

2012

Annual Report of the Municipal Officers of the Town of China Maine for the Year 2012

China, Me

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**Annual Report of the
Municipal Officers
Of the
Town of China, Maine**

**For year ending
June 20, 2012**

Annual Town Business Meeting
Saturday, March 23, 2013
9:00a.m.
China Middle School

Social gathering begins
at 8:30 a.m.

Light refreshments
will be available.



Quorum of 121
Registered voters is
needed to open the
meeting!!!

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Winners of the China Lake Association 2012 poster contest: Kylie Clark, Gavin Blanchard, Mya Maxim, Austin Dunn, Alexis Creasman, Sophie Taylor and Peyton Houghton.



Dedication



It is with great honor and pleasure that we dedicate this year's town report to Ronald and Linda Morrell.



Linda and Ronald Morrell Sr. pose at Ron's 70th birthday party held recently at the China Baptist Church

Ron and Linda Morrell met at college in Michigan and were married August 21, 1964. In California Reverend Morrell pastored a Mexican American congregation for nine years, Pico Rivera Friends Church. For three years after that Ron was Minister of Christian Education and Young Adults for First Friends Church in Whittier. After that time in California, they moved to China, Maine in July of 1983, wanting to raise their family in a different environment.

Their children finished growing up in China Village. Their son Ron, Jr. graduated from Winslow High School and their daughters Melissa and Melinda graduated from Erskine Academy. Ron Jr. and his wife Amy live with their three children, Madelyn, Sarah, and Andrew in Berwick, Maine. Melissa and her husband Terry Bradshaw live in Haverhill, Massachusetts and Melinda and her husband Michael Walsh in Salem, Massachusetts.

Ron became interim pastor at China Baptist Church in the fall of 1983 and then in the spring of 1984 the congregation asked him to be the permanent pastor, and so Ron is now in his thirtieth year. In the fall of 1984 Reverend





Dedication



Ron was asked to be the Protestant Chaplain at Colby College and for Colby he took on a variety of duties related to the Office of the Chaplain, serving for 26 years.

Linda just retired from teaching at China Primary School last spring after 21 years. she started out as an Educational Technician then getting her teaching certificate and going on to teach both seventh and fourth grade classes. She has been doing some substituting in her retirement. In California Linda worked in probation and in juvenile halls having trained to be a probation officer. Her college education was in sociology with an emphasis in corrections.

Ron served on the town Budget Committee for a number of years and now serves on the Emergency Preparedness Committee as chairperson and additionally is a member of the China Historical Society Committee. He is a member of the Kennebec County Republican Committee and was active in the Waterville Clergy Group. He has served on various boards and committees of the American Baptist Church of Maine and most recently chaired a two year reorganization group to restructure and set a new direction for China Lake Conference Center and now serves on the new China Lake Camp Board of Directors.

The Morrells, in 1986, took on the lifelong project of attempting to preserve and restore the General Alfred Marshall home on Main Street in China Village which was built in 1840.

They enjoy many things, being with the family is at the top of the list, but also taking road trips with and without the camper trailer. Ron loves working with wood and restoration projects and Linda does not mind cleaning up after him if he finishes a project.

Ron and Linda - we appreciate you and all you continue to bring to our community!





From the Town Manager



To the Honorable Select Board and Citizens of the Town of China:

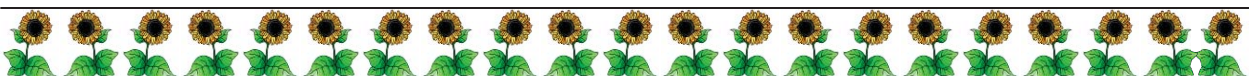
It is with utmost sincerity and professional respect that I submit to you the Annual Report of the Town of China for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012.

The purpose of an Annual Report is to inform citizens/voters of the financial condition of the town at the close of any given fiscal year and to report on the operational aspects of the various town departments over the most recent fiscal year. The town of China **financial statements** include a section titled **Management Discussion and Analysis**. These are statements from management that provide an analysis of the town's overall financial condition and results of operations. Management may note current accomplishments and continuing projects and noteworthy items to be dealt with by the town.

It seemed to me to be appropriate at this time to digress somewhat from the traditional Town Manager's reports of the past and pursue a thought that came to mind. In earlier times I had a great economics professor while in college. The course was fairly rigorous with a few term papers and a significant final exam. On final exam day we students were all in the room waiting with our essay booklets for the professor to hand out an exam. The professor wrote on the chalk board, "What's it all about?" He said that is your final exam question, turn in your paper at my office on your way out of the building.

This final exam question has served me well in many circumstances, particularly while serving the residents of China. First, frequent reflection on the final exam question has kept my focus on what my job description is all about; that is, **servicing efficiently and effectively** the residents of the Town of China with your health, safety, and welfare as focal points.

Second, the mere question on the final exam was a surprise and yet the students were to retain composure and respond appropriately; having supposedly prepared themselves for whatever was presented. This is symbolically true in life (in whatever profession), particularly during these economic times and with a current State budget that attempts to shift a heavy financial burden to municipalities. We, the Select Board and your employees, must necessarily retain composure and respond appropriately to seemingly dramatic changes in the budgetary landscape; our leaders in China have prepared us for tough times. They have prepared us for tough times during the good times. Your Select Board has annually participated in long term strategic planning sessions and they have implemented a set of conservative fiscal policies to reach their set goals that were designed to realize





From the Town Manager



minimal negative impact if tough times are encountered. Indeed, they have had firm resolve in sticking with good economic fundamentals and therefore the town is relatively prepared for whatever surprises are encountered.

At this time it seems to me to be appropriate to echo something from a previous Town Manager's report, which is, running government during sensitive economic and political times is challenging for a Select Board. The frustrations that citizens have expressed toward their federal and state government leaders all too often splash onto municipal leaders, too. Yet it is widely agreed that municipalities represent the most efficient, responsible, and accessible level of the inter-governmental system. Please rest assured that the policy setting and administrative personnel in China will always have the fundamental approach of serving residents in a conservative, efficient, and cost effective manner on the "front burner". A careful look at the financial information provided to you in the town report will affirm that China has not engaged in the excesses which caused our current troublesome state and national economic condition.

You have sincere, passionate, and extremely dedicated employees working for the town. Their superior quality of work is evident when compared to their peers. I would like to personally and professionally thank all of the **"team"**: Becky, Kelly, Julie, Jen, Scott, Gary, Shawn, Elwin, Kevin, Mary, and Erasmo for their collective and spirited efforts to serve all of you. **These unique individuals do indeed reflect all the enduring qualities that China represents.** I would also like to personally thank every citizen in the town of China for the opportunity you have given me as your Town Manager.

Personal and professional appreciation is extended to the Select Board, our representatives on the RSU#18 School Board, RSU#18, the China Planning Board, the Fire Departments and China Rescue, all the volunteers, town employees, and the various chairs and committee members for their commitment, devotion, enthusiasm and cooperation in town matters. Their dedication, advice, collaboration, and assistance have been invaluable.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel L'Heureux
China Town Manager





Directory of Municipal Services



Town Office:

571 Lakeview Drive
Phone (207) 445-2014
Fax (207) 445-3208
Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Saturday
8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Visit us on the web at
www.china.govoffice.com



Transfer Station:

191 Alder Park Road
Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday
7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

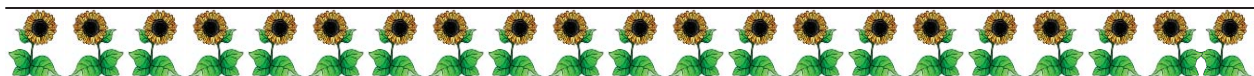


MUST obtain and present a transfer station sticker from the Town Office prior to entry. Stickers expire annually.

Phone (207) 445-3033
elwin@chinamaine.org

Code Enforcement:

571 Lakeview Drive
Phone (207) 445-3540
Fax (207) 445-3208
Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
scott@chinamaine.org





Those Who Serve Our Community



Select Board

- Irene Belanger - (2013) Phone 445-2349 email: ilbhome@fairpoint.net
- Joann Austin - (2014) Phone 445-3333 email: joann@chinamaine.org
- Steven Hughes - (2013) Phone 445-2713 email: steven@chinamaine.org
- Peter Foote - (2014) Phone 968-2714 email: pfoote@fairpoint.net
- Paul MacDonald - (2014) Phone 445-3887 email: pdmac731@fairpoint.net

China's RSU #18 Board Members

- Charles Clark - (2013) Phone 445-4561 email: cclark@rsu18.org
- Elwood Ellis - (2012) Phone 968-2507 email: eellis@rsu18.org

Planning Board

- District 1 - James Wilkens (2013)
Phone 968-3777 email: district1@chinamaine.org
- District 2 - Toni Wall (2014)
Phone 445-4527 email: district2@chinamaine.org
- District 3 - Kyle Pierce (2013)
Phone 445-4341 email: district3@chinamaine.org
- District 4 - Ronald Breton (2014)
Phone 215-9371 email: district4@chinamaine.org
- At-Large - Milton Dudley (2014)
Phone 445-2418 email: at-large@chinamaine.org
- Alternate At-Large - Francis (Frank) Soares III (2013)
Phone 445-2005 email: alt-at-large@chinamaine.org





Those Who Serve Our Community



Budget Committee

- Chairman - Robert Batteese (2013)
 Phone 968-2151 email: rdbatteese@roadrunner.com
- Secretary - Timothy Theriault (2014)
 Phone 968-2641 email: tstheriault@roadrunner.com
- District 1 - Gregory Pizzo (2013)
 Phone 923-4033 email: flamfam@fairpoint.net
- District 2 - Charles Plumer (2014)
 Phone 968-2400 email: cplumer@fairpoint.net
- District 3 - Sheryl Peavey (2013)
 Phone 445- 7045 email: sheryl.peavey@yahoo.com
- District 4 - Frederick Glidden (2014)
 Phone 445-2117 email: fvglidden@gmail.com
- At-Large - Jonathan Vogel (2014)
 Phone 445-2705 email: rjvogel@fairpoint.net

Appeals Board

- Spencer Aitel (2014) Phone 445-2452 email: none
- Virginia Davis (2016) Phone 445-4408 email: vdavis@preti.com
- Michael Gee (2017) Phone 445-3593 email: michaelgee77@yahoo.com
- Lisa Kane (2015) Phone 445-4684 email: ljk@fairpoint.net
- Anthony Pileggi (2013) Phone 445-3771 email: ampileggi@fairpoint.net
- Robert Fischer (2013) Phone 445-4258 email: bobfischer@fairpoint.net

Facilities Committee

- Steven Hughes Phone 445-2713 email: steven@chinamaine.org
- Daniel L'Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org





Those Who Serve Our Community



Recreation Committee

- Dolly Batteese Phone 968-2151 email: dbatteese@yahoo.com
- Becky Theriault Phone 968-2641 email: trtheriault@roadrunner.com
- Al Hawk Phone 437-2129 email: aimees.pappy@gmail.com
- Becky Hapgood Phone 445-2014 email: becky@chinamaine.org
- Hope Shorey Phone 968-3807 email: hshorey@fairpoint.net

Cemetery Committee

- Julie Finley Phone 445-2014 email: julie@chinamaine.org
- H. Richard Norton Phone 968-2872 email: djnorton207@gmail.com
- Harold Charles Phone 968-2298 email: chinacharles@roadrunner.com
- Horace Stevens Phone 445-4312 email: none
- Daniel L'Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org
- Elwood Ellis Phone 968-2627 email: bluesbro@roadrunner.com

Road Committee

- H. Richard Norton Phone 660-6165 email: djnorton207@gmail.com
- Frederick Anderson Phone 968-2400 email: andy@fairpoint.net
- Charles Plumer Phone 968-2400 email: cplumer@fairpoint.net
- Milford Thomas Phone 445-2633 email: none
- Dale Peabody Phone 968-3809 email: dpeabody22163@raodrunner.com

Forestry Committee

- Daniel L'Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org
- Elaine Philbrook Phone 445-1550 email: ephilbrook@rsu18.org
- Anita Smith Phone 445-1550 email: asmith@rsu18.org
- Tim Basham Phone 445-2363 email: bashamtree@fairpoint.net
- Leslie R. French Phone 445-4375 email: none





Those Who Serve Our Community



Enhanced 9-1-1 Committee

- Kelly Grotton Phone 445-2014 email: kelly@chinamaine.org
- Daniel L'Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org
- George Oliver Phone 445-2353 email: oliversfarm53@yahoo.com
- Scott Pierz Phone 445-3540 email: scott@chinamaine.org
- Richard Morse Phone 445-2948 email: danddmorse@fairpoint.net
- George Studley Phone 968-2949 email: none

Emergency Preparedness Committee

- Ronald Morrell Phone 968-2366 email: ronmorrell28@gmail.com
- Scott Pierz Phone 445-3540 email: scott@chinamaine.org
- Harold Charles Phone 968-2298 email: chinacharles@roadrunner.com
- Daniel L'Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org
- Michael Brown Phone 923-3705 email: mbrown@johnnyseeds.com

Board of Assessment Review

- Harold Charles Phone 968-2298 email: chinacharles@roadrunner.com
- Sharon Johnson Phone 968-2123 email: smj@fairpoint.net
- Dale Peabody Phone 968-3809 email: dpeabody22163@raodrunner.com
- Anthony Pileggi - Alt Phone 445-3771 email: ampileggi@fairpoint.net
- Dwaine Drummond - Alt Phone 445-3524 email: dbdrummond@roadrunner.com

Capital Investment Committee

- Daniel L'Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org
- Irene Belanger Phone 445-2349 email: ilbhome@fairpoint.net





Those Who Serve Our Community



Open Space Committee

- Jamie Pitney Phone 445-4408 email: jpitney@preti.com
- Daniel L'Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org
- Dwaine Drummond Phone 445-3524 email: dbdrummond@roadrunner.com
- Kyle McLaggan Phone none email: kmclaggan@yahoo.com
- Irma Simon Phone 445-2816 email: none
- Tammy Trask Phone 968-2009 email: cupcakett@yahoo.com
- William Seekins Phone 968-2605 email: seekins@fairpoint.net
- Jonathan Vogel Phone 445-2705 email: rjvogel@fairpoint.net
- Joann Austin Phone 445-3333 email: austinlaw@fairpoint.net
- Irene Belanger Phone 445-2349 email: ilbhome@fairpoint.net
- Francis (Frank) Soares III Phone 445-2005 email: crossbowme@gmail.com

Economic Development Committee

- Irene Belanger Phone 445-2349 email: ilbhome@fairpoint.net
- Daniel L'Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org
- Steven Hughes Phone 445-2713 email: steven@chianmaine.org
- Carlaine Bovio Phone 445-3553 email: carlaine@fairpoint.net
- Joann Austin Phone 445-3333 email: joann@chinamaine.org

Lake Access Feasibility Committee

- Daniel L'Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org
- Dale Worster Phone 200-3253 email: daleworster@yahoo.com
- Sheri Wilkens Phone 968-3777 email: wilkensgroup@gmail.com
- Steven Hughes Phone 445-2713 email: steven@chinamaine.org
- Janet Preston Phone 968-2565 email: on-the-lake@fairpoint.net
- Jennifer Clair Phone 968-2104 email: jjaclair@gmail.com





Those Who Serve Our Community



Thurston Park II Committee

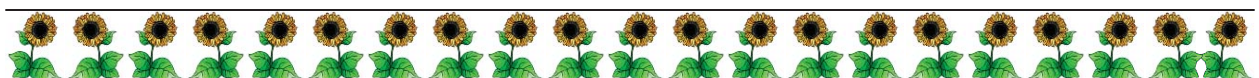
- William Seekins Phone 968-2605 email: seekins@fairpoint.net
- Joann Austin Phone 445-3333 email: joann@chinamaine.org
- Dolly Batteese Phone 968-2151 email: dbatteese@yahoo.com
- Irene Belanger Phone 445-2349 email: ilbhome@fairpoint.net
- Anita Smith Phone 445-1550 email: asmith@rsu18.org
- Timothy Theriault Phone 968-2641 email: tstheriault@roadrunner.com
- Judy Stone Phone 968-2824 email: jstone@colby.edu
- Phillip DeMaynadier Phone 968-3299 email: phillip.demaynadier@maine.gov
- James Booth Phone 445-4670 email: booooth69_1@hotmail.com
- Leslie R. French Phone 445-4375 email: none
- Sheri Wilkens Phone 968-3777 email: wilkensgroup@gmail.com

Historical Preservation Committee

- Daniel L'Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org
- Irene Belanger Phone 445-2349 email: ilbhome@fairpoint.net
- Kelly Grotton Phone 445-2014 email: kelly@chinamaine.org
- Dwaine Drummond Phone 445-3524 email: dbdrummond@roadrunner.com
- Carlaine Bovio Phone 445-3553 email: carlaine@fairpoint.net

Transfer Station Committee

- Susan Cottle Phone 445-4878 email: scottle@roadrunner.com
- Daniel L'Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org
- Elwin Higgins Phone 445-3033 email: elwin@chinamaine.org
- Mary Kay Adams Phone 445-3033 email: mary@chinamaine.org
- Linda Silvia Phone 596-0351 email: bethankful@gwi.net
- Paul MacDonald Phone 445-3887 email: pdmac731@fairpoint.net
- Kevin Rhoades Phone 445-3033 email: kevin@chinamaine.org





Those Who Serve Our Community

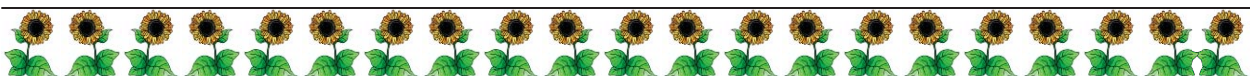


Implementation Committee

- Daniel L'Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org
- Joann Austin Phone 445-3333 email: joann@chinamaine.org
- Irene Belanger Phone 445-2349 email: ilbhome@fairpoint.net
- Francis (Frank) Soares III Phone 445-2005 email: crossbowme@gmail.com
- Scott Pierz Phone 445-3540 email: scott@chinamaine.org
- Virginia Davis Phone 445-4408 email: vdavis@preti.com
- Carlaine Bovio Phone 445-3553 email: carlaine@fairpoint.net
- Larry Rancourt Phone 968-2720 email: lrdr@fairpoint.net
- Jamie Pitney Phone 445-4408 email: jpitney@preti.com
- Kyle Pierce Phone 445-4341 email: kpierce.a.b.s@gmail.com
- Gail Britton-Kojigian Phone 968-2053 email: cakgbk@yahoo.com
- Dale Worster Phone 200-3253 email: daleworster@yahoo.com
- Carrol White III Phone 968-2435 email: cswhite3@roadrunner.com
- Scott Rollins Phone 445-2247 email: srollins1@roadrunner.com

Wetlands Committee

- Joann Austin Phone 445-3333 email: joann@chinamaine.org
- Virginia Davis Phone 445-4408 email: vdavis@preti.com
- Irma Simon Phone 445-2816 email: none
- Victor Montminy Phone 649-5304 email: none
- John Henninges Phone 215-7430 email: john@cornerstonefinancial-inc.com
- David Simpson Phone 968-3455 email: none





Those Who Serve Our Community

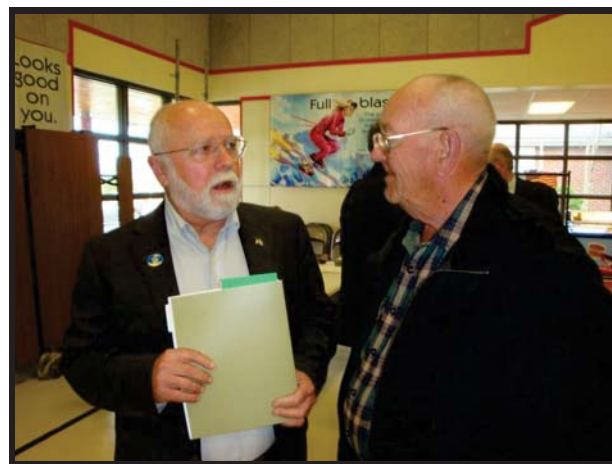


China Library Feasibility Committee

- Daniel L'Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org
- Joann Austin Phone 445-3333 email: joann@chinamaine.org
- Dolly Batteese Phone 968-2151 email: dbatteese@yahoo.com
- Susan Cottle Phone 445-4878 email: scottle@roadrunner.com
- Jonathan Vogel Phone 445-2705 email: rjvogel@fairpoint.net
- Elwood Ellis Phone 968-2627 email: bluesbro@roadrunner.com
- Susan Priest Phone none email: none
- Donald Poulin Phone none email: none
- Cheryl Baker (alternate) Phone 445-2956 email: cbaker@fairpoint.net

Historical Society Committee

- Harold Charles Phone 968-2298 email: chinacharles@roadrunner.com
- Sue Ann Charles Phone 968-2298 email: chinacharles@roadrunner.com
- Neil Farrington Phone 968-2788 email: peachclassof68@roadrunner.com
- Dale Fegel Phone none email: dalefegel2@yahoo.com
- Kelly Grotton Phone 445-2014 email: kelly@chinamaine.org
- Ronald Morrell Phone 968-2366 email: ronmorrell28@gmail.com



Representative David Cotta and Road Committee member Milford Thomas talk before the 2012 Annual Town Business Meeting.





Those Who Serve Our Community

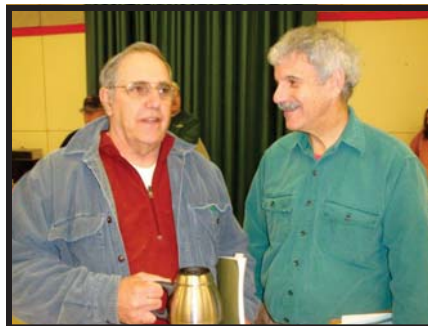


Appointed Officials:

- Daniel L'Heureux Town Manager, Tax Collector, Treasurer, Road Commissioner, Civil
Emergency Preparedness Director & Agent to the Overseers of the Poor
Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org
- Rebecca Hapgood Town Clerk & Registrar of Voters
Phone 445-2014 email: becky@chinamaine.org
- Scott Pierz Code Enforcement Officer & Licensed Plumbing Inspector
Phone 445-3540 email: scott@chinamaine.org
- Christian Jandreau Health Officer
Phone 445-2014 email: healthofficer@chinamaine.org
- Erasmo Gonzalez Police Officer & Animal Control Officer
Phone 592-7067 email: gonzalez@chinamaine.org
- Kevin Rhoades Animal Control Officer
Phone 458-1646 email: kevin@chinamaine.org
- Paul MacDonald Recycling Coordinator
Phone 445-3887 email: pdmac731@fairpoint.net
- George Studley Chief, China Village Volunteer Fire Department & Deputy Fire Warden
Phone 968-2949 email: cvvfd@roadrunner.com
- Thomas Stephenson Chief, Weeks Mills Volunteer Fire Department
Phone 445-2514 email: tomandmrs@aol.com
- Richard Morse Chief, South China Volunteer Fire Department & Fire Warden
Phone 445-2948 email: danddmorse@fairpoint.net

Other Officials:

- Justin Cerbarano Service Chief, China Rescue
Phone 314-9678 email: jcerbarano@gmail.com
- Gary Smith Superintendent, Regional School Unit #18
Phone 465-7384 email: gsmith@rsu18.org
- Carl Gartley Principal, China Schools
Phone 445-1500 email: cgartley@rsu18.org



Sheldon Bumps and Senator Katz chat before last year's town meeting.





Legislative Delegation



State Senate District 24

Senator Roger Katz

3 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333

Phone 287-1505 or 485-2394

State House District 55

Representative H. David Cotta

2 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333

Phone 287-1440 or 445-4067



Maine Delegation

Senator Susan Collins

413 Dirksen Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone (202) 224-2523
<http://collins.senate.gov>

Senator Angus King

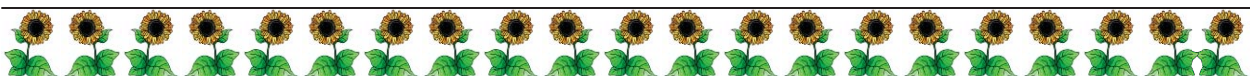
188 Russell Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone (202) 224-5344
<http://king.senate.gov>

Representative Chellie Pingree

1st District
1318 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone (202) 225-6116
<http://pingree.house.gov>

Representative Michael H. Michaud

2nd District
1724 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone (202) 225-6306
<http://michaud.house.gov>





House District 55



STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333-0002
(207) 287-1440
TTY: (207) 287-4469

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the privilege of serving as your State Representative for the 126th Maine State Legislature. It is a true honor to be your voice at the Capitol and I look forward to addressing the many challenges that lie ahead.

For the 126th legislature, I am pleased to be returning to the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government. The jurisdiction of this committee includes: state contracts and fiscal procedures; state government organization; oversight of state officials, state employees and property; administrative procedures; boards and commissions; notaries public; capitol area planning; county and regional government; county budget process; Legislature; municipal and local government; and public services.

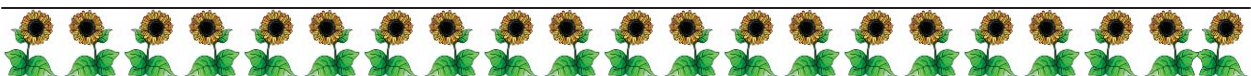
Additionally, I have been tapped as a member of the Government Oversight Committee. The purpose of the GOC is to ensure that public funds are expended in the most effective, efficient and economical manner possible. This bi-partisan committee of Senators and Representatives directs the Office of Program, Evaluation and Government Accountability (OPEGA) to conduct independent evaluations and investigations of state agencies and programs receiving public funds or expending private monies for public purposes.

As the First Regular Session progresses, I encourage all of you to visit the Legislature's website at <http://janus.state.me.us/house/homepage.htm> for up-to-date bill status information, public hearing dates and roll call votes on legislation that are of interest to you. Our representative form of government works best when we all get involved.

I will continue to work hard for the people of House District 55. Please feel free to contact me whenever you have questions, thoughts or concerns you wish to share regarding state government.

Sincerely,

H. David Cotta
State Representative
55 53rd Fire Road
China, ME 04358
Residence: (207) 445-4067
E-Mail: cotta@fairpoint.net





Senate District 24



Dear Friends and Neighbors:

It is an honor to represent you in the Maine Senate for a second term, and I am grateful for the trust you have placed in me to work for the betterment of China and Central Maine.



Looking back at the results of the past two-year session, I am proud of the work we accomplished in an extremely difficult fiscal climate. We increased state funding to local schools, brought solvency to the retiree pension system, created more transparency and accountability at state agencies, and paid back our local hospitals millions of dollars. We worked hard to deliver the changes we promised, and we succeeded.

Lawmakers have a great deal of work on their plates when the session kicks into full swing in January. The most daunting task will be addressing a \$120 million shortfall within the Department of Health and Human Services and its MaineCare program. We must also address a \$35 million revenue shortfall in the budget that ends June 30 and a projected \$880 million gap in the next two-year budget.

Maine continues to be hampered by high energy costs and an aging population. It is a priority of mine to find a way to lower energy costs to help preserve the jobs we have in our state and encourage new job growth. Maine has the oldest state population in the nation. We must work in Augusta to pass legislation that will help grow our economy so that our youth can find opportunities here at home to work and live. Until we address these issues, Maine will continue to lag behind other states.

This session I have been given the honor of serving as the Senate Republican Assistant Leader having been elected to this post by my Republican colleagues. This position brings new responsibilities which include helping to steer the direction of the Maine Senate and better position the state for economic success.

Again, thank you for entrusting me to represent you in Augusta. Please feel free to contact me if you ever need my help in navigating the state bureaucracy. I would be happy to help in any way that I can. I can be reached in Augusta at 287 -1505 or by e-mail at rkatz@lipmankatz.com.

Sincerely,

Roger Katz
Maine State Senator





House of Representatives - 1st District



Dear Friend,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well. It continues to be an honor to represent you, and I wanted to take a moment to share with you some of the work I've done in Washington and Maine over the last year and look ahead to the rest of this year.

Given the partisan environment and lack of compromise in Washington, I have been looking for ways to help Maine people and the Maine economy that rise above those partisan differences.

One issue I worked hard on last year was local food and local farming. Farming—particularly smaller, sustainable farms—is a growing part of Maine's economy. For too long national farm policy has primarily benefitted giant agribusinesses in other parts of the country. So I introduced the Local Farms, Food and Jobs Act to bring local farmers the resources they need to keep growing.

Every five years, Congress is supposed to pass a farm bill, which sets the nation's farm policy. As we debated a farm bill last year, we were able to get most of the provisions in the Local Farms, Food and Jobs Act included in the legislation. Congress has yet to pass that farm bill, however, but we are working to make sure those important provisions that will help local farms in Maine remain included when they do.

Sometimes the most practical solutions don't even involve legislation or Washington. For example, as the lobster industry struggled with low prices and an over-supply of lobster last summer, I wrote to the heads of all the cruise ship companies that visit Maine. I was surprised to learn that none of them were buying local, fresh lobster for their passengers and I asked the CEO's of each company to consider doing so. I'm happy to say that a number of them agreed to buy lobster locally when their cruise ships made stops in Portland, and ordered thousands of pounds of Maine lobster for their passengers.

I am beginning this year with a new assignment to the House Appropriations Committee. This is a big responsibility, since it is the committee where virtually all the spending decisions are made. These decisions can have a real impact on Maine, from how much funding is available to shipbuilding to things like funding for first responders and schools.

Everyone agrees we need to reduce the deficit, but how we go about that is a matter of great debate. I believe we need to cut unnecessary spending but at the same time keep investing in the things that will grow our economy and provide a bright future for our children. And I'm sure we will debate those issues on the Appropriations Committee.

I want to also take this opportunity to remind you that I am always ready and willing to help you out if are having an issue with a federal agency. My office can make inquiries to a federal agency on your behalf; connect you with resources and





House of Representatives - 1st District



more. No question is too small and we are always happy to hear from you. If there is anything I can do, please don't hesitate to contact me at (888) 862-6500 or www.pingree.house.gov.

Hope to see you in Maine soon,

Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress

Did you know...

Each House member elect must say the Oath of Office (below) before officially becoming a Member of the House.

I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion, and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter, so help me God.

Did you also know...

The Members of the U.S. House of Representatives say the Pledge of Allegiance at the start of each day.

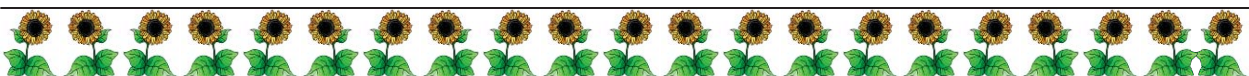
Final did you know...

The House of Representative has 435 voting members.

Trivia Question

What is the oldest artifact in the House?

Answer: The coin silver inkstand.





Doris L. Young Scholarships



The Doris L. Young Scholarship was established in 1982 to award worthy students from China a scholarship to help with their college education. Applications are available at the China Town Office and on the web at www.china.govoffice.com. The following students were awarded a \$350 scholarship for the 2011-2012 school year.

Ashley Alberts
Kristen Alberts
Sandra Bizier
Charles Boyle
Kayla Bronson
Jessica Buzzell
Cameron Campbell
Zachary Carey
Jaime Constanzer
Michelle Dumont
Caleb Fletcher
Sarah Fletcher
Krystina Foote
John Garrity
Peter Garrity
Courtney Gee
Jason Blaine Goggin
Jason Wyman Grotton
Stacy Gunning
Jessica Howard
Sean Hutchinson
Grady Lane
Hanh Lyford
Janelle Lyford
Tram Lyford
Kiera Michaud

Annie Nixon
Kaitlin O'Connor
Gregory O'Connor
Brian Parent
Matthew Parent
Michaela Petrone
Travis Pitre
Tabatha Plourde
Christina Porter
Megan Porter
Jennifer Prescott
Morgan Prescott
Michael G Raffia
Julie Riordan
James O Riordan
Jacob Rollins
Samuel Seekins
Brittany Sharpe
Laramie Shorey
Stephanie McLellan Smith
Justin Stewart
Amy Sylvester
Nathan C Sylvester
Andrea Vernon
Ross Vernon
Christian Wilkens





Regional School Unit 18



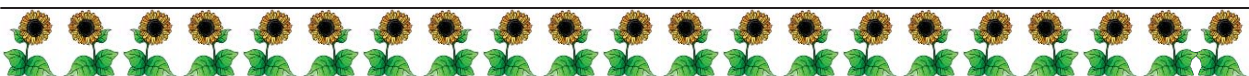
Dear Citizens of the Town of China:

RSU 18 has had another year of growth and progress reaching several big milestones this past year. Most importantly, the District's Educational Strategic Plan (copy available on www.rsu18.org) was approved by the RSU 18 Board of Directors in April, as well as the adoption of our new proficiency/standards based PK through Grade 12 Curriculum. These accomplishments are the foundational building blocks for RSU 18's Strategic Direction that will best prepare the students leaving our schools to be ready for the next step in their life's journey: whether that be college, career/technical, military, or just good citizens in the communities where they will live and work. As I stated in my Superintendent's Report last year, this work will be the primary focus of our efforts over the next four to five years. We would welcome the opportunity to come out to your communities to talk about RSU 18's Educational Vision and would also like to hear from you if you know of any community groups that might like an update on this work as well.

In addition to this we continue to face the challenges of a still struggling economy, along with the reality of significantly lower revenues to developing a fiscally responsible school budget. Many folks put in a great deal of effort in order to get this year's budget of \$31,972,592 adopted on October 2, 2012 after three attempts. The approved budget is lower than the 2006-07 combined school budgets of MSAD 47 and China Public Schools by \$150,000 (\$32,124,701). There are not many public entities out there now running on a funding plan that is significantly less than six years ago. When looking at efficiency metrics of running a school system, RSU 18 has consistently exhibited operating costs that are more than \$1,000 less than the state average year after year, and these metrics show that your tax dollars are being spent where they matter most: in the classroom. (Reference: <http://dw.education.maine.gov/education/medw/default.aspx>)

We are always working towards making the RSU 18 School District more efficient and looking at ways to improve our operation. This spring construction was completed on our Biomass (wood chip) Boiler that provides heat and hot water to Messalonskee High School, Messalonskee Middle School and Williams Elementary School. Completion of this project saves us more than \$250,000 annually with fuel costs at current levels over what was previously spent heating these schools. Above and beyond this is the fact that this money is being spent locally to help make the Central Maine economy stronger rather than being spent on fuel oil and leaving the State of Maine immediately.

Another highlight this year was the initiation of what hopefully will become





Regional School Unit 18



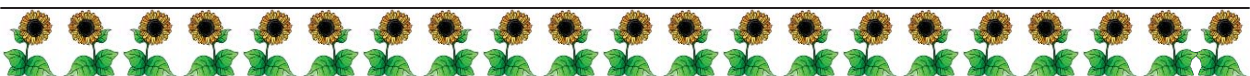
an annual event. The first RSU 18 Employee Recognition Day was held on November 1, 2012. While this was a full day of recognition, the day culminated with a reception at the High School where employees and their families came to take a few moments to relax and enjoy themselves. Our students pitched in to help decorate the cafeteria and to make employee thank yous. Letters of Thank You, Recognition, and Support to our staff came from Commissioner of Education Stephen Bowen and Senator Susan Collins. Also, several state representatives attended our event as well. It was definitely a fun thing to do.

Also, this past year we saw the Town of China vote on whether they should form a committee to investigate the possibility of China withdrawing from RSU 18. While the Maine Legislature created a way for towns to consider this option, the citizens of China voted in November not to proceed. The vote to stay with RSU 18 was 75% yes and 25% no. This most recent vote very much reflects the original vote taken by China to join with the former MSAD 47 school district back in 2008. While not perfect, RSU 18 has seen a lot of growth and change in the past four years. Contracts and policies have been combined, efficiencies of combining the two school districts have produced savings and a sound educational vision has been developed and adopted. For RSU 18, consolidation has produced benefits that exist today and will for years to come.

Your schools are led by a very capable and dedicated Board of Directors who devote many hours of service for the students, families and residents of Belgrade, China, Oakland, Rome, and Sidney. They do a wonderful job, and if you are out and about and happen to see them, please remember to thank them for their many hours of service on your behalf.

Finally, this past fall we launched a new version of the RSU 18 website (www.rsu18.org). A concerted effort was taken to make our website more easy to use and to ensure that information was being updated on a much more regular basis so that you would have a regular place to go to hear about the good things happening in our schools. The web site work is not where it needs to be yet, but significant improvements have been made. If you have a chance please take a look and offer us your opinions. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Sincerely,
Gary N. Smith
Superintendent of Schools





Erskine Academy



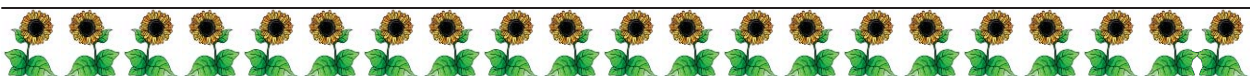
To The Residents of China, Maine,

Since its founding in 1883, Erskine Academy has been a private school with a public purpose. Ours is a true community school serving a completely voluntary enrollment of approximately 600 students in grades nine through twelve, who come to us primarily from eight communities with choice regarding high schools. This year, our enrollment has grown and is enriched by the inclusion of ten international students who live with local families while preparing for successful college study in the United States. An International Student program along with an open admissions policy for local students fosters even more diversity within a student body that represents a wide range of socio-economic backgrounds, experiences, abilities, needs and aspirations.

Erskine Academy students continue to benefit from the best traditions of small town schools: individualized attention, respect for diversity, a strong cooperative spirit, and numerous opportunities for leadership and service. The wide range of activities pursued by our students and staff is testimony to the vibrancy of the school community. Courses taught here for college credit by our first-class teaching corps, academic assistance and special education services, offerings in the fine and performing arts, athletics, and service programs are all integral to the Erskine Academy experience. Above all, the Academy embraces the best practices of good teaching and learning. Our teachers and administrators are totally committed to becoming ever more effective by continually developing their methods and resources to meet the needs and interests of our students and our changing times.

School choice has been the foundation to our educational excellence; quality service and high levels of student achievement keep our enrollment robust and our school operational. Though private, we were founded to serve the public good, a mission and heritage about which we are proud and mindful. As it has become our heritage, we enthusiastically welcome and educate a majority of China's high schoolers, an important group within our student body who comes to us well prepared for high school study and ready to engage in positive school citizenship and service to others. We greatly appreciate the many China families who have entrusted us to care for and educate their young people these many years. Despite an economic climate that continues to challenge all of us, a great education that is fit for the times but steeped in traditional values can always be had here at Erskine Academy. Accordingly, we pledge all of our resources—town paid tuition, private and international students' tuition and fees, and gifts from our alumni and friends—to provide high quality educational experiences and the conditions to inspire our students to their highest potential in school, at work, and within their communities.

Sincerely,
Michael McQuarrie
Headmaster





About My Town



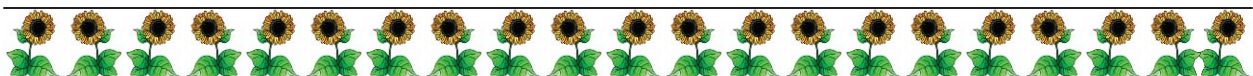
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Find these words:

BUDGET
 CHEERFUL
 CHINA LAKE
 COMMITTEES
 COMMUNITY
 ELECTIONS

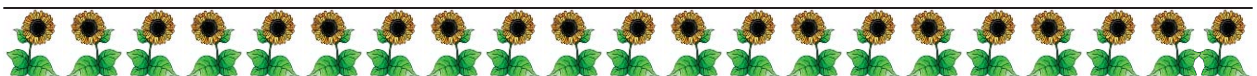
GOVERNMENT
 ORDINANCES
 SELECTMEN
 SNOWY
 SPIRIT
 TAXES
 TOWN CLERK

By Sage Hapgood-Belanger Grade 6





Committee and Community Reports





Albert Church Brown Memorial Library



Since our last annual report describing the improvements to the inside of our approximately 185-year-old building in the middle of the China Village Historic District, China Library trustees have seen to completion two more projects, less visible but even more important.

During the summer of 2012, a grant from the Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation made energy improvements possible. The walls are insulated from top to bottom, the floor is insulated (a demanding job, since the building has no basement, only a crawl space), the doors are weather-stripped and other improvements in ventilation and non-ventilation are in place.

Not long after the insulation work, a generous crew of local volunteers completely replaced the roof in a single day. The staging they used stayed up for another week or so, to accommodate chimney repairs.

Courteous and considerate workmen hindered library operations as little as possible. Throughout both major projects we continued to add to our book collection; to lend out books and magazines; to offer area residents free use of our computers and Wi-Fi; to work toward an on-line catalog; to host the knitting group that meets weekly and the book discussion group that meets monthly except in summer; and to sponsor programs of interest to the community. All these activities are scheduled to continue in coming years, supported by money from the library's trust fund, annual fundraising events and donations.

All area residents are welcome to use the library, located at 37 Main Street in China Village. There is no charge for library cards. Hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon. More information, including notice of future programs, is available on the web site, www.acbrown.lib.me.us.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Grow
Librarian





South China Public Library



The South China Library is open ten hours each week and is staffed primarily by volunteers. In 2011-2012 our patrons made 1,932 visits to the library and 290 households had South China Library cards. The library is supported by the Town of China, proceeds from our book sales, and donations from individuals. *Funding from the Town of China supports our children's programs, the purchase of new books, and helps with our heating costs.*

The library collection includes a total of 10,845 volumes of which 5,914 are adult or young adult and 4,931 are for children. This year 476 books were added to the collection. We have over 300 audiobooks on tape or CD and a collection of 320 movies. The library accepts donations of books and movies. Items not added to the collection are sold at book sales.



includes a total of 10,845 are adult or young adult and This year 476 books were We have over 300 and a collection of 320 accepts donations of books added to the collection are

Highlights for 2011-2012:

Our automation project is complete. Our catalog is online and can be accessed from any computer. Visit our website www.southchinalibrary.org and click on Online Catalog to search our collection for your favorite author or books.

- The 2012 Summer Reading Program was a big success. The theme was "Dream Big: Read." Children enjoyed visits from several authors, a magician, the Chewonki Foundation, and more. Each week included a theme-based snack and a project or goodie to take home.
- The Youth Book Club for students ages 8 – 12 met monthly for fun activities, snacks, and discussion. The students chose the books and planned the activities. *Special thanks to the Jobs for Maine Graduates students at Erskine Academy for their support of Youth Book Club through a Jumpstart Our Youth (JOY) grant.*

Our Book Club for adults met each month for refreshments and lively discussion. New members are welcome anytime.

Thank you to our many volunteers, from teens to retirees, for making every library visit enjoyable. For more information about volunteering, please call Librarian Cheryl Baker at 445-2956.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Dempster, President
South China Public Library Association

Library Hours

Wednesday

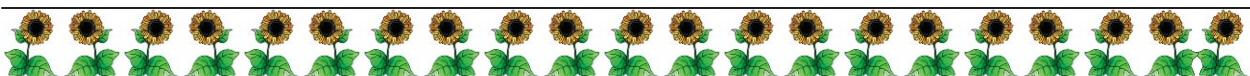
**10:00 a.m. – Noon
and 3:00 – 7:00 p.m.**

Saturday

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Phone: 445-3094

Located at 247 Village St.





Animal Control



State Law requires all dogs to be registered as soon as they turn 6 months old. You must provide a current rabies certificate when licensing you dog. If your pet has been spayed or neutered, a copy of the certificate must be provided to the clerk when registering. The fee for altered animals is \$6.00 and unaltered \$11.00.

If you have taken your dog to a local rabies clinic, **please** make sure to retain the information given to at the time of your visit. The veterinarian is unable to provide the town office with this information.

Proper ID can prevent your pet from going to the pound!

Numerous dogs are taken to the Humane Society in Augusta because of lack of identification. Please be sure to keep your dogs tags on its collar at all times. If your pet is missing, please call the Town Office and report it. Most lost and found animals are reported to the town office and the information is passed along to the animal control officer.

To report a lost or found animal in China, call 445-2014.

Complaints - 2012

Dogs at Large	23
Stray Cats	24
Barking Dogs	3
Dog Bites	4
Miscellaneous complaints	6
Bat removal	1
Unlicensed Dog	6
Summons	6
Welfare check	3

ACO Contact Numbers:

Kevin Rhoades 458-1646
 Erasmo Gonzalez 592-7067

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Finley
Deputy Clerk



"When we get out there, remember: I'm the master, you're the pet."





Kennebec County Sheriff



The Kennebec County Sheriff's Office continues to proudly serve the citizens of Kennebec County. The Sheriff's Office has a long history of service, dating back to 1799. Our agency serves many functions in the communities of Kennebec County. In addition to rural patrol, the Law Enforcement Division provides many regional assets to our communities including Drug Investigations, K-9, Dive Team, Accident Reconstruction and the Special Response Team.

In 2012, Deputy Sheriffs responded to a total of 29,029 calls for service. We answered (458) calls for service involving theft; (830) motor vehicle accidents with (10) reconstructions; (436) alarms; (269) domestic violence; (224) 911 hang-ups; (120) assaults; (144) K-9 calls and (731) assisting other agencies. We also managed (83) registered sex offenders within the County and registered (172) at the agency.

During the past year, our Correctional Facility managed 3,226 inmates. The offenses committed by defendants included everything from Burglaries to Homicides. Substance abuse and the proper treatment of citizens with mental illness continue to be two primary concerns at the Correctional Facility. Despite significant fiscal challenges, the CARA program continues to operate, serving as a state-wide substance abuse treatment program.

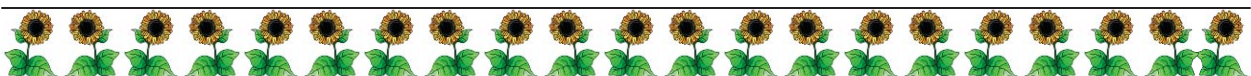
Inmates at the Kennebec County Correctional Facility are required to work. Inmates that are considered to be a risk to the community work inside the facility cleaning and cooking, while others are supervised on outside projects. For every two days worked, one day is reduced from their sentence, resulting in a \$683,000 bed day savings to the citizens of Kennebec County. Throughout 2012, inmates worked 25,439 community service hours, valued at approximately \$190,793. Our inmates raised 45,738 pounds of produce for the inmate kitchen and area food pantries in 2012.

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

I will provide the 122,150 citizens of Kennebec County with progressive and professional Law Enforcement and Correctional Services. I welcome any comments or suggestions which improve our service to the citizens of Kennebec County.

Respectfully submitted,
Randall A. Liberty
Sheriff, Kennebec County

"First to Serve ~ 1799"





China Rescue

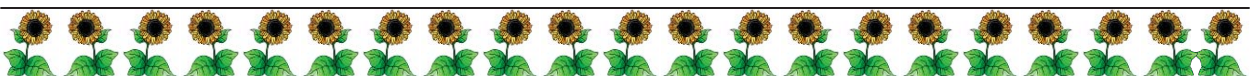


China Rescue is an all-volunteer non transporting service serving the citizens of China as well as mutual aid to the following towns of Albion, Palermo, Vassalboro and Windsor. Over the last year we had 298 calls for service including home medical calls, traffic accidents, specialty rescue and assistance to the fire departments. China Rescue also covers the high-school football games in town. China Rescue is your first link to immediate care in an emergency. Delta Ambulance is our main transporting service. Feel free to contact the current director of China Rescue, Justin Cerbarano EMT-Paramedic, at JCerbarano@gmail.com or 314-9678.

We are a licensed first responder agency permitted to the paramedic level. China Rescue currently has 13 active members with 2 first responders, 8 EMT- basics, 2 EMT-Intermediate, and 3 EMT- Paramedics. We currently have one member who was licensed at EMT-basic and has recently completed intermediate training and is in the process upgrading their licensed. China Rescue is always looking to add licensed members to the service. If you are looking to become licensed or are licensed please feel free to contact China Rescue for membership information. China Rescue holds their monthly business meeting on the third Thursday of every month along with training the first Wednesday of every month. China Rescue would like to say thank you to the executive board and current active members for their continued dedication to the betterment of China Rescue and the town residents we serve.

China Rescue has upgraded our vehicle extrication equipment this past year by buying a new hydraulic cutter that is capable of cutting through the new technologically advanced steel that is being introduced in newer vehicles. Rescue also purchased a new set of vehicle stabilization struts that are designed to stabilize a vehicle that is on its side or its roof. These additions allow rescue to safely remove patients without further injury. Rescue is looking into purchasing a new carbon monoxide monitor. This monitor evaluates if a patient has any carbon monoxide in their blood. This piece of equipment is a vital assessment tool especially during cold weather where people may use any form of alternative heating source, and also at a fire scene. Rescue appreciates the continued support of the town's residents with these necessary upgrades.

China Rescue currently has a fundraiser going on. Rescue is selling reflective house number signs for a minimal fee. These signs make it a lot easier to find your residence in an emergency. Without a highly visible house number, a delay in response time will occur. A quick response to the residents of the town is our top priority! The money raised assists China Rescue with purchasing equipment and paying for continuing education for the membership. For more information on purchasing the numbers please feel free to contact Justin Cerbarano at 314-9678, or Dave Herard at 445-5014. We are also looking into providing community first-aid classes, CPR classes, and holding blood pressure clinics around town. Please feel free to take advantage of these community programs.





China Rescue



Here are some safety tips for our citizens:

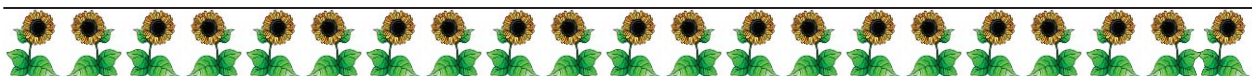
- Be sure your house, mailbox and driveway are properly and clearly marked. Large reflective letters and numbers are best.
- During winter months snow can cover the numbers on mailboxes and signs. Remember to keep these areas visible so we are able to find your home quickly.
- If you are involved in an accident, please remember to stay in your vehicle if possible and to call 911 if you are able.

China Rescue would like to say thank you for the continued support by the residents of our town, our town's three fire departments, Daniel L'Heureux town manager, and China select board members, Waterville Communications Center, Delta Ambulance, the Kennebec County Sheriffs and the State Police. We look forward to the coming year in serving you.

Respectfully submitted,
Justin Cerbarano EMT-P
Service Chief



Scott Mosher and Neil Farrington pose in front of the China Historical Building.
Both men volunteered countless hours to have it open to the public again.





China Village Volunteer Fire Department



Last year China Village Volunteer Fire Department responded to 70 calls - 41 were to assist China Rescue with traffic control or with patient assistance. China Fire responds as mutual aid to surrounding towns when called and the agreement is reciprocal with the other towns.

As a fundraiser we held our annual chicken barbeque in July and a raffle. Watch for this year's barbeque in July 2013.

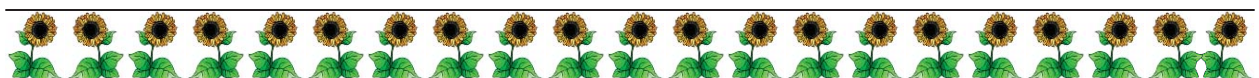
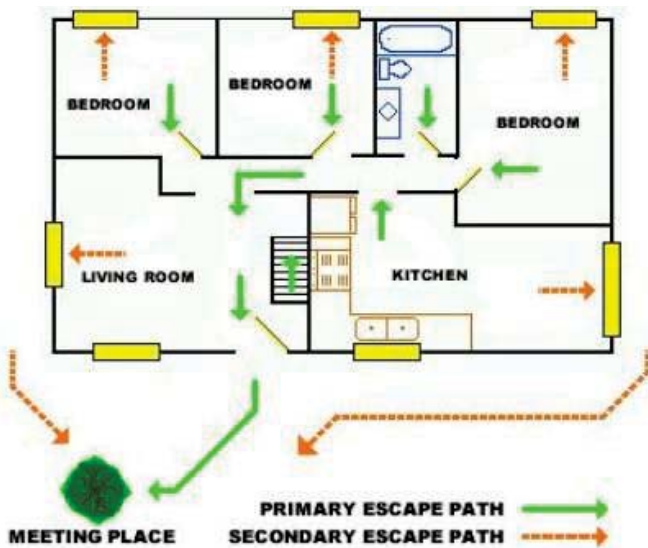
Expenses consisted of buying Motorola portable radios and pagers, and fire gear and training for our new members. We upgraded some of our old equipment and applied for a grant for new self-contained breathing equipment.

We want to thank everyone for their support this past year.

Remember to check your smoke detectors and replace the batteries at least once a year. We have smoke detectors and batteries at the fire station if you need one. Everyone should have a family emergency plan. Please practice E.D.I.T.H. (exit drills in the home).

If anyone is interested in joining our department, please contact us at 968-2626.

Respectfully submitted,
Chief George Studley





South China Volunteer Fire Department



From July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012 the South China Volunteer Fire Department responded to 64 alarms. This is a slight increase from last year. They break down by type as follows: 10 structure, 11 downed wires/trees in road, 1 vehicle, 17 auto accidents, 5 unfounded/false alarms, 8 mutual aid to neighboring towns for structure fires and other incidents, 3 smoke/odor investigation, 3 wildland, 2 Landing Zone for Lifeflight, 3 illegal burns, and 1 fuel leak.

Somerset County's PSAP (Public Safety Answering Point) answers our 911 calls, and the Waterville Communications Center provides dispatching services. This partnership continues to run very smoothly, and we are very happy with the service we receive. We are pleased that the contract has been renewed. There has not been much activity of late concerning a move by the State to reduce the number of PSAPs that operate in the State that I alerted you to last year. Perhaps it is on the back burner for now. Such an unwise move would result in each of these centers covering a much larger area, and if past experience is any guide, at a greater cost to the taxpayers. Experience has shown us that the more local these services, the better, so any such move is not a positive direction for us.

As I note every year, State regulations continue to make it difficult for small town volunteer fire departments provide for the needs of our between small, all and those in the larger often have at least some rules that the State recognize that difference. representatives, urge them regulations to remove this burden from volunteer fire departments.



such as ours to stay in business and citizens. There are huge differences volunteer, departments like ours towns and cities that are paid, and full time staff. However, most of the requires us to meet, do not Please, as you talk with our elected to address this problem, and fix the

Our monthly in-house training program continues to be well attended and is working well. Many thanks to our volunteer instructors. We currently have 23 active members.

We again conducted a very successful fire prevention program at the China Schools during Fire Prevention Week (our 26th annual). Thanks to Cindy Senkbeil for her leadership and to all the volunteers from the Town's three fire departments who helped make this a success. Thanks also to principal Carl Gartley and his staff for their support of this program. We feel it helps to prevent fires.

We continued the practice of joint meetings with the China Village and Weeks Mills departments. At our meetings we discuss joint operations, training, and equipment purchases. These meetings help us to provide better and more coordinated fire protection services to the town.

In a rural area such as ours, where there are no fire hydrants, reliable large tankers are necessary to provide a water supply which is critical to the successful suppression of structure fires. For some time we have recognized a need to replace our 1976 GMC tank truck which is an old oil truck fitted with a baffled





South China Volunteer Fire Department



water tank and pto pump. It had frequent repair problems and had to be taken out of service very often. We put out feelers and were able to locate a used, reasonably priced, purpose built tanker manufactured by the 4 Guys Fire Apparatus Co. for sale at a Fire Department in western Pennsylvania. Using monies earned and saved from our annual fundraising efforts we have purchased this 1981 tanker. It is built on a Mack chassis with a diesel engine and Allison transmission. It has a 2,250 gallon stainless steel water tank and body, and a Hale 1,000 gallon per minute front mount pump. We held training in its use and placed it in service immediately. It is in excellent shape with very low miles and engine hours and should give us excellent service for the foreseeable future.

As I reported last year, we have a pressing need to modernize and upgrade our twenty-five year old self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). This year we were able to accomplish some of this essential yet extremely costly upgrade. With the support of the Board of Selectmen and assistance of the Town Manager, we used money from the Fire Department Capital account to replace six of our eight old SCBA units with up to date units. We thank them for their assistance and support.

We held our 33rd annual Fireman's Auction in July and we thank the townspeople for their donations of goods and money and their bids at this fun event and fund raiser. We save up and use these funds for projects such as some of those described above, and to support unexpected expenses that are not covered in our regular operational budget.

I am also the Town Forest Fire Warden for China. Fire permits are required for **all open burning year round**. They are available from me, George Studley, and at the Town Office, during normal business hours, Monday through Saturday. Restrictions will apply from time to time depending on the fire danger.

Any member of the community that would like to join us should contact any department member concerning sponsorship. If you are unable to give your time as an active member, you can still help by bidding at our annual auction or simply making a cash donation at any time.

I would like to close by expressing my thanks to all the members of the Department for the countless hours they volunteer every year to help their neighbors and keep our community safe.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard E. Morse
Fire Chief





Weeks Mills Volunteer Fire Department



Members of the Weeks Mills V.F.D. responded to 49 calls during 2012 ~ 4 structure fires, 20 motor vehicle accidents, 1 chimney fire, 2 false alarms, 7 brush fires, 3 rescue assist, 3 hazmat, 4 mutual aid calls. A total of 84 man hours were used in responding to these calls.

Members continue to train as needed so we may stay up-to-date on the local, state and federal rules and regulations.

This year are long term goals include, finish our new station addition and replacement of our aging 1988 GMC Tanker to a newer and more reliable one. We will form a truck committee to determine which option will best suite the town's need for fire protection. Options include new complete, new cab and chassis with our old tank, used complete tanker.

Our self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) air tanks, are being replaced at the rate of two tanks per year to keeps us in compliance. Each tank this year is costing \$825.00 each. We will continue replacing our tanks at a rate of two tanks per year so we may stay in compliance.

We continue to meet with the South China, China Village and China Rescue departments every four months to discuss joint operations as to how we can better serve the town of China in fire and rescue operations.

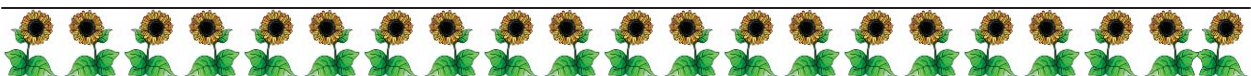
We would like to thank the surrounding towns for their continued mutual aid, our friends and neighbors for their continued support and China Rescue for coverage at fires for our department.

Our members meet at the Weeks Mills Station the first Thursday of the month. We welcome new members and encourage all who are able to volunteer to see any member of the department for details.

I would like to thank all of our members for their dedication and outstanding service to the community. They are: Greg Althenn, Bill Bickford, Norman Black, Kevin Freeman, Kevin Graham, David Herard, Peggy Herard, Kate Herard, Jeff McLellan, Ryan McLellan, Tom Michaud, George Oliver, Webb Shaw, Sally Sproul, Bill VanWickler and Allan Wenzel.

Smoke detectors save lives. Is yours in good working order? Check your batteries today.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Stephenson
Fire Chief





Emergency Preparedness Committee



The national Incident Management System, protocol of the Federal Emergency management Agency, provides the foundation needed to ensure that people can work together when our communities need us the most. This system integrates “best practices” into a comprehensive, standardized framework that is flexible enough to be applicable across the full spectrum of potential incidents, regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity. Moreover, NIMS allows us to work together to prepare for, prevent, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of major incidents.

The proper preparedness for these types of emergencies is achieved and maintained through a continuous cycle of planning, organizing, training, equipping, exercising, evaluating, and taking corrective action. Preparedness facilitates efficient and effective emergency management and incident response activities.

How are we doing in China? We will be working with the Maine Emergency Management Agency in coordinated ways to ensure that we have proper training and certifications relative to emergency preparedness circumstances. Though at times progress toward a fully implementable plan seems slow, China is resolutely moving in the right direction to have proper capital resources and personnel for proper emergency management. Progress has been made in many areas, though much more has to be completed over time for respective emergencies. Patience, with proper financial resources, will prove to be a valuable ingredient.

Municipalities may respond to various emergencies. The relatively less complex emergencies are traditionally responded to for the most part by personnel from local fire departments and rescue. They are also managed at the “local” level and handled in an efficient manner. In China we have a very robust and effective and responsive group of volunteer fire department and rescue personnel. We are eternally grateful for their professionalism and ability to handle local emergency situations. The respective entities in China are hereby noted and thanked for their collective efforts in being prepared for emergency situations; the China Village Volunteer Fire Department; the South China Volunteer Fire Department; the Weeks Mills Volunteer Fire Department; and China Rescue, Inc. We also extend appreciation to those who have volunteered on a personal basis in past emergency circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Morrell, Chairperson
Emergency Preparedness Committee





Cemetery Committee

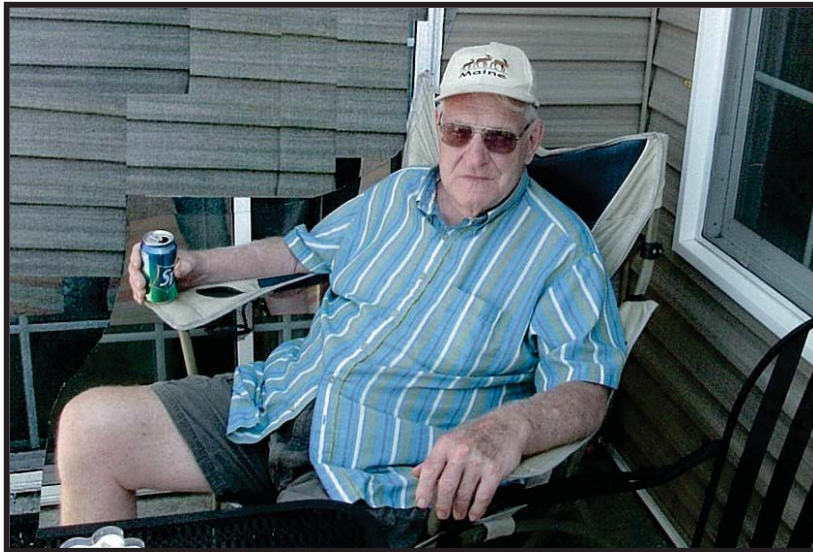


Cemetery lots are for sale in the China Village Extension, Branch Mills, Dirigo Friends, and Pleasant View Ridge Cemeteries. All purchases must be made through the Town Office.

All lots are priced at \$500.00. Some lots are double lots and must be purchased that way.

If you have any question or concerns about the cemeteries in China, please contact one of the members of the Cemetery committee or the town office.

Horace Stevens	445-4312	
Richard Norton	660-6165	djnorton207@gmail.com
Harold Charles	968-2298	chinacharles@fairpoint.net
Julie Finley	445-2014	julie@chinamaine.org
Elwood Ellis	968-2507	bluesbro@roadrunner.com
Daniel L'Heureux	445-2014	danl@chinamaine.org



The Town office staff would like to thank Horace Stevens for his years of service to the town of China. Horace has been a great source of information, knowledge and history regarding China's cemeteries. He has made himself available over the years to mark out the lots when they are ready for use. Although Horace has given up some of the usual work in the cemeteries, he has agreed to remain on the Cemetery Committee. Thank you Horace, you are appreciated!

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Finley
Cemetery Committee Member





China Region Lakes Alliance



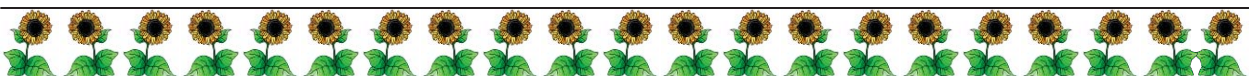
For many years, the China Region Lakes Alliance (CRLA) reported that the water quality in China Lake was good or stable and that the water quality in Three Mile Pond was poor. This is not the case now. In 2011 and 2012, China Lake saw declining water quality while Three Mile Pond had the best water quality it has seen in at least 20 years. Three Mile Pond has 33% of its shoreline in the Town of China. Explaining changes in water quality is sometimes baffling but addressing Three Mile Pond and Webber Pond water quality first may be helpful. Webber Pond has seen a dramatic turn around in water quality over the last 5 years. It is felt much of this improvement in water quality after decades of poor water quality is due to the re-introduction of alewives into the lake through the construction of a fish passage at the Webber Pond Dam in the fall of 2010. Additionally, the water level in Webber Pond has been manipulated annually by a fall drawdown in water level which serves to flush the algae out of the lake. Three Mile Pond which is connected to Webber Pond by the Seward Mill Stream has also had alewives introduced into the lake which swims up from Webber Pond using Seward Mill Stream.

China Lake had experienced a number of years of improving water quality until 2011. Whether the decline in water quality is the beginning of a new trend or a temporary setback is unclear. To help provide information regarding the water quality changes in China Lake, the Kennebec Water District, a CRLA partner, hired the environmental consulting firm Kleinschmidt of Pittsfield, Maine. Kleinschmidt studied China Lake in 2012 looking at causes of the water quality issues and possible solutions. The report produced from the data gathered outlined the two main sources of phosphorus which fuel the algae blooms in China Lake. First are the external sources; camp road runoff, buffer strip issues, agricultural, etc. The CRLA has successfully addressed many of these external phosphorus sources over the years. The second source of phosphorus is lake sediments, internal sources, an area that the CRLA has not addressed well. The Kleinschmidt report noted that without addressing the internal sources of phosphorus we will not be successful at turning water quality around.



Dr Bjorn Lake

Dr Bjorn Lake of Kleinschmidt outlined 5 ways to address the internal sources of phosphorus in the lake. At the top of list were implementing a fall drawdown of the lake and considering an alum treatment of the lake sediments. A fall drawdown had been done in China Lake on a limited basis between 1995-2003 and then was stopped. An alum treatment was considered in 1992 but at that time considered not appropriate since there was still much work to be done in the water shed reducing the external sources of phosphorus. The strong advantage of re-implementing a fall drawdown is there is





China Region Lakes Alliance



no cost to start this and the Kleinschmidt report estimates that as additional 200 kilograms (220 pounds) of phosphorus can be removed yearly by an appropriately timed drawdown of the water level 3-3.5 feet. The Kennebec Water District which manages the China Lake Dam has already implemented some of Kleinschmidt Report suggestions regarding a water level drawdown while staying within the current water level guidelines imposed by the Board of Environmental Protection in 2003. Discussions of an alum treatment to the lake have not taken place at this point. The CRLA and the China Lake Association are just beginning to gather information regarding alewives' re-introduction into China Lake. Having sea run alewives return to China Lake would be a difficult task since there are 6 dams blocking their passage as opposed to only one dam on the Webber Pond outlet stream. The citizens of China will be kept informed of the information gathered and have the opportunity to comment before actions are taken that are new to the lake.

Having strong partners such as the Kennebec Water District and the Town of China help the CRLA explore ways to protect and improve the water quality in the lakes of our town. The public will certainly hear more about the report options in the coming year. We will be posting the full Kleinschmidt report on the Town of China website. In addition to looking for new answers to the lakes' water quality issues, the CRLA continued to have a full slate of activities this past year. Activities included boat inspections for invasive plants, property owner consults to provide free advice regarding minimizing erosion into the lake, and hands on erosion control work. The CRLA is starting to line up work for the coming 2013 season. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the CRLA or your local lake association, one of the CRLA partners. On behalf of the Directors of the China Region Lakes Alliance, I thank the people of China for their continued support.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Hart, president
China Region Lakes Alliance
lakesalliance@yahoo.com



On behalf of China Lake Association, David Landry is shown recognizing Irma Simon at the July 2012 lake association event.





Sheepscot Valley Conservation Association



The Sheepscot Valley Conservation Association, based in Newcastle, crossed a major threshold in 2012 when it achieved accreditation from the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent program of the nationwide Land Trust Alliance. This distinction is the result of a three-year effort by the board and staff to review and update the operations of the Association and demonstrate that SVCA complies with national standards for land trusts. SVCA is one of only 181 U.S. land trusts, and one of only 7 in Maine, to be awarded accreditation since the fall of 2008.

Another major event of note in 2012 was Executive Director Maureen Hoffman's announcement that she would retire at the end of the year. Maureen took up the position in January 2002, and much of SVCA's expansion, both in protected properties and role in the community, has occurred during her tenure. She is being replaced by Steve Patton, who has worked for The Nature Conservancy for 22 years. The President of SVCA's board of directors, Honor Fox Sage, also stepped down in 2012 and has been replaced by John Atwood, a retired Maine Superior Court judge who before being appointed to that position held a number of high-level positions in the Maine state government.

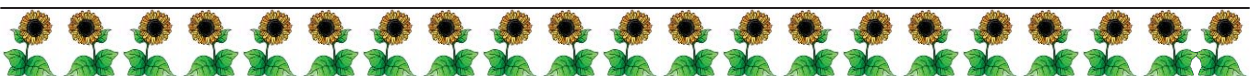
SVCA was founded in 1969 to both conserve land and advocate for the environment. This was, and still is, an unusual combination of goals for a land trust in Maine to adopt. SVCA has done so successfully, demonstrating its ability to identify conservation goals and carry them out while simultaneously being a voice for conservation in local issues.

That said, land conservation is SVCA's primary mission. The Association has worked with many conservation-minded landowners to protect 15 miles of riverfront and 3,569 acres of working farms, forests and important habitat in over 50 conservation properties, including seven preserves open to the public for low-impact recreation. In 2012, SVCA welcomed the donation of a conservation easement on 66 acres in Alna. SVCA also has joined with neighboring land trusts in a number of collaborative conservation projects including the River~Link effort to link the Damariscotta and Sheepscot Rivers and existing public preserves in Newcastle, Edgecomb and Boothbay.

Most recently, the SVCA has been a leader of the new 12 Rivers Initiative, a group of 10 local land trusts seeking to accelerate conservation of the forested landscape from the Kennebec to the St. George to achieve a network of conserved lands that protects the Midcoast's ecosystems and ensures multiple human benefits for generations to come.

SVCA maintains seven of its properties as preserves open to the public:

- Palermo Preserve, with one mile of interpretive trail, on the upper stretch of the Sheepscot;
- Whitefield Salmon Preserve, along the confluence of the west branch and the main stem of the Sheepscot, with nearly two miles of trails;





Sheepscot Valley Conservation Association



- Stetser Preserve, in Jefferson, with 150 wooded acres and a 1.5-mile loop trail;
- Trout Brook Preserve, in Alna, protecting over 4,200 feet of the brook, frontage on the Sheepscot, with a half-mile loop trail and the new one-mile Hoffman Trail;
- Bass Falls Preserve, in Alna, with one mile of Sheepscot River frontage and three miles of trails;
- Griggs Preserve, in Newcastle, with two miles of trails through hilly woodlands;
- Marsh River Preserve, in Newcastle, with over one mile of frontage on the Marsh River and two miles of trails including an interpretive trail.

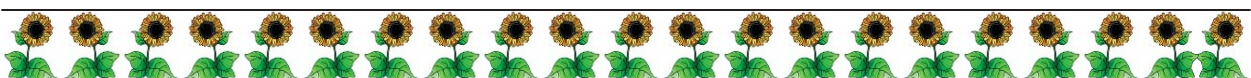
SVCA's Water Quality Monitoring program is in its 19th year. Volunteers sampled test sites throughout the watershed every other week during the summer and investigated one of the tributaries in depth. The data collected helps guide not only SVCA's river-protection efforts but also those of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection and the former Atlantic Salmon Commission, now a part of the Bureau of Sea-Run Fisheries and Habitat.

SVCA is hosting the Sheepscot Valley Family Festival on Sunday, September 8, 2013 at its headquarters and the Newcastle Community Center on Sheepscot Road. There will be a 5k fun run (the Salmon Run) as well as guided paddles on the river, live animal demonstrations, live music, food and more. It will give the greater communities of the Sheepscot River Valley a chance to come together to celebrate the river and its abundant resources. We hope to see you there.

SVCA also organizes numerous nature hikes and canoe trips in the watershed throughout the year, open to all. See our website for more details. There are many other ways to join the fun, including opportunities to assist in trail maintenance, preserve stewardship, easement monitoring and other volunteer activities.

The Association deeply appreciates the support it receives from the people in the Sheepscot watershed. For more information, contact us at (207) 586-5616, 624 Sheepscot Road, Newcastle, Maine, 04553, e-mail svca@sheepscot.org or visit us online at www.sheepscot.org.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Eichler
SVCA Board of Directors





Thurston Park II Committee



The Thurston Park II Committee had an eventful 2012. The year began with a notice from the Maine Trails Program that the application for a grant to do trail construction and repairs would not be funded due to the lack of federal funding. Later in the Spring, we were notified that a small amount of funded had been awarded to the state and that Thurston Park was one of the high priority projects that would get funding. In total the town was awarded approximately \$35,000 in funds for park improvements. This amount will need a 25% match from the town in either cash or in-kind contributions.

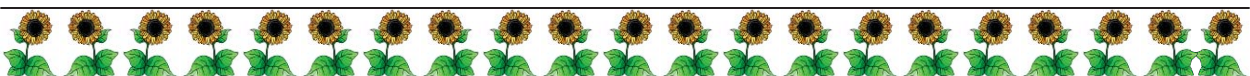
The committee has begun work on trying to raise some of the matching funds through volunteer fund raisers. The first attempt was to hold a golf tournament in October. Although the committee was successful at finding sponsors and a site (Cedar Springs Golf Course in Albion), it was too late in the season to attract the number of participants needed to make it successful. The committee plans to reschedule the event for the spring or early summer of 2013.

Other fundraising events are also being planned at the time of this report. One is to have a concession stand at the pond hockey tournament to be held on China Lake in February 2013. A second is an auction of trail names and big tree names. One of the committee members is putting together an on-line auction of the right to name the two main trails on the east side of the park. The successful bidders will get to name one of the trails so that their chosen name will appear on all future trail maps, trail signs and the directories that will be located at key locations within the park. Another fundraising effort is the raffle of two unique craft items contributed by local crafts persons.

Applications for assistance have been submitted to the Maine Conservation Corps and to the Army National Guard. The Maine Conservation Corps would be doing construction work on foot bridges and what they call 'tread work' on sections of trails where footing is questionable. The National Guard is being asked to make repairs to the access road on the northern end of the park.

So far, expenditures from the grant have been minimal. A beautiful new wooden sign saying "Welcome to Thurston Park" has been made for the north entrance to the park. Trail and informational signs will be ordered before the summer of 2013. Construction materials will also be ordered before the summer construction season begins. The committee proposes to hire a local contractor to do the trail repair and erosion control work inside the park using the grant funds allocated for that work.

Meanwhile, work on trail clearing has begun on the western side of the park. This is the area that has been recommended for use by hikers, cross country skiers and other non-motorized recreational use. Prior to 2012, there were no loop trails on the western side. There were some old logging skid trails that could serve as a starting point for making loops. So far, one short trail (the Esker Trail) has been completed on the northern end. This new trail has been blazed with white blazes and forms a short but very visually appealing loop. In addition, the initial trail clearing has been done on a new trail along the southern boundary that connects





Thurston Park II Committee



up two existing skid trails. This trail still needs quite a bit of work before it is finished, but it does allow a hiker or someone on snowshoes or skis to make a big loop down into the southwestern part of the park. A section of this trail will need a small footbridge and some 'tread work' done. This will be a section that would be done with assistance from the Maine Conservation Corps.

A third trail has been scouted and flagged that would divide the original big loop trail in two, making it a double loop. No clearing or ground work has been started on this trail at this point.

The committee chair has been working with volunteers to accomplish the trail work that has been done so far. One source of volunteers has been Erskine Academy. A teacher and a group of eight students spent an afternoon helping remove brush and other obstacles from the main skid trail that leads into the southwestern corner of the park. That allowed another work crew (two adult volunteers and a committee member) to access the southern end to do the trail work linking the skid trail with another one further east. Another work crew (three young adult volunteers and a committee member) did the trail clearing and marking on the Esker Trail. In total, more than 100 volunteers hours have been spent on the trail work. (This will help in meeting the in-kind contributions needed to match the trail grant.)

There is still much work needed and more volunteers are being sought to help with trail work and fundraising efforts. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Bill Seekins at (207) 968-2605.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Seekins
Committee Chair





Recreation Committee



All of the recreation programs offered in the town are run by volunteers, and we remain appreciative of their constant efforts. Programs partially supported by the town include youth baseball and softball, basketball, football cheering, basketball cheering, field hockey, football, soccer, adult softball and the Fun Run. These programs continue to have an amazing number of participating athletes. Thank you to all the volunteers who donate their time to make sure these programs are still available to all residents. If you are interested in becoming involved with any of these programs, please contact the town office and we can provide you with the name and contact information of the person in charge of the respective programs.

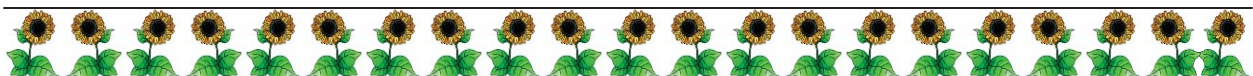
While our budget has not increased in recent years, we continue to maintain the facilities and support the athletic offerings by stretching taxpayer dollars to the limit. Routine maintenance includes ball field mowing, tree trimming, field maintenance and annually bringing in ball field mix for the base paths. The youth league has a field day every spring and performs routine maintenance on the fields including rolling the fields to get the bumps out. The field roller is donated annually by local contractor Robin Tobey. Kennebec County inmates also provide labor for projects at the fields. If all of these projects had to be paid for instead of completed with volunteer hours, our budget would be much higher.

Suggestions or comments may be left at the town office.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky Hapgood
Recreation Committee Member



Johanna Jacobs and Kelsie Dunn
are members of China's Pre-K
basketball group.





Road Commissioner



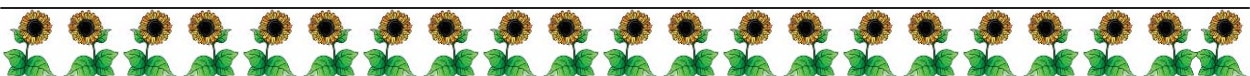
China's road system consists of 43.66 miles of town owned roads and 32.17 miles of State owned roads. All work done on town roads is done according to a master plan that is reviewed, revised, and deliberated on annually by members of the Road Committee. The town has benefited a great deal from the collective career experience of members of the Road Committee and town Highway Department; careers that were directly involved with road surface composition testing, new construction, re-construction, paving, or grading of roads all over the State of Maine. It is not uncommon for Dick Norton and Milford Thomas to oversee actual road reconstruction projects while in progress. They often meet the paving crews at 6:30 am and leave the road site at dusk. It is a distinct pleasure working with them. Dick has moved out of town though he continues to contribute as much as possible. Dale Peabody has joined the Highway Committee taking Dick's place. Dale works for the MDOT and will be a great addition to the "brain trust". He brings with him many years of experience dealing with highway systems and materials management.

The China Highway Department has two town employees, Gary Cummings and Shawn Reed. The relatively strong condition of the roads in China is to a good extent a result of the efforts of these two extremely professional, hard working, capable, and dedicated employees. In China, there is not a better combination of volunteers and employees that I know of, and I would like to express personal thanks for their combined contributions.

The town traditionally has a schedule of reconstruction and resurfacing for the upcoming summer and fall seasons. A comprehensive review of the relative condition of all roads has been planned for some time and will probably be done in the spring/summer of 2013. The town has purchased road surface maintenance software to make the road assessment project easier and more productive. The highway department staff and Road Commissioner and a member of the Highway Committee have taken a class in the use of the new software and in the new road classification terminology. The final product should prepare the town for long term highway capital planning projects in the most effective, efficient and economical manner possible.

The tentative paving plan for the upcoming paving season includes reconstruction and resurfacing of an additional mile of the Dirigo Road, and resurfacing on some of the following roads: 2nd section of the Neck Road, Arnold Road West, McCaslin Road, and the Lower Deer Hill Road. There will be ditching, culvert replacement, and shoulder work included in the reconstruction and resurfacing projects.

Over time highway maintenance component costs have risen quite rapidly. Costs associated with work done on roads are directly related to the cost of petroleum products. Paving, roadside mowing, sanding/salting/plowing of roads, the cost of sand and salt, and the cost of contracted services have trended upward over the past several years. If we do not accordingly allocate the appropriate funds to offset these cost increases, the safety of the traveling public will be compromised over time. The town receives sufficient revenues from associated highway related sources to be able to accommodate the increases. These sources are the excise





Road Commissioner



taxes residents pay on motor vehicles and the State aid for capital road improvement payments received annually.

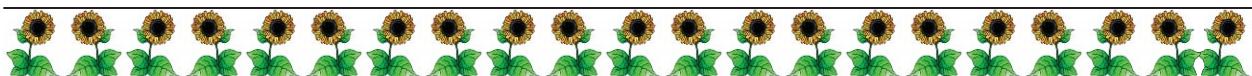
I sincerely hope all residents feel free to provide the town office with feedback; your input is appreciated. Public health, safety, and welfare continue to be of utmost concern in all projects undertaken.

In closing, it seems to me to be very important to maintain the infrastructure of a town and to proceed with appropriate design and quality work. More important to China specifically, over two thirds of working residents travel out of town to work all hours of the day and night. Moreover, we have over ten buses traveling on our roads during school days. Our goal may seem costly in the short term; however, with appropriate and comprehensive design approaches to road construction, a town can realize the least expensive approach when incorporated into a long term strategy. Safety, and therefore quality of work, demands an appropriate level of funding.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel J. L'Heureux
Road Commissioner



Annual Town Business Meeting 2012





Transfer Station



The Transfer Station is open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is located at 191 Alder Park Road.

The China Transfer Station is managed by Elwin Higgins. It is also staffed by Mary Adams, Kevin Rhoades and Scott Meader. Often inmates from the Kennebec County jail are there working with the recycling and other projects. Their help is invaluable and saves the town a good deal of money in labor and other associated costs.

Kitchen pails (for composting) are available for \$3.00 at the Transfer Station. It is estimated that 25% of an average household's waste is kitchen scraps and yard waste. Composting this material can reduce the amount of garbage in your home!

Household hazardous waste drop off day was held on October 20th, 2012. Medications, household chemicals, poisons, pesticides and cleaners that are not accepted at the transfer station can be safely discarded in Winslow at the public works garage. A flyer will be available on our web site and at the Transfer Station before the actual date this year. Pre-registration is required to participate.

A new addition to the recycling building will help accommodate the staff with a rest room, break room/ office and furnace room as well as universal waste area. A concrete pad was added for extra storage, as well as a speed bump to help slow traffic when entering the facility.

It was a bitterly cold morning on Jan. 18, when I was at the China Recycling Facility depositing some plastics to be reused.

As I usually do, I had emptied the container onto the floor so I could more easily sort the different types of materials and get them into the proper containers. I was getting the job done, albeit a bit more slowly than usual due to the cold, when all of a sudden a young man in an orange coat knelt down beside me to lend a hand.

I realized that he was part of the crew from the Kennebec County Correctional Facility that often puts in time at the recycling facility.

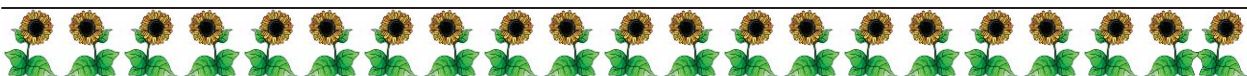
As we worked, I made a comment about how recycling is kind of a pain, but one that is, in the long run, necessary and important.

He said that the people he usually saw recycling materials were older folks, like me, and, thus, it seemed that we are the only ones who appear to care for the environment and the future. Before I could answer him, he was off to help someone else.

Now, this exchange really made an impression on me. I have no idea what issues got this young man into trouble, but he seemed very literate and intelligent, and I only hope that he can get his life together and contribute to society.

His observation about the differences in age and involvement seem to indicate a sense of responsibility and awareness of the world around him, and I hope that there are more young people like that out there, ready to pitch in regardless of their status at the moment.

Bob Bennett, South China - As excerpted from the Morning Sentinel Letters to the Editor 1/26/2013.





Recycling



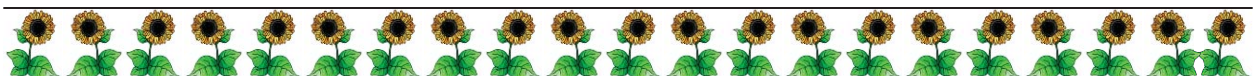
The China Transfer Station won an award in 2012 for Recycling Program of the year from Maine Resource Recovery Association. The town of China takes great pride in our recycling area. Wooden nickels are also available to customers who recycle. Save your wooden nickels and use them toward items taken at the transfer station for a fee.

All residents and camp owners who enter the transfer station **must** have a China Transfer Station Sticker per our Transfer Station Ordinance. Stickers expire annually. To obtain your new sticker, please stop by the town office during regular business hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Elwin Higgins
Transfer Station Manager



Transfer Station employees Mary Kay Adams, Elwin Higgins and Kevin Rhoades pose with their award.





Recycling



	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
Metal	48.98 ton	61.24 ton	93.52 ton
Cardboard	125.72 ton	134.434 ton	140.699 ton
Mixed paper	42.66 ton	57.28 ton	37 ton
Newspaper	27.62 ton	34.08 ton	23.92 ton
#2 Plastic	11.06 ton	10.899 ton	9.43 ton
#1 Plastic	1.29 ton	2.87 ton	0.7 ton
#3-#7 Plastic	6.45 ton	8.80 ton	n/a
Rigid Plastic	17.32 ton	9.1 ton	n/a
Plastic bags	4.49 ton	1.60 ton	n/a
Tin cans	7.28 ton	14.06 ton	5.56 ton
Asphalt shingles	51.57 ton	54.92 ton	78.36 ton
Tires	566	609	880
Glass/porcelain	14.41 ton	14.06 ton	6.92 ton
Waste oil	2150 gal	1344 gal	1215 gal
Compost	47.81 ton	68.74 ton	91.03 ton
Brush	116.15 ton	124.49 ton	187 ton
Demolition wood	113.61 ton	110.49 ton	106.91 ton
Crushed & recycled asphalt, cement and shingles	59.47 ton	62.15 ton	85.67 ton

	<u>Schools</u>		
	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
RSU #18	3.56 ton	3.71 ton	1.31 ton
Palermo	0.85 ton	0.60 ton	0.83 ton

	<u>Universal Waste - Recycled Electronics</u>		
	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
TVs and monitors	949 units	570 units	n/a
Computers & peripherals	92 units	107 units	n/a
Pcb ballast	32 units	14 units	n/a

	<u>Municipal Solid Waste Transferred Out</u>		
	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
PERC	1334.38 ton	1620.59 ton	1705.95 ton

	<u>Mixed CDD (construction demolition debris) transferred out</u>		
	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
Waste Management	142.97 ton	276.85 ton	279.92



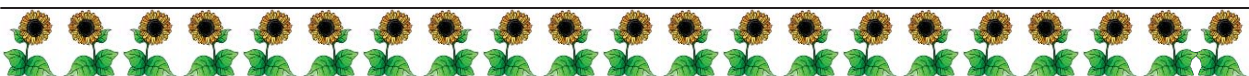


Planning Board



Conditional Use Permits. During 2012 the China Planning Board reviewed and or approved eight of nine Conditional Use Permits for business related activities. We have one Conditional Use Permit still pending at the request of the applicant. The nine Conditional Use Applications were as follows;

- Conditional use permit application #01-03132012 by M.A. Haskell LLC d/b/a Tobey's Market regarding the placement of more than 100 cubic yards of fill material and earth-moving activities to create additional customer parking at the location of 1408 Route 3. The application also included the commercial paving of the parking apron (approved April 2012).
- Conditional use permit application #02-05292012 by Michael Marois d/b/a MJEK Enterprises LLC regarding the conduct of a proposed commercial fast food business, and to perform filling and earth moving activities utilizing more than 100 cubic yards of fill material at 237 Lakeview Drive (approved May 2012).
- After-the-fact conditional use permit application #03-06192012 by Steven Mayo d/b/a SM Custom Fabrication regarding the conduct of a commercial-industrial fabrication business manufacturing custom aluminum truck beds at 5 Freeman Road Extension (approved June 2012).
- Conditional use permit application #04-06192012 by Wai Hong Lam d/b/a a China Town Chinese Restaurant regarding the conduct of a commercial restaurant business in the China Mini Mall at 16 Vassalboro Road (approved June 2012).
- Conditional use permit application #05-07172012 by Jeffrey LaVerdiere d/b/a Wicked Hills Off-Road Truck Park regarding the conduct of a commercial business along the Parmenter Hill Road (pending as of September 2012).
- Conditional use permit #06-07172012 by Thadius Barber d/b/a Fieldstone Quikstop regarding the construction of a 20'x100' addition to the convenience store and the operation of a Dunkin' Donut franchise at 190 Route 3 (approved October 2012).
- Conditional Use Permit Application #07-10232012 by Norman Elvin d/b/a G&E Realty, Inc. regarding the conduct of a commercial business called "The China Dine-ah Too" at 363 Route 3. The proposal also involves expansion of the building, earth-moving and paving activities. (approved November 2012).
- Conditional Use Permit Application #08-11302012 by Norman Black d/b/a Norm's Small Engines regarding the conduct of a commercial business at the location of 7 Lane Road (approved January 2013)
- Conditional Use Permit Application #09-12042012 on behalf of the Town of China presented by the Thurston Park II Committee to perform filling and earth-moving





Planning Board



activities to make repairs to portions of the Yorktown Road that provides access to the north end of Thurston Park. (approved January 2013).

Subdivision Reviews. The Planning Board also reviewed and approved Two (2) *Subdivision Plan Applications*, both submitted by Mr. Thadius Barber. The 2 Subdivision Plan Applications were as follows;

- Amend the China Mall Subdivision Plan as requested by Thadius Barber d/b/a Barber Investments LLC by separating the Fieldstone Quikstop from the China Mini Mall (approved February 2012).
- Revised amendment to the China Mall Subdivision Plan as requested by Thadius Barber d/b/a Barber Investments LLC concerning the separation of the Fieldstone Quikstop from the China Mini Mall (approved November 2012)

SiteWalk. Several Planning Board members participated in a *Site Walk* that was conducted regarding the Conditional Use Permit application #05-07172012 by Mr. Jeffery LaVerdiere d/b/a Wicked Hills Off-Road Truck Park concerning the conduct of a commercial business along the Parmenter Hill Road.

Ordinance Development & Public Hearings.

The Planning Board held three Public Hearings in 2012. The Public Hearings addressed the China Shoreland Septic System Compliance Program, proposed Home Occupation ordinance and revised definition of Home Occupation in Chapter 11, *Definitions* of the China, Land Development Code. All three were voted down by the town at the June elections.

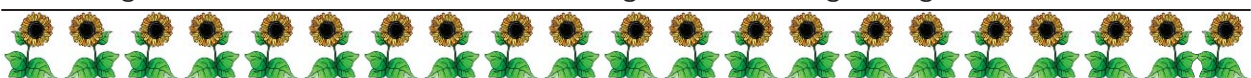
A public hearing was also held regarding a Variance Application to the Maine Department of Environmental Protection to excavate material below the water table in the existing gravel pit owned by S.D. Childs & Son along the Dirigo Road (May 2012).

Several workshops were held on proposed revisions to the Shoreland Septic System Compliance Program (January to March 2012). Workshops were also held on proposed standards Regarding Home Occupations (January to March 2012).

Timber Harvest. The Planning Board reviewed and took appropriate action on two Timber Harvesting Applications in Resource Protection District, one of which was an After-The-Fact Application. The following action was taken on these two requests;

1. Application regarding a timber harvest in a Resource Protection District adjacent to Dutton Pond on property of Richard Pearson (approved March 2012).
2. Application regarding an after-the-fact timber harvest in a Resource Protection District associated with a designated wetland on property of Hugh and Susan Krajewski (Remanded to Code Enforcement Officer-October 2012)

The Planning Board continues to adhere to protocols including: (1) specific timetables for submitting applications and information; (2) thorough reviews resulting in the determination of "findings-of-fact" regarding the conditional use





Planning Board



review criteria for commercial-related business activities; and three consideration of the need for public hearings especially to consider the concerns of abutting land owners about developments adjacent to them.

All meetings are open to the public, and the Planning Board encourages people to attend and participate in their local government. Meetings are held every second and fourth Tuesday of the month, convening at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Office Meeting Room. For further information, please call the Town Office or contact the China CEO.

Planning Board staffing. With the re-election of Ronald Breton, Toni Wall and Milton Dudley, along with Kyle Pierce, James Wilkens and Frank Soares for the first time in a long time we have no changes in Planning Board members. In closing, I would like to thank our CEO Scott Pierz for his expertise and assistance in helping the Planning Board, our secretary Tracy Cunningham for her fine work and the Town Manager and his staff for the much appreciated support they render to the Planning Board.

Respectfully submitted,
Ronald R. Breton, District 4, Chairman
James Wilkens, District 1
Toni Wall, District 2
Kyle Pierce, District 3
Milton Dudley, At Large
Frank Soares, Alternate At-Large



Recipients of the 2012 Spirit of America Award - China's Fire and Rescue Services





Code Enforcement Officer

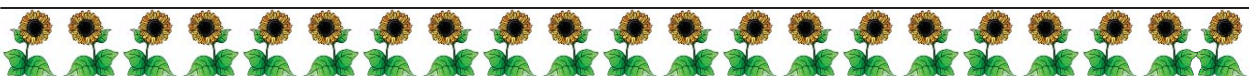


Here's the highlights for 2012:

- On July 1, 2012 the Town began enforcing the new State-wide building code called the **Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code (MUBEC)**. This recent law impacts new residential construction including any new single family or duplex home (except for log homes and manufactured homes), or any new addition to an existing residence including room expansions, foundations, as well as other heated spaces, and also accessory garages more than 600 square feet. In addition, all commercial buildings and any multifamily construction are subject to the MUBEC. An independent **Third Party Inspector (TPI)** must be hired at the owner's expense. The TPI gathers project information into a construction file and, once complete, the TPI forwards to the Town a "Notice to Proceed" so the local building permit can be issued. The TPI then conducts a series of inspections to ensure compliance with both construction and energy efficiency standards based upon the 2009 International Residential Code (IRC) and the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC), respectively. Once the project is completed the TPI turns over the construction file and a "Notice of Completion" to the Town. When that file and notice are received the Town issues a "Certificate of Occupancy" on that project.

Please be aware this process lengthens the timing of local permitting, and may likely take longer to work through the TPI to satisfy the MUBEC requirements before the Town can issue its building permit. This is especially true if the project involves any Shoreland District and non-conforming structures subject to the shoreland 30% expansion rule. This rule states that any structure, or portion of a structure, less than 100 feet from the water cannot be expanded more than 30% of the floor area and volume as the structure existed on January 1, 1989. If you know what you want to build, start the conversation with the Town as early as possible to review local permit requirements. Then choose a TPI to help you meet the MUBEC. Being prepared and decisive about your project plans will make the process work better.

- Much time was spent to develop a proposed revision to the China Land Development Code and its Land Use Ordinance on **performance standards for Home Occupations**, also known as "cottage industries". Related work also included proposed revisions to the Definitions Chapter. The public did not approve these items at the June 2012 ballot.
- Also in June 2012 the fate of the 2009 **Shoreland Septic System Compliance Program** (also part of the Land Use Ordinance) was determined. The Program originally required an inspection of all existing septic system components in Shoreland Districts installed prior to January 1, 1998 to ensure each functioned properly. A citizens' petition to repeal the Program was received in late 2011. As a response, the CEO and Planning Board worked in the early quarter of 2012 to redraft the Program. In January 2012 a special forum was held with Licensed Site Evaluators, septic inspectors, and State Officials (especially the State Soil Scientist David Rocque and James Jacobsen from the Maine Division of Environmental Health). Despite the Planning Board's effort, time and diligence the public did not approve the proposed





Code Enforcement Officer



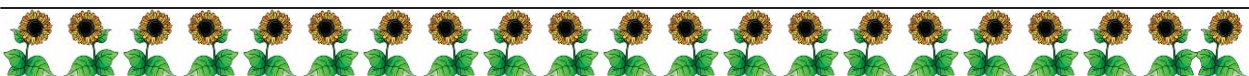
revisions at the June 2012 ballot and the Program was repealed in its entirety. The Town still recommends shorefront property owners have their septic systems inspected to ensure everything is working properly. The Town will accept copies of any reports for its records.

- In 2012 discussion continued on **Low Impact Development** (known by its acronym, L-I-D). LID promotes alternate ways to treat storm water and mitigate phosphorus resulting from development. Phosphorus is a nutrient in nature (phosphorus attaches itself to soil particles that, when it rains heavily, we see coco-colored storm water entering streams or brooks ending up in our ponds and lakes). LID schemes are designed to have a low impact on the environment by minimizing phosphorus as a contributor to poor water quality. LID's main idea is to get storm water into the ground. Last year LaMarr Clannon of Maine's Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials (NEMO), and Alex Wong and Susan Breau-Kelly of the Maine Rural Water Association continued LID discussions with the Town. LID is viewed as an option, giving commercial and residential developers another way to reduce phosphorus impact. LID is not intended to replace the current Phosphorus Control Ordinance but is an alternative to that Ordinance. More discussions will likely result in a forum sponsored by the Planning Board to inform and educate people on LID.
- The **Central Maine Power Company (CMP) is moving forward with its Maine Power Reliability Program (MPRP)**, approved by the Planning Board in August of 2011. The scope of the 1.4 billion dollar MPRP is to upgrade 350 miles of transmission lines within CMP's corridor affecting Maine communities from Orrington to New Hampshire's border. The project will build a new set of 345-kilovolt towers. Although timber harvesting in the corridor was finished in 2012 the MPRP construction phase has not yet begun. It is anticipated that the MPRP will begin in China in 2013 and be completed by a date in 2015.

Regarding building permit activity, the table on the following page represents those permits issued from 2003 through 2012.

During 2012 there were 185 building permits issued, a slight decrease from the 194 permits issued in 2011. Of the 2012 permits issued, notably there were 15 new stick-built single family residences constructed and 10 manufactured homes located in China. Statistics above show that in 2012 there was a significant increase over the stick-built homes permitted in 2011 (only 2); also, there were two and a half times as many manufactured homes located in China in 2012 than in 2011.

Examining the table shows that **over the ten (10) year period from 2003 to 2012 a total of 328 permits were issued for new residences (annual average is about 33)**. One reason for the 2012 increase in new stick-built homes may have something to do with the MUBEC's enforcement beginning July 1, 2012 (many people applied for their residential building permits prior to local enforcement of the MUBEC). In fact, all but one of the new stick-built homes was permitted prior to July 1, 2012. Also, it should be known that three shorefront homes (two seasonal and one year-round) were completely demolished and rebuilt





Code Enforcement Officer



	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
Building permits issued:	185	194	158	177	139	218	183	191	210	192
New single family homes	15	2	16	15	13	23	24	25	28	32
Manufactured homes	10	4	11	8	12	21	14	22	18	15
Additions and Expansions	16	22	25	16	29	18	29	35	25	36
Accessory garages, sheds, etc.	71	71	49	57	48	83	59	63	78	61
Decks and Patios	44	53	30	44	21	39	27	21	33	29
Renovations	7	15	6	9	5	5	8	9	8	7
Other (pools, ramps, etc.)	13	18	19	23	10	22	11	16	20	12
Demolition	9	9	2	5	1	7	7	7	-	-
CEO permits & notices received:	68	57	75	60	43	56	56	62	52	63
Timber Harvesting	29	27	21	28	23	13	17	22	21	10
Piers or docks	4	1	7	0	1	6	5	8	5	10
Signs	16	19	22	8	12	10	13	11	7	13
Road Construction	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
Filling and/or earth moving	12	3	13	10	10	13	12	11	11	8
Wells	6	4	10	13	6	13	8	9	8	17
Other	1	2	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1
Plumbing permits issued:	85	59	105	88	77	117	135	143	152	141
Internal plumbing	50	38	67	55	47	68	83	88	89	82
External plumbing (Septic Systems)	35	21	38	33	30	49	52	55	63	59



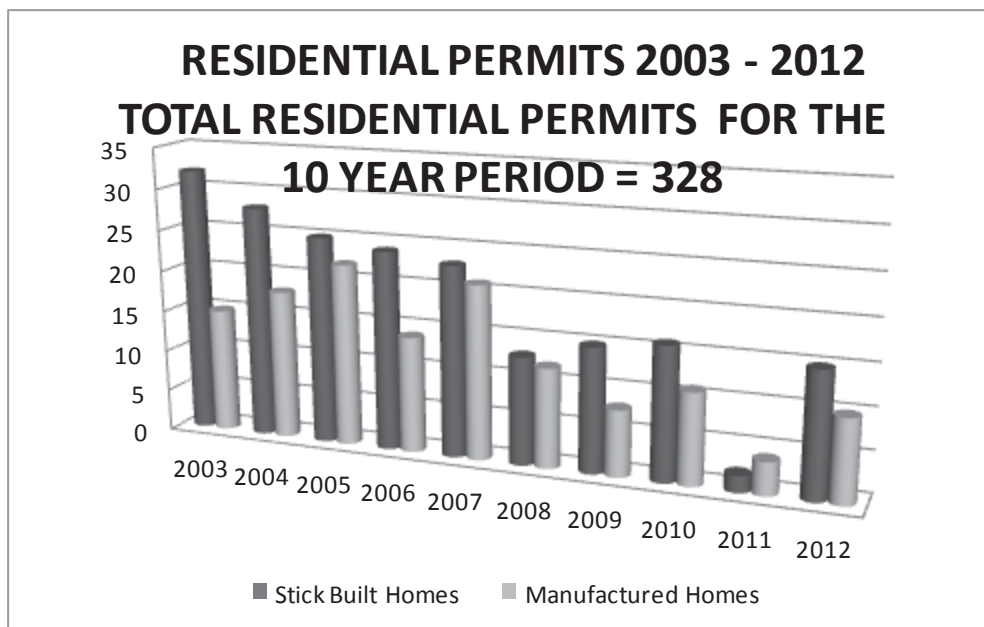


Code Enforcement Officer



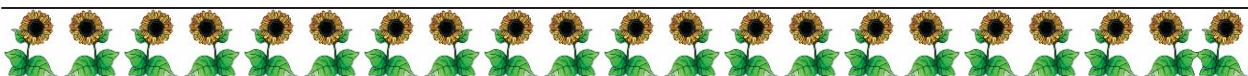
by choice of the owners; one other seasonal camp (that was unfortunately destroyed by fire) was also rebuilt. The U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's national statistics show a 28.8% increase in new housing starts from December 2011 to December 2012; and the statistics for the same period of time in the Northeast indicated a 23.7% increase. Whether trying to avoid the new building code, or the advantage of lower interest rates increasing opportunities for people to get a home mortgage loan for a new housing start, single family homes in Town showed an upward trend in 2012. Finally, 96 new house lots were approved through subdivisions between 2006 and 2009. There were no subdivisions in 2010; in 2011 there was only one new lot created by subdivision amendment; and in 2012 the only subdivision activity was the division of (and subsequent amendment to) the China Mall Subdivision in which the Fieldstone Quikstop was split away from the China Mini-Mall. To date there are dozens of approved house lots created by previous subdivisions that still have not been built upon.

See the chart below for new residential permits for the ten-year period between 2003 and 2012.



Permits for accessory structures including sheds, garages and barns remained exactly the same from 2011 to 2012; home additions dropped slightly from 22 in 2011 to 16 in 2012; likewise, permits for decks dropped off slightly from 53 in 2011 to only 44 in 2012. Other notable numbers show renovations dropped by about half; there was a slight decrease in projects involving pools, ramps, etc.; and demolition permits remained exactly the same.

Of the 185 building permits issued last year, many were in the category of "after-the-fact" permits related to the 2008-2009 Town-wide revaluation. During the revaluation many undisclosed building projects were discovered. Last year the





Code Enforcement Officer



Town strived to clear up these remaining after-the-fact permits that accounted for about 11% of the total number of permits issued in 2012. The China Land Development Code requires landowners (their agents or contractors) obtain building and plumbing permits before work starts on a project. After-the-fact permit fees are expensive and cost three to ten times the standard fee. **If you are uncertain about whether or not your building project requires a permit please call, e-mail, or stop by the Town Office to find out.** For a complete review of the China Land Development Code go to the Town's website at www.china.govoffice.com

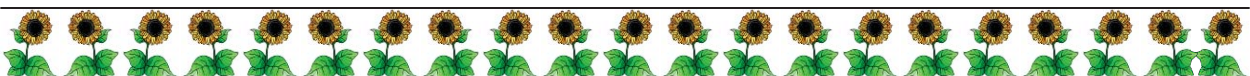
Another sixty-eight permits and Notices of Intent were issued in 2012 for signs, filling and earth-moving activities, well installations, and timber harvests. Earth-moving activities increased dramatically from three in 2011 to twelve in 2012; and the twenty-nine timber harvests in 2012 remained about the same as seen in 2011 (twenty-seven). Finally, in 2012 the Local Plumbing Inspector issued eighty-five plumbing permits, about a 44% increase over the fifty-nine plumbing permits issued in 2011. Also, there were four notices received for new "home occupations" in 2012. These home-based businesses included such activities as on-line craft sales, boat engine parts sales, an internet-based landscaping business, and a design and custom car detailing outfit.

Permits are required for any new construction, expansion or improvement of principal or accessory structures creating a new building footprint; an increase in volume (such as dormers, enclosed deck space, etc.); and increases in a structure's height. Permits are also required for improvements to replace existing portions of a structure (e.g. rooms, decks, sheds, etc.) and renovations and conversions (e.g. basement renovations and other space conversions). Also, above-ground and in-ground swimming pools (and decks around a pool) require permitting. Permits are also needed for Quonset-hut-style "cover-its". Finally, installing a new or replacement dock along shorefront property requires a permit. No seasonal dock should be in the water more than seven months of the year without approvals from the local Planning Board and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. **Only those projects involving "normal maintenance" do not require permits.**

The CEO interacts daily with real-estate agents, businesses, engineers, surveyors, attorneys, prospective property purchasers, and local residents. The CEO is a resource providing information on China's Land Development Code, and helping people with the permitting process and required paperwork. The CEO also works directly with the Planning Board.

In closing, "Thank you" for all the support over the last eighteen years.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott A. Pierz, China CEO





Implementation Committee



The Implementation Committee reviewed materials and organized the task list below:

- ⇒ Narrowed the scope of Committee's review to only develop a proposed Commercial and Multifamily Residential Site Plan Review Ordinance;
- ⇒ Placed "on hold" any further discussions involving architectural standards, the China Village historic district, or the full extent of new, multiple land use districts originally discussed by the Committee in 2011;
- ⇒ Added new Committee members to bring a fresh perspective to reviewing the proposed Ordinance. Anyone interested in serving on the Committee, or simply interested in being on our mailing list, should contact the Town Office;
- ⇒ The Committee will involve "readers" to comment on the draft Ordinance. Several people have already offered to read the document in its final form and provide their unbiased comments. If anyone else is interested in reading a final draft of the Ordinance please contact the Town;
- ⇒ Planning Board members who are also on the Implementation Committee (along with the CEO) will educate the remainder of the Planning Board about the proposed draft, and will work closely with them to finalize the document;
- ⇒ Public outreach will be organized to educate the voters about elements of the Ordinance;
- ⇒ The new Ordinance may include concepts such as **Impact Fees** concerning costs associated with specific developments, as well as designs for **Low Impact Development** (an alternative offering commercial and residential developer's options to the current storm-water standards seen in the Phosphorus Control Ordinance).

During the latter half of the year, the Committee went on a sabbatical but intends to gear-up again in 2013. All meetings are open to the public. For the full text of the 2008 Comprehensive Plan, as well as the dates and times of the scheduled meetings, please visit www.china.govoffice.com.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Pierz
Chairman





Town Clerk



China's Town Clerk and Deputy Clerks are primarily responsible for the care and preservation of municipal records. The clerks record China's births, deaths and marriages as well as records of appointments and oaths. Other duties include issuing hunting and fishing licenses; registering ATVs, boats, snowmobiles, motor vehicles and dogs; assisting with genealogy requests; conducting elections and related functions and many, many other duties as they arise.

The following pages contain the records of deaths and marriages from July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012. A new law took effect in September 2010 that now affects information published in the town report and how people can obtain copies of birth, death and marriage records. Names of babies may no longer be listed in the town report. Also, in order to obtain a copy of a record, you must now show identification and proof of a direct legitimate right to the record. A certified copy of a record is \$15 and any additional copies of that same record purchased at that time are \$6 each.

The Town Clerk recorded 38 births for the time period July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Hapgood
Town Clerk



The Honorable China Select Board members (L-R): Paul MacDonald, Irene Belanger, Joann Austin, Steven Hughes and Chairman Peter Foote.

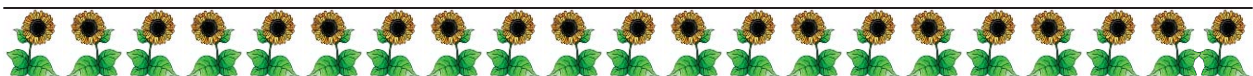




Deaths July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012



Nancy Cunningham	July 15, 2011
Lucie A. Klembara	September 3, 2011
Nathan E. Hall	September 16, 2011
John Wyman Grotton	September 25, 2011
James R. Fortunato, Sr	October 10, 2011
Mark F. Wentworth	October 19, 2011
Rhoda E. Kibbin	December 25, 2011
Paul R. Jillson	January 12, 2012
Leon St. Laurent	February 4, 2012
Trevor J. Bragg	February 7, 2012
Eric A. Hardesty	February 10, 2012
Phillip Smith	February 13, 2012
Edward G. Poulin	March 4, 2012
William Stevens	March 13, 2012
Sherwood Kitchen	March 20, 2012
Blanche Taylor	March 27, 2012
Richard J. Sears	April 1, 2012
Daniel E. Williams	April 8, 2012
Kenneth Hallowell	May 10, 2012
Luke Thompson	May 12, 2012
Lamont Nutt	May 21, 2012
Carolyne Ouellette	May 27, 2012
Lena Ouellette	June 13, 2012
Judith Ferran	June 24, 2012





Marriages July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012



Jack A. Kibbin	Misty L. Noble	July 3, 2011
Benjamin P. Oxley	Jenna E. Veilleux	July 23, 2011
Darryl L. Gray	Linda M. Dixon	July 24, 2011
Just P. Chabot	Jamie L. Fuller	August 13, 2011
Kevin A. Rhoades	Jerry M. Leeman	August 27, 2011
Peter E. Irish	Amy L. French	September 10, 2011
Robert W. Putek	Crystal B. Hicks	September 10, 2011
Robert M. Talley	Jodi A. Dumont	September 10, 2011
Leslie D. Wright	Joi L. Gardiner	September 18, 2011
Mark A. St. Amand	Heather M. Strout	September 24, 2011
Joseph R. Jerrier	Deborah D. Johnson	October 1, 2011
Joshua B. Vance	Bethany J. Starrett	October 8, 2011
Joel M. Haynes	Charlotte R. Cates	October 8, 2011
Roland E. Pelletier	Cynthia E. Tillson	October 19, 2011
Denis E. L'Heureux	Stacie K.C.L. Addington	November 11, 2011
J. Stephen Anderson	Nancy J. Ordway	February 18, 2012
Roy E. Catlow	Laurie A. Poirier	February 19, 2012
John A. Gillis	Donna J. Messier	March 23, 2012
Franklin F. Arbour	Kellie J. Sutter	April 7, 2012
Timothy S. Jehnings	Tiarah A. McKeen	April 14, 2012
Timothy D. Dewitt	Rebecca L. Oakes	April 23, 2012
Brent M. Lawson	Bonnie L. James	May 19, 2012
Wesley W. Courtney	Sheri A. Paulsen	May 19, 2012
Michael L. Palmer	Laurie A. Lurette	May 24, 2012
Anthony R. Howard	Jamie L. Russell	June 9, 2012





Assessors' Agent



For most of the following programs, the application must be submitted to the Assessors' Agent by April 1st. Applications and additional information are available at the town office or at www.china.govoffice.com in *Assessing* under the *Town Departments* section of the web site.

2013 Homestead Exemption – If you did not file for the Homestead Exemption in 2012 or prior years, you must apply prior to April 1, 2013 to be eligible in 2013. If you have been receiving the homestead application in the past, you **do not** need to reapply unless your home ownership status has changed. **Note - The Governor has proposed a change to this exemption. More information can be found at www.maine.gov.

Veteran Exemption for Real Estate Taxes – If you are aged 62 or older, or an un-remarried spouse of a deceased veteran who would have been 62 by April 1, 2013; you or your deceased spouse served during a federally recognized war period; or if you are a veteran who receives federal funds for total disability, and you have a primary residence in China, you may be eligible for the veteran's exemption

Landowner Tax Relief Programs – There are three programs for which you might be eligible. The programs are: The Maine Tree Growth Tax Law, Farm Classification Law, and The Open Space Tax Law. As the laws for these programs are quite detailed, please contact the assessors' agent at 445-2014 for more information.

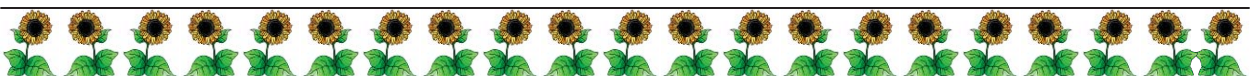
Ownership and Address Updates Requested – To avoid errors in tax billing, please notify the Town Office when selling or transferring any property. Also, please notify the staff of any change in your mailing address.

Programs Directly Administered Through the State:

State of Maine Business Personal Property Tax Reimbursement – If you purchased or transferred taxable business property to a Maine location after April 1, 1995, you may be eligible for the Maine Property Tax Reimbursement Program (BETR). **Note - The Governor has proposed a change to this exemption. More information can be found at www.maine.gov.

Maine Residents Property Tax and Rent Refund Program – You may qualify if: you do not have a spouse or dependent(s) and your household income was \$64,950 or less; or you have a spouse or dependent(s) and your household income was \$86,600 or less **and** your property tax was more than 4% of your household income; or the rent you paid was more than 20% of your household income (Note: Low-income Seniors do not need to meet these requirements).
Applications must be filed by May 31, 2013.

China's Assessing Agent is William Van Tuinen. All correspondence should be directed to assessor@chinamaine.org or by phone at (207) 445-2014.





Unpaid Taxes



Act	Name	Year	Principal Due		* paid in full	** partial payment
367	Adams, Barbara, Heirs of	2011	\$ 263.03 **			
2977	Althenn, Daniel H	2011	\$ 757.88			
3525	Ames, John	2011	\$ 108.72 *	2010	\$ 109.35 *	2009 \$ 94.03 *
		2008	\$ 88.44 *	2007	\$ 213.35 *	2006 \$ 307.08 *
2131	Ashby, Herbert J & Louise Nichols	2011	\$ 2,067.69			
3162	Atchison, William R	2011	\$ 2,670.60 *			
269	Audet, Donald & Linda	2011	\$ 1,790.74 **	2010	\$ 1,731.41 *	
2258	Bailey, Edwin S	2011	\$ 510.24 *			
2530	Bangor Savings Bank	2011	\$ 848.23 *			
636	Barber, Thadius	2011	\$ 5,846.89			
696	Barber, Thadius	2011	\$ 3,286.63			
2832	Barber, Thadius	2011	\$ 46.07 *			
1942	Basford, Susan Lynn	2011	\$ 254.72 **			
1314	Beaulieu, Roland J	2011	\$ 2,089.00	2010	\$ 2,111.27 *	
545	Bond, Steven L	2011	\$ 53.99 *			
3192	Boynton, Daniel W Jr & Melanie J	2011	\$ 495.72	2010	\$ 502.45 *	
359	Boynton, Peter H & Pauline A	2011	\$ 443.73			
2553	Bragg, Kellie	2011	\$ 837.64 **	2010	\$ 621.04 *	
1715	Bragg, Rebecca L	2011	\$ 1,486.09	2010	\$ 1,502.79 *	
2731	Bragg, Steven	2011	\$ 246.16	2010	\$ 249.13	
1567	Branch Mills Flour and Grain	2011	\$ 1,038.12	2010	\$ 1,048.52 *	
986	Brann, Shawn M	2011	\$ 479.69 **			
3276	Breton, Shawn R	2011	\$ 1,074.93	2010	\$ 1,085.96	





Unpaid Taxes



Act	Name	Year	Principal Due	* paid in full	** partial payment
619	Brown, Hilda	2011	\$ 1,005.75	2010	\$ 1,021.72
2978	Campbell, Jeffrey L & Linda B	2011	\$ 384.76		
1713	Carey, John	2011	\$ 366.49 *		
1714	Carey, John	2011	\$ 1,005.83 *		
1037	Cargill, C Robert & Margaret	2011	\$ 1,336.70		
1869	Carll, Pauline M	2011	\$ 73.14	2010	\$ 93.12
1039	Cates, Stephen C & Emily Z	2011	\$ 288.72	2010	\$ 292.17 *
1410	Clark, Glenn	2011	\$ 1,330.95 *	2010	\$ 1,363.64 *
1719	Columbia, Laurie L	2011	\$ 1,701.16	2009	\$ 631.79 *
2406	Cook, Bruce A	2011	\$ 638.85 *		
615	Cook, Michael O	2011	\$ 748.06 **	2010	\$ 94.88 *
612	Cook, Steven P & Paula E	2011	\$ 1,016.04	2010	\$ 1,031.65 *
1955	Crockett, Jeffrey M	2011	\$ 726.42	2010	\$ 737.09 *
2717	Cunningham, Matthew J & Angela	2011	\$ 690.84	2010	\$ 790.76 *
2857	Cunningham, Shawn D & Patty J	2011	\$ 793.76 *		
2517	Curtis, Fred & Terry	2011	\$ 1,047.93		
1716	Cushman, Robert F & Colin & Ryan	2011	\$ 348.02	2010	\$ 358.97 *
2394	Daigneault, Darrin	2011	\$ 2,612.92		
3488	Danforth, William W	2011	\$ 717.45 *		
824	DeMaio, Janice D & Paul A, Jr	2011	\$ 2,117.68 **	2010	\$ 1,504.70 *
286	Dennison, Betty Jo	2011	\$ 519.81	2010	\$ 209.65 *
1386	Dillenbeck, John S	2011	\$ 2,196.08		





Unpaid Taxes



Act	Name	Year	Principal Due		* paid in full	** partial payment
1580	Downie, Jon M & Franklin A	2011	\$ 1,249.18			
572	Dupont, David Jr	2011	\$ 875.68	2010	\$ 889.42 *	
2324	Epick, Alexander	2011	\$ 60.86			
454	Estes, Duane C & Tina M	2011	\$ 1,160.84	2010	\$ 1,173.34 *	
2431	Fjeldheim, Heidi	2011	\$ 843.78			
2429	Fletcher, John L & Alice M	2011	\$ 432.30	2010	\$ 438.20 *	
2882	Fletcher, John L Sr & Alice M	2011	\$ 859.80	2010	\$ 872.49 *	
993	French, Steven E & Karen K	2011	\$ 419.19	2010	\$ 425.12 *	
2121	Gilley, Charles M	2011	\$ 483.14 *			
1084	Glidden, George N	2011	\$ 1,716.73	2010	\$ 1,744.32 *	
3580	Glidden, Jesse K	2011	\$ 130.07			
3211	Glidden, Jesse N	2011	\$ 572.07			
1332	Glidden, Mahlon S Heirs of	2011	\$ 186.75			
3654	Gonzales, Christopher	2011	\$ 245.57 *			
1712	Grant, Scott A	2011	\$ 885.18 **	2010	\$ 443.52 *	
1005	Haskell, Gary L & Katherine	2011	\$ 1,501.52	2010	\$ 1,048.28 *	
1951	Hauver, Nadine	2011	\$ 324.69 *			
3500	Hersey, Joyce & Herbert	2011	\$ 529.63			
2249	Hicks, Richard & Kammy	2011	\$ 2,366.66 *	2010	\$ 1,949.56 *	
3132	Hilton, William M & Diane J	2011	\$ 587.18 *			
594	Hisler, Colleen E & Randolph A	2011	\$ 866.70	2010	\$ 863.16 *	
595	Hisler, Colleen E & Randolph A	2011	\$ 388.51	2010	\$ 364.92 *	





Unpaid Taxes



Act	Name	Year	Principal Due		* paid in full	** partial payment
1639	Hoague, Coleine	2010	\$ 705.84 *			
2694	Hoague, Daryl	2011	\$ 489.23 *			
600	Holway, Harry L & Megan	2011	\$ 2,531.94	2010	\$ 948.87 *	
1720	Holyoke, Thomas	2011	\$ 394.18 *			
3072	Holyoke, Thomas A Jr	2011	\$ 458.70 *			
3057	Jackson, George E & Pamela A	2011	\$ 1,542.86	2010	\$ 1,562.15 *	
540	James, William R	2011	\$ 888.80 *	2010	\$ 805.46 *	
1572	Keene, Josie M & John R	2011	\$ 436.37	2010	\$ 317.78 *	
1111	Kelsey, Rayner & Sherman, Janet Trustees	2011	\$ 3,271.44 *			
3154	Kibbin, Stephen	2011	\$ 521.73			
1139	KMC Realty LLC	2011	\$ 2,285.28 *			
3188	Knox, David W & Karel L	2011	\$ 81.80 *			
3187	Lapointe, Erik M	2011	\$ 326.38			
3031	Leland, James & Melina	2011	\$ 948.23 *	2010	\$ 961.64 *	
2887	Lemar, Peter & Grace	2011	\$ 1,725.32 *	2010	\$ 1,753.06 *	
1639	Levesque, William & Kathy	2011	\$ 678.95			
3460	Lord, Delmont	2011	\$ 84.18			
2346	Lord, E William III & Kathleen Mae	2011	\$ 1,856.71			
2171	MacDonald, Bruce F	2011	\$ 1,745.41	2010	\$ 1,761.80 *	
2790	Madore, Frances & Michael D	2011	\$ 2,434.98 *			
1116	Mairs, Beverly	2011	\$ 955.06 *			
1101	Marois, Michael J	2011	\$ 377.47	2010	\$ 382.69 *	





Unpaid Taxes



Act	Name	Year	Principal Due		* paid in full	** partial payment
2507	Martin, Richard K Sr	2011	\$ 1,988.31 *	2010	\$ 2,011.47 *	
3166	Mason, James A	2011	\$ 128.81 *			
1829	Mayberry, William E	2011	\$ 523.11 *			
3425	Mayo, Jeramy J	2011	\$ 804.51			
1358	Mayo, Ronald Timothy	2011	\$ 1,193.52 **			
1875	McIntyre, Richard W Jr & Marie A	2011	\$ 38.83 *			
2523	McKeil, Carl C	2011	\$ 2,018.99			
2521	McKeil, John	2011	\$ 248.62	2010	\$ 62.95 *	
2641	McPhee, Vicki J	2011	\$ 458.42 **			
2702	Michaud, Paul	2011	\$ 872.84 *			
40	Moore, Daniel L & Dwayne L	2011	\$ 708.79 **	2010	\$ 719.67 *	
638	Morgan, Darell & Candace	2011	\$ 651.58 **	2010	\$ 660.96 *	
2335	Morton, Amy Life Estate	2011	\$ 1,831.70 *	2010	\$ 1,985.81 *	
2676	Moynahan, Michael M	2011	\$ 274.39			
3183	Northland Telephone Co Of Me Inc	2009	\$ 5,051.66 *			
1394	O'Connor Association	2011	\$ 887.96	2010	\$ 325.64 *	
1395	O'Connor Association	2011	\$ 1,673.32	2010	\$ 549.56 *	
2697	Ogden, Austin G Jr & Lynda H	2011	\$ 522.73	2010	\$ 495.47 *	
57	Oyler, George M & Diane L	2011	\$ 426.93 *			
1002	Page, Keith A & Dorothy	2011	\$ 516.98 *	2010	\$ 524.32 *	
1357	Parsons, Marcus & Diana	2011	\$ 438.89	2010	\$ 444.39 *	
2709	Pellerin, Daniel B & Stacey	2011	\$ 310.43 *			





Unpaid Taxes



Act	Name	Year	Principal Due	* paid in full	** partial payment
1764	Pellerin, Mark J & Stephanie L	2011	\$ 628.25	2010	\$ 626.06 *
3272	Pellerin, Mark J & Stephanie L	2011	\$ 3,297.67	2010	\$ 3,346.95 *
482	Pinkham, David	2011	\$ 1,165.72		
1966	Plourde, Daniel R	2011	\$ 3,702.62 **	2010	\$ 106.51 *
2712	Plummer, Jeffery	2011	\$ 357.83		
219	Plummer, Stephen J	2011	\$ 1,366.53 *		
3645	Pressey, Sylvia D	2011	\$ 315.70 *		
472	Quimby, Janet	2011	\$ 1,148.56	2010	\$ 62.44 *
268	Reed, Diane	2011	\$ 1,270.89	2010	\$ 1,279.43 *
1276	Rice, Donald Kevin	2011	\$ 2,088.10	2010	\$ 2,122.56 *
1249	Rines, Donna M	2011	\$ 435.54 *		
3104	Risbara, Peter P	2011	\$ 499.80		
3159	Roderick, Michael G	2011	\$ 263.13		
961	Rodrigue, Nanci L & Jacob S	2011	\$ 968.15 *		
2397	Roy, Andrew J & Linda J	2011	\$ 1,345.29 *	2010	\$ 1,366.79 *
2885	Schlosberg, Abraham & Charles L	2011	\$ 1,556.75	2010	\$ 1,548.75
3094	Shaw, Ann T	2011	\$ 567.28	2010	\$ 312.70 *
2630	Small, Kathy	2011	\$ 600.80	2010	\$ 566.82
2631	Small, Michael A & Linda	2011	\$ 407.37 **	2010	\$ 406.99 *
1727	Snow, Jennifer	2011	\$ 2,204.74	2010	\$ 2,234.83 *
3515	St. Laurent, Leon A	2011	\$ 690.38	2010	\$ 700.95 *
316	Suga, Linda C	2011	\$ 225.67		





Unpaid Taxes



Act	Name	Year	Principal Due	* paid in full	** partial payment
3167	Sullivan, Patrick D	2011	\$ 481.45	2010 \$ 476.24	2009 \$ 466.41
1245	Sweek, John K	2011	\$ 483.47		
2692	Therriault, Norma J	2011	\$ 1,227.10 *	2010 \$ 1,246.33 *	
3517	Tillson, Kevin E	2011	\$ 292.80	2010 \$ 296.56 *	
2459	Tucker, Daniel J & Lucy L	2011	\$ 1,164.51 *		
1858	Venuti, James J	2011	\$ 2,157.66		
1859	Venuti, James J	2011	\$ 172.53		
2663	Vortriede, Valerie	2011	\$ 1,762.90		
2718	W W Properties, Inc	2011	\$ 4,429.48	2010 \$ 4,515.19 *	
3411	W W Properties, Inc	2011	\$ 463.43		
2912	Willette, Norma	2011	\$ 487.59	2010 \$ 488.07	
592	Willey, Marion	2011	\$ 407.17 *		
185	Williams, George H Jr	2011	\$ 761.44 *		
1953	Woods, Jason A	2011	\$ 277.85 **		
1860	Yocz, Stanley & Irene	2011	\$ 263.35 *		
1861	Yocz, Stanley & Irene	2011	\$ 2,101.59 *		
3312	York, Chris & Renee	2011	\$ 163.94	2010 \$ 171.10 *	
2351	Young, Alan D	2011	\$ 232.28 *	2010 \$ 234.76 *	
2348	Young, Alan Duane	2011	\$ 910.88	2010 \$ 954.92	





Unpaid Taxes



Act	Name	Year	Principal Due	* paid in full		** partial payment	
236	Blinds By Design	2011	\$ 41.65 *				
390	Bob Talley Plumbing & Heating Co	2011	\$ 29.75				
339	Camper Town, Inc	2011	\$ 11.90	2010	\$ 48.40		
224	Central Machine Inc	2011	\$ 1,120.98	2010	\$ 633.31 **		
82	China Village General Store	2008	\$ 765.00				
286	D & B Logging	2010	\$ 907.50	2009	\$ 862.50	2008	\$ 765.00
110	Dirigo Machine, Inc.	2011	\$ 337.96	2010	\$ 343.64	2009	\$ 326.60
		2008	\$ 284.58	2007	\$ 517.70	2006	\$ 567.60
		2005	\$ 707.36 **				
455	Emily's Seafood	2011	\$ 7.14 *				
181	Fieldstone Quick Stop	2011	\$ 445.06				
448	Fred and Larry's Disposal Service	2011	\$ 29.75				
288	Gilman Surveying & Mapping	2009	\$ 86.25	2008	\$ 76.50	2007	\$ 78.49
179	Jackson Lumber Company	2010	\$ 133.10				
409	Glidden, Jesse	2011	\$ 103.53 **				
63	Ouellette Sand & Gravel Inc	2011	\$ 196.35				
430	Pierce, Kyle	2011	\$ 29.75				
229	Pinkham's Corner Fuel	2011	\$ 26.77 **				
403	Richard's Redemption and Variety	2011	\$ 20.23				
348	Rocnet Data Designs	2011	\$ 17.25 **				
277	S & B Market	2008	\$ 210.69 *				
143	S & T Motors Inc	2011	\$ 374.85				





Unpaid Taxes



Act	Name	Year	Principal Due	* paid in full	** partial payment
386	Sensa Flo	2009	\$ 287.50		
282	Shear Techniques	2011	\$ 38.67 *		
234	South China Auto Detailing	2011	\$ 33.32	2010	\$ 33.88 *
127	TCS Roofing	2004	\$ 169.44	2003	\$ 162.72
		2001	\$ 154.37	2000	\$ 148.80
		1998	\$ 135.84	1997	\$ 134.30
337	Tender Care Pet Grooming	2011	\$ 11.90		
439	The Forty Hour Club	2011	\$ 29.75 *		
42	The Market & Deli	2011	\$ 529.55		
452	T-Mobile Northeast, LLC	2011	\$ 173.74		
422	Top of the Line Drywall	2011	\$ 11.90		
429	Western Union Fin Services, Inc	2011	\$ 46.41 **		
303	Wildwood Guns	2011	\$ 5.95 *		
417	Wilson's Construction & Landscaping	2011	\$ 59.50	2010	\$ 60.50





Abatements



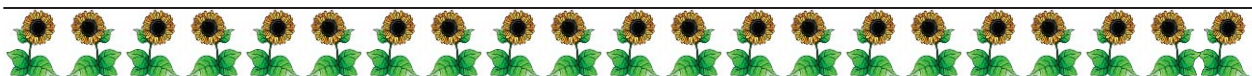
Taxpayer Name	Amount of Abatement
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Personal Property

Beale Video Systems Inc.	\$107.10
Bio Renewable Fuels	\$115.43
Kempton Tobey & Son Inc	\$203.49
Maersk Inc.	\$16.66
Maine Event Tickets	\$29.75
Maine Outdoor Photography	\$44.03
O'Brien Oil	\$198.73
Plummer Farms	\$714.00
Right Lane Towing	\$11.90
Right Lane Towing	\$12.10
Right Lane Towing	\$11.50
Somewhere in Time	\$29.75
T & K Heating Services	\$29.75

Real Estate

Albert E. Chase Jr	\$71.40
Border Trust Company	\$1,247.12
China, Town of	\$461.72
China, Town of	\$1,179.29
China, Town of	\$3,598.56
David R & Daniel A Poulin	\$295.12
Derek W. & Monica L. Fennell	\$91.63
Derek Williams	\$270.13
Derek Williams	\$168.19
Derek Williams	\$31.05
Hannaford Bros	\$449.82
Heirs of Audrey E Williams Gammon	\$119.00
Jeffrey B & Shirley A Goggin	\$158.27
Joann Austin	\$178.50
Lawan Tarn Petty	\$352.24
Leslie H French	\$624.75
Leslie R. French	\$1,808.80
Mark P Preble	\$82.11
McAleer, David M & Darlene B	\$4.76
Steven J & Althea R Harris	\$182.07
Thomas & Anita Whittaker	\$66.64





Municipal Expenditures



The information below shows expenditures paid to elected officials and employees. The auditor's report follows and shows how much money, if any, was left in each article with associated monetary adjustments. Amounts carried over to designated and undesignated fund balances are also shown. A complete copy of the audit is kept in the town office for public inspection.

Mary Kay Adams	\$ 24,583.06	William Kaufmann	\$ 118.25
Joann Austin	\$ 700.00	Diane Lennon-Danforth	\$ 384.53
Rosalie Batteese	\$ 301.34	Daniel L'Heureux	\$ 72,496.32
Irene Belanger	\$ 700.00	Paul MacDonald	\$ 700.00
Ronald Breton	\$ 425.00	Lisa McLaggan	\$ 15.00
Traci Britten	\$ 386.21	Scott Meader	\$ 1,045.74
Bethany Cote	\$ 1,052.58	George Moore	\$ 1,883.00
Gary Cummings	\$ 38,187.83	Aileen Pelkey	\$ 17.29
Deborah Daskoski	\$ 32,778.93	Kyle Pierce	\$ 425.00
Milton Dudley	\$ 400.00	Scott Pierz	\$ 50,920.61
Erin Farrington	\$ 2,765.63	Katrina Plourde	\$ 300.55
Julie Finley	\$ 27,535.79	Roger Putnam III	\$ 17.29
Peter Foote	\$ 700.00	Shawn Reed	\$ 32,443.12
Erasmus Gonzalez	\$ 7,681.05	Kevin Rhoades	\$ 26,159.42
Jason Grotton	\$ 195.00	Scott Rollins	\$ 125.00
Kelly Grotton	\$ 29,440.74	Francis Soares III	\$ 275.00
Rebecca Hapgood	\$ 41,757.30	Richard Thompson Jr.	\$ 200.00
Elwin Higgins	\$ 34,526.98	Sally Vernon	\$ 2,710.29
Steven Hughes	\$ 700.00	Toni Wall	\$ 400.00
Alison Jorgensen	\$ 182.70	Martha Wentworth	\$ 1,254.30
		James Wilkens	\$ 300.00





Budget Committee



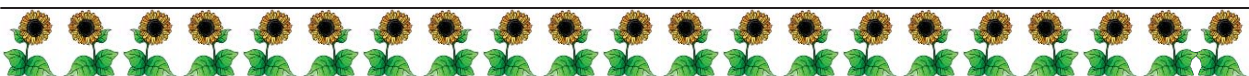
The China Budget Committee was created by action taken on a warrant article during the 1947 Town Meeting. At that time, the residents voted to formalize a seven-member committee that would be elected annually at future town meetings. In June 2006, the ordinance was amended to require elections during the November written ballot. A listing of the districts and current membership is provided later in this report.

The Budget Committee originally reviewed the recommendations of both the Select Board and the China School Committee. However, the 2007 School Administrative Reorganization Law changed the process for approving what is now the RSU #18 budget so the committee only reviews the municipal revenues and expenditures. This has greatly reduced the committee's workload.

All meetings are open to the public and anyone with suggestions is welcome to attend or make their feelings known to individual members. While the members of the committee are generally not financial experts, they come from a wide range of professions to volunteer their experience for the benefit of the entire town. During their deliberations, the group examines past year expenditures, anticipates trends for both the coming year and the long term future, looks at projected revenues and then relies on a healthy dose of common sense to make recommendations on the next year's spending requests.

The Budget Committee met three times in 2012 and twice again this year to review the 2013-2014 Municipal Budget. The members agreed that economic times were still difficult for many citizens, and were pleased to see that there were no new initiatives and only a few articles with small increases. The Committee therefore supported the Select Board's position on the total amount of funding on all but one warrant article for the March 23rd Business Meeting. On Article 11, the members unanimously voted to increase the funding for China Rescue by \$3,000.00 to total the \$20,000.00 this agency requested. If approved by voters, this increase will allow China Rescue to pay a \$5.00 gas reimbursement/call to the relatively few members who have to cover the entire town. In addition, the Committee unanimously agreed to adjust Article 25 by increasing the funding for Family Violence by \$1,500.00 while decreasing funding for Kennebec Behavioral Health by the same amount, leaving the total for Social Services the same as recommended by the Select Board. The Committee made this recommendation in the belief there currently was a greater need to address family violence issues especially since the budget document presented by Kennebec Behavioral Health showed \$61,312.00 in excess revenues.

The revised Budget Committee Ordinance established four districts from which four members must be selected while the Chairperson, Secretary and one additional member must be elected from the town at-large. Each member serves a two-year term, and to obtain staggered terms, the representatives of District 1, District 3 and the Chairperson initially served a one-year transition term. Current membership is as follows:





Budget Committee



Chairperson: From the town at-large: **Robert Batteese** Term expires 2013

Secretary : From the town at-large: **Timothy Theriault** Term expires 2014

Member at-large: **Jonathan Vogel** Term expires 2014

District 1: **Gregory Pizzo** Term Expires 2013

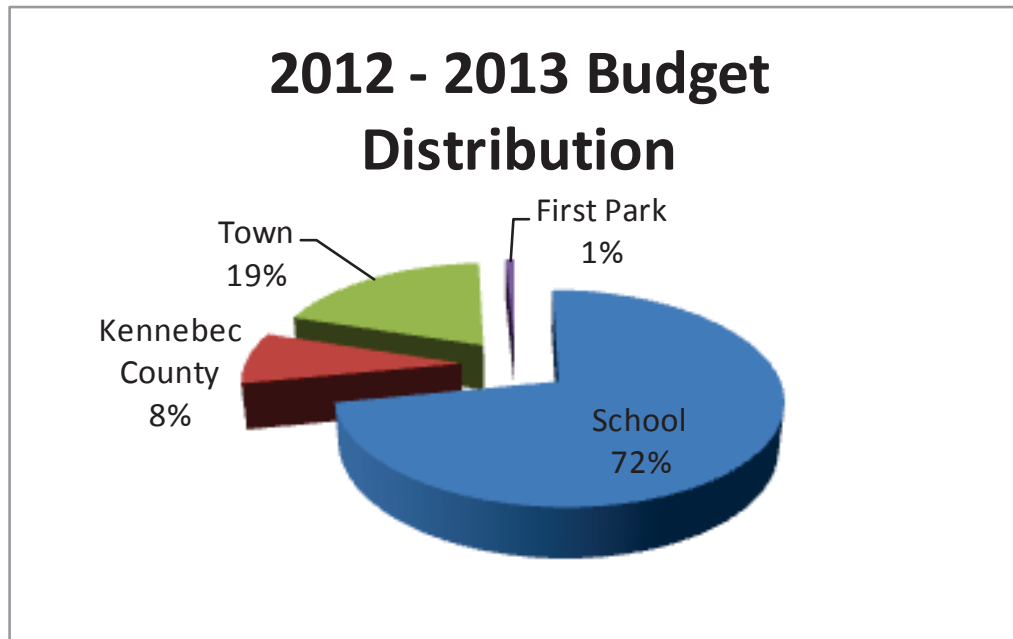
District 2: **Charles Plumer** Term Expires 2014

District 3: **Sheryl Peavey** Term Expires 2013

District 4: **Frederick Glidden** Term Expires 2014

In closing, I want to express my appreciation to all the members for their dedicated service to our community.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert I. Batteese, Jr.
Chairperson





PURDY POWERS
& COMPANY

130 Middle St.
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 775-3496
FAX: (207) 775-0176
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Independent Auditors' Report

To the Board of Selectmen

Town of China

China, Maine

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of China, Maine, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2012, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Town of China, Maine's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of China, Maine, as of June 30, 2012, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.





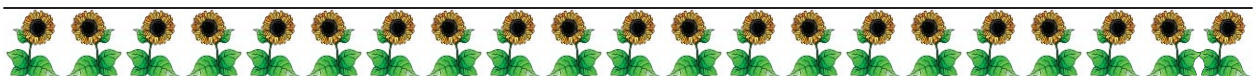
Auditor's Report & Financial Statements



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

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of China, Maine's financial statements as a whole. The supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. The supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, is the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Randy Powers & Company
Professional Association





Management's Discussion and Analysis

As management of the Town of China, Maine, we offer readers of the Town's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Town for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012. The Town's financial performance is discussed and analyzed within the context of the accompanying financial statements and disclosures following this section.

Financial Highlights

- The Town's assets exceeded liabilities by approximately \$4.6 million as of June 30, 2012, compared to approximately \$4.1 million as of June 30, 2011.
- The Town's governmental funds General Fund Balance was \$1.2 million as of June 30, 2012, compared to \$915 thousand as of June 30, 2011.

Overview of the Financial Statements

The Management's Discussion and Analysis introduces the Town's basic financial statements. The basic financial statements include three components: (1) government-wide financial statements, (2) fund financial statements, and (3) notes to the financial statements. The Town also includes in this report supplemental information to the basic financial statements.

Government-wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements include a Statement of Net Assets and a Statement of Activities. These statements provide information about the activities of the Town as a whole and present both a long-term and short-term view of the Town's finances. Financial reporting at this level is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies.

The Statement of Net Assets includes all assets and liabilities, with the difference reported as net assets. Over time, increases or decreases in the Town's net assets are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. Evaluation of the overall economic health requires other non-financial factors, such as changes in the Town's property tax base and the condition of the Town's roads, as well as many others.

The Statement of Activities reports the current year change in net assets. This statement includes all of the current year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

- Governmental activities: Most of the Town's basic services are reported here, including public works, general administration, public safety and solid waste operations. Taxes, fees, fines, and state and federal grants finance most of these activities.





Auditor's Report & Financial Statements



Fund Financial Statements

A fund is an accountability unit used to maintain control over resources segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Town uses funds to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance related laws and regulations. Within the basic financial statements, fund financial statements focus on the Town's most significant funds rather than the Town as a whole. Major funds are separately reported while all others are combined into a single, aggregated presentation. Individual fund data for non-major funds is provided in the form of combining statements in a later section of this report.

The Town has the following fund types:

- Governmental funds are reported in the fund financial statements and encompass essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, the focus is different with fund statements reporting short-term fiscal accountability focusing on the use of spendable resources during the year and balances of spendable resources available at the end of the year. Since the government-wide focus includes the long-term view, comparisons between these two perspectives may provide insight into the long-term impact of short-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide reconciliation to the government-wide statements to assist in understanding the differences between these two perspectives.

Notes to the Financial Statements

The accompanying notes to the financial statements provide information essential to a full understanding of the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements begin immediately following the basic financial statements.





Auditor's Report & Financial Statements



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

The following schedule is a summary of nets assets for the years ended June 30, 2012 and 2011:

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>		
	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>Change</u>
Current and other assets	\$ 3,116,181	\$ 3,203,475	\$ (87,294)
Capital assets	<u>2,564,169</u>	<u>2,374,933</u>	<u>189,236</u>
Total Assets	5,680,350	5,578,408	101,942
Long-term liabilities	576,423	682,166	(105,743)
Other liabilities	<u>481,600</u>	<u>800,545</u>	<u>(318,945)</u>
Total Liabilities	1,058,023	1,482,711	(424,688)
Net assets: Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	1,940,363	1,638,504	301,859
Restricted	833,144	722,821	110,323
Unrestricted	<u>1,848,820</u>	<u>1,734,372</u>	<u>114,448</u>
	<u>\$ 4,622,327</u>	<u>\$ 4,095,697</u>	<u>\$ 526,630</u>

You will note by the increase in net assets over the past several years that this is an indicator of consistently good financial health of the town. The activities of the town as a whole have been focused on a long term plan revisited annually by the Select Board. This has resulted in actions by the Select Board that are conservative and responsible, understanding that the town's growth needs to have a corresponding increase in the ability to provide the services demanded of a growing municipality.

The Select Board manages the town's finances through the Town manager. The Board manages by involving strategic and operational components. Strategically, the finances are managed to accommodate changes in the economy and the resulting changes in costs and revenues. Operationally, the Board attempts to put in place some clear financial goals, policies, and tools to implement that strategic plan.





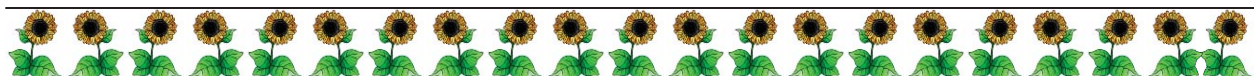
Auditor's Report & Financial Statements



The following schedule is a summary of the statement of activities for the years ended June 30, 2012 and 2011:

<u>Governmental Activities</u>			
	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>Change</u>
Revenues:			
Program revenues:			
Charges for services	\$ 146,608	\$ 145,595	\$ 1,013
Operating grants and contributions	81,581	84,635	(3,054)
General revenues			
Taxes	5,484,259	5,500,257	(15,998)
Intergovernmental	500,421	410,753	89,668
Investment	5,487	114,307	(108,820)
All others	<u>148,226</u>	<u>139,441</u>	<u>8,785</u>
Total Revenues	6,366,582	6,394,988	(28,406)
Expenses:			
Administration	755,815	767,492	(11,677)
Protection	239,952	213,778	26,174
Public works	610,456	800,415	(189,959)
Solid waste operations	335,329	318,574	16,755
Community services	89,693	93,953	(4,260)
Education	3,407,415	3,573,407	(165,992)
Recreation	24,225	27,120	(2,895)
County tax	365,820	367,265	(1,445)
Interest on long-term debt	2,807	1,390	1,417
Capital outlay	<u>8,440</u>	<u>(16,138)</u>	<u>24,578</u>
Total Expenses	<u>5,839,952</u>	<u>6,147,256</u>	<u>(307,304)</u>
Change in Net Assets	<u>\$526,630</u>	<u>\$247,732</u>	<u>\$278,898</u>

The town's basic activities are grouped and reported in the above multi-year numbers. The net change is a positive number reflecting an overall conservative posture throughout the time period reflected. The negative net changes in revenues are mostly attributed to economic factors the town cannot control. For instance, the interest rate on invested funds has dropped significantly resulting in reduced investment revenues. The reduced revenues are more than offset by the favorable changes reflected in reduced expenses.





Auditor's Report & Financial Statements



Digressing, it seems to me to note that growing municipalities such as China need to be focused strategically to anticipate fluctuations in the economy but also to understand that the demands of residents in this growth oriented town will need additional staff and capital considerations over time. The town will only be able to accommodate the increased service demands resulting from relative rapid growth in China by infrastructure and support staff.

Financial Analysis of the Town's Funds - Fund Financial Statements - Governmental funds. The focus of the Town of China, Maine's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the Town's financing requirements. In particular, unreserved fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

As of the end of the current fiscal year, the Town of China, Maine governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances at June 30, 2012 of \$2.1 million. Approximately 26% of this total constitutes unreserved and undesignated fund balance, which is available for spending at the government's discretion.

The town has been consistent in its focus of trying to maintain an unrestricted or undesignated fund balance equal to two month's gross expenditures. Of recent times and because of national and state economic circumstances, it has not been possible to maintain these balances at the desired levels. In the current fiscal year audited, there was a significant improvement in the balance though not at the long term level desired. It may take another two to three years to arrive at the desired balance.

The town recognizes the importance of maintaining a healthy unrestricted or undesignated fund balance. The general fund is the central operating fund of the Town of China, Maine. At the end of the current fiscal year the unassigned fund balance of the general fund was \$541,421. As a measure of the general fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare both unreserved fund balance and total fund balance to total fund expenditures.

This comparison of unreserved and total fund balances focuses on one of China's most significant funds and reflects on a trend in general fund equity and therefore liquidity. The comparison is also significant when considering reserved fund balances in that several of the capital needs in the future are anticipated by a healthy reserve or restricted fund balance, allowing for accommodation of unexpected circumstances by use of the unreserved funds. Moreover, the town has very little long term indebtedness reflecting strong general fund equity.

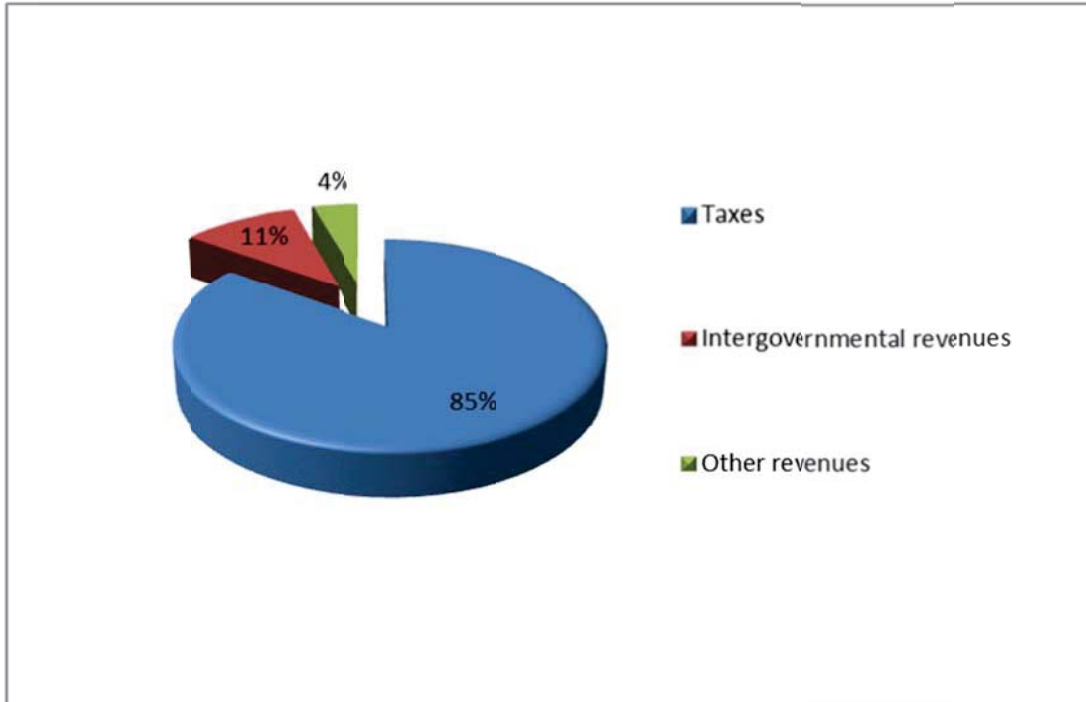




Auditor's Report & Financial Statements



The Town's general fund operating fund revenues were as follows:



The revenue distribution reflected in the chart reflects a high dependency on property tax revenues. Revenue growth limitations have always been a concern of small municipalities, including China. Indeed, achieving a balanced budget in tough economic times necessarily demands a look at the municipal tax base and the need for spending adjustments. Intergovernmental revenues are subject to downward adjustment during tough economic times. Other revenues from building permits issued, excise taxes, transfer station services and so forth are additionally dependent on local, regional, and national economic factors. As such, a strong and diverse tax base balanced with a fee structure reflecting payments by users of services would make for a sound fiscal policy.

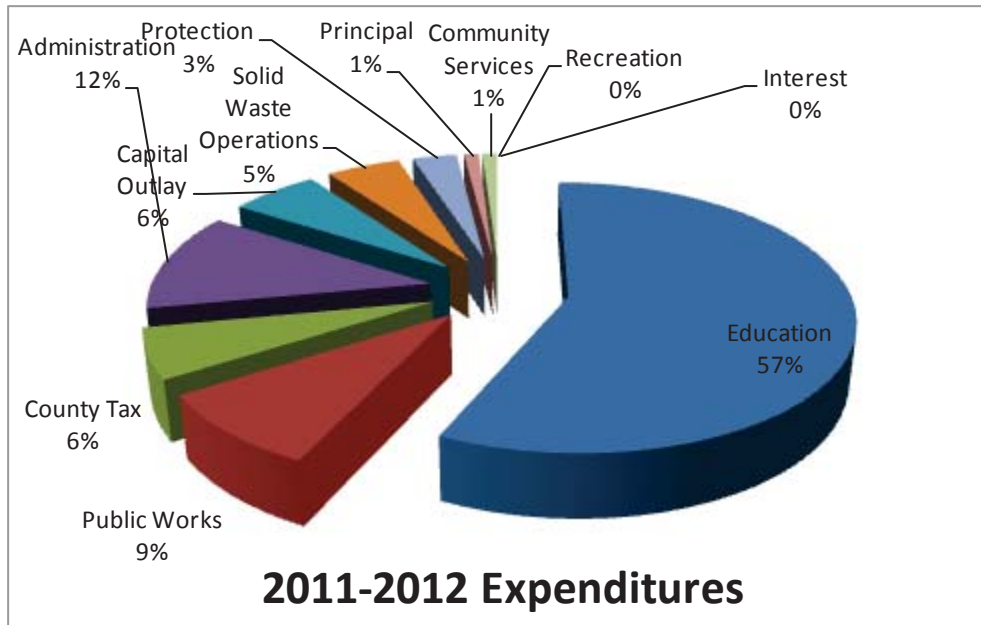




Auditor's Report & Financial Statements



The Town's general fund operating fund expenditures were as follows:



The distribution of expenditures over time has been consistent, the largest operating fund expenditures, education, public works, administration, county budget and transfer station equaling approximately ninety percent. The town's capital outlay is also significant in that a town must manage the capital budget by forecasting the timing and financial requirements of the town relative to the condition of the infrastructure. Making recommendations on the allocation of current and future resources at the right time minimizes the longer term costs that would otherwise increase substantially as a result of postponing needed capital investment. The allocated and approximate percentages of operating fund expenditures have served the town well over time.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The general fund revenues have remained relatively flat over the past years with a slight decrease recently due to a reduction in intergovernmental receipts and a weak economy. Some of the larger general fund revenues are derived from property taxes, intergovernmental revenues; excise taxes; Planning Board and CEO permits fees and transfer station fees. Though relatively stable, there may need to be a review of how to increase revenues outside of the property tax to be able to accommodate growth of the town.

The general fund expenditures have also remained relatively flat over the past three or four years corresponding with the national economic recession. The adjustments to expenditures to maintain a balanced budget without an increase in property taxes may become a sensitive item as we move forward and attempt to compensate for some of the delayed operational maintenance of infrastructure. Long term liabilities remain very low and therefore do not obligate the town to high fixed payments annually. The Rescue vehicle is the only piece of equipment





Auditor's Report & Financial Statements



financed through a lending institution and should be fully amortized within the next six years.

Capital Assets

Capital assets have increased slightly over the past several years, an indicator of the town's relatively strong financial health. The capital planning process is synchronized with the annual operations budget, allowing for the regular reassessment of capital needs and projections, as well as the update of a rolling intermediate and long term capital plan.

The town funds its capital plan primarily through an appropriation at the annual town business meeting into a capital reserve fund.

Long Term Liabilities

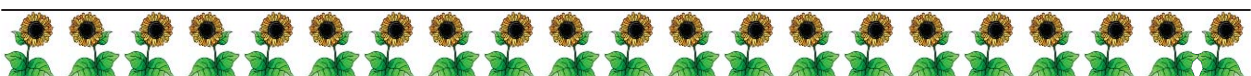
The long term liability of the town consists of a loan from a local institution for a new Rescue vehicle. All other long term liabilities in the financial statements are the obligation of the education system, which is part of RSU#18, an autonomous entity under the laws of the State of Maine?

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets and Rates

Local, state and national economic conditions do impact the town's budget going forward. At the time these financial statements are being developed, the town has moved to commitment of taxes. The mil rate slightly increased over last year due to an increase in the school expenses. The local economy seems to have stabilized and the town has experienced a slight increase in the number of Planning Board and CEO permits issued. The intergovernmental transfer of funds has also seemed to increase slightly indicating the State economy is improving. Motor vehicle excise tax revenue reflects similar conclusions, raising only slightly over last year.

Contacting the Town's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers, and creditors with a general overview of the Town's finances and to show the Town's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Town Office at 445-2014 and ask for the Town Manager. Citizens are welcomed to visit with the appropriate staff on any financial matters.



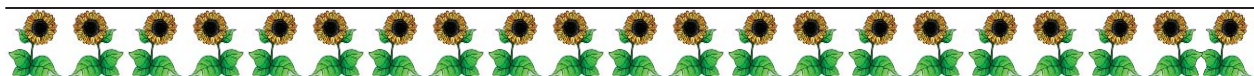


Auditor's Report & Financial Statements



Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final		
Revenues				
Taxes:				
Property taxes	\$ 4,764,170	\$ 4,764,170	\$ 4,752,867	\$ (11,303)
Excise taxes	678,500	678,500	702,391	23,891
Interest and costs on taxes	24,000	24,000	29,000	5,000
Total Taxes	5,466,670	5,466,670	5,484,258	17,588
Intergovernmental:				
State revenue sharing	190,000	190,000	218,584	28,584
Road assistance	62,000	62,000	62,724	724
Homestead reimbursement	77,297	77,297	77,297	-
Education	-	-	-	-
Tax reimbursements and relief	6,830	6,830	15,873	9,043
General assistance	4,000	4,000	-	(4,000)
Efficiency Maine grant	25,000	25,000	25,000	-
DOT Sidewalk grant	-	163,666	163,666	-
RSU debt and capital lease funding	114,880	114,880	114,880	-
Total Intergovernmental	480,007	643,673	678,024	34,351
Other Revenues:				
Interest on investments	30,000	30,000	12,118	(17,882)
Permits and fees	46,000	46,000	60,222	14,222
Miscellaneous revenues	13,150	13,150	116,701	103,551
Solid waste revenues	69,500	69,500	86,387	16,887
Total Other Revenues	158,650	158,650	275,428	116,778
Total Revenues	6,105,327	6,268,993	6,437,710	168,717



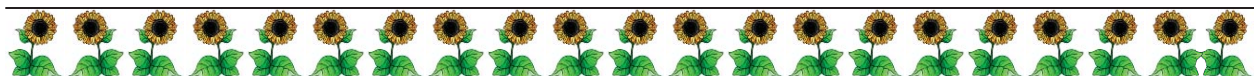


Auditor's Report & Financial Statements



Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final		
Expenditures				
Administration:				
Administrative payroll costs	\$ 349,966	\$ 349,966	\$ 334,962	\$ 15,004
Administrative expenses	104,500	104,500	105,420	(920)
Planning Board expenses	7,500	7,500	6,196	1,304
Association dues	10,993	10,993	10,834	159
Assessing	35,350	35,350	35,170	180
Computer costs	20,000	20,000	24,526	(4,526)
Legal services	11,500	11,500	9,202	2,298
Insurance and benefits	215,933	215,933	197,041	18,892
Total Administration	755,742	755,742	723,351	32,391
Protection:				
Constable services	23,452	23,452	26,031	(2,579)
Fire departments	60,070	60,070	54,556	5,514
China rescue squad	20,000	20,000	14,550	5,450
Health officer	1,020	1,020	240	780
E-911	19,000	19,000	35,988	(16,988)
Dispatching	25,000	25,000	36,447	(11,447)
Emergency services insurance	15,332	15,332	14,755	577
Total Protection	163,874	163,874	182,567	(18,693)
Public Works:				
Road maintenance	646,664	646,664	642,111	4,553
Street signs	2,500	2,500	592	1,908
Street lights	7,000	7,000	6,015	985
Cemeteries	18,000	18,000	18,060	(60)
Total Public Works	674,164	674,164	666,778	7,386
Solid Waste Operations	280,617	280,617	290,942	(10,325)





Auditor's Report & Financial Statements



Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final		
Expenditures - continued				
Community Services:				
General assistance	\$ 16,500	\$ 16,500	\$ 8,966	\$ 7,534
Social service agencies	13,571	13,571	13,571	-
China Historical Society	4,500	4,500	5,488	(988)
South China Library	4,500	4,500	4,500	-
K.V. Humane Society	6,530	6,530	6,793	(263)
Memorial Day/Veteran's markers	5,450	5,450	5,450	-
Total Community Services	51,051	51,051	44,768	6,283
Education:				
RSU Assessment	3,430,558	3,430,558	3,430,558	-
Capital lease obligations	83,092	83,092	83,092	-
Total Education	3,513,650	3,513,650	3,513,650	-
Recreation:				
General recreation	19,950	19,950	18,112	1,838
China community days	2,500	2,500	2,500	-
Total Recreation	22,450	22,450	20,612	1,838
Total County Tax	400,679	400,679	400,071	608
Debt service:				
Principal	47,788	47,788	48,390	(602)
Interest	-	-	4,957	(4,957)
Total Debt Service	47,788	47,788	53,347	(5,559)





Auditor's Report & Financial Statements



Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final		
Expenditures - continued				
Special Projects:				
Equipment replacement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
One Room School House	-	-	1,547	(1,547)
Oakland Super Park	39,035	39,035	39,035	-
Contingency	45,000	45,000	15,547	29,453
Energy Audit	25,000	25,000	88,710	(63,710)
Project Learning Tree	-	-	535	(535)
Grant expenses	50,000	50,000	32,422	17,578
Transfer station container	8,500	8,500	-	8,500
Weeks Mills fire department building	-	-	-	-
Sidewalk project	-	163,666	161,883	1,783
Total Special Projects	<u>167,535</u>	<u>331,201</u>	<u>339,679</u>	<u>(8,478)</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>6,077,550</u>	<u>6,241,216</u>	<u>6,235,765</u>	<u>5,451</u>
Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	27,777	27,777	201,945	174,168
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Operating transfers out	(26,200)	(26,200)	(26,200)	-
Transfer to assigned fund balances	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	-
Utilization of unassigned fund balance	176,700	176,700	-	(176,700)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	100,500	100,500	(76,200)	(176,700)
Revenues and Other Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Uses	\$ 128,277	\$ 128,277	125,745	\$ (2,532)
Budgetary fund balance at beginning of year			<u>711,963</u>	
Budgetary Fund Balance at End of Year			<u>\$ 837,708</u>	





Auditor's Report & Financial Statements



Schedule of Valuation, Assessment and Collection of Taxes

Valuation

Real estate		\$ 392,531,600
Personal property		<u>7,818,800</u>
	Total Valuation	<u>\$ 400,350,400</u>

Assessment

Valuation x Rate - \$400,350,400 x 0.0119	\$ 4,764,170	
Supplemental taxes	<u>9,008</u>	
	Total Assessment Charged to Collector	\$ 4,773,178

Collections and Credits

Cash collections	\$ 4,615,675	
Tax abatements & adjustments	<u>14,802</u>	
	Total Collections and Credits	<u>4,630,477</u>

2012 Taxes Receivable - June 30, 2012 **\$ 142,701**





**LD #1 (Enacted 2005); MUNICIPAL SPENDING LIMITATIONS
COMPONENT**

Municipal officials continue to attempt to make local budgets more transparent and therefore easier to understand. Policy makers, voters, and taxpayers should be able to discern the financial health of local governments. There are initiatives underway whereby municipal budgets will be obligated to include a standardized chart of accounts so that comparative analyses can be made more easily between municipalities with similar demographics. With these attempts to simplify things there remain other factors that persist in imposing confusing systems on local governments; LD#1 seems to be one of those complicated systems.

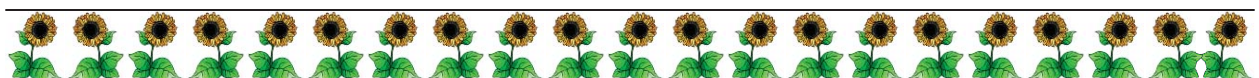
Overview: The goal of LD#1 was to: focus attention on the year-to-year growth of the property tax commitment that relates to municipal spending; create a formula that is flexible to the needs of each municipality and allows for the growth in property tax commitment over time; makes certain that the municipality's legislative body is aware of the proposed limitation on the growth in commitment; authorizes the local legislative body to exceed the limit in response to special financial circumstances or increase the limit as a home rule decision; and to provide an opportunity for the electorate to challenge the decision of a town to exceed or increase the growth allowance.

There are three steps in calculating a municipality's "property tax levy limit." First, calculate the property tax levy that is being limited by this system, called the core municipal commitment and originally established for the 2006 budget and adjusted to date by growth factors. Second, calculate the "growth factor," which is a percentage of allowable growth that is applied to the adjusted core commitment. Third, adjust the established limit, if necessary, by a net new funds calculation and or by a proposed change in response to special circumstances.

For China the calculation of the municipal spending limitation is as follows:

Core Municipal Commitment	\$901,494.00
(Multiplied by Growth Limitation Factor 1.0220)	
Allowable Growth Subtotal	\$921,327.00
Deductions (Net New Funding) **	\$296,699.00
Increase by Home Rule Authority	
Insurance & Winter Road Maintenance Cost	
Property Tax Levy Limit (Core Going Forward)	1,218,026.00

** Extraordinary circumstances outside the control of the municipal legislative body: this year particularly projected reduced State subsidies to China, e.g. reductions to Revenue Sharing, Homestead Exemptions, General Assistance, Excise Taxes on Commercial Vehicles and the BETE Program. (At this time it is unknown whether or not the Maine Legislature will enact the Governor's proposed budget or agree to a mutually agreeable compromise. In any event, the final budget will not be known until May or June 2013...thanks for your understanding.)





Frequently Asked Questions



Article 4. What can you tell me about the LD#1 legislation as it related to municipal budgets? *Please see the insert in the Town Report with the tab labeled LD#1 - Page 91.*

Article 5. What is included in Administration Other? *Some of the expenses included are the printing of the Town Report, utilities for municipal facilities, maintenance on the town office and nearby buildings, auditing of the town's financial statements, supplies for the town office, and so forth.*

Article 6. What does the Kennebec Valley Council of Governments provide for the town? *KVCOG can provide municipalities with land use, solid waste, environmental, and transportation planning. It can also provide economic development and business finance services. From time to time China uses some amount of the various offerings.*

Article 7. What is the current balance in the Municipal Capital Equipment Account? *The balance as of 06/30/2012, the last town audit completion date, was \$138,909.*

Article 8. What are some of the legal issues we have been involved in over the last several months? *The town has spent significant amounts for legal services relating to contracts, dangerous buildings, appeals to Superior Court, junkyard and automobile graveyard issues, foreclosed upon properties, etc. These issues are ones that are not handled by the legal department of the Maine Municipal Association.*

Article 9. What are the significant items we purchase in the computer hardware and software account? *For just two items, it costs the town annually \$8,413.36 for a software license and \$4320.00 for a systems maintenance agreement for hardware and software. Hardware and software upgrades annually cost approximately \$6000 annually.*

Article 10. What does Police Services include? *It includes \$7,913 for the town's Police Officer, animal control service costs, and maintenance on the police vehicle, gasoline, special Kennebec Sheriff or State Police patrols and so forth.*

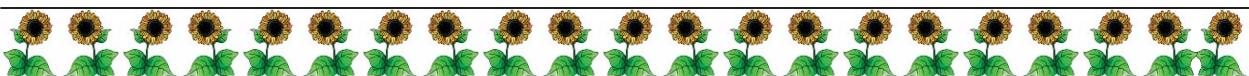
Article 14. What is the balance owed on the town vehicle used by China Rescue? *As of the last audit of the 06/30/2012 financial statements, the balance was \$88,348; 5 years remaining on the loan.*

Articles 16 & 18. Why are we being asked to provide the Select Board with authority to enter into three year agreements for the disposal of demolition and debris and for roadside mowing? *The Maine Statutes obligate the Select Board to obtain authority if they are to engage in any agreements exceeding one year.*

Article 19. What does the \$7,000 for street lights pay for? *The town has approximately 43 street lights on various poles. The funds pay for the electrical demand (usage) of the lights.*

Article 20. What is the snowmobile tax refund? *The refund is the amount of registration funds per sled that is returned to a town. There were 262 sleds registered in China at \$6.62 per sled refunded.*

Article 28. How is the interest rate determined on delinquent taxes? *Municipalities may, by vote, determine the rate of interest that shall apply to taxes that become delinquent during a particular taxable year until those taxes are paid in full. The maximum rate of interest that can be charged per Title 36, M.R.S.A. Section 505.4.*





Warrant for Annual Town Business Meeting



Town of China Warrant for the Annual Town Business Meeting

To Julie Finley, a resident of the Town of China, County of Kennebec and State of Maine:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of China qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to assemble at the China Middle School in said Town of China on Saturday, the 23rd day of March, A.D. 2013 at 9:00 o'clock in the morning to elect a moderator to preside at said meeting and to vote on town issues.

Article 1. To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.

Article 2. Shall the town entertain a presentation up to 5 minutes each from the **CHINA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN THURSTON PARK II COMMITTEE, CHINA LAKE ACCESS FEASIBILITY COMMITTEE, AND CHINA LIBRARY FEASIBILITY COMMITTEE** representatives regarding the progress of proposed implementation of the China Comprehensive Plan as it relates to each respective Committee.

Select Board Recommends: YES

Article 3. Shall the Town entertain a presentation up to 5 minutes from **FIRSTPARK** representatives?

Select Board Recommends: YES

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit to \$1,218,026.00 established for China by State Law (LD#1) in the event that the municipal budget approved under the following articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than that property tax levy limit. (The request is driven by extraordinary circumstances outside the control of the municipal legislative body; in this particular case, insurance traditional and expected **State subsidies** (Revenue Sharing, Homestead Exemptions, Excise Taxes on Commercial Vehicles and the BETE program) to China.) The amount noted above will be the new core municipal commitment going forward.

Select Board Recommends: YES
Budget Committee Recommends: YES

Article 5. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **ADMINISTRATION and ADMINISTRATION OTHER** expenses.

Select Board Recommends: **ADMINISTRATION** \$366,193
ADMINISTRATION OTHER \$103,400
Budget Committee Recommends: **ADMINISTRATION** \$367,693
ADMINISTRATION OTHER \$103,400





Warrant for Annual Town Business Meeting



Article 6. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **PLANNING BOARD EXPENSES, MAINE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION DUES, and the KENNEBEC VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**; any remaining balance in the Planning Board budget at the end of the fiscal year to lapse to a **PLANNING BOARD ACCOUNT OF THE RESERVE FUND**, the funds in which may be used upon a majority vote of a quorum of the Select Board for Planning Board Operations; said **PLANNING BOARD ACCOUNT** to be capped at \$8,000.

Select Board Recommends: **PLANNING BOARD EXPENSES**\$6,053
MAINE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION DUES\$4,700
KENNEBEC VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS\$6,917

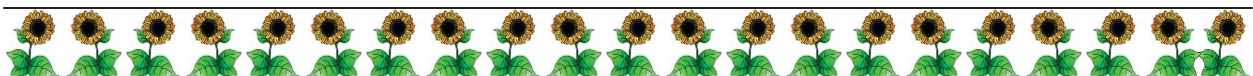
Budget Committee Recommends: **PLANNING BOARD EXPENSES**\$6,053
MAINE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION DUES\$4,700
KENNEBEC VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS\$6,917

Article 7. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and or appropriate for the **MUNICIPAL CAPITAL EQUIPMENT ACCOUNT OF THE RESERVE FUND (established for the purpose of purchasing and/or repairing vehicles to be used for snow plowing, grading, transfer station operations, and other public purposes)**, the funds in which may be used upon a majority vote of a quorum of the Select Board, **and these appropriated funds to be combined with the funds presently in said RESERVE FUND (\$138,909 as of 06/30/2012) and to be designated Municipal Capital Equipment Account of the RESERVE FUND** (said purpose noted above).

Select Board Recommends: \$45,000
(\$10,000 from Undesignated Fund Balance)
Budget Committee Recommends: \$45,000
(\$10,000 from Undesignated Fund Balance)

Article 8. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **CONTRACTED ASSESSING and LEGAL SERVICES**; any remaining balance in the legal budget the end of the fiscal year to lapse into the **LEGAL ACCOUNT of the RESERVE FUND**, the funds in which may be used upon a majority vote of a quorum of the Select Board for legal services.

Select Board Recommends: **ASSESSING SERVICES** \$47,500
LEGAL SERVICES \$11,500
Budget Committee Recommends: **ASSESSING SERVICES** \$47,500
LEGAL SERVICES \$11,500





Warrant for Annual Town Business Meeting



Article 9. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise or appropriate for **COMPUTER HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE** for the Town Office.

Select Board Recommends: \$23,000
Budget Committee Recommends: \$23,000

Article 10. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **POLICE SERVICES and ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER SERVICES** to include supplies and vehicle maintenance in support of services.

Select Board Recommends: \$23,248
Budget Committee Recommends: \$23,248

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following amounts for **VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS, CHINA RESCUE and PSAP (E-911 CALL ANSWERING) and DISPATCH SERVICES**; any remaining balance in any department at the end of the fiscal year to lapse into the **RESERVE ACCOUNT FOR THE RESPECTIVE DEPARTMENT/SERVICE** in the **RESERVE FUND**, the funds in which may be used upon a majority vote of a quorum of the Select Board and for operating expenses only:

	Amount Requested	Select Board Recommends	Budget Committee Recommends
South China VFD	\$ 21,000	\$ 21,000	\$ 21,000
China Village VFD	\$ 23,100	\$ 23,100	\$ 23,100
Weeks Mills VFD	\$ 16,600	\$ 16,600	\$ 16,600
Weeks Mills VFD	\$ 5,000 *	\$ 5,000 *	\$ 5,000 *
China Rescue	\$ 20,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 20,000
PSAP/E-911 Calls	\$ 19,000	\$ 19,000	\$ 19,000
Dispatching Services	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000
	<u>\$ 129,700</u>	<u>\$ 125,600</u>	<u>\$ 129,700</u>

* For Building Reserve From UDFB, Select Board Shall Consider Equity Position

Article 12. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **FIRE DEPARTMENT CAPITAL EQUIPMENT ACCOUNT OF THE RESERVE FUND**, the funds in which may be used upon a majority vote of a quorum of the Select Board for fire departments' capital purchases or major capital repairs, e.g. SCBA Equipment, Capital Improvements/Repairs to Vehicles, etc.; the Select Board shall require equity positions associated with capital expenditures, singularly or collectively above \$2,500.





Warrant for Annual Town Business Meeting



Select Board Recommends: \$6,000
Budget Committee Recommends: \$6,000

Article 13. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **INSURANCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION PREMIUMS and EMERGENCY SERVICES INSURANCE.**

Select Board Recommends: **INSURANCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION PREMIUMS** \$236,446
EMERGENCY SERVICES INSURANCE \$15,982
Budget Committee Recommends: **INSURANCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION PREMIUMS** \$236,446
EMERGENCY SERVICES INSURANCE \$15,982

Article 14. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and or appropriate for **PAYMENT ON THE DEBT (PRINCIPAL & INTEREST) INCURRED ON THE PURCHASE OF THE TOWN'S CHINA RESCUE VEHICLE.**

Select Board Recommends: \$17,000
(\$10,000 From Undesignated Fund Balance)
Budget Committee Recommends: \$17,000
(\$10,000 From Undesignated Fund Balance)

Article 15. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL/CHINA TRANSFER STATION OPERATIONS.**

Select Board Recommends: \$282,100
Budget Committee Recommends: \$282,100

Article 16. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to enter into a **CONTRACT FOR A PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN THREE YEARS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FOR THE DISPOSAL OF DEMOLITION AND DEBRIS FROM CHINA** on such terms and conditions as they deem to be in the Town's best interest, said authority to continue unless rescinded by voters.

Select Board Recommends: YES
Budget Committee Recommends: YES

Article 17. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **ROAD MAINTENANCE**; highways, bridges & gravel roads, paving, and winter road maintenance and to further authorize the Select Board to expend a portion of the appropriated/raised amount prior to the beginning of the 2013/2014 fiscal year or carry-forward remaining amounts as of 06/30/2013 as they deem to be in the best interest of the Town of China.





Warrant for Annual Town Business Meeting



Select Board Recommends: \$679,426
 (\$63,000 FROM HIGHWAY GRANT & \$616,426 FROM EXCISE TAXES)
 Budget Committee Recommends: \$679,426
 (\$63,000 FROM HIGHWAY GRANT & \$616,426 FROM EXCISE TAXES)

Article 18. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to enter into a **CONTRACT FOR A PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN THREE YEARS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FOR ROADSIDE MOWING OF THE STREETS AND WAYS IN THE TOWN OF CHINA** on such terms and conditions as they deem to be in the Town’s best interest, said authority to continue unless rescinded by voters.

Select Board Recommends: YES
 Budget Committee Recommends: YES

Article 19. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **STREET SIGNS and STREET LIGHTS (Monthly/Annual CMP Kw/Hr. Fees).**

Select Board Recommends: **STREET SIGNS** \$2,500
STREET LIGHTS \$7,000
 Budget Committee Recommends: **STREET SIGNS** \$2,500
STREET LIGHTS \$7,000

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to earmark the balance, after administration expenses, of the **SNOWMOBILE REGISTRATION TAX REFUND** from the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to the China Four Seasons Club. The cost allocated to administration is not to exceed \$3.00 per snowmobile.

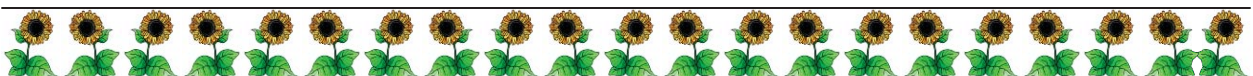
Board Recommends: YES
 Budget Committee Recommends: YES

Article 21. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **RECREATION** and to have any remaining balance in the current budget lapse into the **RECREATION ACCOUNT OF THE RESERVE FUND**, the funds in which may be used upon a majority vote of a quorum of the Select Board for Recreational Activities/Programs said Recreation Account to be capped at \$15,000.

Select Board Recommends: \$21,950
 Budget Committee Recommends: \$21,950

Article 22. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **WELFARE ACCOUNT.**

Board Recommends: \$14,500
 Budget Committee Recommends: \$14,500





Warrant for Annual Town Business Meeting



Article 23. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **CHINA HISTORICAL SOCIETY** toward the cost of **UTILITIES** and **REPAIRS** for the Old Town Meeting House and for Historical Society **OUTREACH PROGRAMS**.

Board Recommends: \$6,000
Budget Committee Recommends: \$6,000

Article 24. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **SOUTH CHINA LIBRARY**.

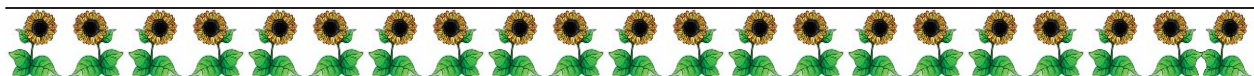
Select Board Recommends: **SOUTH CHINA LIBRARY** \$4,500
Budget Committee Recommends: **SOUTH CHINA LIBRARY** \$4,500

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following amounts for the respective **SOCIAL SERVICE and NON-PROFIT AGENCIES** as written:

	Select Board Recommends	Budget Committee Recommends
Family Violence	\$ 1,750	\$ 3,250
KVCAP Demand Response Transport	\$ 545	\$ 545
Spectrum Generations	\$ 2,276	\$ 2,276
Kennebec Behavioral Health	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,000
Children's Center	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500
Sexual Assault Crisis & Support	\$ 1,437	\$ 1,437
Waterville Boys & Girls Club	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Hospice Volunteers of Waterville Area	\$ 1,650	\$ 1,650
Healthy Hearts	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
	\$ 13,658	\$ 13,658

Article 26. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **KENNEBEC VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY**.

Select Board Recommends: \$6,982
Budget Committee Recommends: \$6,982





Warrant for Annual Town Business Meeting



Article 27. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the purpose of maintaining **CEMETERIES AND FOR MEMORIAL DAY AND VETERANS GRAVE MARKER EXPENSES**; said money for grave marker expenses to be divided equally between the China and South China Legion Posts and to further authorize the Select Board to **REPURCHASE AND RESELL CEMETERY LOTS** within existing cemeteries as they deem to be in the best interest of the Town of China, said authority to continue unless rescinded by voters.

Select Board Recommends: **CEMETERIES** \$22,000
GRAVE MARKER EXPENSES \$950

Budget Committee Recommends: **CEMETERIES** \$22,000
GRAVE MARKER EXPENSES \$950

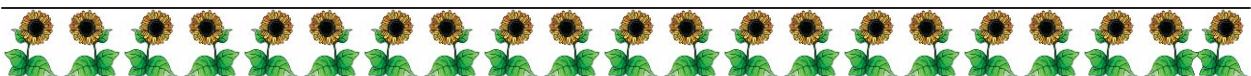
Article 28. To see if the Town will vote to establish two (2) **TAX PAYMENT DUE DATES** to be September 30, 2013 and March 31, 2014 and to charge an **INTEREST RATE** of seven percent (7.0%) per annum after each tax payment due date, with interest to be calculated daily at the rate of 0.00019178082 for each day or fraction thereof that each payment is overdue; and to further see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to **SELL AND CONVEY BY WARRANTY DEED OR QUIT CLAIM DEED TAX ACQUIRED PROPERTIES** and to **EXECUTE WAIVER OF FORECLOSURE DOCUMENTS** as determined to be in the best interests of the Town of China, said authority to continue unless rescinded by voters, and to further authorize the tax collector or treasurer to **ACCEPT PREPAYMENTS OF TAXES NOT YET COMMITTED** pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. Section 506.

Select Board Recommends: YES
Budget Committee Recommends: YES

Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Undesignated Fund Balance an amount not to exceed \$55,000 for the purpose of **USING THESE FUNDS AS THE REQUIRED MATCHING FUNDS IN SUCCESSFUL GRANT APPLICATIONS** and to further authorize the Selectmen to **APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT FUNDS** from the State of Maine, Federal Government, and any other duly authorized authority.

Select Board Recommends: YES
Budget Committee Recommends: YES

Article 30. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **LAKE RESTORATION** expenses and to further authorize the Select Board to expend a portion of the raised/appropriated amount prior to the beginning of the 2013/2014 fiscal year as they deem to be in the best interest of the Town of China.





Warrant for Annual Town Business Meeting



Select Board Recommends: \$30,000
Budget Committee Recommends: \$30,000

Article 31. To see if the Town will appropriate an amount not to exceed \$45,000 from the overlay and or undesignated fund balance to serve as a **CONTINGENCY FUND** to be spent by the Select Board on unanticipated expenses and emergencies and to avoid overdrafts that may occur during this fiscal year.

Select Board Recommends: YES
Budget Committee Recommends: YES

Article 32. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise and or appropriate for the purpose of funding **CHINA COMMUNITY DAYS** events and to allow any remaining balance to lapse into the **CHINA COMMUNITY DAYS ACCOUNT of the RESERVE FUND** at the end of the fiscal year; the funds in which may be used upon a majority vote of a quorum of the Select Board, and said appropriation to become available in the current fiscal budget year.

Select Board Recommends: \$2,500
(From Undesignated Fund Balance)
Budget Committee Recommends: \$2,500
(From Undesignated Fund Balance)

Article 33. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$4,700 from Undesignated Fund Balance for the purpose of **PRESERVING THE HISTORICAL RECORDS IN THE TOWN OF CHINA.**

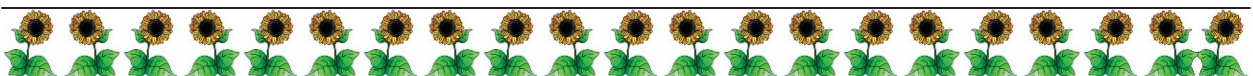
Select Board Recommends: YES
Budget Committee Recommends: YES

Article 34. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate an amount not to exceed \$1040 for the purpose of **COMPENSATING THE TOWN HEALTH OFFICER** for services provided.

Select Board Recommends: YES
Budget Committee Recommends: YES

Article 35. To see what sum the Town will vote to appropriate from Undesignated Fund Balance for the purpose of **ADDING TO THE RESERVE ACCOUNT/DESIGNATED FUND BALANCE TO FINANCE THE UNFUNDED ACCRUED COMPENSATED BALANCES OF THE TOWN.**

Select Board Recommends: \$5,000
(From Undesignated Fund Balance)
Budget Committee Recommends: \$5,000
(From Undesignated Fund Balance)





Warrant for Annual Town Business Meeting



Given under our hands this ____ day of _____, AD 2013

Peter G. Foote - Chairman

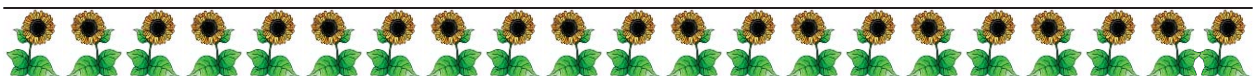
Steven R. Hughes

Irene L. Belanger

Paul E. MacDonald

Joann C. Austin

Warrant for Annual Town Business Meeting - March 23, 2013





Important Information



Town Office 445-2014

Open Monday-Friday 7:30-4 Saturday 8-11

Fax for insurance 445-3208

www.china.govoffice.com

Transfer Station 445-3033

Open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 7-5

Must have a valid sticker or pass to enter!

China Middle School 445-1500

China Primary School 445-1550

www.rsu18.org/cms/

RSU 18 Superintendent's Office 465-7384

www.rsu18.org

China Post Office 445-2230

China Village Post Office 968-2623

China Food Pantry 968-2421

