

2016

Town of Winter Harbor, Maine Annual Report For July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016

Winter Harbor (Me.). Municipal Officers

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/towndocs>



Part of the [Public Affairs, Public Policy and Public Administration Commons](#)

Repository Citation

Winter Harbor (Me.). Municipal Officers, "Town of Winter Harbor, Maine Annual Report For July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016" (2016).
Maine Town Documents. 6927.
<https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/towndocs/6927>

This Report is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@UMaine. It has been accepted for inclusion in Maine Town Documents by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UMaine. For more information, please contact um.library.technical.services@maine.edu.

TOWN OF WINTER HARBOR, MAINE



ANNUAL REPORT

For July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

Containing:

- Auditor's Report for the Fiscal Year
2014 – 2015
- Municipal Officers' Annual Reports
2015 – 2016
- Warrant for 2016 – 2017



WINTER HARBOR, MAINE

By John J. Steelman

There is Winter Harbor on the great coast of Maine,
If you were ever there you will sure go again.
The mountain air and ozone from the sea
Make you feel fine and content as can be.

The beautiful islands which dot the bay
And the blue crystal water that around them play.
There's Mark Island Light, which sends out a glow
And Gull Rock Light when fog horns blow.

Old Mt. Desert with its thirteen knobs
With big Cadillac which is now on the job
And the great boulevard that leads to the top
Where the view is grand and tourists stop.

Grindstone Point with its golf course and inn
Most attractive place that ever has been
And little Mt. Schoodic just down from the sea
Not so large as others but pretty as can be.

Gouldsboro, Sullivan and Summer Harbor you know
Are very fine places and make quite a show.
Cherryfield, Prospect and Birch Harbor they say,
Are wonderful places and face on the bay.

There are many great stores in Winter Harbor they say,
Whitehouse, Hanson, and Bickford's are open all day.
But the best ice cream, and you always want more,
Is made fresh daily at Gerrish's Store.

There's the Pendleton Cottage and Winter Harbor Inn.
The very best places I ever have seen.
The feed that they serve is always the best
And things are so lovely you just have to rest.

Goodbye Winter Harbor, you're good for the soul
With your fine Baptist Church that stands on a knoll.
I would like to call you early next Spring
And hear your fine preacher who knows how to sing.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acadia National Park Advisory Committee	61
Acadian Community Woman's Club Report	63
Addressing Officer Report	42
Audit Report 2015	70
Budget Committee Recommendations	108
Cemetery Association Report	44
Code Enforcement Officer Report	43
Elected & Appointed Officials, Boards & Committees	10
Emergency Medical Services Report	38
Emergency Management Report	40
Federal & State Congressional Delegation	22
Financial Policies	96
Fire Department Report	37
Harbor Master Report	41
Historical Society Report	51
Local Health Officer Report	39
Minutes 2015 Annual Town Meeting	99
Notes & Acknowledgements	120
Notice to Taxpayers	25
Planning Board Report	42
Police Department Report	24
Public Library Report	45
Recreation Committee Report	48
Regional School Unit No. 24 Superintendent Report	55
Registrar Report	32
Road Commissioner Report	33
Schoodic Community Fund Report	67
Schoodic Institute Report	57
Schoodic Scenic Byway Report	65
Selectmen Report	27
Senators & Representatives Letters	15
Tax Collector Report	31
Town Clerk Report	4
Town Manager Report	28
Utilities District Report	49
Vital Statistics	32
Warrant 2016	111
Water District Report	52

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
Municipal Office Hours
8:00 am to 4:00 pm - Monday through Friday
Telephone: 963-2235
Fax: 963-2140

The Town Office is closed on the following days:

New Year's Day	Labor Day
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Columbus Day
President's Day	Veteran's Day
Patriot's Day	Thanksgiving Day
Memorial Day	Day after Thanksgiving
Independence Day	Christmas Day

Scheduled Meetings: All are held at the Meeting Room, Municipal Public Safety Building

Board of Selectmen - Every other Monday at 7:00 pm

Planning Board - First Tuesday each month at 7:00 pm

Fire Department - Second Tuesday at 6:30 pm

Services Available at the Town Office:

- Building Permit Applications
- Copy Services
- Dog Licenses
- Genealogical Research – vital statistics from 1895
- Hunting and Fishing Licenses
- Marriage Licenses
- Notary Services
- Real Estate/Personal Property Tax Payments
- Registrations: Vehicles/Boats/ATVs/Snowmobiles
- Sign Permits (on & off-premise)
- Trash Bags/Stickers Sales
- Vital Records-Certified Copies
- Voter Registration

USEFUL AND IMPORTANT TOWN INFORMATION

Agendas and Minutes

All meeting Agendas and Minutes are posted in the Town Office. Anyone wishing to have an item placed on the Agenda for the Board of Selectmen meetings should inform the Town Manager at least a week prior to the meeting. All meetings are open to the public. Based on the vote at the last gubernatorial election, at least 25 valid signatures are required for nomination papers or for petitions to be accepted.

Assessing & Property Tax Information

Winter Harbor's elected Board of Selectmen contracts with RJD Appraisal to set the values for all property as of April 1st of each year. If you qualify for a Homestead, Veteran's or other exemption, you must file the application by April 1st. Once approved, you do not need to reapply yearly for the exemption. Taxes are generally calculated by mid-August and bills are mailed the first week of September. They are due in two installments, October 31st and April 30th. If you do not receive a tax bill, and believe you should have one, please contact the Town Office. Information about property is contained on assessment cards at the Town Office. All property and tax information is public information. Winter Harbor's fiscal year is July 1st to June 30th.



Boats, ATVs and Snowmobiles

Registrations for all recreational vehicles are performed at the Winter Harbor Town Office. Boat registrations expire December 31st. For all documented boats, the excise tax **must** be paid in the town you reside. Snowmobile and ATV registrations expire June 30th. New registrations require a bill of sale, and sales tax is collected at the time of registration, unless the vehicle was purchased from a Maine dealer. The Harbor Master handles all moorings.



Dog Licensing & Animal Control Information

Maine State Statute requires all canines to be registered when they reach six months of age. All dog licenses expire December 31st of each year and are obtained at the Town Office. There is a mandatory late fee of \$25 after January 31st. Proof of rabies vaccination is required to register

the dog. Winter Harbor's Animal Control Officer is Police Chief Mike Walsh. All dogs must be on a leash or under their keepers' voice control and may not run at large. Winter Harbor contracts with the Small Animal Clinic in Ellsworth to board stray animals. The Animal Waste Control Ordinance, adopted February 27, 2013 requires that owner's clean up after their animal on any sidewalk, street, beach, public property or private property (other than the property of the owner of the animal or of a person who has consented to the presence of the animal on his/her property.)



Genealogical Research

This is accommodated whenever possible. An appointment is requested, if research will require the assistance of the Town Clerk/Deputy Clerk. Copy services are available at twenty-five cents a page for documents brought in and \$1.00 a page for records maintained in the Town Office. If your request for documents involves archived materials, you may be asked to make a pre-payment based on the anticipated difficulty and time needed to locate



Family History

and later replace the items to their files. Some records are not open to public inspection, unless there is a valid and demonstrated need to know.

General Assistance

Winter Harbor administers a General Assistance program as required by State law. Applications are available during regular office hours at the Town Office. An Ordinance is used to determine eligibility for assistance, and the Board of Selectmen updates it annually every October.

Hunting & Fishing Licenses

Winter Harbor is an agent for the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife for hunting and fishing licenses. These licenses are sold through the MOSES on-line system at the Town Office. Salt-water fishing registration is required, and that permission is included with fresh water fishing licenses. First time hunters are required to submit proof of a hunter safety course completion when purchasing a license.



Motor Vehicle Registration Information

Winter Harbor is a limited new registration agent for the Maine Bureau of Motor Vehicles. If you have a new motor vehicle to register, you **must** start at the Town Office by paying excise tax and complete the registrations at a full service office, e.g. Gouldsboro or Ellsworth. All re-registrations may be done at the Winter Harbor Town Office. If you have an existing license plate and purchased a car from a Maine dealer, the initial registration can also be completed at the Winter Harbor Town Office. Proof of insurance and current mileage is required for all registrations.



Neighbor Helping Neighbor Heating Assistance Fund

Winter Harbor is fortunate to have established a heating assistance fund that is funded by donations only. No tax dollars are used. If assistance is needed, contact the Town Manager. Any personal information obtained for the purpose of this program is confidential. Any and all donations are welcome and appreciated.



Permits & Ordinances

Building activity in Winter Harbor is regulated by numerous Ordinances, which are administered by the Planning Board and the Code Enforcement Officer (CEO). All of the Ordinances and Building Permit Forms are available at the Town Office. A fee of \$10.00 is required when the Building Permit is submitted. Failure to obtain a permit and other violations of the various Ordinances carry penalties. Please consult the CEO, Millard Billings, prior to starting any project. Please call the Town Office to schedule a meeting.

Police, Fire and Ambulance Information

Any call for emergency should go to **9-1-1**. The call is answered by the Hancock County Regional Communications Center (RCC) in Ellsworth and then dispatched to the appropriate agency. Police protection is provided by the Winter Harbor Police Department with backup by the Hancock County Sheriff's Department and the Maine State Police. Ambulance Service is provided by County Ambulance, which holds a contract with the Town of Winter Harbor. The Winter Harbor Volunteer Fire



Department provides fire suppression and rescue coverage. All outdoor burning requires a permit, which can be obtained (provided conditions are safe) from the Assistant Fire Chief, Danny Backman, Sr. Both Police and Fire Departments have a mutual aid agreement with Gouldsboro Police and Fire Departments.



Non-Emergency Numbers:	Burn Permits	963-7489
	Coast Guard	244-5517
	County Ambulance	667-3200
	Hancock County Sheriff	667-7575
	Maine State Police	866-2121
	Maine Warden Service	941-4440
	Winter Harbor Fire Station	963-5533

Utility Services

Electricity is supplied by Emera Maine. In the event of a power outage, please call 800-440-1111. Time Warner Cable provides Cable TV service, under a franchise agreement with the Town (800-833-2253). Landline telephone service is maintained by FairPoint Communications (repair-866-984-1611.)



On-line Services

We are happy to announce that the Town of Winter Harbor now has a website located at www.winterharbortown.com. Please contact the Town Office with any suggestions, comments or concerns.

Volunteers & Appointed Officials

There are many volunteer and/or appointment opportunities available in our Town. If you are interested in volunteering and assisting, contact the Town Office at 963-2235.



Waste Disposal



We have curbside trash pickup and trash bags and/or stickers are required and may be purchased at the Town Office, Winter Harbor Food Service or Winter Harbor 5 & 10 for \$1.50 and \$2.00 respectively. The Town does not have a Transfer Station. We currently have curbside pickup for

all recycling-corrugated cardboard and brown paper bags, newspaper, magazines and phone books, paperboard and white paper, #2 plastics; glass (no lids, any color, clean) and metal cans (labels are accepted, inside must be clean.) Items must be in a bin/container and sorted. Curbside recycling pickup will be on Wednesdays only. During September through June recycling will be picked up the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. During July and August, the bins will be picked up every Wednesday. These bins must be at the curb by 7:00 am. Currently, any container may be used. Please cover the items in inclement weather, as wet cardboard will not be accepted. The Town sponsors a "Bulky Waste Day" in October and May where larger items or Universal Waste may be discarded. Items can be dropped off at the Salt/Sand Facility on Newman Street only on these advertised days. The Town also participates in Household Hazardous Collection in Ellsworth usually held in August.



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

IF YOU HAVE AN EMERGENCY CALL 911

Coastal Recycling	422-6766
Fire Department (non-emergency)	963-5533
Hancock County Sheriff's Department	667-7575
Peninsula School	963-2003
Police Department (non-emergency)	963-2235
Regional School Unit No. 24	422-2017
Schoodic Institute	288-1310
Schoodic Woods Campground	288-3338
Sumner Memorial High School	422-3510
Town Office	963-2235
Utilities District	963-5579
Water District	963-7703
Winter Harbor Public Library	963-7556

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy J. Carruthers,
 Town Clerk

TOWN OFFICIALS AND BOARDS

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Board of Selectmen, Board of Assessors and Overseers of the Poor

Terry D. Bickford, Chair	Term Expires 2017
Larry D. Smith, Jr.	Term Expires 2016
William R. Faulkingham	Term Expires 2018

Budget Committee

(All terms are for one year)

Chris Arnett	Daniel Backman, Sr.
Billy Bickford	Sandra Drinkwater
Hiram Gerrish	Katherine Heidinger
Robert Hemenway	Dan Keegan
Alan Nauss	Johanna Smith
Lester Vandegrift	Diana Young

Cemetery Association Trustees

(All terms are for one year)

Andy Abbott	Alfreda Bacon
Chris Byers	Grace Gerrish
Hiram Gerrish	Gordon Harrington
Karen Hodgkins	David Joy
Barbara Lilly	James Lilly
Roseanne Shafer	Steve Tardy
Betty Williams	Diana Young
Steve Young	

Recreation Committee

(All terms are for one year)

Mindy Buswell	Carrie Faulkingham
Tracey Hutchins	Glenn Moshier
	Megan Moshier

Regional School Unit (RSU) 24 Director

Jeffrey Alley, Jr.	Term Expires 2018
--------------------	-------------------

TOWN OFFICIALS AND BOARDS

(continued)

Harbor Committee

(All terms are for one year)

Commercial Fishermen	Daniel Backman, Sr. Hiram Gerrish Patrick Faulkingham
Recreational Boaters	Andrew Abbott Alan Johnson
At-Large Members	Richard Wilson Keith Young

Harbor Master

(Appointed-One Year Term)

Frederick Backman

Library Trustees

Cynthia Alley	Term Expires 2019
Richard Brown	Term Expires 2016
Hope Buckner	Term Expires 2017
Mindy Buswell	Term Expires 2018
Dolora Conley	Term Expires 2020
Howard T. Howard	Term Expires 2018
Kathleen Nauss	Term Expires 2020

Planning Board

Neil Buffett	Term Expires 2018
Ted Buswell - Chair	Term Expires 2016
Peter Drinkwater - V. Chair	Term Expires 2017
Alan Nauss	Term Expires 2018
Dennis O'Brien	Term Expires 2019

Planning Board Alternate

Kevin Conley	Term Expires 2019
Robert Hemenway	Term Expires 2020

TOWN OFFICIALS AND BOARDS
(continued)

Utilities District Trustees

Peter Drinkwater – Chair	Term Expires 2018
Jeffrey Alley, Jr.	Term Expires 2017
William Van Horn	Term Expires 2016

Water District Trustees

Shirley Chase – Chair	Term Expires 2017
Larry D. Smith, Jr.	Term Expires 2018
Megan Moshier	Term Expires 2016

Board of Appeals

(Appointed)

Billy Bickford	Term Expires 2020
Sandra Guptill	Term Expires 2020
James Lilly	Term Expires 2019
Michael Walsh	Term Expires 2017
William Van Horn	Term Expires 2017

Local Plumbing Inspector

Charles Peterson

Code Enforcement Officer

Millard Billings



TOWN OFFICIALS AND BOARDS

(continued)

Fire Department

Tatum McLean – Chief/EMT Daniel Backman, Sr. – Asst. Chief
Jeffrey Alley, Jr. - Captain Billy Bickford, Jr. – Engineer/EMT

Dave Ackley	Jacob Barto
Michelle Bickford	Barbara Bragdon – RN
Cathy Carruthers – Treas.	Richard E. Gerrish – EMT
Gary Greenlaw	Kaye Rosenquist – Sec.
Derek Smith	Mike Wood
Robert Webber	

Emergency Medical Technicians

Billy Bickford, Jr.
Richard E. Gerrish
Tatum McLean

Police Department

Michael Walsh – Chief
Danny Mitchell – Patrol Officer
Ken Monroe – Patrol Officer
Philip Sargent – Patrol Officer

Emergency Management Director

Robert Webber

Local Health Officer

Tatum McLean, EMT

Peninsula School Principal

Sally Leighton

Sumner Memorial High School Principal

Ty Thurlow

Regional School Unit (RSU) No. 24 Superintendent

Michael Eastman

TOWN OFFICIALS AND BOARDS
(continued)

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

**Town Manager, Treasurer, Tax Collector, Town Clerk, Road
Commissioner, Registrar, General Assistance Administrator**

Motor Vehicle Agent

Cathy J. Carruthers

Deputy Clerk, Deputy Registrar

Jamie Church

Acadia National Park Commission Representative

Katherine Heidinger

Coastal Recycling Representative

Diana Young

E911 Addressing Officer

Richard E. Gerrish

Cathy Carruthers, Deputy



ANGUS KING'S LETTER

ANGUS KING'S LETTER – PAGE 2

SUSAN COLLIN'S LETTER

BRUCE POLIQUIN'S LETTER

GOVERNOR LEPAGE'S LETTER

SENATOR DAVID BURNS LETTER

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE RICHARD MALABY
LETTER**

CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

United States Senate

Susan M. Collins



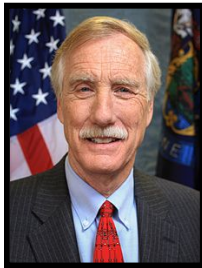
Maine Address

P.O. Box 655
Bangor, ME 04402
(207) 945-0417
Fax: (207) 990-4604

Washington, D.C. Address

461 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510-1940
(800) 962-3524
Fax: (202) 224-2693

Angus King



Maine Address

4 Gabriel Drive, Suite 3
Augusta, ME 04330
(207) 622-8292

Washington, D.C. Address

133 Hart Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-5344

United States House of Representatives
Bruce Poliquin



Maine Address

6 State Street, Suite 101
Bangor, ME 04401
(207) 942-0583
Fax: (207) 942-7101

Washington, D.C. Address

426 Canon House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-6306
Fax: (202) 225-2943

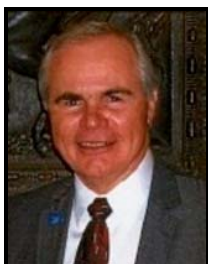
GOVERNOR
Paul R. LePage



Office of the Governor
1 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207) 287-3531
Fax: (207) 287-1034



STATE LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION
State Senate – District #6
Senator David Burns



Senate Chamber
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207) 287-1505

State House of Representatives – District #136
Representative Richard S. Malaby



Home Address
52 Cross Road
Hancock, ME 04640
(207) 422-3146

State Address
House of Representatives
2 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207) 287-1400
(800) 423-2900

Maine Legislative Internet Web Site - <http://janus.state.me.us/legis>

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS
(Pursuant to Title 36, M.R.S.A., Section 706)

You must furnish to the Assessors of the Town of Winter Harbor a true and perfect list of all of your estates, not exempt from taxation, which you possess on April 1st each year. Failure to furnish this list may bar you from making an application for or appealing tax abatement. This list includes property holdings such as land, buildings, and taxable personal property. The form is available at the Winter Harbor Town Office. Please return the completed form to the Town Office on or before April 1, 2016. The Assessors of the Town of Winter Harbor hereby give notice to all persons liable to taxation in Winter Harbor that they will be in session on Friday, April 1, 2016, from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon and from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm for the purpose of receiving your list of taxable estates.

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

This program provides a measure of property tax relief for certain individuals that have owned homestead property in Maine for at least twelve months and make the property they occupy on April 1st their permanent residence. Property owners would receive an exemption of \$15,000. Anyone wishing to apply for a homestead exemption may obtain the application from the Town Office. **If you applied last year, you need not apply again.**

NOTICE TO VETERANS

Veterans who served in the Armed Forces of the United States and have reached the age of 62 years or are receiving any form of pension or compensation for disability, service-connected or non-service-connected, MAY be eligible for a property tax exemption. Applicant must be a resident of Winter Harbor and must make written application and provide proof of entitlement by April 1st of the year in which exemption is first being claimed. **Surviving spouses of eligible veterans must reapply in their own names in order to be eligible.** Applications and further information may be obtained at the Town Office.

REPORTS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

To the citizens of Winter Harbor it gives me great pleasure once again, to address the Town on behalf of the Board of Selectmen. In the past it has been words of encouragement to keep our Town at its best to live and grow in. I still encourage this a great deal as we move to the future. But as we move forward it should always be with caution and right choices. These are the choices that the Select Board faces at every meeting and you, as the voters and taxpayers have bestowed a great trust in us to see that we make the best choices possible. When you vote for your Selectman, you are voting for what and whom you feel is in the best interest for Winter Harbor.

Our gratitude goes out to the Town Manager for keeping the town's day-to-day business at its possible best. Without the accurate daily operations the Town would not function. Thank you to both Cathy and Jamie for all the great work that is always well done.

The joint effort for a Fire Chief seems to be going well. Tatum McLean took this position in the fall. I think this is a vacancy that was badly in need of being filled. It is a comfort to know that we have a Fire Chief that can be on an emergency call at anytime.

The Town Manager, Select Board and the Budget Committee have worked out the Town of Winter Harbor's budget for another year. It is not an easy task to keep the budget under control and try not to raise the tax dollar amount at the same time. As always, it is my concern that we as a Town have no control over the educational budget process or dollar amount. It seems the increases are always inevitable.

Thank you to all the committee members that volunteer their many hours to our Town. They take on the duties that need overseeing to help make our Town function in a proper manner. We welcome all new citizens that would like to join the volunteer forces. This includes all committees and the Fire Department. Be a part of Winter Harbor, this Town is who we are. We reflect on the past and look forward to the future.

Respectfully Submitted,
Terry D. Bickford, Chair



TOWN MANAGER

I am honored to have had the opportunity to serve as your Town Manager for another year. The position of Town Manager, along with the other positions I hold is very challenging but also rewarding. We should all be proud that our Town is fiscally sound, financially solvent and debt free, a rare situation for any town in current times. I say this every year because it is so important.

I want to thank the Board of Selectmen for their continued support of my position and myself personally. It has been a very difficult year for my family, with my Mom's health issues and passing. I want to thank the residents of Winter Harbor for all of the thoughts, prayers and support that was provided for my family during this sad time. It is all very much appreciated and is one more reminder of the special qualities of the people in our Town.

It is a pleasure to work with our Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee to support a budget that continues to be realistic to the Town's needs and plans for the future. Since completion of the Municipal Public Safety Building, we continue to "pay ourselves back" \$40,000 every year for the funds withdrawn from our Trust account for this project. This along with reinvesting all interest earned our account continues to grow.

This year the Town budget reflected a relatively small increase around \$18,000. Most of these increases are in electricity, telephones and maintenance for the gym, scout cabin and salt/sand building. A slight increase in the mil rate is likely. Winter Harbor has one of the lowest mil rates in Hancock County and the State.

Our Police Chief, Mike Walsh has made the decision to retire/resign when his contract expires, June 30, 2016. Mike has worked in the Police Department for this Town approximately 17 years and he will be missed. Several improvements have been made to the Police Department of which Mike is responsible. He has established and followed a plan to purchase a new vehicle every six/seven years, when, based on our experience they are usually needed. We wish Chief Mike the best of luck in his future endeavors and thank him for his many years of service. Thank you to the entire Department for your dedication and keeping our Town safe.

Our Fire Department had a big change this year with the addition of a part time paid Fire Chief. Tatum McLean was hired to work approximately ten hours a week in Winter Harbor and he also works 30 hours as Gouldsboro Fire Chief. In his first six months, Tate has accepted

his leadership role and has already made several improvements to our Department. While meshing with our Department, the members have accepted his leadership and respect Tate as the Fire Chief. The Department still has a need for more volunteers. We are fortunate to have dedicated members, but those numbers are small and the Department could be even better with more manpower. For the first time in many years, the Fire Department sent a firefighter, Gary Greenlaw, to the Hancock County Fire Academy. He will graduate in June with Firefighter I & II. Also, he will receive Hazmat Operation Certificate and Wildland G-130 Certificate. Way to go, Gary!

RJD Appraisals, contracted as our Assessors, completed the third phase of the Quarterly Review. Each year properties in ¼ of the Town will be visited and individually assessed. This way, in four years the entire Town assessment will be completed and process begins again. This process is designed to ensure that properties are being taxed at the truest and current assessment.

The new curbside recycling process has been a huge success and will continue. Pickup is every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. For the months of July and August, there will be pickup EVERY Wednesday.

This summer Winter Harbor should see quite a few more people around town. With the opening of Schoodic Woods Campground, this should bring many bicyclists and pedestrians to our streets and sidewalks. Although this may be challenging at times, the revenue that they bring to the businesses should increase substantially.

Another improvement you will see this summer is work around the old Town Office, Gym and Municipal Building. The Schoodic Byway Committee has a balance of funds from other Winter Harbor projects, so a design has been made to add an informational kiosk just behind the old Town Office, along with green space and flowers. Some of the parking spaces will be changed and a few more added. The Island Explorer will stop here as well. This will also include tiered flowerbeds, set with granite in front of Municipal Building. It is a beautiful plan that will greatly improve this public area with little or no Town funds being used.

The Winter Harbor Public Library continues to grow and flourish. Receiving grant funds has enabled them to purchase items that continue to modernize their systems. We are fortunate to have this Library in our Town, so stop by and visit.

Another growing organization is the Historical Society. With the addition of key dedicated people, realizing the importance of preserving

our history, the Society is thriving. The museum is open Saturday afternoons, so stop by and see all the improvements.

This is the first year that the Town of Winter Harbor is sponsoring most of the Annual Lobster Festival that will be held August 13th. A Committee has been hard at work, but could always use volunteers. The Fire Department is sponsoring the lobster dinner and looking for volunteers. If anyone would like to participate, the Committee meets the second Thursday in June at the Town Office and will be meeting more often as the Festival date approaches. Come help this Town sponsored Festival be a huge success. Call the Town Office if you wish to volunteer.

The streets have been swept and soon the lines will be painted on the roads. The new flags will be placed on the poles, cleaning and sprucing up our Town to welcome people from near and far to our proud, quaint Town that sits on the beautiful coast of Maine.

One special person that I need to thank is Jamie Church. She keeps the counter area running very smoothly. She continues to excel and is always willing to go above and beyond to do whatever it takes to get the job done and get it done well. I know the residents enjoy seeing her smile and pleasant attitude while conducting Town business. She has helped me so much this year and I am very grateful. She is a huge asset to this Town and we are fortunate to have her as an employee. Thanks, Jamie!

Thank you to all the volunteers that assist in any way, large or small to help our community thrive. Our small Town could not survive without each and every one of you. Whether you serve on a Board or Committee, help fold newsletters, tend to the flags, or help pick up litter, it is all very important and you are appreciated.

Last but not least, I want to thank my family (here and in Virginia) for all of their unconditional love and support. Although there is a huge void in our home, at the end of a stressful day, it is very nice to come home to a family that I know for sure is my “biggest fans”. I don’t believe I could do it without them.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cathy J. Carruthers

