

Town of Bucksport

Annual Report



July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023

2022-2023 Annual Report Dedication

Robert “Bob” Carmichael

This year, we take a moment to honor the memory of Robert “Bob” Carmichael, whose dedication and service to our community will be remembered for years to come. Bob was a pillar of our town, contributing as a teacher, coach, and athletic director at Bucksport High School for 33 years. He was a member of the town council for nine years, a member of the planning board, the recreation, building and study committees; he also represented the school system on multiple statewide committees in his role as coach and athletic director. Bob was directly involved in the baseball field renovation and the construction of the football field at its current location. His unwavering commitment to local sports and youth activities helped shape our community and improve the lives of countless residents. Whether it was mentoring student athletes or serving on town committees, Bob’s actions always



reflected his deep love for our town and its people. As we reflect on this past year, we are reminded of Bob’s legacy and the indelible mark he left on our community. His spirit will continue to inspire us as we move forward. We extend our deepest condolences to the Carmichael family and friends. May we all strive to carry forward the values and dedication that Bob embodied so fully.

“Rich in Heritage, Looking to the Future”



**The 230th Annual Town
Report**

Town of Bucksport

July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

Fifty-one Years of Council-Manager Form of Government

Index

Report	Pages
Elected & Appointment Officials	1-2
Organizational Chart	3
Town Manger's Report	4-8
Tax Assessor	9
Town Clerk	10
Economic Development	11-12
Code Enforcement & Planning Board	13
Emergency Services	14-17
Chief of Police	18-19
Public Safety	20-22
Communications	23
Animal Shelter	24
Public Works	25
Wastewater Treatment Plant	26-27
Marina & Town Dock	28-29
Transfer Station	30
Superintendent of Schools	31-32
Parks & Recreation	33
Outstanding Tax Liens 2022	34-35
Outstanding Tax Liens 2023	36-38
Outstanding Personal Property Taxes	39-40
Tax Acquired Property	41-43
Governor Janet Mills Letter	44
Senator Susan Collins Letter	45
Senator Peter Lyford Letter	46
Congress member Jared Golden	47
Municipal Audit 2022-2023	48-53

ELECTED & APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS

TERMS EXPIRE

Town Council

Paul Bissonnette	January 2025
Steven Bishop	January 2026
Mark Eastman	January 2024
James Morrison	January 2025
Daniel Ormsby	January 2025
Edward Rankin Jr	January 2026
Peter Stewart	January 2024

RSU #25 School Board

Abigail Foster	January 2024
Thomas Foster	January 2024
Scott Frazier	January 2025
Keith Kneeland	January 2026

Planning Board

Teri Doty	March 31, 2026
Jay Durost	March 31, 2025
George Hanson	March 31, 2025
Crystal Harlan	March 31, 2027
Michael Hayduck	March 31, 2027
Mark Neslusan	March 31, 2024
Richard Petersen	March 31, 2026

Board of Assessment Review

John Corrigan	March 31, 2025
Joseph Davanzo	March 31, 2025
Jacob Grandmaison	March 31, 2024

Zoning Board of Appeals

Jamie Bowden	March 31, 2025
Jacob Grandmaison	March 31, 2026
Jayne Grandmaison	March 31, 2025
Richard Tennant, Jr.	March 31, 2028
Donald White	March 31, 2024

Conservation Commission

John Christopher	March 31, 2024
Kathy Downes	March 31, 2025
Karen Johnson	March 31, 2026
Linda Plourde	March 31, 2024
Candice Spalding	March 31, 2026

Parks and Recreation Committee

Sean Geagan
Frederick (Rick) McHale
Richard Rotella
Richard Sprague
George Watkins
David Winchester

TERMS EXPIRE

March 31, 2025
March 31, 2023
March 31, 2024
March 31, 2024
March 31, 2024
March 31, 2025

Town Manager, Tax Collector, Treasurer, and Welfare Director

Susan Lessard

June, 2025

Town Clerk

Jacob Gran

Indefinite

Registrar of Voters

Jacob Gran

January 1, 2024

Public Safety Director

Sean Geagan

Indefinite

Deputy Police Chief

David Winchester

Indefinite

Deputy Fire Chief and Town Fire Warden

Michael Denning

Indefinite

Code Enforcement Officer and Plumbing Inspector

Luke Chiavelli

August 31, 2023

Tax Assessor

Katlyn Eldridge

October 10, 2023

Economic Development Director

Rich Rotella

Indefinite

Public Works Director

Jay Lanpher

Indefinite

Harbor Master

Michael Ormsby

March 31, 2024

Deputy Harbor Master

William Gray

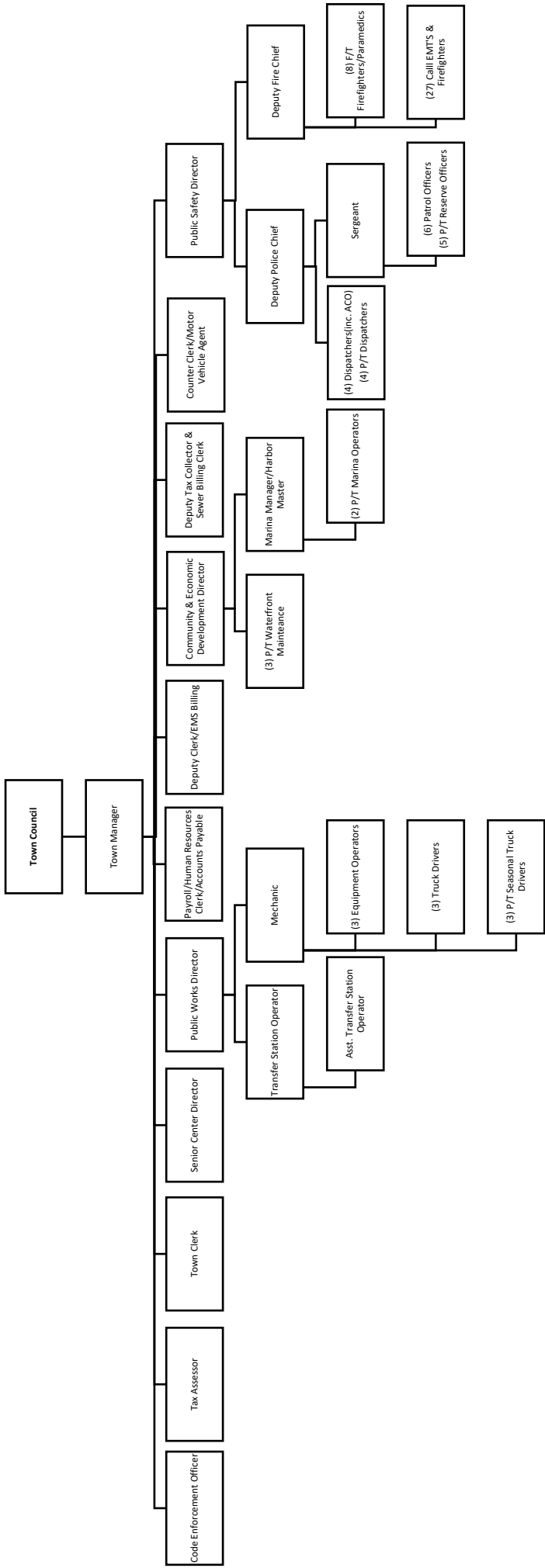
March 31, 2024

Health Officer

Luke Chiavelli

March 31, 2024

Town Organizational Chart



Town Manager

The purpose of this memo is to discuss work done by the Town Council and its departments during the 2023 year.

- A. The first section of the report is a review of the items named at the Goals & Objectives meeting held on February 2, 2023:
 - a. PPI conclusion, start of VPI process – *The PPI process was completed in 2023 and a vote on submitting the project for a VPI grant is scheduled for June 2024. – See 2024-25 goals information*
 - b. Historical Society – Alternative location – *The Council and its Infrastructure Committee has discussed several proposals from the Historical Society, all of which related to use of the current location, and all of which have generated significant questions and concerns from Council members. The next step is for the Council to make some final determination in 2024 as to whether it will provide the requested funding for moving the facility closer to the road and putting a foundation under it. See 2024-25 goals information*
 - c. Town Dock – Expansion/funding – *Funding for this project is currently included in the Federal budget, but which has not received final approval. The Town is also pursuing funding of this project from the Holtra Chem settlement funds for community projects.*
 - d. Road maintenance and upgrades – *The town completed its three year road project in the fall of 2022, and continued with the five miles of paving in 2023 identified in order to maintain the roads appropriately*
 - e. Council Chambers – Audio/visual upgrades – *Equipment has been purchased and is in the process of being installed to improve both sound and viewing in addition to the live screen that is now available for use in the council chambers instead of a projector and screen.*
 - f. Retaining Walls – Central Street – *This project was completed in the fall of 2023 for an amount that was significantly less than estimated.*
 - g. Bucksmills Road culvert project – *This project was completed in the fall of 2023, completing the two large culvert projects that the Town voted on in 2019 and which the Town received grant funding from MDOT and DMR for a portion of the cost.*
 - h. 2023 Bay Festival – Town organized – *The one day festival was organized and operated by Town Office staff. The weather was perfect and attendance was large. The free activities for children was a major hit as was the variety of activities available. Staff is already planning for the event for 2024.*

- i. 27 Main Street – The property was sold to a developer for the development of 18 market rate apartment. Originally planned on starting construction in 2023 but deed delays have moved it into 2024.
- j. Spring Fountain Motel – Dangerous building order – The court has still not acted on this case, and the property owner filed a separate claim related to the order in Federal court that also has not been heard. – **Update Court has approved a Trial of the Facts instead of dismissing the appeal as requested by the Town. Possibility of a consent agreement for work at the property**
- k. Central Street – Turnover from State to Town- The Town has received an MPI project from MDOT for the work necessary from Main Street to Broadway in order for the Town to agree to take over the road. The State did needed drainage improvements near Millvale and a binder coat of paving from Broadway to Millvale. The mill/fill from Main Street to Broadway will be done in early 2024 and then paved, at which time the Town can accept the road as a Town Road.
- l. Animal Shelter – Location, design, sent to referendum – Lots of discussion on this item but no plan for construction/location has been finalized
- m. Community Garden – A local group has taken on this project and has identified a lot on Federal Street whose owner is willing to have it used for this purpose.
- n. Cemetery maintenance apart of budget process – The cemetery budget now includes funding annually for stone maintenance as well as fencing, etc. The Cemetery Committee has done an inventory of all cemeteries and developed a ‘to do’ list for each one.
- o. Waterfront/walkway maintenance – The Community & Economic Development Director wrote a grant to assist with a waterfront plan that takes climate change into account as part of what is needed for upgrading.
- p. Replacement of sewer pump stations – Grants/funding – The Town applied to MDEP for a grant in 2023 to replace pump stations but was not selected. We will apply again in 2024.
- q. Bridge and Pine Street sewer line replacement – No activity – **Update – this area has updated PVC piping**
- r. Recreational trails for biking and ATVs – Former railroad tracks – No activity
- s. Ordinance options for the allowance of ATVs on roadways – No activity
- t. Removal of railroad tracks on waterfront – No activity – **See 2024-25 goals information**
- u. Engineer options – On staff vs. engineering firm – At the present time, the town does not spend enough on engineering to warrant the addition of an engineer to the Town staff. In hiring on an as-needed basis, the Town is able to choose whatever type of engineer is necessary for the challenge at hand.
- v. Baseball field – Long term solution – The short term solution continues to function well and the Council decided to hold off on investing more money into the wall there at this time. – **See 2024-25 goals information**
- w. Expansion of Gardner Commons- There was outreach to the Gardner Commons board on this topic but no meetings or discussions were held.

- x. Solar projects – *A contract zone solar project was granted for the Louann Wasson property but the Council established a solar project moratorium in order to allow the Town time to develop ordinance language the specifies what zones that solar and other energy projects could be located.*

B. The second section of this report identified work that has been approved by the Town Council in addition to or in support of work on the goals and objectives:

1. Zoning/ordinance changes
 - a. Changed lots on Franklin Street from Village to Downtown to accommodate the conversion of the Masonic Hall to apartments and a bistro
 - b. Updated Fee Schedule to include animal surrender fees, solar permit fees,
 - c. Developed Private Holiday Expression Area Policy
 - d. Change of Allowed Uses in Commercial 3 District to allow auto business in Business Park
 - e. Landfill permitting Moratorium and development of a Bucksport Waste Disposal Facility Licensing Ordinance
 - f. Adjusted zoning boundary to add Map 35 Lot 15 as well as a portion of Map 1 Lot 10 into the Downtown Zone for the permitting of a Papermaking Museum
 - g. Contract Zone for Solar Array approved
 - h. Charter Change for Council Wages approved by voters
 - i. Update to Town Code to increase Wages for Planning Board approved by Town Council
 - j. Adopted updated version of Animal Shelter Rules & Regulations
 - k. Eliminated Town-owned Shooting Range on Route 46
 - l. Discontinued remainder of unconstructed Second Street
 - m. General Assistance Ordinance Appendices Updates
2. Property Sales
 - a. Phase 1 Lot 3 in the Business Park
 - b. 27 Main Street to StateWide Property Management for housing to be constructed
 - c. Phase 2, Lots 6 & 7 to be used for auto & towing business
 - d. 1861 State Route 46 – Foreclosure sale
 - e. 5 Mount Olive Heights – Foreclosure sale
3. Equipment Purchased
 - a. 2023 Plow Truck for Highway Department
 - b. Vehicle Lift for Town Garage
 - c. Town Office Heat Pumps
 - d. Ice Rink Building Heat Pump
 - e. 2023 Ambulance
 - f. Repeater for Ambulance
 - g. Firefighter Turnout Gear
4. Contracts
 - a. Police Mutual Aid Agreement with all Hancock County Towns
 - b. New England Salt Contract

- c. Gas & Diesel Contract with Dead River
 - d. Town Manager Contract Extension to 2025
 - e. DM&J Waste for Disposal of Demolition Debris, metal & waste wood
 - f. Route 46 Maintenance Contract
 - g. Amended Fire/EMS contract to change schedule from 56 hour to 42 hour week and add 3 persons for a 4 shift schedule
 - h. MOU with Harold Alfond Center for Advancement of Maine's Workforce
5. Repairs
 - a. Garage doors at Highway Garage
 - b. Ambulance Repairs to Ambulance 1 and Ambulance 2
 - c. Roof repair – Public Safety Building
 - d. Bucksport Performing Arts Center Repairs
 6. Festival Permits/Events/Programs
 - a. Bridge the Gap Race
 - b. Hot August Nights Parade & Car Show
 - c. Tour de Lac Road Race
 - d. Library Storywalk
 - e. Bay Festival
 - f. American Cruise Line Visit Schedule
 - g. Pride Festival
 - h. Bucksport Vendor Benders
 - i. Music At the Marina
 - j. Holiday Lights Parade & Fireworks
 - k. Ghostport
 - l. Bucksport Skatepark Grand Opening Event
 - m. Tree Lighting
 - n. FrostFest
 - o. Make Bucksport Beautiful Day
 - p. Geocaching approved
 7. ARPA
 - a. \$15,000 set aside to fund Home Safety & Accessibility Repair Program with Habitat for Humanity
 - b. \$150,000 for additional personnel for changed Fire/EMS department schedule and staffing
 - c. \$25,000 for UTV for snowmobile club
 8. Economic Development Programs
 - a. Downtown Façade Improvement Program
 - b. Received 2024 Shore & Harbor Planning Grant
 - c. Swings on the Waterfront
 - d. Inclusion of Dock project in Federal Funding package
 - e. Franklin Street Retaining Wall
 - f. Installation of 1990's Mural
 9. Recognitions
 - a. Michael McInnis – 47 years of service – Highway Department

- b. Rick McHale & Karen Boz – Spirit of America
- B. Other Stuff
 - 1. Outside speaking engagements - Manager
 - a. Mainly Matters podcast
 - b. WERU
 - c. ICMA Voices in Local Government Podcast
 - d. Moore Center Panelist on comprehensive planning
 - 2. Courtesy Boat Inspection Program – 1st year operated by the Town of Bucksport
 - 3. Public Forum held by Public Safety on Drug addiction problem and available resources in the community
 - 4. Age & Ability Friendly Regional Meeting held at Bucksport Senior Center
 - 5. AARP Age & Ability Action Plan 5 Year Report submitted and accepted
 - 6. Jonathan Buck DAR Marker placed in Buck Cemetery by Ramassoc Chapter of the DAR
 - 7. Pool Repairs done to fix cracked valves
 - 8. 2nd lawsuit filed by owner of Spring Fountain property against the Town.
 - 9. Museum in the Streets project completed and installed
 - 10. Attainment of SHAPE designation from the Department of Labor for the third consecutive 3 year period
 - 11. Partnership with RSU 25 and Eastern Carolina University for meetings with a community in Poland to discuss successful community strategies/relationships/progress.
 - 12. Hired new deputy town clerk to train to take over the Clerk position in January 2025 when Jackie Hunt retires.

Not itemized here – but equally important – is the excellent work done by each of our departments and employees during the year as part of their everyday responsibilities. You receive their monthly reports which break down much of their activity – but in addition to doing really good work – the people who work for the Town genuinely care about the community and its residents.

Respectfully,

Susan Lessard, Bucksport Town Manager

Tax Assessor

2022-2023 was a big year in the Town of Bucksport Assessing Office. We continued to see inflated sales which prompted the beginning of a town wide cost schedule update in order to bring our valuation in line with the current real estate market the following year. A lot of work was done this year behind the scenes to update our software and data to make this project as seamless and efficient as possible.

REAL ESTATE VALUATION

Land:	\$144,896,660
Buildings/Improvements:	\$233,520,654

Total Real Estate Valuation:	\$378,417,314

PERSONAL PROPERTY VALUATION

Machinery and Equipment:	\$6,020,470
Business Equipment	\$1,198,630
All Other	\$43,412,580

Total Personal Property Valuation:	\$50,631,680

TOTAL TAXABLE VALUATION:	\$429,048,994
Town Tax Rate:	\$16.95
Total Tax for Commitment:	\$7,272,380.45

Total Homestead Exemptions Granted: 1,136

Again this year, as with many communities in Maine, the Town of Bucksport unfortunately was unable to reach 100% for our Certified Ratio. Essentially, the Certified Ratio is the comparison between sales price and the assessed value of a property. Due to the extraordinary real estate market, sales trended, on average, quite a bit higher than the value assessed for the property. The Town of Bucksport was able to reach a 95% Certified Ratio this year, which means property owners were granted 95% of the total possible \$25,000 Homestead Exemption. Property owners who have applied and were granted the Homestead Exemption received \$23,750 off of the taxable value of their property, resulting in a decrease in their tax bill of \$402.56. If you are not currently receiving a Homestead Exemption but have owned your home for at least a year as of April 1 and it is your primary residence, you may qualify. Contact the Assessing Office for more information.

I am excited to see what we are able to accomplish and streamline in the coming year as we navigate what has become the ever changing world of real estate.

Respectfully submitted,

Katlyn Eldridge, Tax Assessor

Town Clerk

The Town Clerk's office is responsible for maintaining and preserving all of the town's records. We continue to strive to make as many records available on our website as possible. The Clerk works under the Department of Health and Human Services in administering vital records, and further serves as an agent for the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in issuing recreational licenses and permits. The Town Clerk's office also issues various town business licenses.



A large portion of the Clerk's responsibility involves working under the direction of the Secretary of State's Office in facilitating State and Municipal elections. This year, the General and Municipal Election were held on November 8, 2022, and the RSU 25 Budget Validation Election was held on June 13, 2023.

As a reminder, all dogs six months or older are required to be licensed by January 31st annually, and we encourage you to license your pets before February 1st to avoid the \$25 late fee. Dog licenses are available each year beginning on October 15th at the town office or online.

The following is a statistical report of transactions processed this past year through the Town Clerk's Office:

Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

Archery	41
Boats	289
ATV's	176
Snowmobiles	110
Fishing	122
Hunting	96
Combination	137
Junior Hunting	8

Town Licenses

Licenses & Permits	31
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Dog Licenses

Male/Female	122
Neuter/Spay	688
Kennel	1

Vital Records

Birth Copies	134
Death Copies	293
Marriages Copies	94
Burial Permits	0
Marriage Licenses	26
Births Recorded	33
Deaths Recorded	61

The financial status of the Town Clerk's office at the end of the fiscal year is reflected by the audit statements included in this annual report. As always, I would like to thank the office staff for all they do to assist the Town Clerk's office.

Respectfully,

Jacob R. Gran
Town Clerk/Registrar of Voters

Community & Economic Development

Fiscal Year 2023 was the year of partnerships. The first major partnership that took place involved the Maine Department of Transportation and the replacing of 5 deteriorating walls with three of them located on Central Street and two of them located on US Route 1. This was the second Municipal Partnership Initiative (MPI) that the town has entered into with MDOT over the last 2 years.

We also received a third MPI to complete a mill & fill of Central Street from Main Street to Broadway. Once this project is completed Central Street will become a town road as all other agreed upon upgrades have already been completed including the paving of Central Street from Broadway to Millvale Road.



Photo courtesy of Rich Rotella

The town wasn't done partnering with the MaineDOT as the town entered into a Planning Partnership Initiative (PPI) for the Bucksport Safety, Accessibility, and Economic Conceptual Plan. At the conclusion of the PPI, the town will have the opportunity to apply for a Village Partnership Initiative (VPI) to fund the projects listed in the conceptual plan, but that won't be ready or voted on until Fiscal Year 2024.

The town also partnered with GEI consultants for a second time and received a SHIP Grant in the amount of \$50,000. The work for this project won't begin until fiscal year 2024 but is another example of the town working in collaboration to secure funding to be proactive in the future of the town. This grant will allow us to plan for climate change and rising tides and the impact that these events will have not only on the waterfront walkway but the buildings and structures that lie below Main Street.

The Downtown District Exterior Improvement Grant proved to be a successful partnership between the town and downtown property owners to spruce up their distressed properties. The Town of Bucksport provided a 50% match with a maximum reimbursement of \$10,000 per project. 11 out of the 13 applicants completed their projects and roughly \$238,000 in improvements were completed between these projects.

The three remaining lots in Heritage Park were sold to Dave's Auto Repair & Towing and Downeast Communications. The owners of Siam Sky purchased 52 Main Street and plan to

open Charlee's Sushi in FY 2024. Finally Here Denturist opened its doors on Main Street this past spring. New apartments were created in Wilson Hall and the former Timberland's building. The town also sold 27 Main Street to SFS, LLC for the creation of 2 commercial spaces and 4 residential buildings with work commencing on the property in fiscal year 2024.

The Town of Bucksport partnered with Leslie Wombacher and The Village to bring back Ghostport in October of 2022. The event drew a large crowd and the town looks forward to partnering with those individuals to bring Ghostport back in 2023.

The town also hosted the 7th Annual Holiday Light's Parade and even added fireworks to the evening's festivities. Main Street Bucksport provided a S'mores Lounge during the event and the attendance for the overall event didn't disappoint. The Bucksport Town Council agreed to fund the Bucksport Bay Festival with the town staff agreeing to revive the event. The event will be held on July 22, 2023.



The town launched its new website earlier this year. Main Street Bucksport launched the Museum in the Streets along the waterfront walkway, Main Street and Franklin Street.

The Community and Economic Development Committee continues to meet in person in the Town Council Chambers on the second Monday of each month at 6pm and continues to provide recommendations to the Town Council for the future of the town. I would like to thank this year's members for their time and effort: Mark Eastman (chair), Jim Morrison, Steve Bishop, Jim Boothby, Ron Russell, Dick Petersen, Joe Davanzo, Larry Wahl, and John Paul Lalonde.

As always, I would like to thank the town manager, town councilors, town employees and the citizens of Bucksport for all of their support.

Sincerely,

Richard T. Rotella, Community & Economic Development Director

Code Enforcement & Planning Office

Issued Permits:

<u>BUILDING & LAND USE</u>	<u>TOTAL 143</u>		
Dwellings	16	Business Signs	01
Mobile Homes	17	Home Based Business	02
Seasonal Camp	01	Solar Panel Installations	03
Garages	15	Pole Barns	02
Shed / Outbuildings	28	Other Land Use	01
Deck / Porch	15	Shore land Tree Cutting	02
Renovations	15	Seasonal Docks	01
Additions	12	Change of Use	01
Demolition	04	Recreational Lodging	01
Commercial Building	05	Pool	01

<u>PLUMBING PERMITS</u>	<u>TOTAL 59</u>
Internal Plumbing	45
Complete New Septic System	08
Complete Replacement Septic System	03
Replacement Septic Field Only	00
Replacement Septic Tank Only	03
Holding Tank	00

BOARD OF APPEALS ACTIVITY:

Administrative Appeals: 1
Variance Appeals: 3

PLANNING BOARD ACTIVITY

- Approved New Business Location - Bucksport Nutrition
- Recommended approval of multiple changes to Down Town Zoning Boundary (Approved by the Town Council)
- Recommended approval of multiple changes to Land Use Ordinance - Marijuana. (Approved by the Town Council)
- Recommended approval of changes to Chapter 6 Business Licensing (Approved by the Town Council)
- Approved Bucksmills Village Subdivision
- Approved New Business Location – Redmond Electric Corporation Approved
- New Business Location – The Crummet
- Recommended approval of changes to Land Uses allowed in Commercial Zone 3 (Approved by the Town Council) Approved New Business Location – Dave’s Auto Repair & Towing
- Approved Minor Subdivision at 136 Millvale

Respectfully submitted,

Luke Chiavelli, Code Enforcement Officer Plumbing Inspector

Bucksport Fire Department
89 Franklin Street, PO Box 1848, Bucksport, ME 04416
207-469-7951 (non-emergency, 24/7), 207-469-3122 (fax)
mdenning@bucksportmaine.gov



Fire Chiefs Report

The Bucksport Fire & EMS services responded to 1647 calls for service. This is an increase of 10.54% from the previous year. Many positive changes occurred in the past year. The Town Council approved a change in the working schedule, which allowed us to transition from a 56 hour work week, 3-platoon system to a 42 hour work week, 4-platoon system. This change allowed our fulltime members a better work schedule, fewer hours, more off time to decompress from calls and improved overall morale. Employee retention was the driving factor in the change. Over the last 3 years, we lost 8 fulltime people going to other departments with a 42 hour work schedule, vs. our 56 hour work schedule. When employees are happy and motivated they tend to stay with a department for the long haul, which in turn saves thousands of dollars for our community. Thank you to our citizens and Town Council for supporting this!

Our staffing now consists of 3 fulltime members per shift along with 1 Per-Diem member per shift, (when filled), along with a dedicated call department consisting of 8-10 members. In 2018, the Maine Fire Chiefs Association conducted an evaluation of the department in regards to staffing, equipment, and station design. One of their conclusions and recommendations was to increase the fulltime levels to 4 fulltime employees per shift due to the high call volume and lack of a sufficient number of call



Photo courtesy of BFD

firefighters. This is compounded even more during the day when most are out of town at their fulltime jobs. Since the evaluation, we are at 3 fulltime staff per shift, along with a per-diem. Since the evaluation of the department in 2018, calls have increased 44.22%. Each year since the evaluation, we have applied for FEMA Safer Grants for staffing increases. Unfortunately we have not been selected. These grants are extremely hard to get, and are very competitive. Only about 360 million is allotted each year by the Federal government, while the requests are about 1+ billion dollars. These grants pay 100% for 3 years for each firefighter.

Other positive highlights to mention are the approval of a new ambulance to be delivered in late 2025/early 2026, with no money due until delivery. Ambulance deliveries now take 2 to 2.5 years, while fire trucks are 2.5 to 3 years.

Call Captain Steve Bowden, and Call Firefighter Mark Bowden decided to retire after more than 36

years of service to our community in 2023. These gentlemen were very dedicated and well versed in firefighting. Thank you both for your dedication and service to our citizens. Enjoy retirement! You both certainly earned it.

Kari Gray also decided it was time to retire from the call department with almost 24 years of service to our community. She was also an active member of the per-diem roster for the last several years. During the COVID pandemic, she took on the task of inventorying all supplies on a weekly basis from Federal and State agencies and her help was greatly appreciated. Enjoy your retirement along with your new addition to the family!



Many of our members volunteer their time in the community coaching sports or involved in youth organizations, and clubs. They are truly excellent role models for our youth!

We take great pride in protecting our community, while trying to improve everyone's quality of life. The mission continues: Provide compassionate, lifesaving care and service to our citizens.

I would like to thank our Citizens, Town Councilors, and Town Manager for their continued support, along with Department Chaplin Peter Remick. We certainly could not do our job without everyone's support. Thank you to our businesses and other town employees as well. Lastly, to our families, thank you for your support!

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael W. Denning, Deputy Fire Chief

BUCKSPORT FIRE STATISTICS

TYPE OF CALLS	2021-22	2022-23
Building fire	8	15
Cooking fire, confined to container	2	3
Chimney or flue fire	1	4
Fuel burner/boiler malfunction, fire confined	3	0
Mobile property (vehicle) fire, other	1	0
Passenger vehicle fire	2	1
Off-road vehicle or heavy equipment fire	1	0
Forest, woods or wildland fire	1	6
Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire	2	2
Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire	2	1
Carbon monoxide incident	1	0
Medical assist, assist EMS crew	201	333
Motor vehicle accident with injuries	17	32
Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped)	0	2
Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	23	13
Lock-in	0	0
Search for lost person, other	0	0
Search for person on land	1	0
Search for person in water	1	1
Removal of victim(s) from stalled elevator	0	0
Swift water Rescue	0	0
Water & Ice Related Rescue	2	1
Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill	1	0
Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	0	1
Oil or other combustible liquid spill	3	0
Chemical spill or leak	2	0
Power line down	9	6
Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	3	3
Biological hazard, confirmed or suspected	0	0
Hazardous condition, other	8	5
Person in distress, other	0	3
Lock-out	5	2
Water or steam leak	2	2
Smoke or odor removal	0	4
Animal rescue	0	1
Public service assistance, other	13	19
Assist police or other governmental agency	14	7
Public service	5	10
Unauthorized burning	3	3
Cover assignment, standby, move up	29	2
Dispatched and cancelled en route	26	4
Authorized controlled burning	5	1
Smoke scare, odor of smoke	13	10
False alarm or false call, other	0	8
Local alarm system, malicious false alarm	0	2
Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	4	7
Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	12	11
CO detector activation due to malfunction	3	1
Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	4	1
Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional	13	9
Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	1	3
Special type of incident, other	18	2
Citizen complaint	19	0
Special Details	2	6
Total	486	547

Aid to Other Towns	2021-22	2022-23
Verona	11	42
Orrington	6	10
Orland	3	6
Other	2	10

Aid From Other Towns	2021-22	2022-23
Orland	19	14
Orrington	8	16
Other	13	13

FIRE AND AMBULANCE STAFF

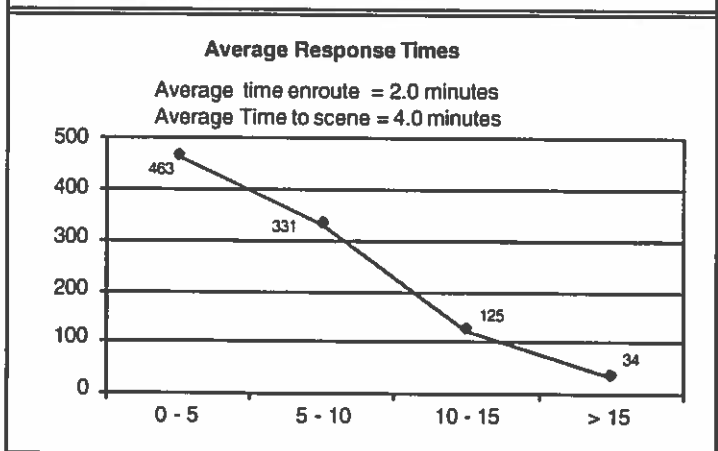
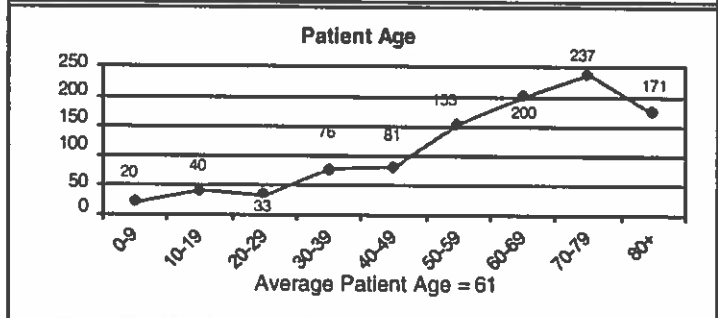
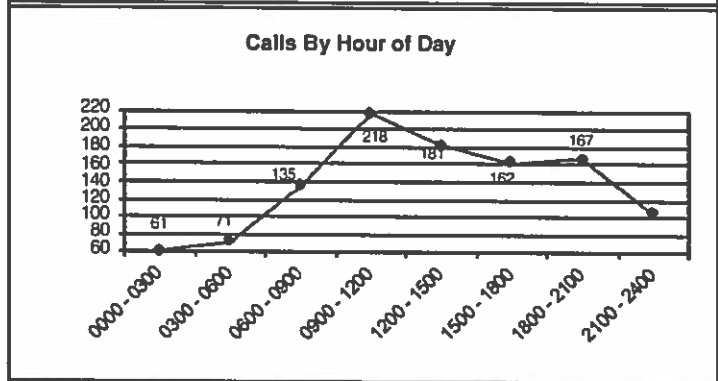
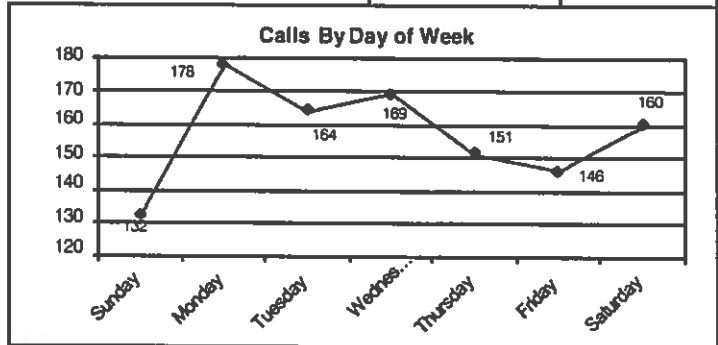
Deputy Chief Michael Denning	FF/AEMT	Full Time
Captain Chris Connor	FF/EMT-P	Full Time
Captain Pam Payson	FF/EMT-P	Full Time
Captain John Gavelek	FF/EMT-P	Full Time
Kevin Stevens	FF/AEMT	Full Time
Gray Kaelin	FF/EMT-B	Full Time
Mackenzie Teed	EMT-B	Full Time
Brent Mingo	FF/EMT-B	Full Time
Andrew Braley	FF/EMT-P	Full Time
Jim Fleming	FF/EMT-P	Full Time
Engineer Gene Bass	FF/EMT-B	Reserve
Lieutenant Jamie Bowden	FF/EMT-B	Reserve
Trevor Bowden	Firefighter	
Larry Chambers	Firefighter	Per-Diem
Captain Dave Denis	Firefighter	Per-Diem
Dave Davis	Firefighter	
Brian DiCenzo	FF/AEMT	Per Diem
Captain Terry Grindle	Firefighter	Per-Diem
Chris Grindle	FF/EMT-P	Per-Diem
Lyndsey Haskell	EMT-P	Per-Diem
Michael Hayduk	Firefighter	Per-Diem
Nathan Isaacs	EMT-B	Per-Diem
Jesse Jenkins	Firefighter	Per-Diem
Tim Kenney	Firefighter	Per-Diem
Geoff Low	FF/EMT-P	Per-Diem
Lieutenant Ryan McGuire	Firefighter	Per-Diem
Nicole Sealy	AEMT	Per-Diem
Adrian Stone	FF/EMT-P	Per-Diem
David Sukeforth	Firefighter	Per-Diem
Angel Sukeforth	FF/EMT-B	Per-Diem
Brooke Thompson	EMT-B	Per-Diem
Joe Wardwell	Firefighter	
Warren Weaver	Firefighter	

BUCKSPORT AMBULANCE SERVICE STATISTICS

Provider Impression	2021-2022	2022-2023
Abdominal Pain/Problems	43	51
Allergic Reaction	7	7
Altered Level of Consciousness	22	26
Back Pain (Non-Traumatic)	26	31
Behavioral/Psychiatric Disorder	53	71
Cardiac Arrest	10	15
Chest Pain/Discomfort	47	46
CHF (Congestive Heart Failure)	9	9
Dehydration	8	13
Diabetic Symptoms	20	19
Epistaxis (Non-Traumatic)	10	8
Fever	7	23
General Malaise	7	19
Headache	8	5
Heat Exhaustion/Stroke	2	1
Hypothermia	1	0
Inhalation Injury (Toxic Gas)	0	0
No Apparent Illness/Injury	141	95
Obvious Death	6	3
Other Abdominal/GI Problem	42	34
Other Cardiovascular Problem	32	27
Other CNS Problem	0	2
Other GU Problems	4	8
Other Illness/Injury	29	29
Pain	81	119
Patient Assist Only	68	91
Poisoning/Drug Ingestion	2	14
Pregnancy/OB Delivery	0	2
Respiratory Distress	72	75
Seizure	16	19
Stroke/CVA	17	11
Substance/Drug Abuse	16	15
Syncope/Fainting	18	14
Traumatic Injury	91	116
Weakness	89	82
Total	1004	1100

Town	# of Runs
Buckport	836
Orland	191
Verona	50
Other	23
Total	1100

Destination	# of Runs
EMMC	321
St. Joseph	242
BMMH	37
MCMH	100
WCGH	41
Other	0
No Transport	359
Total	1100



Response Disposition	2021-2022	2022-2023
Cancelled	55	42
Dead at Scene	14	16
Patient Refused Care	39	30
Standby Only	25	69
Treated, Refused Transport	179	195
Treated, Transferred Care	8	8
Treated, Transported by EMS	684	740
Total	1004	1100

Response By Unit	2021-2022	2022-2023
Ambulance 1	857	932
Ambulance 2	132	154
Ambulance 3	11	11
Rescue 1	4	3
Total	1004	1100

BUCKSPORT PUBLIC SAFETY

DIRECTORS REPORT



The Public Safety Departments had another very busy year this year. We are into year three of the Public Safety model and things are coming together well. Covid has been up and down and gone away but not for public safety. We continue to battle this along with many other illnesses we run into on a weekly basis. We continue to use caution on every call that we respond to in public safety as we should regardless of the new viruses that are coming out. The Public Safety Staff did an amazing job during these hard times the last few years and I am proud to call them my TEAM!

The Police Department had another busy year under the new structure; however, our command structure has not changed over the past year and still includes Deputy Chief David Winchester who is in charge of operations for Police, Dispatch, and Animal Control. Sergeant Darrin Moody is an evening Patrol Sergeant who is a direct patrol supervisor and in charge of night patrol and the Patrol Division. We have added a few new employees over the past



year and we are now up to full capacity in our patrol division. This has been a struggle throughout the state and is a continuing problem. We are very fortunate to be in the situation we are in and have the people we currently have. Our K9 team is doing an outstanding job. This unit has been working on our drug problem and the program paid for itself in approximately two weeks from the work it has done. The Police Department will continue to operate under its core values: **Honesty, Integrity and Teamwork** to provide an exemplary service for the citizens that it serves in the Town of Bucksport. A report of activity will be reported in this year's Annual Report by Deputy Chief David Winchester.

The Fire Department had a very busy year on both the fire side and ambulance sides of the house. This continues to include Deputy Chief Michael Denning who is in charge of operations for Fire, Ambulance and Rescue. We also have Full Time Captains: Captain Chris Connor, Captain Pamela Payson and Captain John Gavelek who are in charge of daily crews. We have a number of new employees in this department and will be adding 3 more soon. We have hired top notch people in this field to take care of our citizens. This department continues to operate with the use of caution

every day in order to keep themselves and our citizens safe and I must say they continue to do a fantastic job! The Fire and Ambulance Services will continue to provide an exemplary service to its citizens and the communities it serves operating each day under its core values: **Respect, Honesty, Integrity and Professionalism**. A report of activity will be reported in this year's Annual Report by Deputy Chief Michael Denning.

The Dispatch Center is the life line of public safety for the entire Town of Bucksport. This is a very demanding profession and the staff does an outstanding job day in and day out. These employees are the front line of all of our citizen's complaints and emergencies. Their voice is the first thing a person hears in the time of need.

They take calls for people in their worst moments and then send fellow employees into harm's way everyday hoping that they complete each call safely. The number of calls that this department takes each year continues to increase. You will see the numbers in Deputy Chief Winchester's report.

The Animal Control position is also a very important/demanding position. This position is also in charge of our Animal Shelter which is extremely busy and is checked at least twice a day every day. This changed hands

last year and is now a full-time position. I would like to thank the citizens and the town council for their support in this decision. We will be looking at possibly relocating this shelter or an addition to the existing shelter in the near future.

I would like to thank all of my staff for their continued dedication to their professions. I could not ask for a better group of people, I am truly grateful to have them on my team. It takes special people to do the job that you all do. You all weathered the storm of a new way of doing business with a new structure along with a pandemic that came upon us very quickly, did not go away fast and looks us in the eyes still to this day. You have all done this without skipping a beat, I would not expect anything less from you. Thank You!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Town Manager, Town Council and the Citizens of the town for their continued support. The world has changed as we know over the past few years and the job of Public Safety has changed drastically and the dangers of the job have increased. I speak on behalf of all of the town employees when I say that we feel very fortunate to work for the Town and the community that we work for. Again, thank you for your continued support!

Respectfully Submitted,

Sean P. Geagan, Director of Public Safety



BUCKSPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT



PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR

Sean P. Geagan

DEPUTY CHIEF

David E. Winchester

PATROL SERGEANT

Darrin Moody

PATROL STAFF

Officer Robert Findlay
Officer Eric Marcel (School Resource Officer)
Officer Matthew Schmidt (K-9 Handler)
Officer Tyler Adams
Detective Benjamin Kolko
Officer Alan Medina
Officer Amanda Loeven
Officer Axel (K-9)

RESERVE PATROL

Officer Ryan Welch
Officer Ryan Knight
Officer Ernest Fitch
Officer Richard Sullivan
Officer Kayla Brooks

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Allyson Corriveau-Moore

On behalf of the men and woman of the Bucksport Police Department, I am honored to present our 2022-23 Annual Report. The information in this report includes updates on staff, department recognitions and awards, patrol statistics, training and community involvement.

As in years past, the Police Department will continue to follow our set core values of **INTEGRITY, HONESTY, and TEAMWORK**. We continue to believe that these values will lead us in the right direction to provide the best possible service to the citizen of Bucksport

Drug investigations, property crimes and traffic offenses continue to be the most common complaints and offenses we investigate. In 2022-23, we had 388 incidents resulting in adult arrests and 16 that resulted in juvenile arrests. Our officers work diligently to investigate these offenses while maintaining a good working relationship with other agencies such as the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency, the District Attorney's Office and surrounding Law Enforcement Agencies.

In this past year, we continued to observe a high number of offenses that are drug and alcohol related. We investigated 144 incidents that were alcohol related and 189 incidents that were drug related which continues the increase trend over the last several years and is a 23.79% increase from the previous year.

Our staff continues to remain committed to traffic safety and enforcement, as this continues to be one of the main sources of complaints made by the public. This past year, we issued 2052 traffic warnings, 148 traffic citations and had 2809 traffic violations. We also investigated 216 property damage accidents, 17 reported injury accidents including one fatal crash and 45 reported parking issues.

We saw some changes in our patrol staff in this past year. Officer Christopher McCrillis left our agency in search of new challenges and Officer Kayla Brooks left the full time ranks and took a position as a Reserve Officer.

We welcomed Officer Amanda Loeven to the Bucksport Police Department as a new Patrol Officer. Officer Loeven is a Police Academy graduate and comes to us from the Newport Police Department. Also, Officer Alan Medina graduated from the Maine Criminal Justice Academy in May, as a member of the 43rd Basic Law Enforcement Training Program. We'd like to welcome them to our team!

This past year, we had 2 members of our agency receive recognition from the Town

of Bucksport and the Maine Chief of Police Association for Life Saving efforts in 2021. In May, Officer Eric Marcel and Officer Tyler Adams received recognition for life saving efforts at the Maine Chiefs of Police Association annual banquet. Congratulations to Officer Marcel and Officer Adams for their much-deserved recognition!

Our connection to our community members continues to be the strength of our department. We participate in programs that provide assistance to our Senior citizens and to our youth. The members of our department are involved in outside programs such as Special Olympics, coaching athletic teams, Elder Prevention, ElderWatch Program, School



Resource Officer, Police in Education, child identification kits, Bucksport Diversion Program, Bicycle Rodeo, Coffee with a Cop, Camp Post Card, our gun lock program and many more. We also have several of our department members that sit on several boards and committees including, Recreation Department, Planning Board, Child Care Center, Gardner Commons Building and several others.

I would like to thank the Town Manager, the Town Council and the citizens of Bucksport for their continued support of our Police Department and our members. We are honored to serve and protect the community of Bucksport and the wonderful citizens that support us in return.

Finally, I will end by recognizing Holden Police Chief, Chris Greeley who passed away on March 9, 2023. Chief Greeley served with the Veazie Police Department, Penobscot County Sheriff's Department, the Brewer Police Department and finally the Holden Police



Department where he became the Chief in September of 2015. The Bucksport Police Department honors Chief Greeley by continuing his work in the profession that he loved. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Greeley family and the members of the Law Enforcement community that lost a brother in 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

David E. Winchester, Deputy Police Chief

Bucksport Public Safety Communications

FULL-TIME DISPATCH

Barbara Cote
Elizabeth McCann
Aimee Reynolds
Jesse Jenkins



PART-TIME DISPATCH

Jamie Bowden
James Morrill
Heather Tweedie
Jolayne Lowden

Our Communication Center is comprised of 4 full-time employees and 4 part-time employees and is the first line of our Public Safety Team. They handle thousands of calls a year and are often the unrecognized face of our agency.

We accepted the resignation of long-time Reserve Dispatcher Jamie Bowden this year. Jamie had been a member of the Dispatch Center for nearly 20 years and stepped down to pursue other goals. I'd like to thank Jamie for his years of dedicated service to Bucksport.

The Communication Center had another busy year. In this past year, the Dispatchers handled a total of 115,899 total radio log entries. This includes handling calls for the Police Department Fire Department, Animal Control and is a 28.42% increase from last year. As we've observed in recent years, the seriousness of our calls for service has also increased.

In addition to their daily Dispatch responsibilities, members of the Communication Center handle required court paperwork responsibilities, billing, video and audio recording, payroll, burn permits, concealed weapons permits and daily secretarial necessities that keep the Public Safety Building operating. They are also responsible for fielding thousands of phone calls of all the town's agencies including, Police, Fire, Ambulance, Town Office, Highway Department, Waste Water, Transfer Station, and Recreation.

I would like to express my thanks to the dedicated staff, both full-time and part-time Dispatch members. This is a very stressful profession and the dispatchers are on the frontline of these serious incidents on a daily basis. They continue to do good work and provide a valuable service to our community.

I would like to thank the Town Manager and the Town Council for their continued support to Communication Center and its employees.



Respectfully submitted,

David E. Winchester, Deputy Police Chief

ANIMAL SHELTER

PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR

Sean P. Geagan

DEPUTY POLICE CHIEF

David E. Winchester

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Allyson Corriveau-Moore

The Bucksport Animal Shelter continues to be a very busy and valuable part of the Town of Bucksport. The shelter now provides services for the towns of Bucksport, Orland, Orrington, Prospect, Searsport, Dedham, Penobscot, Stockton Springs, Newburgh and Winterport. We continue to receive requests from other communities to utilize our Animal Shelter.

Animal Control Officer Allyson Corriveau-Moore continues to be the Town's Animal Control Officer after taking over in 2020. ACO Corriveau-Moore, Animal Shelter Assistant Susan Varnum and a group of dedicated volunteers do a tremendous amount of work that often goes unnoticed. I would like to thank them all for their hard work and the service they provide!

I'd also like to acknowledge the community members that provide donations of food, supplies and money for our animal shelter. With the donations provided, the town has to buy very little food for the animals housed at the shelter.

The number of animal complaints continues to increase each year along with the significant amount of time required to care for these animals once they are taken into our facility. Animal Control Officer Corriveau-Moore and her staff handled a total of 256 animal complaints this fiscal year. We also took in 58 dogs and 97 cats for the year. The Animal Control Officer was able to adopt out 11 dogs and 49 cats and a number of animals were reclaimed by their owners.

Respectfully submitted,

David E. Winchester, Deputy Police Chief



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The 2022-2023 fiscal year saw much progress for Public Works. This year completed the third year of the 3 million dollar bond project to upgrading Bucksport's roads. Year one included 19.5 miles of our rural roads getting a shim and then a surface layer of pavement costing \$1,227,850.61. Year two saw a reclaim, grade and paving of 2.6 miles of the Millvale Road. This year 3.1 miles of the Silver Lake Road that started at the Millvale Road intersection and ended at the power line near the boat launch was completed. This also was a reclaim, grade and pave process. The Public Works crew followed behind and repaired all 6.4 miles of shoulders with the Road Widener machine.

The winter season started with the first storm on the 16th of November and ending with an ice and rain event on the 1st of April. Personnel responded to no less than 29 weather events, many of which were freezing rain/ice. This number is consistent with the 30 events last year. The result was the purchase of 2761.41 tons of road salt. This compares to the prior seasons 2634.42 tons of salt.

This winter between storms, six floats from the Town Dock were brought inside the garage to be repaired or rebuilt prior to being put back in the river this spring. These floats were identified while the crane lifted them from the river in the fall.

The department removed and replaced six driveway culverts and two cross pipes this season as well as repairing 4 manhole structures. All trenches were repaved by department personnel prior to this year's paving program.

The maintenance of our rural roads resulted with the cleaning of shoulders and ditches on Bucksmills Road, Upper Long Pond Road, Jacob Buck Pond Road as well as sections of Stone House Road and Kenney Drive this year.

This year, the department spent nearly two weeks clearing, stumping and mulching the section of trail between the two soccer fields off Miles Lane. This allowed for much greater views between the fields as well as area for kids to play.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jay Lanpher, Public Works Director

Bucksport Wastewater Treatment Facility

Over the last fiscal year the Bucksport Wastewater Treatment Facility processed 123,738,000 gallons of wastewater. This flow is a 3% increase over the 2021-2022 fiscal year. The Town of Orland contributed 5,615,225 gallons of wastewater, a decrease of 1%. The Town of Verona contributed 3,935,097 gallons of wastewater, a decrease of 1% from the last fiscal year.

Precipitation totals are recorded daily at the Bucksport Wastewater Treatment Facility. From July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 – 55.65 inches of rainfall and 69.90 inches of snowfall were recorded as compared to 61.37 inches of rainfall and 62.80 inches of snowfall for last fiscal year. Rainfall and snow melt can contribute significantly to the flow received by the treatment facility as there is still a good amount of inflow and infiltration to the sewer system. Infiltration is groundwater that enters through cracks in the sewer lines and inflow is groundwater or storm water that enters through roof drains and sump pumps. These additional flows pose some challenges to the operation of the treatment facility.

Chemicals used are a polymer for thickening the sludge to help with dewatering; Soda Ash is injected into the Aeration basins and Digester to control PH levels. Sodium Hypochlorite and Sodium Bisulfate are on hand as a backup for the UV system. . UV (Ultra Violet) for disinfection (May 15th thru September 30th)

Basic routine maintenance was achieved and the facility ran very well. BOD removal averaged 94.70 and TSS removal averaged 97.40 for the fiscal year.

We have 9 pump stations (5 - Bucksport, 2 - Orland and 2 on Verona) 2 of the Stations in Bucksport needed to have new pumps & Check valves installed. Repairs to these Stations that are Original to the System (1987 -1988) are becoming a major expense for the Town. Replacing them are under consideration.



We also replaced 100 ft. of Clay Tile pipe with PVC pipe from Main St. to the truck line on the water front. This line had become full of roots resulting in a break. Approximately 300 ft. of Clay Tile was replaced with PVC pipe and 3 new manholes installed on Central St.

245.25 cubic yards of sludge was processed during the fiscal year. This is a decrease of 15.25 cubic yards or a 6% increase overall. A Sludge Profile is conducted twice a year by Katahdin Analytical service. PFAS testing is now a yearly requirement. As a result of State regulations we no longer use our storage facility on the Long Pond Rd. Our Sludge is dewatered directly into roll off containers supplied by DM & J Waste, it is then trucked to either Hartland or Juniper Ridge for disposal. This too has become a major budget item for the Wastewater.

The Swirl Concentrator (CSO) Facility on Main Street operated 3 times in October 2022, once in November 2022, 5 times in December 2022, once in January 2023, and once in May 2023 for a total of 11 times. Flows through the Vortex totaled 4,580,000 gallons of effluent treated wastewater being discharged to the Penobscot River a decrease of 530,000 gallons over the last fiscal year.

The Swirl Concentrator came on line in April of 2008, since then it has operated 103 times for a total of 1,648.9 hours treating 39,901,000 gallons of storm overflow and a total of 805.48 inches of rain fell in those 15 years.

Approximately 14,000 feet of sewer main lines were flushed and cleaned as part of the maintenance program. We had 1 plugged sewer service line that was repaired. 90% of the sewer mains were inspected to make sure they are flowing smoothly. Mapping of the system, number of manholes, linear feet of piping, size, condition of main, age, and type of pipe that is in the collection system is nearly completed. Many Dig Safe or customer concern responses were addressed.

We are still finding a lot of wipes and rags in the system they are getting into the pumps and clogging pumps. Have had to pull pumps in all stations numerous times to unplug rag buildup. Mostly finding baby wipes and other rags that get into the system. This also is a major labor budget item.

Please beware that this is very costly for you as a customer and very time consuming for our crews!

In closing, please help keep the environment healthy by not disposing harmful substances into the sewer. Remember that the water we have is all we will ever have and cleaning pollutants from it becomes more costly every day! Protect this resource for future generations.

David Michaud

Respectfully submitted,

David Michaud, Superintendent Maine Water Bucksport Division

Marina and Town Dock

The Bucksport Marina and Town Dock closed for the season on October 15, 2022 and the floats were removed on November 1st and 2nd finishing up a strong 2022 season. The floats were reinstalled for the 2023 season on May 2nd and 3rd. The collaboration between the Highway Department, Marina Staff, and Keeley Crane makes the transition of the boating season to the offseason very smooth and seamless.

The marina finished the 2023 fiscal year with revenues totaling \$189,384.04 versus expenses of \$176,384.53 netting a profit of \$12,999.51. The beginning of the 2023 boating season saw some unfavorable weather conditions which lead to fewer gasoline, diesel, and store sales to close out the fiscal year but with the heart of the summer approaching we expect the outlook for 2024 to be more favorable.



The Bucksport Town Council approved the marina's request to put out to bid the construction of 12 new marina main floats at the end of the prior boating season. The winning bid was secured by Gardner Concrete and those 12 new floats were installed on May 2, 2023. The new main floats are having a positive impact on boater relations as tying up to the main floats for gas, diesel, and pump out has been much smoother with the new floats.

The Town Dock saw the start of a 10-cruise ship season with American Cruise Lines calling on 2 separate occasions during the month of June. The s/v Persistence (the catamaran which sits at the east side of the dock) called on Bucksport for its third year in a row. Day trippers

who sail up and down the Penobscot stopped into the dock to visit some of our local businesses and local events including the Bay Festival.

Our marina staff had a bit of a shake up this past year following the passing of long-time employee, Bill Gray. Mike and Jes oversaw the operations at the marina and town dock through June 30, 2023.

Looking ahead to fiscal year 2024, the marina staff is hoping for a positive response from the Bucksport Town Council to have the remaining 29 floats reconstructed so that all of the floats will be under 5 years old. All float sizes remain the same during reconstruction except for the C dock finger floats, which currently sit at 40'x4', as we would like to have them at 40'x6' for easier mobility on the floats for our customers. The Town Dock has 2 funding opportunities in the pipeline with the first being a \$4,100,000 Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) request with Senator Collins' Office and the second being a \$4,300,000 request through the Penobscot Estuary Trust, for beneficial projects on or along the Penobscot River due to the mercury contamination, as part of the Malinkrodt Settlement. The town is hoping to secure these funds to enhance the town dock from a seasonal 315' wooden dock structure to a 400' year-round concrete structure with ADA access. Finally, the staff is hoping to secure more cruise ship visits from American Cruise Lines as for the past few years we have been able to secure anywhere from 8-12 visits per season.

We would like to thank the boating community for its support of the Bucksport Marina and Town Dock.

Michael Ormsby, Marina
Manager/Harbormaster



Transfer Station

The Bucksport Transfer Station served the citizens of Bucksport by providing the opportunity to dispose of household trash, demolition and wood debris, metals, motor oil, bulky appliances and furniture, electronics and mercury containing items. The facility is open Thursday through Monday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. A fee is assessed for the disposal of demolition debris, bulky items, woods, and household trash containing recyclable items. Mercury containing products are assessed a disposal fee. A copy of the fee schedule is available on the Town of Bucksport website, the Town Office or at the Transfer station office. Any citizen who meets one of the following conditions; has paid excise tax in Bucksport; is a permanent or seasonal resident of Bucksport, may obtain a disposal permit at the Town office during normal hours. There is no fee for the permit. A special permit may be obtained through the Town Office during normal business hours when the above conditions are not met.

The Bucksport Transfer Station collected 1002.6 tons of solid waste, as well as 27.1 tons of tires during the period July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. This year's ZERO SORT totaled 83.2 tons. Additionally, 52.7 tons of metal, and 8.1 tons of refrigerators were recycled, 210.6 tons of construction demolition materials and clean wood were disposed at a contracted landfill. A total of 237 automotive batteries were returned for reprocessing and 30 propane tanks, 400 gallons of household generated motor oil was turned over to the Bucksport Public Works Department for use in their waste oil heating furnaces. The Town redirected 10.4 tons of re-usable items. The E- waste collection program handled 220 televisions, 143 computer monitors and 347 other electronic items. U-waste collected 576 total lamps of many sizes and 8 pails of batteries. Total recycling of all fees earned the Town \$19,674.00 in new revenues.

The citizens' commitment to a viable and active recycling program is critical in an era of limited economic growth and decreasing budgets. Recycling helps to offset increases in disposal fees. Since the start of the ZERO SORT program, recycling has continued to meet expectations. If you have questions in regards to issues with the Town of Bucksport Transfer station, please contact us at 469-7496. You can also refer to the Town's website at www.bucksportmaine.gov.

I would like to thank all the citizens of Bucksport and the Town Council for their cooperation and recycling efforts.

Respectfully submitted

Daniel Robinson, Transfer Station Operator

Superintendent of Schools



The 2022-2023 school year was a return to full day, in person instruction PK-12 for the first time since March of 2020. The opportunity to be able to provide direct, in person instruction was a significant improvement in the teaching and learning process. While having the opportunity to provide virtual learning was critical, it did not and does not replace in person direct instruction to meet the needs of our students. Fiscally, RSU 25 performed within budget and continues to offer quality educational programming below the State average per pupil operating cost.

We did identify there were significant challenges created by the impact of the pandemic. First and foremost was the impact to learning process and the learning outcomes experienced by the students. National studies have indicated on average students experienced a 4 month delay in learning, and that has required an adjustment in curriculum to back fill the foundational concepts for students. The other area of challenge for our schools has been the disruption to their routines and consistency provided by the school year. The 2022 -2023 school year required a re-learning of the academic and behavioral expectations required of the students and the staff. While we recognized the challenges of returning to a more typical school experience, the social and emotional benefit to the students was seen at all levels of the system.

Thanks to the support of the School Board and our communities, RSU 25 continued to invest in our facilities. The Federal COVID ESSR funds provided the capital to install a ventilation system in the Jewett School which will be on line for the opening of school in the fall of 2023. The School Board invested in the replacement of boilers in both the high school and the Miles Lane School, as well as energy efficiency upgrades in all the buildings. This work has been ongoing through the 2022-2023 school year and when schools open in the fall all of our light fixtures will be converted to LED lighting and the ventilation systems have been upgraded in all of our buildings. The upkeep and investment in our facilities helps us provided a safe and healthy learning environment for our students.

Overall, the 2022-2023 school year was successful on many levels. Bucksport High School continues to have a four year graduation rate above the State of Maine average with the majority of our graduates moving on to two and four year colleges. The BHS Robotics Team had a historic year

finishing third at the world championships held in Houston, Texas. The girls' soccer team won the State of Maine Class C Championship, and both the baseball and softball teams won the Northern Maine Championships.

In the upcoming year we will continue focusing on the needs of our learners, and provide quality educational programming and supports for our students and families. I look forward to working with Town leadership, community members, and the RSU 25 School Board to meet the needs of our students and communities.

2022 - 2023 Enrollment (Oct. 1, 2021)	
Jewett Elementary PK-K	135
Miles Lane School 1 - 4	300
Bucksport Middle School 5 - 8	282
Bucksport High School 9 - 12	<u>371</u>
Total	1,088

Respectfully Submitted,

James Boothby, Superintendent





Bucksport YMCA

The goal of the YMCA is to strengthen communities through **youth development, healthy living** and **social responsibility**.

Youth Development

- Sixth season of Young Bucks Camp, with a 16.2% increase in campers this year we were able to hire additional staff members for the remainder of summer camp.
- In 2022, 129 campers attended summer camp. In collaboration with RSU 25 we accommodated 24 students from the summer school program.
- 165 kids participated in either football, soccer or cheering this past fall; which is a 42% increase from fall of 2021
- 98 kids participated in either basketball or indoor soccer from beginning of Jan to the beginning of April
- Coming this winter we will have a competitive cheer team for grades 1st-5th. High school and middle school coaches, with the help of a couple moms, are assisting in putting together this program.

Healthy Living

- Low and affordable gym membership options to support health and fitness within the community.
- Additionally, free transportation to the seniors at the senior citizen home and Gardner Commons for shopping trips and to a free water aerobics in Blue Hill. The latest trip was to Unity for a train ride.
- We are also collaborating with the Senior Center, offering crochet classes a couple nights a week where seniors and community members can learn to crochet together; creating friendships along the way.

Social Responsibility

- The pool was very active this summer with ice cream sales, daily, weekly, and total attendance.
- 111 people per day. 6,369 visitors were from supporting towns, 5,824 were Bucksport residents, and 505 were non-supporting town members. For a grand total of 6,874 visitors this summer.
- Ice rink will be modified this year to operate and maintain more efficiently. Boards are in place, the liner is in and just waiting for colder weather to put into place and fill.

Respectfully Submitted,
Matt McInnis, Operations Director

**2022 Real Estate Taxes
As of 06/30/2023**

<u>Account #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Total</u>
2861	ALBERT, KELLEY J	\$448.63
3278	ALBERT, KELLEY J	\$37.32
165	ALBERT, KELLEY J JT	\$359.50
52	ALLISON, MICHAEL	\$411.88
3119	ALLISON, MICHAEL A JT	\$899.20
163	BARNARD, REBECCA L	\$2,553.41
2021	BENNETT, RUTH M	\$1,489.11
294	BOUDREAU, JOSEPH R	\$336.10
394	BRYANT, TAMMY S. (Heirs of)	\$247.85
470	BURKE, HOLLY	\$442.72
2111	BURPEE, MARCUS	\$1,423.57
2112	BURPEE, MARCUS	\$581.00
218	CHASE, HAROLD H JR JT	\$562.36
627	CHIPMAN, LISA L	\$2,395.06
628	CHIPMAN, LISA L	\$325.17
485	Clough, Tracy (Paquette)	\$420.50
677	COLEMAN, KRISTINE &	\$335.89
112	COTE, PAMELA S (ATWOOD)	\$778.80
755	CRAIG, RAE JEAN, HEIRS OF (TIP)	\$653.78
733	DANICO, MALINDA L	\$920.73
1450	DEWITT, KIMBERLY L	\$411.31
885	DOUCETTE, STEPHEN A	\$1,804.74
909	DRAKE, EUGENE	\$819.00
910	DRAKE, EUGENE	\$56.60
911	DRAKE, EUGENE	\$53.94
1127	Eastbrook Timber Co., Inc.	\$365.46
965	EASTMAN, SALLY G (heirs of)	\$2,290.37
968	EASTMAN, SALLY G (HEIRS OF)	\$1,915.46
2874	FRENCH, KEITH TIP	\$972.79
1192	GRAY, DORANCE D	\$572.07
883	GRUNWALD, MARION R	\$1,806.87
1294	HALLOWELL, GAIL E	\$1,035.70
2043	Hanscom, Wayne	\$1,000.69
1332	HASENBANK, DAVID	\$757.55
2492	HEROUX, GEORGE J	\$704.02
1381	Holmes, Patricia L	\$3,538.11
1074	HOVEY, VALERIE	\$1,112.73
915	JEROME, TIMOTHY R	\$579.83
2928	JEROME, TIMOTHY R	\$519.81
1499	JEROME, TIMOTHY R JT	\$1,524.42
1503	JIMENEZ, ARTURO	\$746.22

Account #	Name	Total
1542	JULE, MICHELLE L	\$165.16
1543	KABABICK, KARIN L	\$2,028.14
1590	KINSTLER, BARRON C	\$995.42
42	LAWFORD, SANDRA L	\$324.33
1643	LEACH, ALLISON A	\$62.09
1684	LITTLEFIELD, GLENDON E, JR (heirs of)	\$1,745.27
1688	LOCKE, ARLINE F (HEIRS OF) (TIP)	\$1,023.19
1721	LUGDON, LAUREN L	\$1,881.77
2957	MANNING, BRIAN	\$920.10
3033	MITCHELL, GAIL (WOODBIDGE)	\$433.77
3270	PARKER, WILLIAM O JR & CHARMIN M	\$91.38
2056	PEARE, ARLAND C	\$28.31
1561	PERKINS, LARRY N	\$650.84
2811	PRICE, SHARON J	\$661.25
2157	PYE, DANIEL T	\$1,567.69
2173	RANZONI, JOSEPH D TIP	\$1,394.43
155	SANDELLI, ALFRED J JR	\$557.13
1661	Sandelli, Alfred J., Jr.	\$89.06
1458	SHERWOOD, MISTY R	\$1,666.14
2429	SMITH, SUE ELLEN	\$1,110.41
210	SNOW, TERRI L JT	\$742.16
2001	TURCOTTE, CORY	\$59.54
721	WHITE, SARAH TIP	\$252.71
594	WINCHESTER, WADE & MELISSA PIP	\$1,614.78
2839	Witham, David A. TIP*	\$1,202.40
2865	WOODBIDGE, ROGER	\$1,114.81
2867	WOODBIDGE, ROGER	\$889.46
2877	WOODWARD, BRENDA J	\$1,969.48
Total		\$63,451.49

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As of 06/30/2023**

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3278	ALBERT, KELLEY J	\$459.74
165	ALBERT, KELLEY J JT	\$635.03
2609	ALLEN, JONATHAN T JT	\$387.00
205	ALLEN, SHAWN	\$290.25
52	ALLISON, MICHAEL	\$428.75
3119	ALLISON, MICHAEL A JT	\$930.19
1136	ALLISON, VINCENT J	\$498.59
1138	ALLISON, VINCENT J	\$436.63
1139	ALLISON, VINCENT J	\$1,454.88
2458	ATHERTON, JEREMY T	\$1,805.52
113	ATWOOD, THIRY M	\$116.49
2604	AYCOCK, BARBARA S (Heirs of)	\$3,191.85
163	BARNARD, REBECCA L	\$2,665.37
2021	BENNETT, RUTH M	\$1,554.09
293	BOUDREAU, JOSEPH R	\$1,964.74
294	BOUDREAU, JOSEPH R	\$349.58
394	BRYANT, TAMMY S. (Heirs of)	\$1,756.72
60	BUONOPANE, JOHN & MELISSA	\$1,109.64
470	BURKE, HOLLY	\$460.95
2111	BURPEE, MARCUS	\$1,461.63
2112	BURPEE, MARCUS	\$613.41
1854	CARPENTER, WENDY L	\$581.68
1860	CARPENTER, WENDY L	\$3,392.86
3070	CARY, TROY	\$927.04
2790	CASSADY, JAMES	\$1,245.22
1454	CHANDLER, NICHOLAS B	\$979.17
218	CHASE, HAROLD H JR JT	\$580.65
627	CHIPMAN, LISA L	\$2,500.51
628	CHIPMAN, LISA L	\$338.16
485	CLOUGH (PAQUETTE), TRACY ANN	\$423.65
2046	COBB, JONATHAN	\$229.00
677	COLEMAN, KRISTINE &	\$1,449.83
112	COTE, PAMELA S (ATWOOD)	\$811.90
1930	COUGH, RYAN J JT	\$1,962.76
755	CRAIG, RAE JEAN, HEIRS OF (TIP)	\$2,287.16
2088	CROSS, VALERIE	\$3,444.29
733	DANICO, MALINDA L	\$960.33
1533	DEANS, SHERI L JT	\$1,288.34
1450	DEWITT, KIMBERLY L	\$747.65
885	DOUCETTE, STEPHEN A	\$2,816.24
<u>Account #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Total</u>

909	DRAKE, EUGENE	\$2,047.39
910	DRAKE, EUGENE	\$434.34
911	DRAKE, EUGENE	\$533.88
1245	DSV, SPVI, LLC	\$1,025.59
951	DUNBAR, KENDAL S JR	\$959.09
1127	Eastbrook Timber Co., Inc.	\$375.75
965	EASTMAN, SALLY G (HEIRS OF)	\$2,400.58
968	EASTMAN, SALLY G (HEIRS OF)	\$2,008.48
2238	EATON, ERIC	\$1,179.37
3079	FITCH, SUMMER L	\$3,410.16
1849	FLOWER, JOSEPH R JT	\$499.78
2874	FRENCH, KEITH TIP	\$1,014.51
1121	GODFREY, PATRICIA	\$99.65
1122	GODFREY, PATRICIA	\$261.44
1123	GODFREY, PATRICIA	\$127.38
2357	GRANT, BEVERLY M	\$649.42
1192	GRAY, DORANCE D	\$1,386.96
1205	GRAY, DORANCE D JT	\$2,073.60
1226	GREENLAW, EVA M (HEIRS OF)	\$967.75
1239	GRINDLE, CHARLES L JT	\$545.41
883	GRUNWALD, MARION R	\$1,892.90
1296	HAND, WAYNE	\$9,195.10
1297	HAND, WAYNE A SR	\$4,395.40
2508	HARLAN, DAVID	\$1,919.38
1332	HASENBANK, DAVID	\$1,069.37
2492	HEROUX, GEORGE J	\$733.79
1381	Holmes, Patricia L	\$3,694.63
1074	HOVEY, VALERIE	\$1,255.48
83	IRELAND, ALICE	\$263.81
915	JEROME, TIMOTHY R	\$604.21
2928	JEROME, TIMOTHY R	\$541.50
1499	JEROME, TIMOTHY R JT	\$1,590.99
1503	JIMENEZ, ARTURO	\$1,905.96
1540	JOY, DANIEL	\$481.78
1542	JULE, MICHELLE L	\$170.99
1543	KABABICK, KARIN L	\$2,117.20
745	KAM NG, LLC	\$1,867.60
1590	KINSTLER, BARRON C	\$2,126.45
42	LAWFORD, SANDRA L	\$337.29
1643	LEACH, ALLISON A	\$2,132.85
1579	LEROSE, WILLIAM F JR	\$2,557.33
1684	LITTLEFIELD, GLENDON E JR, HEIRS OF	\$1,821.69
1688	LOCKE, ARLINE F (HEIRS OF) (TIP)	\$1,067.37
1721	LUGDON, LAUREN L	\$1,964.73
536	LUTZ, ERIK G	\$272.68
1728	LUTZ, PHILIP T	\$745.49

Account #	Name	Total
2957	MANNING, BRIAN	\$959.92
1697	MARKS, ANDREW S	\$853.86
1811	MCCLELLAN, THOMAS L	\$2,087.44
776	MCDONALD, JAMES C	\$761.03
1836	MCLELLAN, KEVIN L	\$609.09
1877	MILLER, DOROTHY C, HEIRS OF	\$322.04
3033	MITCHELL, GAIL (WOODBRIDGE)	\$451.61
1229	MOORE, MICHELLE	\$461.98
3270	PARKER, WILLIAM O JR & CHARMIN M	\$93.93
1561	PERKINS, LARRY N	\$678.83
2385	PERKINS, SHARON A JT	\$808.43
2104	PICARD, POLLYANNA L	\$1,521.52
2811	PRICE, SHARON J	\$1,673.58
2157	PYE, DANIEL T	\$2,000.98
2173	RANZONI, JOSEPH D TIP	\$1,455.18
3039	RAWCLIFFE, HEATHER NICOLE JT	\$154.34
2043	REED, JEFFREY L	\$1,500.43
484	RICH PROPERTIES, LLC	\$5,711.80
155	SANDELLI, ALFRED J JR	\$582.21
1661	SANDELLI, ALFRED J JR	\$92.37
777	SCOTT, STEPHEN L	\$94.21
2362	SHEEHAN, MICHAEL A	\$3,177.05
1458	SHERWOOD, MISTY R	\$1,707.86
2380	Silvernail, Benjamin	\$2,010.71
2388	SKILLIN, DONALD R JR JT	\$1,770.05
2429	SMITH, SUE ELLEN	\$1,158.25
210	SNOW, TERRI L JT	\$773.77
2491	STAPLES, ALLEN R JT	\$1,027.49
2584	THUT, JEANETTE MERRITT (Heirs of)	\$1,770.82
1501	TRA MANAGEMENT, LLC	\$1,254.74
1851	TROTT, RICHARD C JR	\$489.24
2001	TURCOTTE, CORY	\$161.66
2658	WADLEIGH, ROBERT R JT	\$1,384.98
2448	WANDERIN' MOOSE, LLC	\$317.77
2714	WARREN, TIMOTHY JT	\$246.78
721	WHITE, SARAH TIP	\$262.47
2056	WINCHESTER, WADE	\$745.40
594	WINCHESTER, WADE & MELISSA PIP	\$1,685.39
2839	Witham, David A. TIP*	\$1,752.91
2865	WOODBRIDGE, ROGER	\$1,142.03
2867	WOODBRIDGE, ROGER W	\$911.13
2868	WOODMAN, DEAN M	\$645.34
2871	WOODMAN, DEAN M	\$584.27
2877	WOODWARD, BRENDA J	\$2,055.93
2026	ZHANG, CHAO Y	\$709.20
Total		\$170,704.32

**Personal Property Taxes
As of 06/30/2023**

Acct	Name	Year	Total
317	ADVANCE AUTO PARTS	2022	175.99
317	ADVANCE AUTO PARTS	2023	186.11
319	ALLARD ELECTRIC, INC	2023	29.83
320	ALLARD LANDSCAPE	2023	578.50
325	ANDY'S LAWN & LANDSCAPE	2023	70.51
6	Automotive Elegance	2023	20.17
168	BANNER CITY GRAPHICS	2023	461.29
323	BEST FRIENDS DAYCARE	2022	44.04
125	BLACK BEAR MEDIA BLASTING & CONSTRUCTION	2022	20.23
125	BLACK BEAR MEDIA BLASTING & CONSTRUCTION	2023	40.68
104	Blossoms By the Bay	2021	77.19
324	BLUSH SALON & BOUTIQUE	2023	88.65
327	BOLT QUILT SHOP	2023	5.85
179	Bucksport Bay Tanning	2020	32.60
179	Bucksport Bay Tanning	2021	32.50
179	Bucksport Bay Tanning	2022	57.36
179	Bucksport Bay Tanning	2023	62.55
19	BUCKSPORT GOLF CLUB	2023	2,436.73
242	CATALINA MARKETING CORP	2021	49.40
242	CATALINA MARKETING CORP	2022	21.13
242	CATALINA MARKETING CORP	2023	17.12
389	CENTRAL STREET FITNESS	2023	64.41
189	DBA CENTRAL MAINE COLD STORAGE	2022	10.80
331	DMCC ENTERPRISES	2023	16.78
334	DRAGWATER PLUMBING	2023	0.20
142	EUGENE'S PROPERTY MAINTENANCE	2023	1.17
26	FELLOWS,KEE,TYMOCZKO & PIERSON LLC	2023	105.43
166	FORT VIEW DENTAL INDEPENDENT HYGIENIST	2023	0.55
50	FRANCISCAN BROS OF ST. ELIZ. OF H	2023	424.09
50	Franciscan Bros. of St. Eliz. of H	2022	22.80
63	G4S RETAIL SOLUTIONS (USA) INC	2023	86.28
218	GCN HOLDING, LLC	2021	9.75
218	GCN HOLDING, LLC	2022	12.35
218	GCN HOLDING, LLC	2023	11.53
339	GHA, INC	2023	26.95
127	J AND J DEVELOPMENT CORP	2022	363.51
127	J AND J DEVELOPMENT CORP	2023	303.74
345	JAN'S BARBER SHOP	2023	64.41
346	JOURNEY PHYSICAL THERAPY	2023	309.85
347	K & CO SALON	2023	102.38
136	LEADBETTER, SCOTT R TR. (carwash)	2023	339.00
352	MAINE COAST CHIROPRACTIC	2022	58.66
352	MAINE COAST CHIROPRACTIC	2023	66.95
353	MAINE REAL ESTATE BROKERAGE	2022	0.23

Acct	Name	Year	Total
354	MANY HEARTS CHILD CARE	2022	58.66
354	MANY HEARTS CHILD CARE	2023	61.87
216	OCEAN'S EDGE REALTY, LLC	2023	17.46
361	PENOBSCOT EVERGREEN FARM	2023	0.01
34	PENOBSCOT HOME PERFORMANCE	2021	92.79
82	PIXELLE SPECIALTY SOLUTIONS	2022	11.05
82	PIXELLE SPECIALTY SOLUTIONS	2023	871.91
45	Revision Energy	2020	174.90
45	Revision Energy	2021	174.36
45	Revision Energy	2022	165.59
45	Revision Energy	2023	189.16
364	ROCK IT CONSTRUCTION	2022	117.33
364	ROCK IT CONSTRUCTION	2023	124.24
385	ROSEY CHEEKS FLOWER CO	2023	64.41
365	SCOTT DESIGN	2023	91.27
368	SUNDIAL FRAMING & PHOTOGRAPHY	2022	-1.09
368	SUNDIAL FRAMING & PHOTOGRAPHY	2023	61.87
150	Tozier's Bucksport Variety	2022	633.43
150	Tozier's Bucksport Variety	2023	684.27
372	TRACY'S CONTRACTING	2022	58.66
372	TRACY'S CONTRACTING	2023	61.87
374	VITAL LIFE	2023	27.97
376	WEBSTER FINANCIAL SERVICES, PA	2023	6.94
Total			10,667.82

**Tax Acquired Property
As of 06/30/2023**

Account #	Name	Total
2574	35 MCDONALD STREET, LLC	\$1,157.73
2861	ALBERT, KELLEY J	\$662.58
3278	ALBERT, KELLEY J	\$459.74
165	ALBERT, KELLEY J JT	\$635.03
2609	ALLEN, JONATHAN T JT	\$387.00
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2112	BURPEE, MARCUS	\$613.41
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1860	CARPENTER, WENDY L	\$3,392.86
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2790	CASSADY, JAMES	\$1,245.22
1454	CHANDLER, NICHOLAS B	\$979.17
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1205	GRAY, DORANCE D JT	\$2,073.60
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1239	GRINDLE, CHARLES L JT	\$545.41
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2811	PRICE, SHARON J	\$1,673.58
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155	SANDELLI, ALFRED J JR	\$582.21
1661	SANDELLI, ALFRED J JR	\$92.37
777	SCOTT, STEPHEN L	\$94.21
2362	SHEEHAN, MICHAEL A	\$3,177.05
1458	SHERWOOD, MISTY R	\$1,707.86
2380	Silvernail, Benjamin	\$2,010.71
2388	SKILLIN, DONALD R JR JT	\$1,770.05
2429	SMITH, SUE ELLEN	\$1,158.25
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2448	WANDERIN' MOOSE, LLC	\$317.77
2714	WARREN, TIMOTHY JT	\$246.78
721	WHITE, SARAH TIP	\$262.47
2056	WINCHESTER, WADE	\$745.40
594	WINCHESTER, WADE & MELISSA PIP	\$1,685.39
2839	Witham, David A. TIP*	\$1,752.91
2865	WOODBIDGE, ROGER	\$1,142.03
2867	WOODBIDGE, ROGER W	\$911.13
2868	WOODMAN, DEAN M	\$645.34
2871	WOODMAN, DEAN M	\$584.27
2877	WOODWARD, BRENDA J	\$2,055.93
2026	ZHANG, CHAO Y	\$709.20
Total		\$170,704.32



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

Dear Maine Resident:

In January, I was privileged to take the Oath of Office to begin my second term as your Governor. I am deeply humbled by the trust the people of Maine have placed in me, and I look forward to continuing to work hard over the next four years to improve the lives and livelihoods of Maine people.

Over the past four years, we have made real progress. We have expanded health care, leading to the largest decline in the uninsured rate of any state in the nation. We fully funded the State's share of public education. We delivered two-years of free community college. We fully restored municipal revenue sharing to five percent. We delivered substantial tax relief, nation-leading inflation relief, and emergency energy relief to help Maine people through difficult times.

Through the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, we are strengthening and diversifying our economy. In 2022, our state's gross domestic product – a key measure of economic growth – grew at the 9th fastest rate in the United States. People are moving to Maine at a rate higher than any other New England state, and at one of the highest rates in the nation. We have enacted balanced budgets, and we have built up Maine's "Rainy Day" fund to a record high, preparing our state to continue meeting its commitments in the event of an economic downturn.

While I am proud of the progress we have made, there is more to do, like addressing the housing crisis, the workforce shortage, and the opioid epidemic and strengthening health care, education, and the economy. I know that by working together to tackle these issues head-on, we can improve the lives and livelihoods of Maine people and make Maine the best place to live, work, and raise a family.

Thank you again for the honor to serve you as Governor.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Janet T. Mills'.

Janet T. Mills
Governor

SUSAN M. COLLINS
MAINE

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

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904

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

Dear Friends:

It is an honor to serve the people of Maine in the U.S. Senate, and I welcome this opportunity to share an update on issues important to Maine and America.

One of my priorities for 2023 has been to improve the appropriations process in Congress – the way it decides how to spend taxpayer money. I took over as the Vice Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee last year. Along with Chair Patty Murray, we decided the best change we could make was not to do something new. Instead, it was to do something old – that is, go back to the regular and transparent committee process that we used to have.

Part of restoring this process included holding 50 public Committee hearings, which allowed for input from senators on both sides of the aisle. As a result, for the first time in five years, the Senate Appropriations Committee passed all twelve of its funding bills on time. This was done with strong bipartisan support. In fact, seven of them passed unanimously.

Now, we need to work with the House of Representatives to pass these twelve bills and turn them into laws.

These bills contain funding for a wide range of Maine priorities, including support for the workforce at Bath Iron Works and Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, our lobster industry, infrastructure improvements, affordable housing, biomedical research, veterans, and heating assistance programs like LIHEAP. These bills also contain nearly \$590 million in Congressionally Directed Spending for 231 projects throughout the State of Maine. These projects would help promote job creation, expand access to health care, and improve public safety, infrastructure, and important resources in communities across all 16 counties of our state. I will continue to work to get these bills signed into law in the new year.

On October 25, the horrific mass shooting in Lewiston claimed the lives of 18 Mainers and injured 13 others. In response, I led Maine's Congressional Delegation in requesting an independent investigation by the U.S. Army Inspector General into the events leading up to the shooting. On December 15, the Under Secretary of the Army wrote to inform me that such an investigation will take place, and the Army Inspector General has instructed her team to immediately begin preparing to conduct this investigation. While nothing can undo the events of October 25, I will continue to work to understand what happened and what could have been done differently, and to find answers for the victims, survivors, and their families.

No one works harder than the people of Maine, and this year I honored that work ethic when I cast my 8,855th consecutive roll call vote.

As we look ahead to 2024, I remain committed to addressing the concerns of Maine families and communities. If you need assistance or wish to share your thoughts, please do not hesitate to reach out to one of my six state offices.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins
United States Senator



Peter Lyford
Senator, District 10

131st MAINE SENATE

3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you in the Maine Senate. It has been an honor to work on your behalf to make our state an even better place to live, work, and conduct business. I am grateful you have put your trust in me, and I will continue to work tirelessly on behalf of the people of Senate District 10.

The First Regular and First Special Sessions of the 131st Maine State Legislature were notable as there were over 2,600 legislative bill requests and 2,019 of them were officially printed as Legislative Documents (LDs). No legislature this century has had as many LDs printed during its first year.

One area of success was in the Highway Fund. In the past, the Highway Fund has been supported through gasoline taxes, which have been declining for years due to more fuel-efficient and electric/hybrid vehicles, and bonding. However, we now have created a sustainable source of funding to maintain our transportation infrastructure. This is done by dedicating 40% of the vehicle sales tax and the sales and use taxes collected by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. It is predicted to raise more than \$200 million for infrastructure each biennium.

The Second Regular Session will begin in January 2024. I am eager to discuss the issues important to all of you. I have heard from many of you regarding the biggest concerns you are facing, including the protection Maine's natural resources, increased costs of everyday items, access to health care and child care, education, housing, inflation, child welfare, mental health and substance abuse, workforce development, and crime, among others. I will continue to do all I can to advocate for your priorities in Augusta.

Again, thank you for electing me to serve you in the State Senate. The 131st Legislature has a great deal more work to do. However, I believe that if we work collaboratively, there is nothing we can't accomplish. Please feel free to contact me by calling (207) 287-1505 or emailing me at Peter.Lyford@legislature.maine.gov. If you have comments, questions or if you would like assistance in navigating our state's bureaucracy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peter Lyford".

Peter Lyford
State Senator



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

Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you safe and well. It's an honor to continue serving as your representative in Congress, and I take the responsibility very seriously. I appreciate the opportunity to update you on what I've been working on behalf of the people of the Second Congressional District.

In August, I voted for the *Inflation Reduction Act* because it represented a dramatic turnaround from misguided efforts to pass sweeping, ill-designed legislation that tried to accomplish too many things through budget gimmicks, setting up problematic fiscal cliffs in numerous programs and refusing to make the difficult decisions to allow for a fiscally responsible bill.

The *Inflation Reduction Act*, which was signed into law by the president, was fiscally responsible and targeted four key priorities: reducing our national debt and putting our country back on a more sustainable path, lowering the cost of prescription drugs, and making health care more affordable, investing in an all-of-the-above energy strategy to significantly increase oil, gas, and renewable energy production to lower energy costs for Americans, and cracking down on the tax avoidance of billion-dollar multinational corporations. This bill was the first major legislation in the last decade to use the reconciliation process to create a fiscally responsible budget to reduce deficits. The Congressional Budget Office estimated it would reduce deficits by approximately \$300 billion.

As a member of the House Armed Services Committee, I also helped pass the Fiscal Year 2023 National Defense Authorization Act, which among other things, included key wins for Bath shipbuilders, UMaine, and servicemembers and their families. For shipbuilders, the bill secured authorization for a third DDG-51 destroyer; established a new contract for up to 15 DDG-51 destroyers over the next five years, many of which will be built at Bath Iron Works; and included funding for shipyard infrastructure. The bill also authorized over \$25 million for defense research programs, including UMaine's large-scale manufacturing program. Finally, the bill authorized a 4.6% pay increase to help servicemembers and their families deal with rising costs due to inflation.

Additionally, at the end of 2022, Congress passed a spending bill to fund the government through September of 2023. The bill funds nearly \$27 million in funding for community projects across the Second Congressional District, a lifeline for our lobster industry that freezes any regulatory action for at least six years, and secures millions in additional funding for the Low Income Housing Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) to help Mainers heat their homes.

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

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

I look forward to building on momentum from recent legislative wins for Mainers and continuing to work on your behalf in 2023. Do not hesitate to reach out and voice an opinion on legislation, let us know about local events, or seek assistance navigating federal agencies or programs. It's an honor to represent you in Congress, and I wish you a healthy and prosperous year to come.

Respectfully,

Jared F. Golden
Member of Congress



Proven Expertise & Integrity

July 8, 2024

Town Council
Town of Bucksport
Bucksport, Maine

We were engaged by the Town of Bucksport and have audited the financial statements of the Town of Bucksport as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023. The following statements and schedules have been excerpted from the 2023 financial statements, a complete copy of which, including our opinion thereon, is available for inspection at the Town Office.

Included herein are:

Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Budgetary Basis - Budget and Actual - General Fund	Schedule 1
Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds	Statement C
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds	Statement E
Combining Balance Sheet - Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Schedule D
Combining Schedule of Revenue, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances - Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Schedule E

RHR Smith & Company

RHR Smith & Company
Certified Public Accountants

TOWN OF BUCKSPORT, MAINE

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGETARY BASIS
 BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts	Variance Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
Budgetary Fund Balance, July 1, Restated	\$ 4,744,540	\$ 4,744,540	\$ 4,744,540	\$ -
Resources (Inflows):				
Property taxes	7,272,380	7,272,380	7,266,643	(5,737)
Excise taxes	1,056,000	1,056,000	973,151	(82,849)
Intergovernmental	1,403,109	1,446,434	1,619,908	173,474
Charges for services	881,850	881,850	782,890	(98,960)
Interest on taxes	24,000	24,000	17,025	(6,975)
Interest income	50,000	50,000	232,833	182,833
Miscellaneous revenues	30,975	30,975	81,757	50,782
Loan proceeds	343,000	343,000	-	(343,000)
Transfers from other funds	79,500	79,500	79,500	-
Amounts Available for Appropriation	<u>15,885,354</u>	<u>15,928,679</u>	<u>15,798,247</u>	<u>(130,432)</u>
Charges to Appropriations (Outflows):				
General government	2,297,620	2,358,861	2,430,199	(71,338)
Protection	2,551,004	2,551,004	2,536,776	14,228
Public works	1,229,299	1,229,299	1,279,425	(50,126)
Health and sanitation	271,468	272,768	287,464	(14,696)
Community and social agencies	81,973	81,973	80,273	1,700
Education	4,427,190	4,427,190	4,427,190	-
Recreation	323,605	323,605	321,627	1,978
Cemeteries	24,825	24,825	4,375	20,450
County tax	228,542	228,542	228,542	-
Unclassified	46,623	94,948	118,589	(23,641)
Debt service:				
Principal	291,753	291,753	171,429	120,324
Interest	15,412	15,412	20,629	(5,217)
Transfers to other funds	310,000	338,000	338,000	-
Total Charges to Appropriations	<u>12,099,314</u>	<u>12,238,180</u>	<u>12,244,518</u>	<u>(6,338)</u>
Budgetary Fund Balance, June 30	<u>\$ 3,786,040</u>	<u>\$ 3,690,499</u>	<u>\$ 3,553,729</u>	<u>\$ (136,770)</u>
Utilization of restricted fund balance	\$ 8,500	\$ 76,041	\$ -	\$ (76,041)
Utilization of unassigned fund balance	950,000	978,000	-	(978,000)
	<u>\$ 958,500</u>	<u>\$ 1,054,041</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (1,054,041)</u>

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

STATEMENT C

TOWN OF BUCKSPORT, MAINE

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2023

	General Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,351,475	\$ 79,216	\$ 2,430,691
Investments	1,913,122	128,352	2,041,474
Accounts receivable (net of allowance for uncollectibles):			
Taxes	11,846	-	11,846
Liens	264,883	-	264,883
Other	621,100	79,779	700,879
Note receivable	367,000	-	367,000
Inventory	23,707	-	23,707
Due from other governments	275,527	-	275,527
Due from other funds	1,121,850	2,193,734	3,315,584
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>\$ 6,950,510</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 2,481,081</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 9,431,591</u></u>
LIABILITIES			
Accrued payroll and related items	\$ 59,896	\$ -	\$ 59,896
Due to other governments	279,941	-	279,941
Due to other funds	2,781,491	814,183	3,595,674
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u><u>3,121,328</u></u>	<u><u>814,183</u></u>	<u><u>3,935,511</u></u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Prepaid taxes	20,333	-	20,333
Deferred tax revenues	255,120	-	255,120
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	<u><u>275,453</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>275,453</u></u>
FUND BALANCES			
Nonspendable	23,707	140,172	163,879
Restricted	563,999	1,043,790	1,607,789
Committed	146,663	754,098	900,761
Assigned	1,216,321	545,390	1,761,711
Unassigned	1,603,039	(816,552)	786,487
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	<u><u>3,553,729</u></u>	<u><u>1,666,898</u></u>	<u><u>5,220,627</u></u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES	<u><u>\$ 6,950,510</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 2,481,081</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 9,431,591</u></u>

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

TOWN OF BUCKSPORT, MAINE

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	General Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES			
Taxes:			
Property	\$ 7,266,643	\$ -	\$ 7,266,643
Excise	973,151	-	973,151
Intergovernmental	1,619,908	893,575	2,513,483
Charges for services	782,890	-	782,890
Miscellaneous revenues	331,615	119,641	451,256
TOTAL REVENUES	10,974,207	1,013,216	11,987,423
EXPENDITURES			
Current:			
General government	2,430,199	65,132	2,495,331
Protection	2,536,776	57,219	2,593,995
Public works	1,279,425	-	1,279,425
Health and sanitation	287,464	-	287,464
Community and social agencies	80,273	-	80,273
Education	4,427,190	-	4,427,190
Recreation	321,627	49,763	371,390
Cemeteries	4,375	809	5,184
County tax	228,542	-	228,542
Unclassified	118,589	-	118,589
Debt service:			
Principal	171,429	80,684	252,113
Interest	20,629	7,363	27,992
Capital outlay	-	2,360,689	2,360,689
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	11,906,518	2,621,659	14,528,177
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(932,311)	(1,608,443)	(2,540,754)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Bond and note proceeds	-	1,093,220	1,093,220
Transfers in	79,500	797,941	877,441
Transfers (out)	(338,000)	(539,441)	(877,441)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	(258,500)	1,351,720	1,093,220
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES	(1,190,811)	(256,723)	(1,447,534)
FUND BALANCES - JULY 1, RESTATED	4,744,540	1,923,621	6,668,161
FUND BALANCES - JUNE 30	\$ 3,553,729	\$ 1,666,898	\$ 5,220,627

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

TOWN OF BUCKSPORT, MAINE

COMBINING BALANCE SHEET - NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2023

	Special Revenue Funds	Capital Projects Funds	Permanent Funds	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 78,943	\$ -	\$ 273	\$ 79,216
Investments	-	-	128,352	128,352
Accounts receivable (net of allowance for uncollectibles)	79,779	-	-	79,779
Due from other funds	1,056,921	1,102,130	34,683	2,193,734
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 1,215,643	\$ 1,102,130	\$ 163,308	\$ 2,481,081
LIABILITIES				
Due to other funds	\$ 570,451	\$ 231,662	\$ 12,070	\$ 814,183
TOTAL LIABILITIES	570,451	231,662	12,070	814,183
FUND BALANCES				
Nonspendable	-	-	140,172	140,172
Restricted	774,050	244,235	25,505	1,043,790
Committed	-	754,098	-	754,098
Assigned	441,593	103,797	-	545,390
Unassigned	(570,451)	(231,662)	(14,439)	(816,552)
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	645,192	870,468	151,238	1,666,898
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	\$ 1,215,643	\$ 1,102,130	\$ 163,308	\$ 2,481,081

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

TOWN OF BUCKSPORT, MAINE

COMBINING SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN
 FUND BALANCE - NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Special Revenue Funds	Capital Projects Funds	Permanent Funds	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
REVENUES				
Intergovernmental	\$ 716,300	\$ 177,275	\$ -	\$ 893,575
Investment income, net of unrealized gains/(losses)	12	7,274	6,202	13,488
Other	84,686	21,467	-	106,153
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>800,998</u>	<u>206,016</u>	<u>6,202</u>	<u>1,013,216</u>
EXPENDITURES				
General government	65,132	-	-	65,132
Protection	57,219	-	-	57,219
Culture and recreation	49,763	-	-	49,763
Cemeteries	-	-	809	809
Debt Service:				
Principal	-	80,684	-	80,684
Interest	-	7,363	-	7,363
Capital outlay	439,432	1,921,257	-	2,360,689
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>611,546</u>	<u>2,009,304</u>	<u>809</u>	<u>2,621,659</u>
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	<u>189,452</u>	<u>(1,803,288)</u>	<u>5,393</u>	<u>(1,608,443)</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Bond proceeds	-	931,584	-	931,584
Note proceeds	-	161,636	-	161,636
Transfers in	28,000	769,941	-	797,941
Transfers (out)	(75,000)	(459,941)	(4,500)	(539,441)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	<u>(47,000)</u>	<u>1,403,220</u>	<u>(4,500)</u>	<u>1,351,720</u>
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES	142,452	(400,068)	893	(256,723)
FUND BALANCES - JULY 1, RESTATED	<u>502,740</u>	<u>1,270,536</u>	<u>150,345</u>	<u>1,923,621</u>
FUND BALANCES - JUNE 30	<u>\$ 645,192</u>	<u>\$ 870,468</u>	<u>\$ 151,238</u>	<u>\$ 1,666,898</u>

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