaining public gardens, even though budget constraints had eliminated the Town's garden keeper services. When officially commissioned as a Committee by the Town, however, administrators broadened the idea to include our serving as a checkpoint and resource for all new Town and private development projects, so that the heritage of "green" beauty within the Town might actually be enhanced in the years to come, rather than continue to be diminished

During the growing seasons of 2014 and 2015, the Committee set to work. We redesigned, replanted, fertilized and watered street-side and traffic island gardens. This work continues in 2016. The Town provides roughly \$1,000 budget to purchase these garden plants, plus annual mulching and watering services when natural rainfall is less than 1" per month. The Committee designs the gardens; orders and distributes the plants; does spring and fall cleanup; weeds, fertilizes and waters the gardens; and coordinates the efforts of volunteers.

In 2015 the Committee established a "Golden Trowel" contest to encourage local businesses to use plants to beautify their surroundings. The first award was won by the University Motor Inn for window boxes featuring big red Angel Wing begonias. Over 900 donated bulbs were planted in Fall 2015 for Spring of 2016 flowering. Look for the work of this Committee and volunteers at the Town entrance signs, on Pine Street and along Main Street, at the entrance to North Main Avenue, as well as smaller pockets of planting in Pat's Park and Mill Street.

The Committee is chaired by Lisa Colburn; official members are Robin Beckett, Cynthia Fellencer, Virginia Whitaker Hackney, Sam Hunting, Robert Klose, Claudia Lowd and Lenore Tipping. Important Volunteers include Cindy Blease and her daughter Deb Blease, Yong Me Ahn, Kris Sader, Christine Mainella, Jim "fabulous zinnias" Ballinger, Shayne "entrance signs" Cobb, Christa Schwintzer, Gail "Pine St. Garden" White, and Asa "Pat's Park" Marsh-Sachs. The Committee meets at 7:00 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at the Town Office. All beauty-loving citizens are invited to bring concerns, ideas and help.

Respectfully submitted,

Ginny Hackney
Committee Member

Regional School Unit No. 26

Asa C. Adams School ♦ Orono Middle School ♦ Orono High School

10 Goodridge Drive, Orono, Maine 04473

Tel: (207) 866-7110

Fax: (207) 866-4217

RSU 26 Annual Report to the Town on the 2014-2015 School Year

It is my pleasure to report on the accomplishments of the Orono schools during the 2014-2015 school year in this annual report to the residents of Orono, Maine.

Vision and Strategic Planning Work:

The mission of the Regional School Unit 26 is to cultivate a community of responsible, respectful and passionate learners. RSU 26 is one of the only regional school units in Maine made up of only one member town. The municipalities of Veazie and Glenburn withdrew from RSU 26 in June 2013. In March 2015 the school board approved the new vision for the future of our schools with these guiding principles:

- Our graduating students will be lifelong learners, prepared for a constantly changing world.
- Learning in our system is engaging and personalized to meet the needs, strengths and interests of each individual learner.
- Our curriculum is comprehensive and rigorous; our instruction is personalized for each of our learners; our assessment system continuously documents learner progress toward proficiency.
- All staff members consistently put kids first, helping every student learn for success.
- Our leaders share an inspiring common vision for the future of our learning community and work together to achieve it.
- Technology is consistently used to increase and enhance student learning.
- Our highly engaged community supports and enhances student learning.
- Facilities are designed & maintained to support our students' learning.

Since March 2015 the visioning team shifted their focus and began working to develop a strategic plan with long-range and short-term goals that will provide the pathway forward to realizing this vision. The strategic plan is scheduled for completion in March 2016. This has been an extremely comprehensive process involving numerous survey opportunities for the larger community, parents, staff and students and an incredible commitment of the part of the planners. It has involved gleaning ideas in face-to-face meetings with staff, discussions with the Town Council, and through community forums.

As part of our facilities planning, in 2014-2015 our Riot Athletic Complex Endeavor (RACE) engineering team met regularly and diligently with Jim Wilson from Woodard and Curran to develop a master plan for the new athletic facility. In the spring the team held several community forum events to share the plan and to get feedback that impacted refinements and we now have a master plan that reflects the scope of what the Orono community wants and needs for the playing fields. The RACE efforts are now focused on fundraising for this important project.

RSU 26 Demographic Indicators:

April 1, 2015 Student Enrollment

- Asa C. Adams School: 270
- Orono Middle School: 152
- Orono High School: 350 (tuition students: 171)

Number of staff:

Teachers: 85 (80.15 FTE)
Support Staff: 69
Administrators: 7 (6.5 FTE)

Number of teachers/admin with advanced degrees:

Bachelor's Degree: 28
Master's Degree: 50
CAS: 13
PhD: 1

Free and reduced Lunch indicators:

- Asa C. Adams School 30%
- Orono Middle School 23%
- Orono High School 24%

Policy Revision Work

In the late fall of 2014, our school board launched a comprehensive overhaul of our RSU 26 school board policy manual. This process was necessary because many of the RSU 26 policies were very outdated and/or were designed for the RSU when Veazie and Glenburn were still members. We began by enlisting the help of Maine School Management Association, who provided our Board with a core policy manual that included updated, legally referenced versions of all the policies required by Maine schools. A subcommittee was formed, a chairperson, Shari Kinnison, was elected and we began a systematic review of these policies. The subcommittee meets regularly on Friday afternoons. In addition, our Policy Subcommittee chairperson and the Superintendent meet monthly with staff to elicit their feedback on policies that are approaching approval at the board level.

Curriculum and Instruction:

Our students continue to have opportunities to learn through a stunning array of academic, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities and sports. We are very proud to be able to offer such a range of learning opportunities in such a small school system, and we appreciate that it is testament to the high regard and hopefulness that the Orono community places on our young peoples' futures.

As always our teachers place high priority on knowing each student in terms of their interests, best learning modalities, and their readiness for learning. At a fundamental level we have been committed to focusing on students' progress with the Maine State Learning Result standards, which are at the heart of our curriculum and instruction efforts. In addition, we have also been

committed to developing our students' talents when their interests and readiness has indicated different needs.

At the high school the work of refining student learning standards in response to legislation that requires all Maine students to become proficient with Maine's State standards in order to earn their high school diploma is well underway. Mr. Chasse enlisted a team of OHS teacher leaders to assist with this work and they kicked off the initiative by attending a weeklong training session in June of 2015 and have plans to work with staff during the 2015-16 year to build our capacity for knowing how to implement this important initiative.

Our young people continue to receive accolades and recognition for their academic and extra-curricular and co-curricular activities. This is a credit to our staff, parents, and the dedicated, inspiring work of our students themselves! On behalf of our entire staff I want to thank you for your support and partnership as we work together to provide the best education for our community's most precious asset—our young people.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanne Cassida Harriman, Ed.D.
RSU 26 Superintendent of Schools

SUSAN M. COLLINS
MAINE

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

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904
May 11, 2015

COMMITTEES:
SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON AGING,
CHAIRMAN
APPROPRIATIONS
HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS
SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE

Dear Friends:

It is often remarked that our beautiful state has an information highway without ramps, roads and streets. A recent study ranks us 49th among the states for internet access and quality; another study ranks Maine as tied for 37th place among the states. Unfortunately, our average broadband internet speed is well below the national average, and Maine customers often pay high prices for access, if broadband service is available to them at all.

I believe that investment in access to affordable, high-quality broadband is of critical importance to Maine's future, and that access to broadband has tremendous potential to foster economic growth and development throughout our State. For that reason, it is imperative that our laws and regulations affecting the internet encourage robust investment in broadband in rural areas.

In 2009, I was the chief sponsor of the substitute amendment [SA 570] that became the Senate version of H.R. 1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). In that bill, which passed the Senate by a vote of 60-38, I secured \$7 billion for broadband investments in "unserved" and "underserved" areas (Section 201 of my amendment). This money is allocated through grants, and has resulted in \$110.7 million for broadband investments in Maine, including the Three Ring Binder project, which built a 1,100 mile high speed fiber network throughout the State.

I also support the Universal Service Fund (USF), which provides funding each year to subsidize telecommunications services in Maine. I recently joined my colleagues in writing to Federal Communications Commission Chairman (FCC) Wheeler regarding an update to the USF to provide support for broadband-capable networks. As the FCC continues to modernize USF to support broadband deployment, we must ensure rural consumers are not left behind by antiquated rules that inhibit investment, adoption, and consumer choice.

Investments like these, and those of countless private businesses, help us to remain competitive, allowing Mainers to enjoy the quality of place and life for which Maine is famous, while taking advantage of an array of employment opportunities and access to world- renowned medical providers through the availability of telehealth services. With this in mind, I look forward to the continued expansion of broadband internet service in Maine.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins
United States Senator

ANGUS S. KING, JR.
MAINE

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

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
BUDGET
ENERGY AND
NATURAL RESOURCES
INTELLIGENCE
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Dear Friends of Orono:

It has been a privilege to serve the State of Maine since being sworn into the U.S. Senate.

Much of my time in Washington this past year has been devoted to the Senate Armed Services Committee and the Select Committee on Intelligence. Protecting our homeland and the people of Maine from terrorism and violence remains one of my top priorities. Through my work on the Armed Services Committee, I was able to secure several provisions in the 2016 National Defense Authorization Act that benefit Maine. The legislation authorizes the construction of an additional DDG-51 Arleigh Burke Class Destroyer that could be built at Bath Iron Works and expands the HUBZone program to stimulate economic growth at former military installations like the former Brunswick Naval Air Station.

Returning control to teachers, school districts, and states has also been a primary concern of mine. I am encouraged that the Every Student Succeeds Act has become law. It eliminates the burdensome requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act and ensures access to a quality education for all students. A provision I helped author in the bill will give states the opportunity to pilot the use of their own proficiency-based assessments in lieu of federally-mandated standardized tests. Also included in the bill are several measures I secured to promote local input, fund education technology initiatives, and explore new strategies to increase student access to the internet outside of school.

Communities across Maine have taken bold action to improve their broadband connectivity, and I have been proud to foster federal support for these types of projects. My amendments to the Every Student Succeeds Act will promote the type of work already occurring in Washington County, where students who lack broadband access are able to check out mobile hotspots from their local libraries. Additionally, a bill I co-sponsored, the Community Broadband Act, helped pave the way for the FCC to enact rules protecting the ability of municipalities to invest in better broadband. I am excited by Maine's leadership on this important economic development issue and will continue to support local efforts in this area.

After extensive negotiations, the Senate passed a five-year transportation bill that will increase highway and transit funding in Maine and provide stability to improve our transportation infrastructure. The legislation contains provisions I cosponsored to cut red tape and improve predictability and timeliness by streamlining the federal permitting process for large infrastructure projects. Also incorporated in this bill are my provisions to relieve financial regulations on Maine's community banks and credit unions and to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank, a critical tool that supports communities and small business across the state.

Following my inquiries in the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, the National Park Service has announced they will begin exploring strategies to allow park visitors to purchase electronic passes online and will pilot the program at Acadia National Park. These passes would improve access to our nation's most treasured landscapes and would generate resources for years to come. I remain deeply engaged in preserving Maine's natural beauty and strengthening our outdoor recreation economy.

It is with solemn responsibility that I have focused my energy addressing the opioid epidemic in Maine. This work includes convening roundtables with a wide-range of health care and law enforcement professionals to combat addiction; introducing a proposal to safely dispose of excess prescription drugs; cosponsoring a

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Augusta, ME 04330
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PRESQUE ISLE
169 Academy Street, Suite A
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(207) 764-5124

SCARBOROUGH
383 US Route 1, Suite 1
Scarborough, ME 0407
(207) 883-1588

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

Senate-passed bill that addresses mothers struggling with addiction and the alarming effect it has on newborns; cosponsoring the TREAT Act, which expands the ability of medical specialists to provide life-saving medication-assisted therapies for patients battling heroin and prescription drug addiction; and calling on the Commander of U.S. Southern Command to increase efforts to stop the flow of heroin at our southern border.

I like to think of Maine as a big small town – and in a small town, the leaders are accessible and eager to listen. In that spirit, I've made it a priority to stay connected with people from all over Maine who e-mail, write, and call with suggestions or questions. If I can ever assist in your interaction with a federal agency, or you have thoughts, concerns, or personal input on a matter that is currently before Congress I hope you will contact me, let me know where you stand, and engage in this critical part of democracy. Please call my toll-free line at **1-800-432-1599** or one of my offices: Augusta (207) 622-8292, Presque Isle (207) 764-5124, Scarborough (207) 883-1588, or Washington, D.C. (202) 224-5344. You can also write me on our website at www.king.senate.gov/contact.

As always, I am honored to represent the people of Maine and look forward to working with you for the betterment of our great state.

Sincerely,



Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator



Paul R. LePage
GOVERNOR

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

Dear Citizens of Orono:

Maine has a long tradition of civil participation in both state and local government, and I thank you for being informed and involved citizens.

My vision for Maine is prosperity, not poverty. For this reason, one of my top priorities is the reduction and eventual elimination of the income tax. Some are pushing to raise the minimum wage, but I want Mainers to earn a maximum wage. Reducing the income tax is the biggest and most immediate pay raise for all hard-working Mainers.

Not only does an income tax cut put more money back in your pockets, but it will also attract businesses that can offer good-paying careers to keep our young people here in Maine. It shows the nation that we are serious about wanting people and businesses to come—and stay—in Maine.

Another of my priorities is to lower the cost of student debt in Maine. If young people are struggling with too much student debt, they are unable to afford homes or vehicles. We are now offering programs to help them lower their debt, stay in Maine, begin their careers and start families.

To provide good-paying jobs for our young people, we must also work hard to reduce our energy costs. High energy costs are a major factor in driving out manufacturers, mills and other businesses that need low-cost electricity. I am committed to lowering the cost of energy, not only to attract job creators, but also to allow Maine people to heat and power their homes affordably and effectively.

And finally, we are making progress to address the drug pandemic in our state. It is my most important duty to keep the Maine people safe. While education, treatment and prevention efforts are important, we must get the dealers off the streets. I am pleased the Legislature has finally agreed to fund my proposal for more drug agents to stem the supply of deadly opiates flowing into our communities, but our law enforcement agencies are still understaffed. We must do more.

It is a pleasure serving as your Governor. If ever I can be of assistance to you or if you have any questions or suggestions, I encourage you to contact my office by calling 287-3531 or by visiting our website at www.maine.gov/governor.

Sincerely,

Paul R. LePage
Governor



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

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TTY USERS CALL 711
www.maine.gov

FAX: (207) 287-1034



Senator James Dill
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003
(207) 287-1515

Dear Friends of Orono,

I hope this annual town report letter finds you and your family well. It is an honor to represent you and our region as your State Senator. In my travels around the district, I have been sharing a few items that I thought might be of interest to you as well.

Unclaimed Property: if you have a chance, it may be worthwhile to check out the updated statewide Unclaimed Property list. Every year, the Treasurer's Office produces a list of unclaimed property, which consists of money and other personal assets that are considered lost or abandoned when an owner cannot be located after a specified period of time. Visit www.maine.gov/unclaimed or call 1-888-283-2808 to see if you have any unclaimed property.

Honorary Page Program: provides students a unique chance to observe and participate in the legislative process. As an Honorary Page, students deliver messages, distribute documents, interact with the senators, and most importantly take part in a real legislative learning experience. If you know of a student who may be interested, or would like more information, please contact me. It would be my honor to meet with the student and his/her family during the visit to the State House.

Legislative Update: is part of my effort to keep you informed about what happening in the Legislature. This periodic email allows me to share information that is useful and informative to you and our district. Please email me at JamesDill207@gmail.com or call me to sign up.

As your State Senator, I will continue to do as I have always done in the past, and that is work with all sides to do what is best for you, our region, and our state. While there is still plenty of work remaining, please know I will continue to focus on helping those affected by the mill closures, creating good paying jobs and fostering economic development for this area, providing tax relief and reform for Maine residents, investing in our schools, teachers and children, reforming welfare, and building better infrastructure from our roads to broadband. As the Legislature continues its work, please know that I am always available to hear from you.

I look forward to seeing you around!

Sincerely,

Jim Dill

Fax: (207) 287-1585 * TTY (207) 287-1583 * Message Service 1-800-423-6900 * Web Site: legislature.maine.gov/senate

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**2 STATE HOUSE STATION
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Ryan D. Tipping-Spitz279 Main Street
Orono, ME 04473

Residence: (207) 866-4333

Ryan.TippingSpitz@legislature.maine.gov

Spring 2016

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

It has been an honor to serve the residents of Orono for another term as your State Representative in Augusta. My second term down in the State House was productive despite many moments of frustration. First, though, I would like to thank all of the residents of our wonderful town who took the time to contact me and provide helpful input on everything from tax policy to salmon law.

Much like last session, the largest issue of consideration for this legislature was the biennial budget. As our state slowly recovers from the recession, we still face major funding problems for vital healthcare programs, public safety resources, and our incredibly important yet underfunded public schools. Despite this headwind, my colleagues and I on the Education Committee were able to work with the Appropriations Committee to add an additional \$50 million to the Governor's proposed budget to fund local public schools. This allowed us to inch closer to the goal of fully funding 55% of the cost of local education with state funds, but we are still not there yet. We were also able to supplement that amount with an addition \$15 million in the short session in the face of a budget shortfall due to decreasing property valuations and increased educational costs state-wide.

We were also able to make progress on the issue of student debt and college affordability. While the University of Maine System was able to yet again use an increase in state appropriation to keep tuition costs flat, we were also able to increase funding for the Maine State Grant program to provide more money to Maine students trying to afford a higher education. The Education Committee was also able to use a bill I submitted to allow the Finance Authority of Maine to begin offering a loan product for consolidation and refinancing of student debt. We still have a long way to go but these were important steps in addressing the mounting costs of college and the massively increasing amounts of student debt held by Mainers.

There were many other issues addressed by the 127th Legislature, but to summarize I believe we were able to make good progress on a number of fronts despite flare ups of blind partisanship and increasing obstructionism from the Governor.

Once again, I must say thank you for the honor of allowing me to serve my hometown down in Augusta. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to contact me either by phone at (207) 866-4333 or by e-mail at oronoryan@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ryan Tipping-Spitz'.

District 123 Orono (part)



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Aaron M. Frey

P.O. Box 74

Bangor, ME 04402

Cell Phone: (207) 249-9969

Aaron.Frey@legislature.maine.gov

Spring 2016

Dear Residents of Orono:

It continues to be an honor to serve you as the State Representative for House District 124, which includes part of Bangor and part of Orono.

The 127th Legislature began meeting for the second regular session in January, and we are scheduled to finish our work by the end of April. We are primarily focused on emergency legislation and bills carried over from 2015. Our top priorities this session include combatting Maine's drug crisis, finding ways to improve services provided to our veterans, investing in renewable energy, keeping heating costs down and supporting our schools.

The Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee, of which I am a member, was hard at work throughout the beginning of January on a bipartisan bill to help address opiate addiction in our state by bolstering law enforcement efforts and treatment programs. With that effort behind us, we are now looking into how certain bills will affect the budget we worked on last year and where adjustments will need to be made.

Whether we are dealing with the above issues or any other topic, I stand ready to work with all of my colleagues, regardless of party affiliation, to make sure we're doing the best work we can for the people of our district and all the people of Maine.

Please contact me if I can be of any help or if you want to discuss or testify on any legislation. My email is aaron.frey@legislature.maine.gov, and my phone number is 249-9969. I also send out e-newsletters from time to time. Please let me know if you would like to receive them.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Aaron M. Frey".

Aaron Frey
State Representative

District 124 Bangor (part) and Orono (part)

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