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## Town of Vassalboro Annual Report 2016

Vassalboro, (Me.)

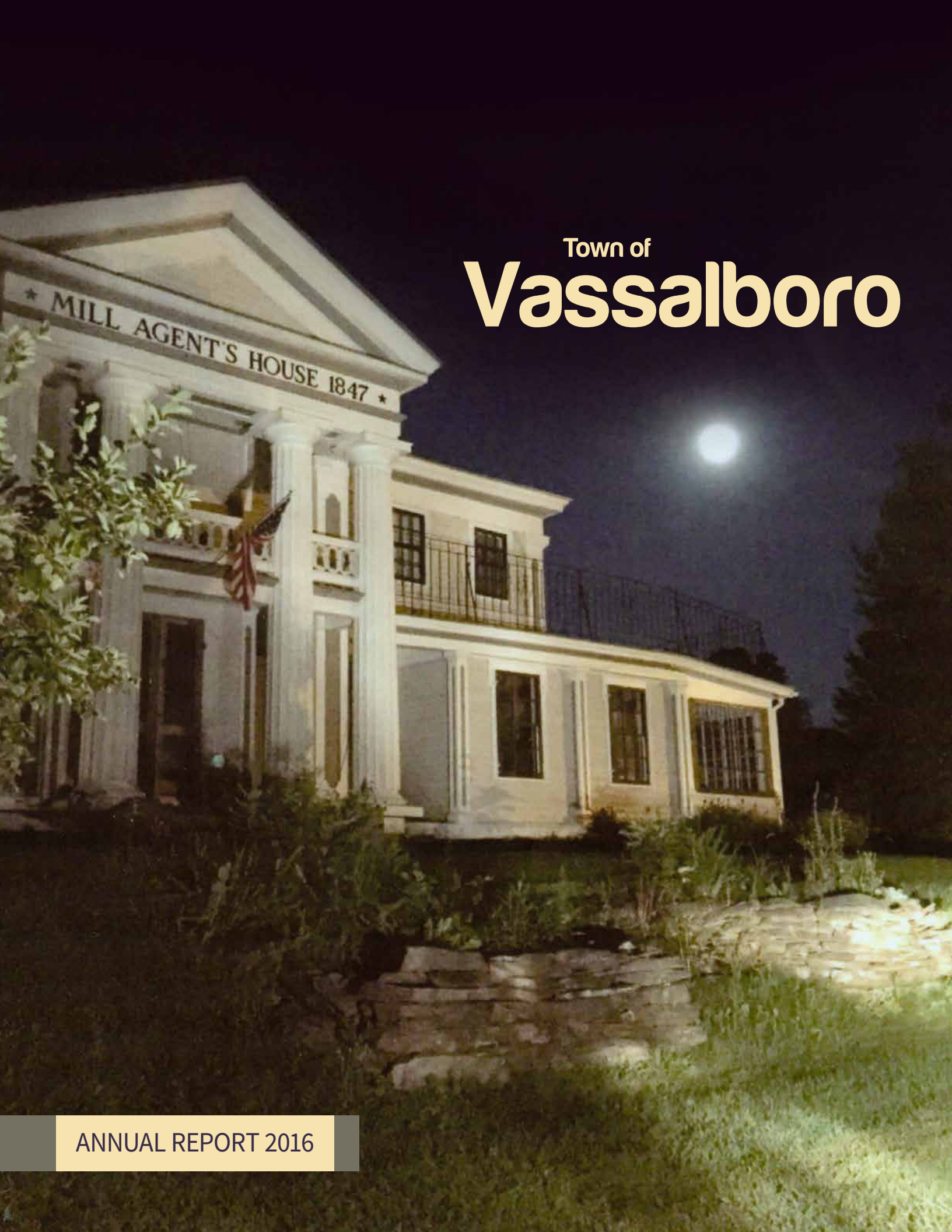
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Town of  
**Vassalboro**

ANNUAL REPORT 2016

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Public Works .....	923-3985
Transfer Station .....	923-3051
School .....	923-3100
Library .....	923-3233
Animal Control .....	458-4853
Police Chief - Non Emergency .....	557-4601

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## VASSALBORO TOWN OFFICE

682 Main Street ... PO Box 129

North Vassalboro, Maine 04962

Phone: (207) 872-2826 ... Fax: (207) 872-5414

## HOURS

Monday thru Wednesday: 8:00am to 4:00pm

Thursday: 8:00am to 6:30pm

Friday: 8:00am to 12pm

Closed Saturday, Sunday and all Holidays.

[www.Vassalboro.net](http://www.Vassalboro.net)

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## PHOTOGRAPHY

Front Cover Photo by Jessica Breton

Mill Agent's House Photos contributed by Ray Breton  
(see *Mill Agent House* story on page 26)

Back Cover Photo by Jan Clowes

Various Staff and Scenic Photos courtesy of Mary Sabins

Cameo Staff Photos (pages 2 & 12) courtesy of Fox Photo

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## ANNUAL REPORT DESIGN

Sue Bourdon ... Bourdon&Co., LLC

[www.bourdonandco.com](http://www.bourdonandco.com)



PHOTO BY EMILY MITCHELL

### **JAMES E. MITCHELL, ESQ.**

January 19, 1942 – September 9, 2016

This year's town report is dedicated to Jim Mitchell. Since moving to Vassalboro in 1971, Jim was an exemplary citizen, always attending town meetings and speaking up on the issues. He moderated the town meeting many times. One of his most memorable legacies to the town is the effort he gave to have a new K-8 school built in the center of the town. Taking the lead on this project to consolidate three aging schools into one beautiful, modern building, he also used his legal skills to assist the town to overcome attempts made by those who were not in favor of the project. Jim assembled a strong team, all with the same goal of creating a community school in mind. If not for Jim and his team, the Vassalboro Community School would not exist as we know it today.

Jim and his wife, Libby, purchased an 1840's farm house on the Cushnoc Road, where they raised their family and put down deep roots. His wife recalls that Jim loved his home, his family, his work, and his community. In years past, he often went to fire calls, until new firefighting training requirements posed a time scheduling challenge. He gave hours of free legal help to neighbors and community members who just wanted to ask a simple question and couldn't afford to pay. He worked with local businesses in Town, and he lead the effort to create the Oak Grove Foundation when that school could no longer operate; that foundation gives educational grants even now. He worked with the board of this foundation focusing on money management, education, and maintaining the Oak Grove Chapel.

Jim was a partner in the law firm of Mitchell & Davis, which he built and ran with his law partner, Jed Davis, for 45 years. In addition to his law practice, Jim was elected Kennebec County Judge of Probate in 1979, a position he held until his passing.

We remember Jim for his kind generosity to the citizens of Vassalboro and for his memorable contributions to this community.





# TOWN MANAGER'S STORY

by Mary Sabins ... Town Manager

It was a busy fiscal year with several projects and proposals on the town's agenda for discussion. Early in the year, the Selectmen were

approached to amend and relax the Shoreland Zone Ordinance to meet the newly prescribed recommendation of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP). The Board of Selectmen, along with the Planning Board and the Code Officer, had a joint meeting with representatives from MDEP, who provided guidance about suggested changes to our ordinance. At the Selectmen's suggestion, the Planning Board and Code Officer worked for several months to write proposed changes to our ordinance, which was presented to the voters in November at the Presidential Election. Adoption of the changes failed at the polls, but because the Selectmen and the Planning Board feel these changes are important, voters will be asked at the June 2017 town meeting to reconsider the vote. Voters are encouraged to take the time to read the proposed changes by obtaining a copy of the new ordinance either at the town office or on the town website ([www.vassalboro.net](http://www.vassalboro.net)) and study the improvements.

Also at the November polls, the voters rejected an opportunity to have sidewalks installed in the East Vassalboro Village area, with the financial support of a Federal Grant. A note of thanks to those volunteers who supported the effort for many years and gave much of their time and energy promoting the sidewalk plan for pedestrian safety.

During the year, a new group of volunteers have been gathering once or twice a month to talk about the services now available either in town or in our neighboring communities for Vassalboro older residents. This group have chosen to call themselves FAVOR (Friends Advocating for Vassalboro Older Residents). Guest speakers that provide services for the elderly have been invited to attend the FAVOR group meetings, and we have learned a lot. On May 25, 2017 from noon to 4 p.m., we plan to hold our first Senior Services Fair so that the public can come to the town office to visit with these agency representatives to learn what services and fun events are available to them. In the future, the FAVOR group hopes to offer

other social events and educational gatherings, and possibly even a bus trip! Watch for the advertisements and postings about town and on the town website.

In late summer last year, long time Vassalboro Police Chief Richard Phippen announced his desire to retire. A search for his replacement ensued, and a few months later, new Police Chief Mark Brown began working alongside Retiring Officer Phippen for a month or so for a smooth transition. Going forward, Chief Brown will also work approximately 15 hours a week with a varying schedule. Those wishing to reach Chief Brown can still reach the Vassalboro Police on the police department cell phone number of 207-557-4601. A big thank you and a job well done go out to Dick Phippen for his 20+ years of service. We wish him well in his retirement!



*Dick Phippen cutting his retirement cake.*

Also at the November election this past fall, a State-wide referendum was held to legalize the retail sale, possession, and cultivation of marijuana in Maine. The referendum passed with a very close vote, and included in the referendum, each town in the State was given the opportunity to opt out either permanently or temporarily

from participation in certain portions of the new law. At a Special Town Meeting held at the Vassalboro Community School on January 9, 2017, the minimum required quorum number of voters for a legal Special Town Meeting (125) was exceeded, and the voters passed an Ordinance prohibiting retail marijuana establishments and retail marijuana social clubs in the Town of Vassalboro. Should the town desire to repeal this Ordinance sometime in the future, another vote of the town will be required.

Other projects the Selectmen and I have been working on throughout the year include research performed on the possible conversion of our streetlights to LED streetlights in the future. The benefits of this conversion would be better lighting at greatly reduced electricity costs, with predicted low fixture maintenance needs. The downside to the project is that the town would own the fixtures and would need to contract with a repair company when

maintenance to the fixtures is needed. Several communities in the southern part of the State have already begun streetlight conversion projects after recent Public Utilities Commission rule changes allowed the process. After research, the Vassalboro Selectmen have decided to take a careful, watchful approach to evaluate the success of the conversions in other town and cities, before we possibly embark on a similar project in the next few years here in Vassalboro.

I look forward to another year of serving you as your Town Manager, and I wish to thank the Selectmen for their energy and devotion to the decision making they bring to the workings of the town every day, to the volunteers who serve tirelessly on town committees and fire & rescue services, and to my talented town staff for all of their assistance and their years of dedication to the citizenry of the Town of Vassalboro.



BOG ROAD ON A FOGGY MORNING. ... PHOTO BY JAN CLOWES



Selectmen (L to R): Lauchlin Titus, Phil Haines, and Rob Browne.

<b>TEL.</b>	<b>TERM EXPIRES</b>	<b>ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS</b>	
873-2108	2017	Lauchlin Titus, Chairman	1063 Main Street, Vassalboro
923-3391	2018	Philip Haines	702 Bog Road, Vassalboro
626-0966	2019	Robert Browne	9 Szady Drive, Vassalboro
<b>SCHOOL COMMITTEE</b>			
872-8596	2019	Kevin Levasseur, Chairman	209 Bog Road, Vassalboro
923-4069	2018	Jolene Clark Gamage	1580 Cross Hill Road, Vassalboro
622-2629	2019	Elizabeth "Libby" Mitchell*	277 Cushnoc Road, Vassalboro
485-4008	2017	Erin Libby Loiko	1227 Riverside Drive, Vassalboro
314-2922	2017	Susan Tuthill	162 Seawards Mills Road, Vassalboro
872-7268	2017	Lori Fowle <sup>1</sup>	305 Taber Hill Road, Vassalboro
<b>PLANNING BOARD</b>			
873-5226	2018	Virginia Brackett, Chairman	20 Alpine St., Vassalboro
	2018	Betsy Poulin	373 Hussey Hill Road, Vassalboro
923-3800	2017	Douglas Phillips	738 Bog Road, Vassalboro
923-3400	2017	Sally Butler	49 Taber Hill Road, Vassalboro
923-6005	2018	John Phillips	331 Crowell Hill Road, Vassalboro
923-3017	2017	Marianne Stevens, Alternate	1618 Cross Hill Road, Vassalboro
<b>BUDGET COMMITTEE</b>			
923-3729	2018	John Melrose, Chairman	636 Bog Road, Vassalboro
873-7399	2017	Donald Breton	174 Cemetery Street, Vassalboro
622-7730	2018	Richard Phippen	492 Webber Pond Rd, Vassalboro
873-9094	2018	Rick Denico, Jr.	237 Oak Grove Rd., Vassalboro
923-3800	2018	Douglas Phillips	738 Bog Road, Vassalboro
923-3511	2018	Elizabeth Reuthe	924 Cross Hill Road, Vassalboro
873-2605	2017	Peggy Schaffer	22 Station Hill Road, Vassalboro
622-3096	2017	William Browne	793 Webber Pond Road, Vassalboro
622-2164	2017	Eddie Scholz	11 Fairway Drive, Unit 4, Vassalboro
872-7268	2017	Lori Fowle*	305 Taber Hill Rd., Vassalboro
<b>BOARD OF APPEALS</b>			
923-3185	2017	Kathy Lees, Chairman	604 Bog Road, Vassalboro
873-3911	2018	Gary Coull	36 Maple Street, Vassalboro
923-3231	2018	Peggy Cain	358 Hussey Hill Road, Vassalboro
923-3759	2017	Leon Duff	595 Hussey Hill Road, Vassalboro
923-3803	2017	John Reuthe	924 Cross Hill Road, Vassalboro
<b>SANITARY DISTRICT</b>			
872-5884	2019	Ray Breton, Chairman	7 Priest Hill Road, Vassalboro
692-2421	2018	Lee Trahan	132 Clinton Ave., Winslow
923-3971	2018	Alfred Roy	12 So. Stanley Hill Road, Vassalboro
923-3758	2017	Paul Mitnik	700 Cross Hill Road, Vassalboro
	2017	Rebecca Goodrich, Treasurer	889 Main Street, Vassalboro

The Town of Vassalboro is governed by a Board of Selectmen who meet every other Thursday night at 7:00pm in the town office meeting room. Board meetings during the summer months are usually scheduled once a month.

		<b>RECREATION COMMITTEE</b>	
462-1285	2017	Jennifer Fortin, Director	42 Fortin Road, Vassalboro
	2017	Steve Polley	
	2017	Jennifer Fleck	
	2017	Kevin Luczko	
	2017	Tiffany Luczko	
	2017	Marc Cote	
	2017	Hillary Polley	
	2017	Ben Loiko	
		<b>CONSERVATION COMMISSION</b>	
	2017	Betsy Poulin, Chairman	373 Hussey Hill Road, Vassalboro
923-3836	2019	Steve Jones	55 Quaker Lane, Vassalboro
923-3397	2017	Holly Weidner	320 Main Street, Vassalboro
	2019	Dylan Dillaway	552 Webber Pond Road, Vassalboro
923-3483	2018	David Jenney	844 Cross Hill Road, Vassalboro
		<b>TOWN CLERK</b>	
872-2826	2017	Catherine Coyne	P.O. Box 82, N. Vassalboro
		<b>CEMETERY COMMITTEE</b>	
923-3220	2017	Jane E. Aiudi, Chairman	656 Bog Road, Vassalboro
445-2754	2017	Russell Smith	1647 North Belfast Road, Vassalboro
923-3411	2017	Tom Richards	508 Hussey Hill Road, Vassalboro
873-4458	2017	Tim Giroux	568 Oak Grove Road, Vassalboro
923-3483	2017	David Jenney	844 Cross Hill Road, Vassalboro
923-3391	2017	Sue Haines	702 Bog Road, Vassalboro
923-3704	2017	Sandra Toohey	45 So. Stanley Hill Road, Vassalboro
314-6218	2017	Richard Lees	324 Main Street, Vassalboro
		<b>FIRST RESPONDER SERVICE</b>	
622-4388	2017	Dan Mayotte, Director	1574A Riverside Drive, Vassalboro
485-4558	2017	Peter Allen, Ass't Dir.	2418 Riverside Drive, Vassalboro
		<b>HEALTH OFFICER</b>	
469-5534	2017	Morgan Titus Rau	841 Main Street, Vassalboro
		<b>KENNEBEC WATER DISTRICT TRUSTEE</b>	
923-3305	2019	Frank Richards	100 Pleasant Cove Road, Vassalboro
		<b>STATE SENATOR DISTRICT 24</b>	
622-9921- home		Roger Katz	3 State House Station
287-1505 - office		senroger.katz@legislature.maine.gov	Augusta, Maine 04330
287-1583 - TTY			
		<b>STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 80</b>	
207-861-1657 - cell		Richard T. Bradstreet	House of Representatives
287-1400- office		Dick.Bradstreet@legislature.maine.gov	2 State House Station
TTY - use Maine Relay 711			Augusta, ME 04333-0002

\* Resigned

<sup>1</sup> Filling remainder of FY2017 of L. Mitchell's term.



# SENATE OF MAINE

128th Legislature ... Senate District 24 ... Senator Roger Katz

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

First, let me thank you for the great honor of representing you in the Maine Senate. I feel lucky every day I walk into the State House and I try hard to be the best possible voice I can for the citizens of Vassalboro.

We in Maine have very real challenges in front of us and, despite a contentious relationship between the Governor and the Legislature; I believe we are up to it. How can we do a better job solving the opioid crisis which affects so many families? How can we properly fund our public schools and do so in a way which relieves the pressure on local property taxes? How can we make Maine a more friendly state in which to invest and create jobs? How can we most intelligently implement the will of the voters legalizing the recreational use of marijuana? How can we best reform our antiquated tax system to make us more competitive? These are among the most important issues we are facing this year.

I also hope we will turn our attention to Maine's growing demographic crisis: The fact is that we are the oldest state in the country and getting older. A shrinking workforce means we will find it harder to attract investment and new jobs to our beautiful state. For me, one of the solutions is to do all we can to become a welcoming state for those who have the "American dream" and want to work. I do not care if they come from New Hampshire, Indiana, Poland, or Burundi – motivated "new Mainers" can help us grow a brighter economic future. Stay tuned and let me know your thoughts.

I end as I began – thanking you for allowing me to represent you in the Capitol.

Best regards,



Roger J. Katz  
State Senator

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

District 80 ... Dick Bradstreet ... Somerville, Vassalboro, Windsor, Hibberts Gore

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I want begin by thanking the citizens of District 80 for giving me the opportunity to represent you at the State House. As you may know, our district includes part of Augusta, as well as Somerville, Vassalboro, Windsor, and the unorganized territory of Hibberts Gore.

I have been appointed to the Joint Standing Committee On Judiciary. This committee's broad and essential jurisdiction includes: Judicial system organization and budget; criminal and civil procedure, child protection and family law, as well as civil, medical, and human rights. We expect to review and provide recommendations on hundreds of bills relating to these and other issues in the coming months.

The 128th Maine Legislature convened in December and we expect to be in session until at least mid-June. I encourage you to call me anytime at 287-1440 or email me at [Dick.Bradstreet@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Dick.Bradstreet@legislature.maine.gov) to keep me updated on any concerns you might have. If you would like to be added to my email update list, you can do so by emailing me directly with your request. Another way to stay up to date on state news is to visit the Legislature's website, [www.legislature.maine.gov](http://www.legislature.maine.gov).

Again, thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your State Representative. I look forward to hearing from you!

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dick Bradstreet", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dick Bradstreet  
State Representative

# CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

1st District, Maine ... Chellie Pingree, Congresswoman

Dear Friend,

I hope this letter finds you well. It's a privilege to share an update on my work to represent you and your family in Washington and in Maine.

As always, the interests of my constituents are what guide my work. There are many things I could talk about in that regard. But I want to focus here on one issue of particular importance—economic development. Having good-paying jobs allows future generations to make this wonderful state their home. With that goal in mind, I'm working to address Maine's economic challenges and capitalize on its opportunities.

One such opportunity is agriculture, where Maine is bucking national trends. The average age of our farmers is actually going down while acreage in cultivation is going up. Consumer demand for local food is driving that growth. I've been successful in reforming federal policies to help farmers and processors meet that demand. My work will continue this year as Congress reauthorizes the Farm Bill.

I'm also working to support jobs in our coastal communities. Last year, I helped block Sweden's proposed ban on the export of Maine lobsters to the European Union. I also introduced legislation to lift unnecessary regulations on seafood exporters and invest in working waterfront infrastructure.

On the House Appropriations Committee, I'm defending federal programs that support jobs throughout Maine. These programs invest in worthy projects that are beyond the reach of private, municipal, or state resources. In our state, they provide loans to small businesses, clean polluted sites for redevelopment, find new marketable uses for Maine's natural resources, build broadband infrastructure, and much more.

Aside from economic development, advocating for Maine veterans is one of my highest priorities. With Congress' current agenda, I'm also fighting to defend Medicare and Social Security, protect clean air and water, and ensure that our communities have the resources to address hunger, homelessness and lack of health care access.

Just as important as my policy work in Washington is what my office does to help individuals in Maine. Every year, my staff helps hundreds of constituents who have issues with federal agencies or programs. Please call my Portland office at (207) 774-5019 for assistance. It's an honor to serve you.

Take care,



Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress

# SENATE OF MAINE

Susan Collins, Senator ... Kennebec, Knox, Lincoln, Somerset Counties

Dear Friends:

It is an honor to represent Maine in the United States Senate. I am grateful for the trust the people of our State have placed in me and welcome this opportunity to share some key accomplishments.

Growing our economy by encouraging job creation remains a top priority. The tax relief bill enacted during this last Congress contains provisions I authored to provide small businesses with the certainty that they need to invest, grow, and, most important, hire new workers. The 2017 National Defense Authorization Act includes a provision the Maine delegation worked together to champion requiring that military recruits be provided with athletic footwear made in America, as is required for other equipment and uniform items whenever possible. This is a great victory for our troops and for the 900 skilled workers at New Balance factories here in Maine.

Maine's contributions to our national security stretch from Kittery to Limestone. As a senior member of the Appropriations Committee, I successfully advocated for critical funding for projects at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard and \$1 billion towards the construction of an additional ship that will likely be built at Bath Iron Works. This funding will strengthen the Navy and our national security, and the additional destroyer will help meet the Navy's goal of a 355-ship fleet.

Maine's growing population of older individuals creates many challenges. That's why, as Chairman of the Senate Aging Committee, my top three priorities are fighting fraud and financial abuse directed at our nation's seniors, increasing investments in biomedical research, and improving retirement security.

The Aging Committee's toll-free hotline (1-855-303-9470) makes it easier for senior citizens to report suspected fraud and receive assistance. Last May, a call to the hotline helped lead to the arrest of a national crime ring targeting seniors, and in June I worked to secure the humani-

tarian release of a Maine senior who had been imprisoned in Spain after being victimized by an international drug smuggling scam.

The Aging Committee also released an extensive report detailing the findings of our bipartisan investigation into the abrupt and dramatic price increases for prescription drugs whose patents expired long ago.

I advocated strongly for the \$2 billion increase in funding for the National Institutes of Health to advance research on such diseases as diabetes and Alzheimer's. I also championed and authored portions of the 21st Century Cures Act that will further support biomedical innovation and make significant reforms to our mental health system.

The Senate also took steps in the past year to combat the nation's heroin and opioid epidemic by passing the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA), which I was proud to cosponsor. CARA is a monumental step forward in our effort to address the devastating addiction crisis affecting countless families and communities across the country and right here in Maine.

A Maine value that always guides me is our unsurpassed work ethic. In December 2016, I cast my 6,236th consecutive vote, continuing my record of never missing a roll-call vote since my Senate service began in 1997.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve Vassalboro and Maine in the United States Senate. If ever I can be of assistance to you, please contact my Augusta state office at (207) 622-8414 or visit my website at [www.collins.senate.gov](http://www.collins.senate.gov). May 2017 be a good year for you, your family, your community, and our state.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins  
United States Senator





*Town Office Staff (L to R): Front row: Debbie Johnston, Cathy Coyne, Jean Poulin. Back row: Ellery Bane, Dick Dolby, Mary Sabins.*

# TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

Catherine Coyne ... Town Clerk

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

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

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

There were approximately 1084 dogs tags issued to Vassalboro residents. All dog licenses expire December 31<sup>st</sup>. You must have a current rabies certificate in order to license your dog. You will also need to provide proof of spay or neutering. A spayed/neutered dog is \$6.00 and the fee for an unaltered dog is \$11.00. There is a \$25.00 late fee after January 31<sup>st</sup>. For the past several years we have held a Rabies Clinic at the North Vassalboro Fire Station in November. Dog licensing is available at the clinic. Part of the proceeds goes to the Vassalboro Food Pantry. You can reach the Animal Control Officer, Peter E. Nerber at 505-0981 or 458-4853.

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

The Vital Statistic information listed below pertains to deaths from March 1, 2016 – March 1, 2017.

NAME	AGE	LOCATION	DATE OF DEATH
Bailey, Kadhar Bernard	25	Vassalboro	02/10/2017
Burns, John G. Jr.	81	Augusta	07/04/2016
Daugier, Elizabeth Nina	92	Augusta	04/06/2016
Dyer, Kenneth Frank Jr	54	Augusta	05/12/2016
Everett, Traci Sue	55	Vassalboro	02/11/2017
Fortin, Lucas John	30	Vassalboro	03/12/2016
Francis, Linda M.	60	Vassalboro	11/11/2016
Glidden, Clifton Leon	91	Augusta	12/19/2017
Green, Diane	67	Vassalboro	01/18/2017
Greenleaf, Ivers Lloyd	60	Augusta	05/13/2016
Hallee, Alton R.	74	Vassalboro	05/11/2016
Hardy, Clayton Arthur	83	Vassalboro	05/07/2016
Higgins, Ann Cates	80	Augusta	01/12/2017
Hughes, Constance C.	90	Waterville	10/03/2016
Knowles, Maise Catherine	16	Portland	11/01/2016
MacKenzie, Linda Mae	70	Vassalboro	09/02/2016
Marden, Susan	62	Vassalboro	08/08/2016
McPherson, Lucille C.	86	Vassalboro	04/28/2016

Mitchell, James E.	74	Vassalboro	09/09/2016
Murray, Keith H. Sr.	67	Lewiston	02/21/2017
Nadeau, Roland Joseph	90	Augusta	10/11/2016
Reny, Patrick D.	66	Augusta	02/15/2017
Robbins, Maxine G.	85	Vassalboro	02/15/2017
Robinson, Erma P.	93	Vassalboro	01/13/2017
Sinclair, Elaine S.	67	Vassalboro	09/18/2016
Thompson, Kayla Marie	25	Bangor	11/01/2016
Thurlow, Richard Lynn	61	Vassalboro	06/04/2016
Watts, Walter Alex	64	Togus USVA	01/29/2017
White, Abbott Leo	82	Waterville	03/11/2016
Wright, Christine	89	Vassalboro	06/18/2016

The following are Marriage Licenses, using Maiden name, that were recorded from March 1, 2016 – March 1, 2017.

<b>PARTY A</b>	<b>PARTY B</b>	<b>DATE MARRIED</b>
Olivia Rae Piselli	Allen Gifford Perkins	February 2, 2016
Mark S. Laskowski	Barbara June Rechsteiner	May 12, 2016
Kristy Marie Beaudoin	Kenneth Russell Mitsui	May 21, 2016
Cassandra Jeanne Turgeon	Christopher A. Benson	April 14, 2016
Alicia Anne Couture	Seth Levi Lemieux	May 1, 2016
Amanda Susan Edwards	Shawn Elias Ferran	May 21, 2016
Thomas Michael Merrill	Brianna Lea Beland	May 21, 2016
Joseph Mathew Burke II	Amand Leigh Hitchener	June 11, 2016
Kenneth Alan Demuth	Lindsey Anne Varney	June 11, 2016
Jason Michael Pomerleau	Ming Fang	June 18, 2016
Jaime Marie Preo	Mark Scott Pooler	July 2, 2016
David Gill Powning	Pamela Ann Kick	July 2, 2016
Christopher John French	Amy Marie Wilson	July 9, 2016
Katherine Kelly D'Angelo	Benjamin William Manter	July 16, 2016
Walter Louis Meservie	Amy Lynn Yeaton	July 23, 2016
Daniel Paul Belyea	Gregory Paul Sereyko	July 23, 2016
Brandon Arthur Kirov	Daphne Hernandez	July 30, 2016
Ryan Clifton Nored	Alycia Ann Laferte	August 6, 2016
Amy Melissa Kuhl	Jeremy Leon Labonte	August 7, 2016
Daniel Michal Vashon	Megan Dorothy Dore	August 13, 2016
Debra Ann Cote	Michael Lewis Keddy	August 20, 2016
Richard Thomas Willard	Corie Jean White	September 3, 2016
Lee Howard True	Victoria Elizabeth Rodrigue	September 10, 2016
Deidra Lee Mckenna	Andrew Franklin Seigars	September 24, 2016
Jared Thomas Clark	Kelly Ashely Beland	September 17, 2016
Kelly Lynn Burns	Aaron Scott Theberge	September 17, 2016
Dana Marie Mcelhaney	Bennie Rowe	October 8, 2016
Brea Kirstie Mcpherson	Paul Eric Willette	October 1, 2016
Allyson Rowena Lee	Jordan-David Hammill Crowell-Smith	October 15, 2016
Mark Forest Brown	Charlene Anne Knowles	November 13, 2016
Jason Richard Siglinger	Tina Louise Parks	October 27, 2016
Alison Marie Castonguay	Nathan Carrol White	November 6, 2016
Carrie Lee Pelletier	John Joseph Ellis Jr.	February 4, 2017

There were 34 births to Vassalboro residents from March 1, 2016 – March 1, 2017.



# TOWN ASSESSOR

by Ellery G. Bane, C.M.A ... Assessor

It seems that every year can be a challenge for all Maine taxpayers and assessors. The constant struggle with budgetary

changes and lack of consistent revenue streams to the municipality make the tax rate a moving target to try and keep up with. On a positive note for Vassalboro, I have seen a gradual increase in the permitting of new homes and supplemental auxiliary structures as well as gradual rebound in the real estate market. These are all good signs for recovery. The homestead exemption in particular is a positive note for all residents in Maine although it always seems to be something legislators want to amend continuously. The 2016 Tax year was the first year of a two stage incremental increase in the exemption to a \$15,000 amount. Going forward for the upcoming tax year 2017, the exemption will rise again from \$15,000 to \$20,000. This, based on previous mil rates in Vassalboro, will amount to around an estimated \$280 tax savings to each applicable property. I hope all of you were able to take advantage of the tax savings it offered. If not, please contact the Town office if you were unaware of this exemption, and we will gladly inform and assist you.

On another front of importance, the assessing office implemented the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage of the quarterly review process in town. The quarter review is *not* a 'revaluation' in the sense that values are re-aligned with the current market. The purpose of the quarter review is to keep the building assessment inventory accurate and up-to-date while ensuring the Town of Vassalboro fulfills its statutory requirement (Title 36 M.R.S.A. Sec 328). This review project identifies improvements, additions that were not previously recognized, omissions from the record, and deletions appropriate for fair and equitable assessments here. The process also for the first time in years includes the addition of photos of all the houses in town for each

Tax Rate 2016: \$14.05

Due Dates:

09/26/16, 11/28/16, 02/27/17 and 04/24/17

Interest Rate: 7%

Certified Ratio: 100%

Last Revaluation: 2007

Written Appeal deadline: February 11, 2017

property record card. The photos themselves help present a much more professional looking product for the town. It certainly has been a long time coming.

For the 2016 tax year, the town had a total valuation of \$303,740,400 and issued a total of 1,171 homestead exemptions. There were also 140 veterans exemptions granted in this last year. There are also residents who have applied and entered State classified programs such as tree growth, farmland, and open space. All of these programs, if applicable, are applied locally and can be a help to taxpayers in easing the burdens they face in regards to property tax. I can assure you that in these trying economic times, where we are continually faced with State cuts to aid municipalities, the Town of Vassalboro is diligently working to keep the impact on property taxes to a minimum. Any help that I can offer in explaining any programs and exemptions is encouraged, so please feel free to contact me at the Town of Vassalboro assessing office 872-2826 or [ebane@vassalboro.net](mailto:ebane@vassalboro.net). As always, I look forward to working with you in the future.

# TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Unpaid Real Estate Taxes as of March 20, 2017

Acct	Name ----	Year	Tax	Adjustments	Due
3040	L ADDY, BRIAN J. & DAWN	2015	2,364.69	0.00	2,364.69
71	L BAILEY, PAULA	2015	1,224.35	0.00	1,224.35
2311	L BARTLETT, RICHARD & LYNNE	2015	2,185.11	0.00	2,185.11
92	L BATCHELDER, DANIELLE	2015	230.56	0.00	230.56
117	L BECKWITH, ALEX & VICKY	2015	678.63	0.00	678.63
854	L BIBBER, LINWOOD	2015	1,967.26	0.00	1,967.26
163	L BLUMBERG, SARA "HEIRS"	2015	1,555.00	0.00	1,555.00
3280	L BOUCHARD, THOMAS P	2015	501.39	0.00	501.39
182	L BOUCHER, WILLIAM	2015	1,499.34	923.91	575.43
187	L BOULETTE, KATHY	2015	104.09	0.00	104.09
2287	L BOURGET, BRUCE K & MARY N	2015	1,288.57	0.00	1,288.57
258	L BRIGGS, DAVID R	2015	795.62	0.00	795.62
265	L BROCK, CARL	2015	71.22	0.00	71.22
268	L BROCK, CARL	2015	150.48	0.00	150.48
2519	L BROCK, CARL	2015	223.35	0.00	223.35
2520	L BROCK, CARL	2015	258.40	0.00	258.40
2972	L BROCK, CARL	2015	173.34	0.00	173.34
272	L BROCK, CARL & AMY	2015	106.94	0.00	106.94
273	L BROCK, CARL & AMY	2015	312.70	0.00	312.70
270	L BROCK, CARLETON E & AMY L	2015	74.09	0.00	74.09
271	L BROCK, CARLETON E & AMY L	2015	326.31	0.00	326.31
2581	L BROCK, CARLETON E & AMY L	2015	223.35	0.00	223.35
2582	L BROCK, CARLETON E & AMY L	2015	154.77	0.00	154.77
2679	L BROCK, CARLETON E & AMY L	2015	1,153.58	0.00	1,153.58
2680	L BROCK, CARLETON E & AMY L	2015	174.10	0.00	174.10
2618	L BROCK, CARLTON	2015	254.87	0.00	254.87
3076	L BROCK, CURT	2015	280.51	0.00	280.51
2480	L BURNS, RICHARD	2015	2,997.43	0.00	2,997.43
1524	L BUTTERFIELD, LINDA	2015	2,400.86	0.00	2,400.86
1528	L BUTTERFIELD, LINDA	2015	1,940.78	0.00	1,940.78
1747	L CAHOON, DEBORAH E	2015	1,219.23	124.07	1,095.16
2472	L CAIN, DEBORAH	2015	2,897.41	0.00	2,897.41
1302	L CAIN, RICHARD B JR	2015	2,878.08	0.00	2,878.08
2619	L CARTAGENA, BONNIE	2015	344.13	0.00	344.13
1203	L CHANG, HUICHEN	2015	1,290.68	0.00	1,290.68
422	L CHESLEY, CHRISTOPHER & LUANNE M B	2015	1,646.46	0.00	1,646.46
456	L CLOWES, HARLAN A	2015	562.73	0.00	562.73
447	L CONARY, CRAIG D.	2015	1,120.80	0.00	1,120.80
64	L CUMMINGS, LEON E	2015	981.37	0.00	981.37
535	L CUMMINGS, LEON E	2015	1,558.62	0.00	1,558.62
3360	L CUMMINGS, LEON E	2014	275.22	-15.94	291.16
3360	L CUMMINGS, LEON E	2015	289.83	0.00	289.83
3361	L CUMMINGS, LEON E	2014	279.21	-15.94	295.15
3361	L CUMMINGS, LEON E	2015	294.12	0.00	294.12
3362	L CUMMINGS, LEON E	2014	276.55	-15.94	292.49
3362	L CUMMINGS, LEON E	2015	291.26	0.00	291.26
3363	L CUMMINGS, LEON E	2014	272.55	-15.94	288.49



3363	L	CUMMINGS, LEON E	2015	286.98	0.00	286.98
3365	L	CUMMINGS, LEON E	2014	273.88	-15.94	289.82
3365	L	CUMMINGS, LEON E	2015	288.41	0.00	288.41
3366	L	CUMMINGS, LEON E	2014	267.22	-15.94	283.16
3366	L	CUMMINGS, LEON E	2015	281.27	0.00	281.27
3367	L	CUMMINGS, LEON E	2014	272.55	-15.94	288.49
3367	L	CUMMINGS, LEON E	2015	286.98	0.00	286.98
3368	L	CUMMINGS, LEON E	2014	267.22	-15.94	283.16
3368	L	CUMMINGS, LEON E	2015	281.27	0.00	281.27
3369	L	CUMMINGS, LEON E	2014	271.22	-15.94	287.16
3369	L	CUMMINGS, LEON E	2015	285.54	0.00	285.54
3370	L	CUMMINGS, LEON E	2014	216.62	-15.94	232.56
3370	L	CUMMINGS, LEON E	2015	226.97	0.00	226.97
3371	L	CUMMINGS, LEON E	2014	219.28	-15.94	235.22
3371	L	CUMMINGS, LEON E	2015	229.82	0.00	229.82
3372	L	CUMMINGS, LEON E	2014	216.62	-15.94	232.56
3372	L	CUMMINGS, LEON E	2015	226.97	0.00	226.97
536	L	CUNNINGHAM, LINDA	2015	1,918.00	0.00	1,918.00
1137	L	EWING, PETER	2015	619.14	0.00	619.14
765	L	FIELD, JOHN P & MARIETTA F	2015	592.74	0.00	592.74
454	L	FINLEY, MICHAEL O	2015	735.62	0.00	735.62
3066	L	FORTIN, GREGORY E. (JR.) & JENNIFER G.	2015	2,846.72	0.00	2,846.72
3428	L	FROST, ROGER	2015	140.49	0.00	140.49
847	L	GAGNON, JUNE S	2015	820.06	0.00	820.06
2777	L	GIDNEY, ADAM J	2015	1,227.12	0.00	1,227.12
2099	L	GRAY, PATRICIA C & CHARLES H	2015	1,279.24	0.00	1,279.24
1905	L	GREENLEAF, IVERS	2015	1,207.13	0.00	1,207.13
3350	L	HALLETT, LLEWELLA CLARY	2015	797.82	0.00	797.82
1017	L	HEMPHILL-JOSEPH, GRETA	2015	1,147.11	0.00	1,147.11
1820	L	HOWARD, KEITH W. & LISA A.	2015	1,103.58	0.00	1,103.58
1132	L	HUTCHISON, BRIAN KEITH	2015	574.91	0.00	574.91
3136	L	IBBITSON, THOMAS S.	2015	253.35	0.00	253.35
3269	L	JOSE, JODY	2015	1,037.77	0.00	1,037.77
1153	L	JOSEPH, FRANCIS E, TRUSTEE	2015	1,358.58	0.00	1,358.58
723	L	JOSEPH, GRETA	2015	735.62	0.00	735.62
2936	L	JURDAK, STEVEN	2015	724.95	320.25	404.70
2429	L	KARTMAN, MICHAEL J SR	2015	632.83	0.00	632.83
249	L	KERTZMAN, MICHAEL	2015	365.56	0.00	365.56
533	L	LANPHIER, BELINDA M.	2015	1,402.88	0.00	1,402.88
1846	L	LEACH PROPERTIES, LLC	2015	1,930.10	0.00	1,930.10
2017	L	LEGEL, MARK A	2015	3,056.00	0.00	3,056.00
1278	L	LEMIEUX, SHEILA	2015	1,563.58	0.00	1,563.58
3018	L	LILLY, RHONDA J.	2015	547.77	0.00	547.77
1396	L	MARDEN, SUSAN M	2015	777.05	0.00	777.05
2885	L	MCCAUSLAND, CRAIG	2015	1,064.25	0.00	1,064.25
2529	L	MCNEIL, WILLIAM	2015	635.60	79.11	556.49
1489	L	MICHAUD, PETER & SALLY	2015	702.00	0.00	702.00
997	L	MORIN, ANDREA JEAN	2015	64.75	0.00	64.75
1523	L	MORNEAU, PAUL J	2015	222.68	0.00	222.68
1527	L	MORNEAU, PAUL J	2015	1,680.82	0.00	1,680.82
2200	L	O'ROURKE, THOMAS	2015	2,223.33	37.58	2,185.75
77	L	OVERLOCK, TODD	2015	1,059.29	0.00	1,059.29
2523	L	PEASLEE, DANIEL	2015	2,196.69	0.00	2,196.69
1404	L	PINKHAM, KIRBY L.	2015	826.69	0.00	826.69

1735	L	POOLER, CLIFFORD A	2014	2,014.44	1,304.31	710.13
1735	L	POOLER, CLIFFORD A	2015	2,155.17	0.00	2,155.17
651	L	PULLEN, KEVIN & LISA	2015	76.26	0.00	76.26
652	L	PULLEN, KEVIN B & LISA	2015	171.99	0.00	171.99
3267	L	REID, KENNETH	2015	119.81	0.00	119.81
2910	L	RICHARDS, JEFF & MICHELLE	2015	153.43	0.00	153.43
1865	L	RICHARDS, PATRICIA A	2015	410.53	0.00	410.53
1866	L	RICHARDS, REBECCA	2015	883.63	0.00	883.63
1303	L	RONCO, EILEEN LINDBERG & JAMES F JR	2015	1,550.05	0.00	1,550.05
1997	L	SHIPLEY, EUGENE E SR & JR	2015	611.99	0.00	611.99
2980	L	SMITH, BERTELLE & KIMBERLY	2015	274.12	0.00	274.12
78	L	SOPER, RUSSELL H	2015	264.80	0.00	264.80
2064	L	SPAULDING, WILLIAM H.	2015	2,183.67	1,433.50	750.17
3253	L	STONE ROAD CORPORATION	2015	371.69	0.00	371.69
3255	L	STONE ROAD CORPORATION	2015	361.67	0.00	361.67
3256	L	STONE ROAD CORPORATION	2015	381.68	0.00	381.68
1811	L	SUGA, LINDA	2015	1,283.53	0.00	1,283.53
2128	L	SUGA, LINDA	2015	1,254.95	0.00	1,254.95
1571	L	SUGA, RICHARD J	2015	247.73	0.00	247.73
1669	L	SUGA, RICHARD J	2015	160.57	0.00	160.57
1670	L	SUGA, RICHARD J	2015	160.57	0.00	160.57
2576	L	SUGA, RICHARD J	2015	270.50	0.00	270.50
384	L	SUGA, RICHARD J.	2015	2,761.75	0.00	2,761.75
2119	L	SUGA, RICHARD J.	2015	421.28	0.00	421.28
2127	L	SUGA, RICHARD J. & RHONA R.	2015	2,437.41	0.00	2,437.41
2457	L	SUGA, RICHARD JOSEPH	2015	735.69	0.00	735.69
3019	L	TARGETT, KRISTOFER & ERIN	2015	443.59	294.76	148.83
2172	L	THOMPSON, PETER	2015	1,332.86	0.00	1,332.86
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	1997	175.74	-11.98	187.72
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	1998	323.32	30.50	292.82
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	1999	333.10	-12.25	345.35
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2000	380.14	-12.93	393.07
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2001	396.09	-12.93	409.02
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2002	405.29	-5.00	410.29
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2003	442.38	-12.64	455.02
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2004	401.51	-12.64	414.15
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2005	363.35	0.00	363.35
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2006	382.04	-8.32	390.36
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2007	294.44	0.00	294.44
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2008	305.37	-8.54	313.91
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2008	16,087.40	-8.54	16,095.94
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2009	905.45	0.00	905.45
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2010	894.63	-8.75	903.38
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2011	885.66	0.00	885.66
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2012	977.03	0.00	977.03
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2013	998.62	-9.74	1,008.36
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2014	1,026.19	0.00	1,026.19
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2015	1,096.35	0.00	1,096.35
243	L	WATERHOUSE, JASON M.	2015	617.03	0.00	617.03
2307	L	WEEKS, RONALD A	2015	2,741.66	0.00	2,741.66
2310	L	WELCH, PAMELA	2015	1,684.43	0.00	1,684.43
2313	L	WENTWORTH, DAVID JR	2015	159.61	0.00	159.61
479	L	WILLETT, SAMANTHA	2015	925.65	0.00	925.65
2382	L	WOOD, SHANE	2015	733.61	0.00	733.61

2451	L	WOOD, SHANE	2015	745.71	0.00	745.71
2487	L	WOOD, SHANE	2015	111.32	0.00	111.32
2488	L	WOOD, SHANE	2015	99.89	0.00	99.89
1010	L	WRIGHT, BRENDA HEMPHILL	2015	1,910.81	0.00	1,910.81
2447	L	YEATON, SANDRA J & JEFFREY A	2015	641.39	0.00	641.39
<b>Total for 160 Accounts:</b>				<b>147,561.15</b>	<b>4,232.45</b>	<b>143,328.70</b>

### Unpaid Personal Property Taxes as of March 20, 2017

Acct	Name ----	Year	Tax	Adjustments	Due
359	P BRIDGET'S PLACE	2010	146.45	55.86	90.59
359	P BRIDGET'S PLACE	2011	145.00	0.00	145.00
359	P BRIDGET'S PLACE	2012	159.50	0.00	159.50
359	P BRIDGET'S PLACE	2013	171.36	0.00	171.36
359	P BRIDGET'S PLACE	2014	185.60	0.00	185.60
359	P BRIDGET'S PLACE	2015	198.65	0.00	198.65
99	P BUTTERFIELD, LINDA	2012	256.30	0.00	256.30
99	P BUTTERFIELD, LINDA	2013	276.64	0.00	276.64
99	P BUTTERFIELD, LINDA	2014	298.24	0.00	298.24
99	P BUTTERFIELD, LINDA	2015	319.21	0.00	319.21
20	P ELLIS, DUANNE	2015	169.88	95.17	74.71
305	P GERARD, ROBERT G & ANITA L	2009	149.48	113.24	36.24
305	P GERARD, ROBERT G & ANITA L	2010	149.48	0.00	149.48
305	P GERARD, ROBERT G & ANITA L	2011	148.00	0.00	148.00
305	P GERARD, ROBERT G & ANITA L	2012	162.80	0.00	162.80
305	P GERARD, ROBERT G & ANITA L	2013	175.84	0.00	175.84
277	P GREEN, JOHN PAVING	2011	206.00	0.00	206.00
277	P GREEN, JOHN PAVING	2012	226.60	0.00	226.60
277	P GREEN, JOHN PAVING	2013	244.16	0.00	244.16
277	P GREEN, JOHN PAVING	2014	263.68	0.00	263.68
277	P GREEN, JOHN PAVING	2015	282.22	0.00	282.22
99	P MORNEAU, PAUL J	2005	274.35	0.00	274.35
99	P MORNEAU, PAUL J	2006	292.95	0.00	292.95
99	P MORNEAU, PAUL J	2007	200.38	0.00	200.38
99	P MORNEAU, PAUL J	2008	214.36	0.00	214.36
99	P MORNEAU, PAUL J	2009	235.33	0.00	235.33
99	P MORNEAU, PAUL J	2010	235.33	0.00	235.33
99	P MORNEAU, PAUL J	2011	233.00	0.00	233.00
314	P NOLL, ETHAN E.	2008	69.00	0.00	69.00
314	P NOLL, ETHAN E.	2009	75.75	0.00	75.75
314	P NOLL, ETHAN E.	2010	75.75	0.00	75.75
314	P NOLL, ETHAN E.	2011	75.00	0.00	75.00
314	P NOLL, ETHAN E.	2012	82.50	0.00	82.50
314	P NOLL, ETHAN E.	2013	89.60	0.00	89.60
314	P NOLL, ETHAN E.	2014	96.00	0.00	96.00
314	P NOLL, ETHAN E.	2015	102.75	0.00	102.75
352	P NORTHERN QUALITY CONCRETE LLC	2012	37.40	0.00	37.40
262	P WILLOUGHBY, MILTON	2013	23.52	0.00	23.52
261	P WW PRECISION MACHINERY INC	2011	560.00	307.63	252.37
261	P WW PRECISION MACHINERY INC	2012	567.60	0.00	567.60
261	P WW PRECISION MACHINERY INC	2013	605.92	0.00	605.92
261	P WW PRECISION MACHINERY INC	2014	650.24	0.00	650.24

<b>Total for 42 Accounts:</b>	<b>9,131.82</b>	<b>571.90</b>	<b>8,559.92</b>
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# REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

Catherine Coyne ... Registrar

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

- 1) June 14, 2016 was the date of the Municipal Election.
- 2) The State General/Referendum Election was held on November 8, 2016. There were 2480 ballots cast.

The Town of Vassalboro participated in the AOS meeting and vote on January 9, 2017

The total number of voters as of April 2016 is 3266 with the following party affiliation breakdown:

Democrats: 951  
Republicans: 992  
Green: 156    Unenrolled: 1160  
Libertarian: 7

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

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



Ballot Clerks (L – R) Mary Morneau, Deborah Giroux, Linda Kingdon, Glenys Michaud, Margaret Hemphill, Molly Melrose and Donna Jacobs

# DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Maeghan Maloney ... District Attorney

## What a year it's been! The District Attorney's Office has been busy!

Thanks to the legislature, I was able to implement the Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence & Elder Abuse Unit in both Kennebec and Somerset Counties. These are cases that require specialized knowledge and time-intensive work. I am pleased to now have attorneys focused exclusively on these cases and am thankful to be seeing the results in the increased criminal sentences for sexual assault and strangulation.

We also now have consistency across the district in juvenile prosecution with one attorney handling all the cases in Kennebec and Somerset Counties. Her focus is on rehabilitation with the implementation of Restorative Justice. We are thankful to our community partners providing such programs as Rebound to Success (Alfond Youth Center) and Diversion to Assets (Boys and Girls Club). Our goal is to work with the juveniles so they never return to the adult criminal justice system.

The Veterans' Court graduates continue to all be crime-free and volunteer veteran mentors are a big part of the reason. The Co-Occurring Disorders Court addresses mental health and addiction and has not had a graduate commit a new crime since 2014. Our newest alternative substance abuse program in Skowhegan continues to grow with all successful graduates. And our CARA (Criminogenic Addiction and Recovery Academy) participants recorded a music CD and continue to be super hero volunteers in our community. Not everyone who enters one of these programs graduates – it's hard work to turn your life around. But those who graduate never return to the criminal justice system. Every graduate saves the community tens of thousands of dollars by avoiding incarceration, but the benefits to their families and dependents are priceless.

Wishing you and yours a beautiful year,  
Maeghan Maloney  
District Attorney



# KENNEBEC WATER DISTRICT

Jeffrey D. LaCasse ... General Manager

The Kennebec Water District serves the communities of Vassalboro, Waterville, Winslow, Fairfield and Benton and is the source of supply for the public water system in Oakland. The District provides water for domestic, commercial and industrial uses and also for public and private fire protection.

The Kennebec Water District (KWD) has been utilizing China Lake as its sole source of supply since 1905. The lake was chosen after the District's original source of Messalonskee Stream was found to be the primary pathway for a typhoid epidemic in 1903-04. KWD's water treatment facility, built in 1993 and located on Route 32 in Vassalboro, is capable of treating up to 12 million gallons a day (mgd). System demand, however, has dropped dramatically from 10.5 mgd in the mid 1990's to 2.6 mgd in 2016.

In 2016, KWD contracted a remodel and upgrade of our Intake Facility on the shorefront of China Lake. We are currently in the midst of a \$3.3 million upgrade to our primary pump station in Waterville.

We have remained active participants in several China

Lake watershed related programs. We funded the Courtesy Boat Inspection program on China Lake in 2015 and 2016 and will again in 2017. We supported the Lakesmart program on China Lake with a donation in 2016 and have pledged a used vehicle and a financial donation for 2017 in hopes the program can be expanded. We also continue to monitor, sample and analyze lake water quality in coordination with the Volunteer Lakes Monitoring Program and Maine DEP.

We have chosen not to financially support the alewife restoration project as our analysis did not project any substantial water quality improvements and, therefore, benefits for our ratepayers from the reintroduction of alewives. We are, however, continuing to closely work with the ARI group on several technical issues involved with fish passage at the Outlet Stream dam. KWD has been operating the dam for the Town of Vassalboro since 2009. We have qualified technical staff as well as substantial historical information on the lake.

I would like to acknowledge Gary Coull, trustee from Vassalboro from 2011 through 2016, and new trustee Frank Richards who began his term in 2017.

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## CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Jane E. Aiudi ... Chair

During this past year the committee has welcomed several new members and said 'thank you' to several members that have served faithfully over the last several years. The committee continues to strive to attain the goals that were established by that group.

The project of installing signs at over 20 cemeteries is almost complete with just a few left to be installed in the spring of 2017. This effort was spearheaded by past member Jim Ashton and the committee wishes to thank him for his efforts and dedication to this project.

With the submission of a grant proposal, orchestrated by our town manager, we have hopefully moved one step closer to realizing our goal of computerizing all of the

towns cemetery records and making them available not only to town officials, but to genealogists via the internet. The funding decision will be made sometime in March 2017.

The committee continues its commitment to maintain the town's cemeteries through mowing, cleaning, and repair of stones as resources allow. Plans for the upcoming year include the survey and marking of the additional area in the Cross Hill Cemetery along with the ongoing care and maintenance of our cemeteries. Over the next year, the committee will be reviewing the current cemetery rules that are in place for the North Vassalboro town cemetery with an eye to adopting those rules for all town cemeteries.

# KENNEBEC COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Ken Mason ... Sheriff

The Kennebec County Sheriff's Office is pleased to make the following report regarding the services we provided to the people of Kennebec County in 2016. These services include the Law Enforcement Division, Corrections' Services, Civil Process, Court Security and Transport Division. We provided many regional assets to our communities including Drug Investigations, K-9, Dive Team, Sex Offender Registry, Veterans Advocacy, Accident Reconstruction and the Special Response Team.

In 2016 nineteen Deputy Sheriffs serving in the Law Enforcement Division both in full-time and part-time capacity responded to over 16,000 calls for service. As a result deputies made 920 arrests, issued 665 traffic summonses, and responded to 537 motor vehicle accidents. Deputy Sheriffs also responded to 616 alarms, 174 domestic disturbances, and assisted other agencies 771 times. Deputies and Detectives made 81 drug seizures, of which most were opiate related.

Our Civil Process deputies serve documents from a number of legal agencies, state agencies, lawyers' offices and other entities. In 2016, the four deputies served 7,076 documents or legal papers to the citizens of Kennebec County.

During the past year, our Correctional Facility managed 3,212 inmates, 226 less than last year. 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. With the help from many members of the Kennebec County delegation, we were able to secure funding for the CARA (Criminogenic Addiction Recovery Academy) Program within the State biannual budget. CARA was delayed for several months because of the long delay in financing. We were still able to complete three CARA program courses helping 29 inmates with the treatment and recovery process.

Inmates at the Kennebec County Correctional Facility are asked to work and earn time off their sentences if

applicable. Inmates who are considered to be a risk to the community work inside the facility cleaning and cooking, while others are supervised on outside projects. For every two days worked, one day is reduced from their sentence, resulting in a \$451,077 bed day savings to the citizens of Kennebec County. Throughout 2016, inmates worked 10,069 community service hours, valued at approximately \$75,523. Our inmates raised 25,020 pounds of produce and gleaned 10,075 pounds of produce for the inmate kitchen, area food pantries, churches, homeless shelters, schools and elder programs in 2016.

In December, renovation construction began in the former indoor recreation yard of the correctional facility. The renovations will increase the capacity of the facility by 21 beds. This will allow us to house inmates that are currently boarded at other correctional facilities. Within 18 months the cost of the renovations will pay for itself, as we will not be paying boarding fees to other facilities.

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

Another problem facing law enforcement throughout our great nation is distracted driving. Highway fatalities and serious injuries have soared as a result of individuals using electronic devices when operating a motor vehicle. Please do not be a statistic or make others a statistic because of carelessness.

As your Sheriff, and moving forward in 2017, my focus will be exclusively on the people of Kennebec County and my fellow employees within the Sheriff's Office.

# CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Betsy Poulin ... Chair

The Vassalboro Conservation Commission is now in its ninth year! The Conservation Commission has the responsibility of conducting research and giving advice that will help Vassalboro citizens to better utilize, protect, and plan for the Town's natural resources and open areas. The Conservation Commission coordinates its activities with other existing Town committees, departments, and with statewide conservation organizations.

Mary Ellen Johnston retired after serving since the starting days of the Conservation Commission. She will be greatly missed. A new member has joined, Dylan Dillaway, who is an owner of 47 Daisies Farm on Webber Pond Road and a board member for the Seabasticook Regional Land Trust. Members of the Commission include David Jenney, Steve Jones, Holly Weidner, Dylan Dillaway and Betsy Poulin. The ordinance allows for up to seven members, so please contact the Town Office if you are interested in serving! All meetings are open to the public and are held on Thursday nights of every other month at the Town Office.

The Commission has been involved with the sidewalk proposal for East Vassalboro since 2007, attending meetings and brainstorming solutions for improved pedestrian safety. The addition of sidewalks was not approved at the November election. The Commission will continue to be involved in improving pedestrian safety, slowing vehicular traffic, improving aesthetics, and providing opportunities to improve the health of residents through accessible path options.



PHOTO BY BETSY POULIN

*Wood Lillies*

Commission members closely followed the Alewife Restoration Initiatives project for dam removal along the Outlet Stream to allow alewife migration to China Lake. Many meetings were attended at the East Vassalboro Grange and the Department of Marine Resources. The Masse Dam has been removed as the first construction step for the project and the stream is in the process of redefinition.

Some of you might have noticed the new signage at Vassalboro Recreational Fields for the Town Forest Trails. There are three trailheads around the perimeter of the soccer fields, connecting forest and wetland trails, which also are partially on the former Narrow Gauge Railroad network. Trail work including removal of down trees and pushing back growth happened this year, as well as the purchase of new hemlock planks to upgrade the bog bridging.

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## SANITARY DISTRICT

Raymond Breton ... Chair

The Vassalboro Sanitary District board members - Al Roy, Lee Trahan, Becky Goodrich, Paul Mitnik, and chair-person Raymond Breton - are still working with Richard Green and Dan Marks, Hoyle and Tanner Engineering, and Chuck Applebee, Water Quality and Compliance. Also, Vassalboro Town Manager Mary Sabins, Winslow Town Manager Michael Heavener, D O T, Rural Development, U S D A ,and many others are all working hard to have the

new pumping stations hooked up to Winslow at the Dunbar Road, thus closing the three filter beds in Vassalboro. The project will go out for bid by the end of July and a construction company will be picked in the fall. It may start then and plans to finish in 2018. This will be a big plus for Vassalboro. I would like to thank everyone involved with this project. We meet on the third Thursday every month at 6:00 pm at the Vassalboro Sanitary District.

# HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Jan Clowes ... President

Museum Hours: open for tours on the  
2nd and 4th Sundays of the month from  
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. from April–October  
[www.vassalborohistoricalsociety.org](http://www.vassalborohistoricalsociety.org)

For the first time in memory, the Vassalboro Historical Society presented honorary ownership of the Boston Post Cane. In 1909 the Boston Post, one of the nation's leading newspapers, presented 700 canes (ebony with gold heads) to selectmen in Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire. The canes were to be presented to the oldest resident of each town, with the town retaining ownership. Vassalboro's cane had disappeared for years until Betty Taylor purchased it from an antique dealer in California for \$500. The cane is now displayed at the museum.

PHOTO BY LYNETTE LARY-EASTMAN



***Mrs. Charlotte Eastman, who was born on August 9, 1918, was awarded the cane during Vassalboro Days.*** Mrs. Eastman moved to Vassalboro shortly after her marriage to Albert Eastman in 1950. She quickly became an active member of the community. She has been active with the Riverside Study Club, Church Women United, Girl Scouts, and the Vassalboro Food Pantry. Mr. and Mrs. Eastman raised three daughters in Vassalboro: Marie, Martha, and Margaret. The family worked, worshipped & played here. In 1998, Mrs. Eastman took on the additional role of caregiver, when Mr. Eastman was diagnosed with Alzheimer's. He passed away in 2003. She remains active and involved in many groups.

The Historical Society was notified that we had been selected by the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers and the Natural Resources Conservation Service as a grant recipient--one of only three nationally--in honor of the 50th anniversary of the National Historical Preservation Act. We finished up 2016 working with board members and a retiree from the Maine State Museum to plan and create a display, which will be opening in June of 2017.

You may have noticed the signs around town highlighting an Audio Tour. If you called the phone number and entered your selection, you heard a



2-3 minute history of the chosen site. Sites included the Parsonage House, the Methodist Cemetery, St. Bridget's, the Oak Grove Chapel, among others.

We shared artifacts and information with the Vassalboro Community School, held several yard sales, assisted with research, and held Open Houses on the 2nd and 4th Sundays from April through October. Margaret Wescott, the mother of Olympic gold medalist Seth Wescott, who attended school here in town, presented a program at the museum in March. Owner Ray Breton conducted a tour of the Woolen Mill in North Vassalboro.

Our buildings were updated thanks to our wonderful maintenance crew. A new roof, repaired windows, and paint have improved the looks of the first firehouse in Vassalboro, which now houses our yard sales, and the harness shop behind it.

VHS has a website and a facebook page, connecting with people all over the nation. We publish a periodical newsletter, and we welcome new members of all ages and interests.



# FOOD STATION PANTRY

Cindy Ferland ... Executive Director

This report is dedicated to the memory of Evelyn Clark Dutil who passed away on 2-14-2016. Evelyn was the Treasurer for the pantry for 13 years and devoted many hours to assisting with endeavors to help support the pantry.

We are proud to be in our 15th year of operation. The pantry was opened in February 2002 in the 2nd floor of the Fire Station and we moved into the new building January 2008. The food storage addition was built onto the back of the building in 2012, and the walk-in cooler was finished in 2014.

In 2016, the VFSP was able to add a much-needed front awning for clients to be able to wait for services out of the sun, rain, and weather.

- As of December 31, 2016, we have 158 registered Vassalboro Families. (60 Seniors, 232 Adults, 106 Children).
- We have 30 dedicated volunteers with 4534 + volunteer hours in 2016.
- In 2016 we gave out 2,731 + banana boxes of food.
- In addition to the weekly and monthly distribution we were able to assist with:
  - 57 families - Easter dinners
  - 68 families - Thanksgiving dinner
  - 81 families - Christmas dinner boxes



L-R: Karen, Amy, Cindy, Mary, Danielle

**The pantry is open every Thursday from 11:00 am – 12:00 noon for any Vassalboro resident who needs help.**

The VFSP Directors would like to thank the Town of Vassalboro employees for all the help they gave us this year.

Words cannot express how grateful the VFSP is to the hard working, kind-hearted, employees at the Maine Savings Federal Credit Union of North Vassalboro.

**Also, a Big Thank You to the generous and loyal supporters of the VFSP in 2016:** Hannafords-Augusta, Shaws-Augusta, Country Kitchen-Waterville, Ray Haskell dealership of Oakland for sponsoring the van maintenance, Stephen & Tabitha King Foundation, Mid State Machine Foundation, Vassalboro United Methodist Church, Vassalboro Riverside Congregation Church, Togus VA employees, John & Elizabeth Reuthe, Full Circle Farm-Bernie & Jody Welch, Edward & Avis Noel family, Vassalboro Community School, Brenda Davis from Old Town, Girl Scouts troops-1139-2000-1091-790-1995, Vassalboro Rural Mail Carriers-Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive, St. Bridget's Garden-Jim & Rachel Kilbride, Sappi employees of Skowhegan, David & Cheryl Sherwood, Jim & Evelyn Ashton, Don & Lisa Breton, Michael & Jill Pleau, and many more thoughtful anonymous donors....

The Board Members are: Cindy Ferland, Albert Ferland, David Sherwood, Cheryl Sherwood, Diane Bailey, and Tina Breton.

The pantry is looking for Board Members to help with the everyday operations of the pantry. If interested, please call 873-7375 and leave a message. Again, Thank You to everyone who continues to volunteer and support the pantry.



L-R: Danielle, Susan, Diane, Cindy, Dawn, Caitlyn, and Alexis

# VASSALBORO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Donna L. Lambert ... Library Director

Having just completed my first year as Library Director, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the community for welcoming me in such a wonderful manner. Whether I have been on personal errands in Vassalboro or conducting business for the library, the residents of the community as well as our patrons, volunteers, and the Vassalboro Public Library Association Board have been genuinely friendly and supportive of the library and me as well. I am very appreciative and grateful for all of the kindness extended to me as well as the community support.

Part of the mission of the Vassalboro Public Library is to be a welcoming gathering place for the residents of the community. Some of the many services that we provide include loaning books, dvds, audio books, magazines and even a telescope; computers to use; free wireless internet; printing and copying documents and more! Feel free to stop by and take advantage of these services or just drop by to say hello! During the winter, it is warm by the wood stove and we have community jigsaw puzzles to help put together if you desire. We welcome your visits!

FY 2015-2016 welcomed approximately 6100 patron visits and circulation of over 12,000 items. Over 500 patrons used the three public computers for internet access. Many more took advantage of our free Wi-Fi using personal laptops or other mobile devices. We also offer full color printing as well. As part of the State's Van Delivery system, if an item is not in our collection, we can access it through Inter-Library Loans. We filled over 250 ILL transactions for our patrons.

We are grateful for the outstanding team of volunteers who help us out all year. Logging in almost 1300 hours of time donated to the Library, they are vital to making it all happen. Their work is an invaluable contribution to the library and the community as well. Space constraints do not allow for us to list everyone who contributes to the library, but the following people deserve special recognition for all they have done: Sylvia Michaud, Lore & Chuck Ferguson, Irene Forster, Myrna & Paul Duplessie, Sue & Phil Haines,

Debbie Clarke, Susan Manning, Valerie Sugden, Helen LaFleur, Art & Linda Kingdon, Susan & Ken Taylor, Susan Bouchard, Liz McMahon, Russell Smith, George O'Connor, Susan Kiralis, Jim Ashton, Jody & Bernie Welch, Victor Esposito and the JMG students, Greg Seamans, David Shipman, Deb Crump, Vicki Limberger, Ann White and still coming to spend time with us each week is our cherished volunteer, Eleanor Getchell. We thank you all for everything you do!

As a community center providing access to information, ideas and entertainment for everyone, we are proud to maintain the services and value which has been part of the Vassalboro community for over a hundred years. We strive to provide personalized service to our patrons and projects. Our annual Book & Bake Sale and Silent Auction gets bigger every year! It is always the Saturday after Labor Day and a highlight of Vassalboro Days. Mark your calendar now to come and search for bargains as you support the library! Check out our website, visit us on Facebook, search the online catalog from the comfort of your home and stop by the library often.

**We are open Mondays and Wednesdays from 12:30 – 8 pm and Saturdays from 10 am – 6 pm.**  
**We welcome our patron visits and are looking forward to another active year!**





# CODE ENFORCEMENT

Dick Dolby ... CEO/LPI

Communities with a population over 4,000 residents are obligated to enforce the provisions of the state adopted building code commonly referred to as MUBEC. The Maine Uniform Building Energy Code establishes the minimum standards for construction of all structures.

Commercial structures are governed by the IBC (International Building Code). Residential structures are governed by the IRC (International Residential Code). Commercial and Residential structures are both governed by the IECC (International Energy Conservation Code).

Ordinances that are applicable to construction projects can be found on-line at the Vassalboro Town web-site.

**Note: Those structures "not required to obtain a permit" are required to be placed in conformance with all setbacks.**

Town Building Permits are required for new construction and renovation of existing structures. The property owner is required to call for the required inspection of foundations, framing, insulation and a final inspection at the completion for the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy prior to moving in.

Commercial projects, construction within the shoreland areas, and subdivisions require review by the Vassalboro Planning Board prior to submission of a building permit application.

The Vassalboro Board of Appeals had one request for an administrative appeal of the local ordinances which was found to have been submitted beyond the time limit for appeal by the Board of Appeals and was rejected.

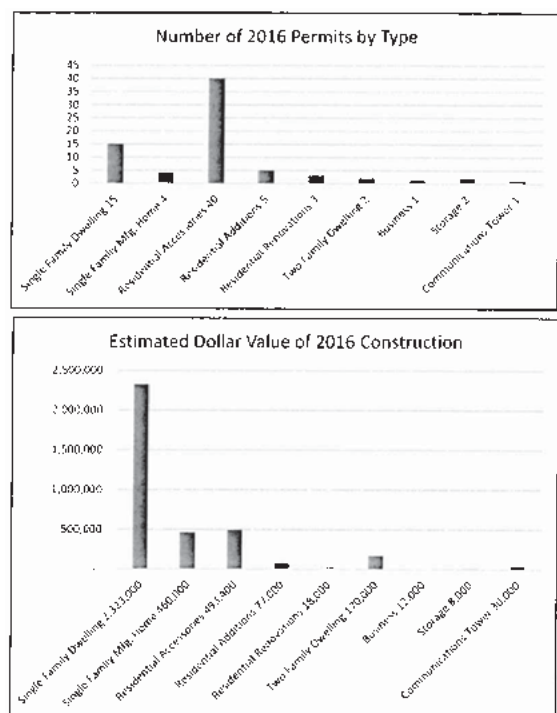
The Vassalboro Planning Board received 10 submissions for site plan reviews and one submission for a subdivision. The Planning Board completed an exhaustive review of the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance as suggested by the State of Maine Department of Environmental Protection.

At the request of the Town Board of Selectmen, they met twice a month in an attempt to complete the project. A public hearing was conducted jointly by the Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board. The Shoreland Zoning Ordinance revision was placed on the ballot in November. The proposed ordinance revisions were not accepted.

Several property owners were sent "Notifications of Violations" during the year. Property owners with outstanding issues which have violations that have not been resolved are not eligible for any type of building permit within the Town of Vassalboro as long as the violation exists.

There are three licenses for automobile hobbyists and six licensed junkyards. Properties with more than two (2) un-inspected, unregistered vehicles are in violation of local ordinances and may not obtain any type of permit until such time as the vehicles are removed.

I recognize most of us don't like to be told what to do. I agree whole heartedly; voluntary compliance is much easier than any level of enforcement. So, I would encourage those contemplating even a minor project to call or drop by the town office to discuss your project. Who knows, you may not even need a permit.





# THE ALEWIFE RESTORATION INITIATIVE

Matt Streeter ... ARI Project Manager

It was a busy year for the Alewife Restoration Initiative (ARI), whose goal is to remove obsolete dams and establish free fish passage at the six Outlet Stream barriers that currently block access to China Lake from the Sebasticook River and the ocean. When finished, the Alewife Restoration Initiative will allow free passage for an annual run of 800,000 to 950,000 adult river herring (alewives). Significant numbers of American eel, and will benefit sea lamprey, white sucker and brook trout.

The most visible and dramatic change brought about by ARI's work this year was the removal of the Masse Sawmill. While some were sad to see the old mill come down, we were reminded during the dismantling of how fragile it had become through the years. The structure came down in a few days in August, and the gristmill that remains at the streamside looks all the more solid by comparison. Where safety allowed, historic equipment was removed from the sawmill and donated to the Vassalboro Historical Society or to the Maine Forest and Logging Museum. In addition to removing the sawmill, we drew down the Masse impoundment, and began the process of re-vegetation in the dewatered area. The streambed has begun to find its original meandering way through the newly greening area, and plans are in store for adding a variety of native grasses, ferns, flowering plants, shrubs and trees in 2017. Finally, the long-needed relocation of the East Vassalboro Water Company water main and service lines was completed in the fall to protect the water system from potential damage and freezing. Removal of Masse Dam is planned for 2017.

Much progress has also been made on the other dams on Outlet Stream. An Outlet Dam Committee has convened several times this fall and winter to consider and plan for the fish passage structure to be installed at that site where the dam will remain in place. The committee consists of residents of Vassalboro and China, representatives from the Kennebec Water District, and ARI partners. Fred Seavey and Bryan Sojkowski of US Fish and Wildlife Service have presented stream flow data to the group, and are expected to provide an early-stage conceptual design at our March meeting. The project has received support from the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund, The Nature Conservancy in Maine, Patagonia, the Davis Conservation Foundation and the Maine Natural Resource Conservation Program.

Several options have been proposed and considered to address the technical and aesthetic challenges to establishing fish passage at Ladd and Box Mills Dams. Property owner Ray Breton has been deeply involved in the process of vetting options at those sites, and solid conceptual designs have been agreed upon at both sites. A permit-ready design for Ladd Dam that maintains the swimming, boating and pond-side activities at the site is expected by the end of March. This will include plans for the future alewife harvesting activities.

For more information about the project, contact Matt Streeter at [mstreeter212@gmail.com](mailto:mstreeter212@gmail.com) or 337-2611.



*The structurally unsound sawmill has been removed at the Masse Mill site, while the gristmill remains standing. Photo taken September 2, 2016 by Matt Streeter.*



*The Masse Sawmill before its removal. Photo by Matt Streeter*



*After dewatering of the Masse impoundment, the streambed has begun to re-establish itself, and vegetation has begun to emerge on its banks. Photo taken October 20, 2016 by Landis Hudson.*

# MILL AGENT'S HOUSE

NORTH VASSALBORO, MAINE

By *Lauchlin Titus*

**THE MILL AGENT'S HOUSE**, located at the corner of Main Street and Priest Hill Road in the center of North Vassalboro is possibly the most well-known building in our town. The building has numerous connections that result in this claim to fame. A Google Search reveals 18 pages of entries related to this building. We will explain why in a bit, if you don't already know!

The house as it exists today was built in 1847 by the North Vassalboro Manufacturing Woolen Mill for Thomas Lang who was the son of the mill founder and the agent in charge of operations. It was built to be a single family home and was equipped with servant's quarters. The Lang's were probably the most well to do family in town at that time, owning close to half of the properties in North Vassalboro. The woolen mill itself was the largest woolen mill in New England in the mid-1800s, so the family was presumably financially successful. The new house was built around an existing house purchased from Heath. Yes, there is a house within a house! Ray Breton, the current owner, an extremely experienced local builder, has done a lot of work on the house and confirms this unusual fact. The house was built in the Greek Revival style with Doric columns dominating the front of the house. It is documented by The Maine Historic Preservation Commission and was listed in 1983 on the National Register of Historic Places in Kennebec County. The early house had six chimneys. Three chimneys are still in place. Another

feature that still remains would be the 69 windows with around 1400 individual panes of glass.

Thomas Lang's lasting claim to fame is that he was the first to import Standardbred horses into the United States. The Standardbred horse racing community can trace the bloodlines of present day race horses back to the 1850's and 1860's in Vassalboro, Maine. There is a stone marker at the Mill Agent's House, on the north side off of Priest Hill Road, that commemorates this and lists some of the famous horses of that era that were bred here.

The landscape design for the property, done possibly in 1871, was done by Frederick Law Olmstead. Mr. Olmstead was one of the most prominent landscape architects of the late 1800s and is possibly most well known as the architect of Central Park in New York City. Ray Breton takes great pride in maintaining the lawns and the existing landscape. The property contains a relatively rare species of oak tree for Maine, a burr oak, and it is the largest burr oak in the state.

The woolen mill continued to be successful (especially during times of war) and employed as many as five hundred people during part of its' history. Housing for workers was provided and jobs were advertised for the mill in Ireland, Scotland, and Canada, resulting in many immigrants from those areas to our town. The owners prospered and in 1899 the house was remodeled and it was stated that "no expense was spared". Twenty five men were employed to do the work, which included the placement of Italian marble, tiger maple flooring, and large and ornate wood moldings in the house.

There was a bit of excitement in 1937 when the Sargent family resided there. The steam boiler in the basement exploded in the middle of the night, blowing through the first floor and into the second floor right under someone's bed! Fortunately, no one was injured, but all of the windows were blown out and the plaster and lath of the walls was heavily damaged.

The woolen mill was closed in 1956 and all of the properties owned by the mill were sold prior to that, starting as early as 1935. The Mill Agents House became White Haven Home, a nursing home for women. It ran for twenty years and was first operated by the Plourde family and later by the Hosea family. Renovations were done to accommodate this use of the building. After the nursing home closed, Dave Tudor acquired the house and began the conversion of the building to include several apartments. Ray Breton and his crew of carpenters worked for Mr. Tudor to finish the work of renovating the building







for apartments, which is its current use today. Ray Breton ultimately purchased the Mill Agent's House in 1995 and has resided there himself since 1999.

Now, for the full story of why it was stated at the beginning that the Mill Agent's House may be the most famous house in all of Vassalboro..... BUT, if you don't have an open mind about the paranormal, the presence of spirits around us, call them ghosts if you will, then stop reading now and enjoy the rest of your day!

Ray Breton's tenants, prior to his living there, occasionally reported strange "stuff" would happen from time to time. Upon moving there himself in 1999 Ray immediately became aware of this strange stuff too. For a long time he didn't talk about it because, well, we might all think he was nuts. As time went on and various people, without forewarning or discussion, all commented on the same feelings and observations in specific areas of the house Ray came to understand that he probably isn't nuts! Word spread and people with an interest and understanding of the paranormal started to express an interest in visiting the house. Now, in 2017, over 1900 people have visited the Mill Agent's House (and/or the associated Mill) and they come from all over the United States, with several visitors from other countries as well. Visitors are NOT told what to look for or what to expect when they visit the house. Many use cameras and sophisticated equipment during their visits. Ray has four binders of comments, photos, and information from visitors. What is remarkable is the similarity of observations from so many people. Spirits pictures show up in mirrors and in the reflection of windows.

This is what the vast number of Google Search articles relate to. The Mill Agent's House has been featured on A & E Bio. Haunt ME and America on Wheels have more information as well. The house is described in the book "Hauntings from Wayne, Maine and Beyond" by Cathy Cook and Annette Parlin.

**Not to spoil it for you if you plan to visit in the future, but here is what people report seeing:**

#### ***The Captain***

"Consistently described as a military figure (as opposed to naval) who is tall at over six feet, with a smell of tobacco/sulfur about him. His heavy footsteps are heard frequently."

#### ***The Children***

"The front apartment has 18 spirit children present and they can be mischievous. Three different tenants have commented that "it is more work taking care of kids you can't see than your own."

#### ***The Women***

"Various women are seen in long petticoats moving across a room."

#### ***The Pets***

"Low statured energy forms presumed to be cats or dogs."

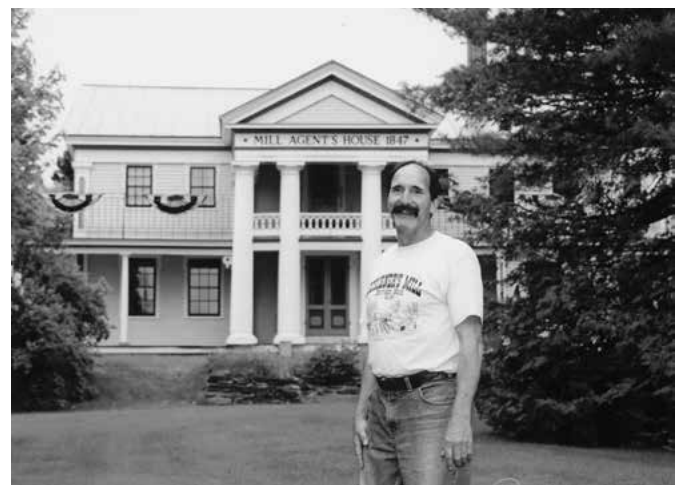
#### ***Energy Orbs***

"Round spheres of energy that sometimes have faces visible in them."

#### ***Bolts of Light***

"These shoot across the room and appear to go through the wall."

When Ray Breton is asked what he thinks his role and responsibility is with regard to the Mill Agent's House he responds, "I am a steward." He has restored and maintained the exterior to much of its' former glory and he takes great pride in the building and its history relative to Vassalboro.



*Ray Breton, current owner of the Mill Agent's House*

# CHINA REGION LAKES ALLIANCE

Jim Hart ... CRLA President

The CRLA was formed in 1995 by the Lake Associations from China Lake, Three Mile Pond, and Webber Pond, along with the Towns of Vassalboro, Windsor, and China, and the Kennebec Water District. The purpose was to cooperate on common projects to protect and improve water quality in our member lakes. This pooled resources and talent, which saves time and money to the benefit of our communities and lakes. CRLA was the first regional lakes alliance within the State of Maine. Now, there are five others.

Among the noteworthy events this year involved an organizational change whereby the Kennebec Water District (KWD) withdrew from the CRLA. KWD cited its opposition to the alewife restoration work on China Lake and CRLA's support of it. KWD does not share the view that water quality improvements seen on Webber Pond and Three Mile Pond were attributable to alewife.

The rest of the CRLA Board, however, are convinced that those improvements coincide with the alewife reintroduction. On Three Mile Pond, CRLA cleared a ¼ mile section of impaired waterway on the Seaward

Mills Stream and fixed a perched culvert in order to see whether they helped. It worked!

Three Mile Pond enjoyed improving water quality ever since and it coincides with their reintroduction.

'When God closes a door, he also opens a window'. Such was the case with CRLA following KWD's resignation. The Town of Vassalboro, a founding member as well, stepped up and awarded CRLA a \$150,000 grant to help support the alewife restoration on the Outlet Stream of China Lake. This more than filled the hole left by KWD. Nonetheless, CRLA wishes to maintain good relationships, and open dialogue, with KWD. There are still plenty of areas of common ground.

And, for the fifth year in a row, Webber Pond enjoyed clean and clear water quality in 2016 without an algae bloom. This is a remarkable feat – and again – coincides with the opening of its fish ladder on Seven Mile Stream.

Therefore, CRLA's top priority remains to improve water quality in China Lake and is leading the effort to restore



PHOTO BY JOSH PLATT

*CRLA Youth Conservation Corp, Seaward Mills Stream perched culvert migration at Whitehouse Road  
L to R: Sage Hapgood and Mallory Chamberlain*



alewife. CRLA is working shoulder-to-shoulder with the Maine Rivers organization and the Maine Department of Marine Resources to develop plans on the Outlet Stream to reach our goal of unfettered fish passage into China Lake before the end of the decade. In the meantime, the Maine Department of Marine Resources stocked approximately 25,000 adult alewives into China Lake beginning in the Spring of 2016 for the third consecutive year.

CRLA's other core programs are going strong. The Courtesy Boat Inspection Program is managed by CRLA to guard against Aquatic Invasive Species and milfoil from infesting our Lakes. CRLA also administers the Youth Conservation Corp (YCC) program to work with landowners to help address erosion issues caused by driveways, camp roads, culverts, and shoreline buffers. This year, the CRLA YCC implemented the LakeSmart program on China Lake to help mitigate issues associated with storm water and impervious surface. An identical program is being planned for Three Mile Pond by CRLA as well. The following photographs highlight a few of the LakeSmart projects completed by CRLA's YCC in 2016.



*Beams and mulch installed by the YCC on a steep banking on Fire Road 7. Photo by Tyler Rollins*



*YCC worker, Sage Hapgood shovels mulch while planting a buffer on the shoreline of China Lake. All five Junipers in this photograph were planted by the YCC. Photo by Tyler Rollins*



*Workers shovel crushed stone into a wheelbarrow for a project on Fire Road 18. L to R: Travis Dow, Adam Dorie, Tyler Rollins. Photo by Mallory Chamberlain*



*Two crew members preparing to place a beam in the ground that will serve as an infiltration stair to capture runoff on path. L to R: Hannah Farrington, Tyler Rollins. Photo by Mallory Chamberlain*



*Mallory Chamberlain, one of YCC crew members, spreading out crushed stone to slow water flow entering the lake to control erosion. Photo by Tyler Rollins*

# ERSKINE ACADEMY

Michael McQuarrie ... Headmaster

Dear Vassalboro Residents,

It has been another enterprising year for Erskine Academy, your high school of choice that combines the very best of private school education with the democratic ideal of a quality education for all.

In our 134th year, and following our reaccreditation by the *New England Association of Secondary Schools* (NEASC), who commended our commitment to the success of every student, we continued our efforts to improve our school, expand opportunities for learning, accelerate student achievement, and produce even better results. A few facts about Erskine Academy today are a testament to our vitality and the value of our educational experience:

- With 590 students in grades nine through twelve, we are the largest town academy in Maine to serve a nearly 100% local student body on a 100% school choice basis
- A 13:1 professional teacher to student ratio
- A virtual 100% percent graduation rate
- A dropout rate less than one percent
- Of 140 graduates in 2016, 80% were accepted to some form of higher or continuing education (now a four-year trend), many to highly selective colleges and universities
- Average SAT scores for our class of 2016 are 33 points greater than the state average
- For a second consecutive year, we are one of seven Maine high schools to make the *Washington Post's* list of *America's Most Challenging High Schools*, a distinction based on the number of Advanced Placement courses and tests taken by our students.

Although we have experienced an increase in private-pay and international students, we remain fully committed to our town-funded students by admitting all students from our eight sending towns that have successfully completed the eighth grade and can benefit from our programs. To maintain this local heritage, for the seventh time we hosted nearly 250 area sixth graders for an early exposure to high school program designed to build their familiarity with and confidence for doing high school work.

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

In our fourth year as a *MELMAC Education Foundation* school, we have increased students' preparedness and aspirations for continuing their education beyond high school, reduced barriers to accessing their higher education, and significantly reduced their need to take required remedial coursework once in college.

Teachers' professional development has focused on ensuring that an Erskine Academy diploma signifies that its holder has met the academic and behavioral performance standards demanded by industry, the workplace, and adulthood. In its sixth year, our *Jobs for Maine Graduates* (JMG) program has increased student exposure to various forms of higher education and vocational trades programs and has taught essential work seeking, training, and employment retention skills. With 60 students pursuing a certificate in a work craft or trade, our enrollment at the Capital Area Technical Center is second only to its host Cony High School.

This past year, 132 students took at least one of our seventeen Advanced Placement courses, and 253 students were enrolled in one or more of our nine dual enrollment courses with local colleges taught here by our teachers; nearly two-thirds of the graduating class earned college credits while in high school and saved considerable college tuition expenses.

Through our International Student program and club, we have diversified our campus and helped our students gain understanding and develop interpersonal skills for living more globally and interdependently in a culturally diverse and "shrinking" world.

Regardless of differences in residence, prior learning, interests, abilities, or personal circumstance and backgrounds, all of our students matter and belong. All who attend here will experience a school program that blends traditional values with contemporary programs and best practices to become the most academically and personally prepared young people in the region.

**Erskine began the 2016-17 by accepting, and winning, WGME 13/Fox 23's School Spirit Challenge, an eight-week food and fund drive to benefit Good Shepherd Food Bank of Maine and our local food pantries.**

In spearheading this effort, we maintained a strong presence in our communities and provided a critical community service. More important, we collected 84,474 pounds of food, the equivalent of 70,395 meals for the food insecure, exceeding by several thousand pounds the combined amounts raised by the second and third place high schools. Not only did we engage our community in problem-solving, we significantly affected hunger in Maine. Through this important initiative, we put Erskine's values for stewardship, leadership, and relationships to work in a substantial way.

Erskine Academy reflects proudly and appreciatively on its 134 years of progress and performance. Since our founding in 1883, Erskine Academy has been doing many things effectively and successfully. As any enduring organization has done over time, we have remained true to our mission while evolving to meet new demands of an ever-changing world. Because there is no limit to what we can do, pursuing excellence and implementing our mission is a continuous and unyielding work in progress.

We give heartfelt appreciation to our alumni and others who believe strongly enough in our values and results to give their time, talents, and financial donations to supplement our state-set tuition rate. Your investment permits us to invest in programs and enhancements beyond what can be supported through tuition alone, makes us a stronger and higher performing school better fit for the times, and raises the expectations we have for ourselves.

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

In closing, thank you Vassalboro residents for sustaining high school choice for your young people and families, an opportunity for learning that is available to only 3% of Maine students, despite two-thirds of Maine voters agreeing that school choice programs should be open to all. And to the families who have exercised that choice to attend Erskine Academy, entrusting us with the intellectual and personal development of your children humbles and honors us. In partnership with you, we look forward to more new challenges and accomplishments in the year ahead.

Onward Erskine!





# SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Peter Thiboutot ... Assistant Superintendent, AOS 92

Vassalboro Community School, along with other schools in AOS 92, continues with the implementation of several major initiatives.

**Teacher Effectiveness:** One of the initiatives includes efforts to ensure that the district will comply with new state rules regarding a performance evaluation and professional growth system for teachers and building administrators. This system must be based on approved standards of professional practices by which teachers and building administrators will be evaluated and must include multiple measures of effectiveness, including student learning and growth. A four level rating system must be used and the information from the evaluation must be used to inform professional development. The model adopted by AOS 92 is built upon a framework based on specific instructional strategies that research has shown to be most effective and is referred to as the Marzano model. Teachers and administrators have started using the model in the evaluation process. Both teachers and administrators report that the Marzano model is an excellent instrument that supports meaningful professional development because the model provides specific examples through the use of rubrics as to how teachers and administrators can improve their craft. Vassalboro Community School is out of the pilot phase and has fully implemented the new Teacher Evaluation Model. Reports from Principal Gram indicate that the implementation is going exceptionally well. Rich conversations about the various instructional strategies promoted by the model are ongoing as teachers discuss this initiative during in-service time.

**Pre-K Program:** Last year VCS applied for and received a 4-year federal grant to start a Pre-K program for 4 year-olds. The program was designed to assist schools that did not have a program and/or to expand in districts that had started programming. Families had to meet income eligibility guidelines, and schools were required to partner with an early childhood agency. The grant has provided start up funds (approximately \$700,000 over a 4-year period), with the goal of the program being funded locally by the end of the phase-in process.

VCS created a program that runs full day/5 days per week. It is staffed in partnership with Head Start from Southern Kennebec Child Development Corporation. All 16 children in the program receive comprehensive services including support for nutrition, family engagement, mental health, and communication and will engage parents and families as decision makers in their child's education. Transportation is provided on VCS school buses. A Head Start teacher, a licensed early childhood teacher and an educational technician II staff the VCS preschool collaborative. In addition, a teacher coach provides on-site training and support one day per week.

The program uses the research-based curriculum called Opening the World of Learning (OWL). OWL is based upon the belief that immersion in a learning-rich environment, with all parts of the day as opportunities for learning, facilitates student development. Pre-K staff has had intensive training in this program. Through the use of essential questions, teachers help children connect content to their experiences, which takes them beyond rote learning and leads to thoughtful, reflective learning. Additional staff development and training opportunities in the areas of literacy, social skills, and language have also been provided to staff.

The program is also collecting student data, which is reported to the state and federal government. Children are assessed by Pre-K staff as well as outside evaluators. Dianna Gram, VCS principal, and Cristina Salois, SKCDC Director, supervise the program.

**Jobs for Maine Graduates Program:** The Jobs for Maine Graduates (JMG) program has been a part of VCS since the 2000-2001 school year. Currently it serves approximately 40 students in grades 6-8. Additional students are served in a quarterly career exploration class. JMG partners with public schools in Maine to offer results-driven solutions to ensure that all Maine students graduate, attain post-secondary credentials and pursue meaningful careers. The middle school core program helps students develop communication, team building, leadership and problem solving skills through project work and adven-

ture-based activities. A JMG specialist teaches the class. At VCS that is Victor Esposito. Specialists are committed to meeting students where they are, honoring and respecting learning styles and unique needs, and providing tools so that students can be academically successful.

At VCS, JMG students continue to be seen as leaders in their community through their high level of volunteerism. They consistently receive awards for their work in this area. You will see them volunteering at a Grange supper, moving books at the library, running the snack shack and school store, leading school recycling and being honorary pages at the state capitol, to name a few. In addition they participate in the Jump Start Our Youth (JOY) program in which they are given \$1,000 to give away to non-profit organizations. Students spend time researching and making decisions about organizations in need and then present the money at an annual JMG year-end closing ceremony. JMG builds school leaders, and our school and community benefit greatly from the endeavors of the students and staff involved.

**Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment:** Teachers in the various content areas continue to work with Mary Boyle, literacy and instructional specialist, to align their curricula to the Maine Learning Results. This lays the foundation for continued work to ensure that all Vassalboro Commu-

nity School students are prepared for new high school requirements, which require that diplomas be issued based on documentation of proficiency in the various content areas, beginning in 2021.

With curriculum alignment in math complete, teachers in grades K through two are implementing a new math series called enVision. This is the first year of what we hope will be a three-year plan to adopt the series across all grades, if budgets permit. Teachers have been receiving professional development from the publishers to support this implementation.

The State of Maine will continue to use a new state assessment developed by Measured Progress. This assessment will continue to measure how students are doing in English Language Arts and Math in grades 3-8. The MEA science assessment will continue to be administered to students in grades 5 and 8, as it has in the past. The next round of assessment is scheduled to take place in March.

In closing, I would like to formally recognize and thank the staff and administration at the Vassalboro Community School for their leadership and commitment to the above initiatives. None of these initiatives could have been accomplished without their dedication and professionalism. They truly are an incredible group of educators.



China Lake photo by Jan Clowes

# RECREATION COMMITTEE

Jennifer Fortin ... Director

The Vassalboro Recreation Program is open to all children ages 4-12 who are interested in participating in Soccer, Basketball, Baseball and Softball. Our Mission is to give all Vassalboro children the opportunity to participate in group and individual athletic programs that encourage healthy lifestyles while keeping all participants safe.

The Vassalboro Recreation Committee involves many facets. We organize team sports for Soccer, Basketball, Baseball and Softball, as well as undertaking field and property maintenance at our Rec Fields on the Bog Road, coaching, volunteering, fundraising, and more. There are many Vassalboro residents who volunteer their time to work with our youth as coaches and helpers, and our programs would not be as successful as they are without them. THANK YOU to our Rec Committee, our Coaches, our Players, our Parents and Friends who are dedicated and supportive of our programs throughout the year. The proverb "It takes a village to raise a child" is certainly evident in our daily experience with the Recreation Department.

Highlights from the past year include an increased number of participation in our soccer program with over 80 kids! This winter we rolled out a new online registration for basketball, signed up over 90 players and are proud to have teams at all levels this season. Coaches have been focusing on skills, as well being a team player, and always encouraging our young players to do their very best, and most importantly, to have fun. Last spring, we fielded eight Softball and Baseball teams. Plans are in the works for a day-long baseball and softball clinic to kick off our spring sports season in March! We hope that the rest of

the winter is mild so we can get out onto the baseball and softball fields early this year!

We continued work to improve the conditions of our three baseball fields this year. Sports Fields Inc. worked on the base-

ball fields to rebuild our pitching mounds and to "cut in" the fields for a clean and polished look for the season. We would like to give George Lint from Kennebec Roofing and Ware Butler, Inc., a huge thank you for donating the materials and labor to re-shingle the roof of our garage at the rec fields. We would also like to thank McCormack's Building Supply for donating a new garage door, and to Charlie Fisher and his daughter for installing the new door, and fixing and replacing several trim pieces around our dug-outs. We would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to Brad Stout and Dylan Coutts of Coutts Brothers, Inc. for their monetary and equipment donations to aid in the upkeep of our athletic complex on the Bog Road. A huge thank you to all our parents, coaches and committee members who donated their time, equipment and energy to work on the Rec Fields and in the Snack Shack to support our Vassalboro Youth.



PHOTO BY HILLARY POLLEY

*Vassalboro Majors Baseball Team 2016. From left to right: 1st Row: Nathan Polley, Nicholas Cardinale, Tucker Greenwald. 2nd Row: Malachi Lowery, Aiden Fleck, Clayton Allen, Luke Desmond, Devon Polley. 3rd Row: Brandon Wood, Elliott Atwood. Coaches: Jeff Greenwald, Stephen Polley and Kevin Wood.*

This past year we updated many of our uniforms and purchased new catchers equipment for baseball and softball. We continued to purchase balls for soccer and portable benches for our teams when we are on the road. We purchased a new batting cage net that will last many years for our players to utilize. We are converting the plumbing in our Snack Shack to Pex tubing instead of copper pipes to



PHOTO BY STEVE POLLEY

*New door donated by McCormack's Building Supply*

help weather the cold winters better. Thank you to Bernard Fortin Plumbing and Heating for donating his time to upgrade this plumbing, replace the toilet and replace the water heater. We will be in full operational mode this spring at the start of the spring sports season. We have also replaced our old freezers in the snack shack and purchased a new, more energy efficient model for food storage. We are working on reducing our registration fees so that more families will be able to participate in our programs. As always, we turn no one away. If there is financial hardship, please let us know. We want all children who want to participate in our programs to be able to, regardless of the cost. We are very thankful to exist in a town that invests and values our young people, and the programs that we are able to provide through the Recreation Committee.

PHOTO BY STEVE POLLEY



*New batting cage net purchased in the spring of 2016.*

We are always open to new ideas, suggestions for improvement, volunteers and coaches to join us in working with our youth and who are interested in improving our Recreation Program. We will have several members of our Rec Committee who will be “aging out” within the next year or two. We will need dedicated people to step up and join us to keep the Vassalboro Recreation Committee and our programs running strong! Please feel free to contact me if you are interested in joining us.

Members of the Recreation Committee are Kevin Luczko; Tiffany Luczko, Basketball Commissioner; Stephen Polley, Soccer Commissioner; Hillary Polley, Jennifer Fleck, Snack Shack Coordinator; Ben Loiko; Marc Cote, Baseball Commissioner; and Jennifer Fortin, Rec Director; Alternate: Vacant.

## POLICE DEPT.

Mark Brown ... Police Chief

I would like to take the time to introduce myself as your new Town Police Chief. I have been involved in Law Enforcement since 1984 working for a multiple of agencies including the Winslow Police Department, S. Portland Police Department, Cumberland County Sheriff's Office, Kennebec County Sheriff's Office and the State of Maine Capitol Police. I have served in various positions from a patrolman to an investigator and also as a supervisor. I have spent most of my life as a resident of Vassalboro and feel fortunate to be serving my hometown again in this position.

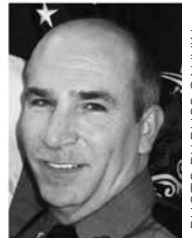


PHOTO BY RUSS GAUVIN

I work jointly with the State Police and Sheriff's Office in attempting to deter crimes in our Town. The Sheriff's Office and State Police are the primary responders and I work varying hours throughout the week. Please don't hesitate to report any suspicious activity to our communications center at 624-7076, which will in turn report it to all agencies that patrol our community. If the call is an emergency call in nature, please dial 911 and our communications center will answer these calls. Additionally, if you would like to report anything to me directly I can be reached at 557-4601 or email me at [mbrown@vassalboro.net](mailto:mbrown@vassalboro.net).

During my patrols I have recognized that many homes are not properly numbered and I recommend that homeowners number their home as well as their mailboxes to assist all emergency services in responding more efficiently.

Also, a majority of home burglaries occur during the daytime hours when most homeowners are away. Please make sure your homes are locked and security alarms are set if you have one. Car burglaries can occur either at night or even during the daytime. To assist in preventing this, lock your vehicles and please report any suspicious activity to our communications center.





# FIRE DEPARTMENT

Eric Rowe ... Fire Chief

Last year, the Vassalboro Fire Department was successful in being awarded several grants, which in turn helps to reduce the tax dollars that we ask for you in support of the Vassalboro Fire Department.

A grant was awarded to the fire department from the **Sukeforth Foundation** in the amount of **\$2,000**. This was matched by town funds and enabled us to purchase (4) new portable radios which gives us the opportunity to communicate with all of the surrounding fire departments.

We were also fortunate to receive a **\$2,000** grant from the **Stephen & Tabitha King Foundation**. Again, this was matched with town funds and allowed for the purchase of (4) more new portable radios.

Every year, the **Maine Municipal Association** of which the Town of Vassalboro is a member of, offers the opportunity to apply twice a year for grants not to exceed \$2,000 each. We were successful in being awarded **\$2,000** for each grant request. This was also matched by town funds and allowed us to purchase (4) sets of turnout gear.



If you remember, there is an article in the town warrant every year asking you to approve spending up to \$20,000 in matching funds from surplus in the event that the fire department is awarded some grants. The total cost of the equipment awarded from the above grants cost around \$16,000....with the town having to pay less than \$8,000. Thank you for your continued support of this article.

Listed below are some of the 100+ types of calls the Vassalboro Fire Department responded to in 2016.

Structure Fires.....5	Mutual Aid Calls.....5
Vehicle Accidents	Carbon Monoxide Alarms ...5
w/injuries .....12	Other misc. Calls .....23
10-55 (Vehicle Accidents)....8	Chimney Fires.....1
Tree Down/Power Line	Fire Alarms.....5
Calls.....20	Unauthorized Burns.....4
Grass/Woods Fire.....10	Electrical.....2

On August 30<sup>th</sup> of last year, the Vassalboro Fire Department was dispatched to a woods fire off from the Gray Road. This fire, which was started by a skidder, consumed more than three acres of woods and was not fully extinguished until three days later. We were assisted by fire fighters from Winslow, Waterville, Chelsea and China fire departments, as well as a helicopter from the Maine Forest Service. The picture at the left, courtesy of David Leaming/Morning Sentinel shows a helicopter making a water drop on the forest fire in Vassalboro.

One benefit to our fire department and to the surrounding communities is that we all participate in mutual aid. If we need assistance fighting a fire, or if a neighboring fire department needs our help...the response is quick. Recently, during a structure fire in Waterville, a “mayday” call was issued and the Vassalboro Fire Department responded with a truck and crew. Waterville firefighter Dan Brown was trapped under a fallen ceiling and was rescued by the Skowhegan Fire Department’s Rapid Intervention Team after they went in and rescued him.

The Vassalboro Fire Department is pleased to announce that we have a new member. Parker Denico has joined the department and has completed his training, and is



# FIRST RESPONDERS

Daniel Mayotte, CCEMT-P ... Chief



*Picture here: courtesy of David Leaming/Morning Sentinel shows Vassalboro firefighters, Craig Smiley and Walker Thompson and Winslow firefighter John Moshier fighting the structure fire on Summer Street in Waterville.*

now certified as a FF1 fire fighter. Fire fighter Derek Burbank has also completed his training and is now certified as a FF1 fire fighter. Congratulations to both of these young men.

Remember to help us help you. When driving by your residence at a reasonable driving speed, can you clearly see your house number on either side of your mailbox or on your house in the daylight and at night? Please place 4" high numbers on both sides of your mailboxes and on your house, to assist us in finding you in the event of an emergency.

I would like to thank all the members of the Vassalboro Fire Department for the countless hours they have spent making Vassalboro a safer place to live and protecting the town. Many hours are spent not only fighting fires, but firefighter training, fire prevention at the VCS, servicing trucks, and keeping up with state regulations. In addition, I would also like to thank their families for the times they spend away from you. And thanks to the town officials and the Vassalboro residents for their continued support of the fire department. We are fortunate and thankful to enjoy such a supportive community.

The Vassalboro First Responders have had a very busy year. We have a great group of volunteers that give a lot to the town. We are closing in on three years of service to the town. It still feels like we just started.

These numbers are from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016. Our average response time was 7 minutes and 2 seconds, according to the State. The Town of Vassalboro had 283 calls for service. That is 110 more calls than the year prior. Here is a quick rundown on some of the most common calls we have responded to:

Abdominal Pain .....	7	Mental Health .....	5
Chest Pain .....	16	General Illness .....	18
Choking .....	2	Stroke .....	4
Seizure .....	4	Traffic Incidents .....	9
Diabetic Emergency .....	2	Unconscious Person .....	10
Falls .....	21	Unknown Problem .....	14
Allergic Reaction .....	0	Breathing Problem .....	28
Bleeding .....	2	Traumatic Injury .....	10
Overdose .....	3	Cardiac Arrest .....	3

The members are 100% volunteer. Vehicles, fuel, report writing and everything else that goes along with the job is unpaid. We do have a fund that helps pay for classes that are needed for re-licensing.

We always have a need for more volunteers for both fire and/or EMS. You will need to have a clean driving record and no criminal history. We can guide you to a class being offered to earn your license and then go through our hiring process. It can be a very rewarding side job. The town and residents are very supportive.

Our budget request remains flat for the upcoming year. Our budget is down to simple operating costs. Several of our everyday items are replaced by Delta with no expense to us. However items like medications, batteries, radios, pagers fall under this budget.

I would like to thank the Residents, Selectmen and Town Manager for your continued support. I truly hope that you see the value that this service offers to the town and that you will continue to support it. If you would like to contact us for non-emergency communication please go through the town office or email us at [VassalboroFirstResponders@gmail.com](mailto:VassalboroFirstResponders@gmail.com)



George Hamar, Tom O'Rourke

# SOLID WASTE FACILITY

George Hamar ... Transfer Station Manager

Once again, it's that time to share what's been going on at the Vassalboro Transfer Station and recycling facility in 2016. As always, our focus is to operate in accordance with the Maine Department of Labor and Environmental Protection regulations and standards, a clean, safe, and friendly place to dispose of household wastes and recyclables.

Before 1988, most municipalities in Maine had town dumps or landfills where residents could dispose of their wastes they generated. With impacts on the environment and the public health, the legislature established the Solid Waste Landfill Closure and Remediation Program within the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). With state funds, transfer stations were built and resource recovery programs were created to reduce and properly manage wastes in the state.

Before 1988, most municipalities in Maine had town dumps or landfills where residents could dispose of their wastes they generated. With impacts on the environment and the public health, the legislature established the Solid Waste Landfill Closure and Remediation Program within the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). With state funds, transfer stations were built and resource recovery programs were created to reduce and properly manage wastes in the state.

The Vassalboro Transfer Station was built in 1989 and entered into a 30-year contract along with other towns and cities in the state to divert all of the Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) generated to the Penobscot Energy Recovery Company (PERC), located in Orrington, Maine. PERC is a Waste-to-Energy (WTE) facility. WTE is the process of generating energy in the form of electricity and/or heat from the primary treatment of waste.

The Municipal Review Committee (MRC) is the organization that represents and manages the contracts with these communities. With the contracts expiring in 2018, the MRC started searching for a more affordable waste disposal solution for its members. A Maryland based company called Fiberight was introduced and recently voted in favor of by most community members to be their option for trash disposal. This company and its technology will convert trash into industrial sugars and biofuels. A new facility is to be constructed in Hampden, Maine in 2017-2018 and operational by April 2018 accepting the MSW from the joining municipalities. Anyone interested in learning more about this can go to their website at [www.mrcmaine.org](http://www.mrcmaine.org) to get the latest information on the post 2018 plan.

1295 tons of MSW (Trash) was hauled to PERC  
(THAT IS EQUIVALENT TO 25 TONS A WEEK)

This cost in tax dollars over \$100,000  
(Not including hauling costs)

212 tons of Bulk Waste or construction and demolition was hauled to the Juniper Ridge Landfill.

We at the Vassalboro transfer station work hard to encourage recycling and educate everyone on the rising costs associated with the disposal of MSW.

Zero-Sort recycling was introduced in December of 2013 at the transfer station. This program is a convenient and less confusing way for everyone to recycle. Previously residents had to separate recycling such as newspapers & magazines, mixed paper/boxboard, plastics # 1-7, Tin & Aluminum cans, glass bottles and jars. These can now all be put together in one container or bag and brought to the transfer station. Then at your preference, you can either empty your bag /container or toss your bag (if clear) into the designated Zero-Sort container. We can also recycle larger rigid plastics such as empty five gallon pails, old plastic totes, garbage cans, plastic lawn furniture etc. into this same container.



PHOTO BY GEORGE HAMAR

150 Lombard Dam Road, Vassalboro Me.  
 Tues. Thurs. Sat. & Sun. 6:30am-4:30pm  
 923-3051 or email: [vasstransfer@fairpoint.net](mailto:vasstransfer@fairpoint.net)  
 Current transfer station vehicle sticker is required.

	2016	2015
Zero-Sort Recyclables	185 tons	157 tons
Fluorescent light bulbs	1591	1126
Corrugated Cardboard	62 tons	58 tons
Used Tires	9 tons	7 tons
Universal Waste (TV's etc.)	10 tons	12 tons
Units with Freon	194	109
Misc. Metals	110 tons	87 tons
Waste Oil & Antifreeze	1,060 gallons	685 gallons
Compost ( <i>leaf and garden waste only</i> )	40 tons	22 tons

We are currently continuing to separate corrugated cardboard from the zero sort. Please place all corrugated cardboard in its designated container at the transfer station.

This past year we moved the zero sort container from its location next to the card board, to up near the compactor, where we have repurposed old truck bed liners into chutes that residents can dump their recyclables on that then slide down into a 40 yd. or 30 yd. open top container below, making it more convenient for those who recycle and encouraging more to do so. Then using the backhoe, the recyclables are compacted to about 3-5 tons per container to minimize hauling costs.

This past summer we also relocated the swap shed from being near the compactor to the last stop exiting the transfer station to minimize some traffic jams.

Participating in recycling and educating each other of these savings is everyone's responsibility. We thank all of those who do! Keep up the good work!

An additional bulk waste container was added with a ramp that residents and contractors with dump body trucks or trailers can unload their bulk waste debris such as shingles and other miscellaneous debris.

Planet Aid discontinued their collection of clothing at the transfer station; they are currently no longer operating in the state of Maine. We will accept clothing in the swap shed as long as it's clean and dry. Residents can also donate to the local Goodwill or Salvation Army organizations if they prefer.



PHOTO BY GEORGE HAMAR

*Trash compactor building.*

Please continue to recycle all of your old electronics. The large tan building at the transfer station is being used for the Universal Waste (e-waste) we collect. These items include televisions, computers, printers, iPad's, game consoles, cell phones, batteries, fluorescent light bulbs and other miscellaneous electronic devices. These contain heavy metals and other hazards and are required by Maine State law to be recycled. Service windows on the building have been labeled with user friendly signage for collecting these materials.

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

I would like to thank all who recycle for their dedicated efforts. Also our transfer station attendant, Thomas O'Rourke for his hard work and service to the facility and the Vassalboro public works and town office staff for all their services they provide.

You can pick up a current transfer station fee schedule and Zero-Sort recycling brochure either at the town office or the transfer station. Please stop by the transfer station today to learn what can be recycled and save your tax dollars! And don't hesitate to see Tom or myself if you have any questions.





Front: (L-R) Shawn Bragg, Gene Field, Shane Cole.  
Back: James Wentworth

In the summer of 2016, the Public Works crew prepared the roads to be paved by ditching, cutting brush and trees back on them, and replacing culverts as needed. The crew did extensive ditching on the following roads: Priest Hill Road, Burleigh Road, Mudget Hill Road, and the north end of the Taber Hill Road. On the east end of the Lombard Dam Road we replaced the cross culvert and ditched approximately 200 feet. On the Cross Hill Road we did extensive ditching approximately from Tilton Lane to the top of the hill on the west side of the road. We did more ditching at the Cross Hill, Stone Road, and Hannaford Hill intersections. On the Dunham Road we did some extensive ditching on the south end of that road. The Town of Vassalboro and the Town of China did a combined paving bid and received a low price from State Paving of \$58.50/ton of mix.

The following roads were shimmed and surfaced with the exception of the Mudget Hill Road which was gravel and just had two inches of the 12.5 mm mix placed down:

Priest Hill Road .....	\$ 117,789.18
from the Fortin Road intersection to the Stanley Hill Road	
Burleigh Road .....	\$ 27,559.35
Brann Road .....	\$ 110,907.81
Mudget Hill Road .....	\$ 57,596.76
(Gravel Section)	
Total .....	\$ 313,853.10

The south section of the Mudget Hill Road from the Route #3 intersection to just past the towers that was paved in the summer of 2015 had issues with the pavement, and Wellman's Paving came back and resurfaced all of that section of road at no cost to the Town.

## PUBLIC WORKS

Eugene Field ... Road Commissioner

As of this writing, the paving plan for the summer of 2017 is still being worked out and we are still coming up with a budget for those roads.

Some of the additional work completed by the public works crew included our annual program of cutting and chipping brush to improve the visibility of signs at intersections and overall visibility. The public works crew cleaned up all the cemeteries. The road side mowing was done by contracting it out.

I would like to thank the people who keep the North and Riverside Fire Stations opened up during the big snow storms that we get. This keeps the crew on the roads keeping the roads open and is greatly appreciated by us at Public Works. Also I would like to thank Greg Fortin for keeping the Fortin Road intersection plowed and Bob Locklin for keeping the Town Farm Road intersection plowed, which is also greatly appreciated by all of us at Public Works.

Lastly I would like to thank my crew of James Wentworth, Shawn Bragg and Shane Cole for their dedication and hard work.

If you have questions about any road project, please don't hesitate to contact the Public Works Garage at 923-3985 or email at [vasspublicworks@fairpoint.net](mailto:vasspublicworks@fairpoint.net)



PHOTO BY MARY SABINS

James Wentworth received his Road Scholar Award from MDOT in April 2017



*Proven Expertise and Integrity*

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Board of Selectmen  
Town of Vassalboro  
Vassalboro, Maine

### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Vassalboro, Maine, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town of Vassalboro, Maine's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

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

### Auditors' Responsibility

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

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

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

### Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Vassalboro, Maine as of June 30, 2016, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.



## Other Matters

### *Required Supplementary Information*

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison information and pension information on pages 4 through 10 and 50 through 54 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

### *Other Information*

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

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

### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated January 13, 2017, on our consideration of the Town of Vassalboro, Maine's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Town of Vassalboro, Maine's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

*RHR Smith & Company*

Buxton, Maine  
January 13, 2017

## TOWN OF VASSALBORO, MAINE

## BALANCE SHEET – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

JUNE 30, 2016

	General Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 618,412	\$ -	\$ 618,412
Investments	1,066,381	-	1,066,381
Accounts receivable (net of allowance for uncollectibles):			
Taxes	278,683	-	278,683
Liens	102,294	-	102,294
Other	2	-	2
Due from other governments	16,837	99,358	116,195
Inventory	-	8,202	8,202
Prepaid items	33,483	-	33,483
Due from other funds	128,623	391,818	520,441
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 2,244,715</b>	<b>\$ 499,378</b>	<b>\$ 2,744,093</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Accounts payable	\$ 9,436	\$ -	\$ 9,436
Due to other governments	14,437	-	14,437
Accrued expenses	323,065	-	323,065
Accrued compensated absences	49,403	-	49,403
Due to other funds	391,818	128,623	520,441
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>788,159</b>	<b>128,623</b>	<b>916,782</b>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>			
Prepaid taxes	5,264	-	5,264
Deferred tax revenues	235,866	-	235,866
<b>TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	<b>241,130</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>241,130</b>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>			
Nonspendable	33,483	104,012	137,495
Restricted	-	212,400	212,400
Committed	-	126,395	126,395
Assigned	77,489	50,518	128,007
Unassigned	1,104,454	(122,570)	981,884
<b>TOTAL FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>1,215,426</b>	<b>370,755</b>	<b>1,586,181</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>\$ 2,244,715</b>	<b>\$ 499,378</b>	<b>\$ 2,744,093</b>

See accompanying independent auditors' report and notes to financial statements.

## TOWN OF VASSALBORO, MAINE

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

	General Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES			
Taxes:			
Property	\$ 4,176,376	\$ -	\$ 4,176,376
Excise	797,226	-	797,226
Intergovernmental revenues	4,109,578	1,016,823	5,126,401
Charges for services	95,375	49,947	145,322
State of Maine on-behalf payments	298,245	-	298,245
Other revenues	141,353	20,501	161,854
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>9,618,153</u>	<u>1,087,271</u>	<u>10,705,424</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Current:			
General government	456,775	-	456,775
Public safety	187,521	-	187,521
Public works	766,620	-	766,620
Culture and recreation	62,539	-	62,539
Social services	14,701	-	14,701
Education	7,137,417	1,072,186	8,209,603
County tax	313,762	-	313,762
Solid waste	253,327	-	253,327
Other	36,557	329,255	365,812
State of Maine on-behalf payments	298,245	-	298,245
Debt service:			
Principal	74,392	-	74,392
Interest	17	-	17
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>9,601,873</u>	<u>1,401,441</u>	<u>11,003,314</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	<u>16,280</u>	<u>(314,170)</u>	<u>(297,890)</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Transfers in	30,449	215,159	245,608
Transfers (out)	(215,159)	(30,449)	(245,608)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	<u>(184,710)</u>	<u>184,710</u>	<u>-</u>
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES	(168,430)	(129,460)	(297,890)
FUND BALANCES - JULY 1	<u>1,383,856</u>	<u>500,215</u>	<u>1,884,071</u>
FUND BALANCES - JUNE 30	<u>\$ 1,215,426</u>	<u>\$ 370,755</u>	<u>\$ 1,586,181</u>

## TOWN OF VASSALBORO, MAINE

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE – BUDGETARY BASIS  
BUDGET AND ACTUAL – GENERAL FUND  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance
	Original	Final	Amounts	Positive (Negative)
Budgetary Fund Balance, July 1	\$ 1,383,856	\$ 1,383,856	\$ 1,383,856	\$ -
Resources (Inflows):				
Taxes:				
Property taxes	4,221,003	4,221,003	4,176,376	(44,627)
Excise taxes	706,000	706,000	797,226	91,226
Intergovernmental revenues:				
Education subsidy	-	3,742,387	3,806,801	64,414
State revenue sharing	120,000	120,000	138,402	18,402
Local road assistance	63,500	63,500	64,420	920
State park sharing	1,500	1,500	2,139	639
Homestead exemption	71,067	71,067	73,073	2,006
Tree growth	15,000	15,000	16,429	1,429
Veterans exemptions	2,500	2,500	2,681	181
Other	3,597	3,597	5,633	2,036
Charges for services	95,500	101,012	95,375	(5,637)
Interest income	4,000	4,000	3,338	(662)
Interest/fees on taxes	32,000	32,000	36,814	4,814
Sale of town property/assets	-	-	1,600	1,600
Miscellaneous revenue	19,000	102,520	99,601	(2,919)
Transfers from other funds	-	41,000	30,449	(10,551)
Amounts Available for Appropriation	<u>6,738,523</u>	<u>10,610,942</u>	<u>10,734,213</u>	<u>123,271</u>
Charges to Appropriations (Outflows):				
General government	469,147	466,147	456,775	9,372
Public safety	182,327	202,327	187,521	14,806
Public works	759,982	829,573	766,620	62,953
Culture and recreation	47,429	72,228	62,539	9,689
Social services	14,767	14,767	14,701	66
Education	3,196,072	7,141,103	7,137,417	3,686
County tax	313,763	313,763	313,762	1
Solid waste	282,332	259,632	253,327	6,305
Debt service:				
Principal	74,392	74,392	74,392	-
Interest	1,768	1,768	17	1,751
Other	65,529	80,529	36,557	43,972
Transfers to other funds	215,159	243,859	215,159	28,700
Total Charges to Appropriations	<u>5,622,667</u>	<u>9,700,088</u>	<u>9,518,787</u>	<u>181,301</u>
Budgetary Fund Balance, June 30	<u>\$ 1,115,856</u>	<u>\$ 910,854</u>	<u>\$ 1,215,426</u>	<u>\$ 304,572</u>
Utilization of restricted fund balance	\$ -	\$ 78,124	\$ -	\$ (78,124)
Utilization of assigned fund balance	-	91,878	-	(91,878)
Utilization of unassigned fund balance	268,000	303,000	-	(303,000)
	<u>\$ 268,000</u>	<u>\$ 473,002</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (473,002)</u>



# MUNICIPAL EXPENDITURES

July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

## ADMINISTRATION

Appropriation:	\$425,847.00
Expenditures:	
Personnel service	\$316,041.42
Insurance	9,746.41
Utilities	6,402.65
Building/Grounds Maintenance	14,708.02
Printing/Advertising	3,176.36
Audit/Legal/Dues	18,500.40
Office Supplies/Equipment	4,305.43
Technology/Postage/Other	35,807.89
Registry of Deeds	6,583.80
Balance	\$10,574.62

## PUBLIC WORKS

Appropriation:	\$459,949.00
Expenditures:	
Personnel Services	\$236,866.84
Insurance	21,503.96
Sand/Salt/other contracts	69,166.28
Vehicle Expenses/Equip.	97,838.45
Garage Utilities/Supplies	12,839.27
Bridges/Culverts/signs	10,440.60
Carry forward for truck painting	+ 5,000.00
Balance	\$16,293.60

## SOLID WASTE

Appropriation:	\$282,332.00
Expenditures:	
Personnel Services	\$95,159.01
Insurance	4,426.58
Bldg. Maintenance/Water Monitoring	6,139.70
Utilities/Supplies	3,624.15
Disposal/Hauling/Recycling	168,602.49
Balance	\$4,380.07

## ROAD PAVING/GRAVEL ROADS

Appropriation:	\$300,033.00
Expenditures:	
Paving	\$347,869.00
Striping	12,252.24
Gravel Roads/Maintenance	7,022.84
Carry forward – paving	+ 67,591.00
Balance	\$479.92

## FIRST RESPONDERS

Appropriation:	\$12,275.00
Expenditures:	
Equipment/Radios	\$6,131.14
Licensing Fees	250.00
Malpractice/Work Comp Ins.	1,145.36
Operations/Misc. fees	3,118.50
Balance	\$1,630.00

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

Appropriation:	\$61,700.00
Expenditures:	
Utilities	\$9,484.86
Insurances	8,382.96
Repairs	11,014.01
Training/Equipment/Supplies	17,118.73
Radios	2,534.61
Bldg Maintenance	3,749.89
Firefighter stipend	6,234.00
Chief Stipend	3,000.00
Balance	\$180.94

## PUBLIC SAFETY/POLICE & ANIMAL CONTROL

Appropriation:	\$71,602.00
Expenditures:	
Employee Costs	\$22,929.35
Insurances	2,425.29
Supplies/Vehicle Maintenance	4,163.31
Humane Society	5,175.45
Public Safety Dispatch fees	30,491.92
Balance	\$6,416.68

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT/RESERVES

Appropriation:	\$100,000.00
Expenditures:	
Public Works Equipment Reserve	\$75,000.00
Transfer Station Reserve	25,000.00
Balance	\$ .00

## RECREATION/SUMMER YOUTH

Appropriation:	\$12,400.00
Expenditures:	\$23,338.84
Carry forward from previous years	10,938.84
Balance	\$ .00

**RECREATION/ROUTE #3 REST AREA**

Appropriation:	\$300.00
Expenditures:	0.00
Balance	\$300.00

**LIBRARY**

Appropriation:	\$31,729.00
Expenditures:	\$31,729.00
Balance	\$ .00

**UTILITIES**

Appropriation:	\$36,750.00
Expenditures:	
Street Lights	\$17,529.48
Hydrant Rental	18,420.52
Balance	\$800.00

**CEMETERIES**

Appropriation:	\$28,000.00
Expenditures:	
Care of Cemeteries	\$25,056.97
Balance	\$2,943.03

**GENERAL ASSISTANCE**

Appropriation:	\$3,000.00
Expenditures:	
Shelter	\$2,933.99
Balance	\$66.01

**ASSESSMENT**

Appropriation:	\$43,300.00
Expenditures:	
Contract Assessor Costs:	\$26,799.96
Maps/Dues/Supplies	2,314.86
Postage	2,355.62
Quarterly Review	11,500.00
Balance	\$329.56

**SOCIAL SERVICES**

Appropriation:	\$11,767.00
Expenditures:	
Hospice	\$1,600.00
Food Pantry	2,000.00
Family Violence	2,250.00
KV Mental Health	3,500.00
Spectrum Generations	1,000.00
Sexual Assault & Crisis Center	1,417.00
Balance	\$ .00

**MISCELLANEOUS REQUEST**

Appropriation:	\$14,500.00
Expenditures:	
Historical Society	\$3,000.00
Snowmobile Club	1,500.00
C.R.L.A.	10,000.00
Balance	\$ .00

**DEBT SERVICE**

Appropriation:	\$76,160.00
Expenditures:	
Fire Truck Loan (payment #3 of 3)	\$74,408.74
Balance	\$1,751.26

**COUNTY TAX**

Appropriation:	\$313,763.00
Expenditures:	\$313,762.18
Balance	\$ .82

**EDUCATION** *(Local funds only.)*

Appropriation	\$3,196,072.00
Expenditures:	\$3,196,072.00
Balance	\$ .00

# WARRANT: TOWN OF VASSALBORO

Annual Town Meeting: June 5-13, 2017

## GREETINGS:

In the name of the State of Maine you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Vassalboro in said Kennebec County, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the Vassalboro Community School on Monday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017, at 6:30 in the evening to elect a moderator to preside at said meeting, then and there to act on Articles 1 through 66, all of said articles being set out below to wit: and further to warn said voters to meet at the Town Office building in said Town on Tuesday, the 13<sup>th</sup> day of June 2017, then and there to act on Articles numbered 67 to 68. The polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

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

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

## TERMS EXPIRE IN 2017:

William Browne, Donald Breton, Peggy Schaffer, Eddie Scholz,  
Vacancy (Lori Fowle resigned)

**ARTICLE 3:** To see if the Town will vote to fix the **due dates of taxes** as follows, and to set the rate of interest at the prevailing allowable State rate: 7.00%. Interest will begin to accrue 7 days after the due date.

One-fourth of taxes due on 09-25-17

One-fourth of taxes due on 11-27-17

One-fourth of taxes due on 02-26-18

One-fourth of taxes due on 04-23-18

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

## REVENUES

**ARTICLE 4:** To see if the Town will vote to use the following **anticipated revenue** amounts and from the sources named to reduce the 2017-2018 tax commitment:

Excise Tax .....	\$ 750,000
Agent Fees .....	14,000
Snowmobile agent fees .....	2,500
Boat Excise Tax .....	6,000
Interest/Penalties .....	35,000
State Revenue Sharing .....	160,000
State Road Assistance .....	64,000
Tree Growth Reimbursement .....	16,000
State Park Sharing .....	2,000
Veterans Exemption .....	2,900
Miscellaneous .....	5,000
Permit Fees .....	9,000
Solid Waste/Recycling .....	45,000
Franchise Fee/Cable Fees .....	14,000
Clerk Fees .....	8,500
Cross Hill Cemetery Reserve .....	12,000
Surplus .....	150,000

**TOTAL REVENUES: ..... \$1,295,900**

*Selectmen Recommend: \$1,295,900*

*Budget Committee recommends: \$1,295,900*

## GENERAL GOVERNMENT

**ARTICLE 5:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$428,143 for **Administration**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$428,143*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$428,143*

**ARTICLE 6:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$43,800 for **Assessment Costs**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$43,800*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$43,800*

**ARTICLE 7:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for **Capital Improvements/Reserves** as follows:

Plow Truck Reserve: \$ 25,000

*Selectmen Recommend: \$25,000*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$ 25,000*

## PUBLIC WORKS

**ARTICLE 8:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$480,065 for the **Public Works Department**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$480,065*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$480,065*

**ARTICLE 9:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$370,950 for **paving work** to allow the Town to pave all or portions of the following roads: Taber Hill Road, Holman Day Road, Cushnoc Road, Webber Pond Ext., Hunt Road, Mill Hill, and Cross Hill Road; and for **road striping and paved road maintenance** and if any of said sums remain, the Selectmen at their discretion could do additional paving.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$370,950*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$370,950*

## SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL

**Article 10:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$299,795 for the cost of operating the Town's **Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Facility**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$299,795*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$299,795*

**ARTICLE 11:** To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to spend up to \$15,000 from the **Transfer Station Reserve Fund** to purchase two new **roll-off containers** for use at the Transfer Station.

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

*Budget Committee Recommends: Approval*

## PUBLIC SAFETY

**ARTICLE 12:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$67,937 for the **Public Safety Department** that includes the Police, Animal Control, and Dispatch expenses.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$67,937*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$67,937*

**ARTICLE 13:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for the cost of operating the **Vassalboro First Responder Service**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$10,000*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$10,000*

**ARTICLE 14:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$61,100 for the **Fire Department**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$61,100*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$61,100*

**ARTICLE 15:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum not to exceed \$25,000 from SURPLUS to be used as local match dollars for new Fire Department equipment. These funds will be expended only in the event of a **Fire Department grant award**.

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

**ARTICLE 16:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$63,625 for lease payment number two of five for the **2017 E-One Pumper Fire Truck**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$63,625*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$63,625*

**ARTICLE 17:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$19,500 for **fire hydrant rental**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$19,500*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$19,500*

**ARTICLE 18:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$18,000 for **Street Lights**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$18,000*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$18,000*

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## SPECIAL ARTICLES AND TOWN POLICY

**ARTICLE 19:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen on behalf of the Town to **dispose of any real estate** acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes thereon, on such terms as they may deem advisable and to execute quit-claim deeds for such property.

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

**ARTICLE 20:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to submit **applications for State and/or Federal funding** and if said program is approved, authorize the municipal officers to accept said grant funds, to make such assurances, assume such responsibilities, and exercise such authority as are necessary and reasonable to implement such program, and to disburse such funds for the purpose granted.

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

**ARTICLE 21:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen or their designee to submit a **grant application to the Stephen & Tabitha King Foundation** or any other grant opportunity, for a Cemetery Mapping and Inventory Project, and if said program is approved, authorize the municipal officers to accept said grant funds, to make such assurances, assume such responsibilities, and exercise such authority as are necessary and reasonable to implement such program, and to disburse such funds for the purpose granted.

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

**ARTICLE 22:** To see if the Town of Vassalboro will vote to authorize and direct the Board of Selectmen or their duly authorized designee or designees as a representative of the Town to:

- **Exercise the “Put Option”** described in the Sixth Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Penobscot Energy Recovery Company, Limited Partnership; and
- Execute and deliver on behalf of the Town such documents, and to take such further actions, as the Board of Selectmen or said designee(s) may deem necessary or appropriate in order to exercise the above-described Put Option and to assign the Town's limited partnership interests to Penobscot Energy Recovery Company, Limited Partnership as contemplated thereby.

**Explanatory Note:** *This article authorizes and directs the Board of Selectmen to exercise a Put Option described in the Sixth Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Penobscot Energy Recovery Company, Limited Partnership (the “PERC Partnership Agreement”). By exercising the Put Option, the Town is electing to require that the Penobscot Energy Recovery Company, Limited Partnership (“PERC”) repurchase the Town's limited partnership interest in PERC (value estimated by the MRC at \$13,514.13) on the terms described in Section 9.3 of the PERC Partnership Agreement in exchange for a cash payment equal to the Town's proportionate share of One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,500,000), which represents the agreed upon aggregate value of all limited partnership interests held by the Town and other similarly situated municipal members of the Municipal Review Committee.*

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

**ARTICLE 23:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to apply, on behalf of the Town, for state financing assistance under the provisions of the Boating Facility Fund Title 12 MRSA 1896 and 1899 for the **renovation of the China Lake Boat Launch** and further authorize the Selectmen to enter into the Boating Facility Fund Project agreement with the State subsequent to the approval of the project and to further appropriate the sum of \$28,700, which sum was set aside from funds raised at the 2015 annual town meeting, as local share matching funds, and to further authorize the Selectmen to expend funds from the town's general fund as needed to pay for the entire project while awaiting state reimbursement for the state's portion of the project.

**Note:** This article will not increase taxes. The \$28,700 in funds was compiled at the end of the 2015-2016 fiscal year from unspent funds from various expense accounts, and was approved by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee at a joint meeting held March 29, 2016. Now, the voters need to approve expenditure of these funds for the purpose of renovating the dilapidated boat launch to restore boat access to China Lake in the West Basin. The project is expected to be underway in the fall of 2017.

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

**ARTICLE 24:** Shall an ordinance entitled **“Town of Vassalboro Shoreland Zoning Ordinance as revised November 2016”** be enacted? (A copy of the proposed ordinance is attached to and has become part of this warrant. Additional copies of the proposed ordinance are available at the Town Office.)

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

**ARTICLE 25:** Shall the document entitled **Vassalboro Sanitary District Charter, as revised March 2017**, be enacted? (A copy of the proposed charter revisions is attached to and has become part of this warrant. Additional copies of the proposed charter are available at the Town Office.)



# WARRANT: TOWN OF VASSALBORO

Annual Town Meeting: June 5-13, 2017

**ARTICLE 26:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to use the **proceeds (\$4,125.25) from the sale of the 1984 GMC Fire truck** recently sold, to purchase equipment for the newly purchased pumper fire truck.

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

*Budget Committee Recommends: Approval*

**ARTICLE 27:** To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen, for the fiscal year 2017-2018, to **transfer funds** between appropriation accounts so long as the grand total of all appropriations is not exceeded. Any such transfers to be approved only at a properly called public meeting of the Selectmen and Budget Committee.

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

**ARTICLE 28:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Municipal Officers under Maine statutes, Chapter 12 Section 6131 and amendments thereto, to promulgate such regulations compatible with the General Laws of the State to govern the time and manner in which **river herring (alewives)** shall be taken therein for the calendar year 2018.

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

**ARTICLE 29:** To see if the Town will authorize the Municipal Officers to sell surplus **river herring (alewives)** for one or more years, or take any action relative to the same, and to take an amount not to exceed \$1,500 from herring (alewife) revenues to pay the wages of the river herring counter(s) for current and future harvest seasons, whose services are used to determine the amount of fish entering Webber Pond via the fish ladder to help develop statistics for the Department of Marine Resources.

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

*Budget Committee Recommends: Approval*

**ARTICLE 30:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the revenues received in FY2017-18 from the Natural Gas Pipeline Municipal Development and Tax Increment Financing District into a fund designated as the **Development Program Fund** to be used for projects, loans and/or grants for economic development within the Town as outlined in the Development Program for the District to be expended on such projects at the discretion of the Board of Selectmen?

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

*Budget Committee Recommends: Approval*

**ARTICLE 31:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to **dispose of Town owned property** with a value of \$10,000 or less, under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

**ARTICLE 32:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize an amount not to exceed \$15,000 from SURPLUS to serve as a **contingency fund** to be spent by the Selectmen in the event of an emergency and to avoid overdrafts.

*Selectmen Recommend: Approval*

*Budget Committee Recommends: Approval*

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## LIBRARY

**ARTICLE 33:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$32,729 for the Town's share of the **Library's** budget.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$32,729*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$32,729*

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## HEALTH AND WELFARE

**ARTICLE 34:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 for **General Assistance** and to authorize the Selectmen to expend any and all reimbursement funds received from the State.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$3,000*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$3,000*

**ARTICLE 35:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000 for the Vassalboro Food Station.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$2,000*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$2,000*

**ARTICLE 36:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,600 for the Hospice Volunteers of the Waterville Area. (This article presented by petition.)

*Selectmen Recommend: \$1,600*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$1,600*

**ARTICLE 37:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,925 for the Family Violence Project. (This article presented by petition.)

*Selectmen Recommend: \$2,250*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$2,250*

**ARTICLE 38:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500 for the Kennebec Valley Behavioral Health Center. (This article presented by petition.)

*Selectmen Recommend: \$3,500*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$3,500*

**ARTICLE 39:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 for **Spectrum Generations**. (This article presented by petition.)

*Selectmen Recommend: \$1,000*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$1,000*

**ARTICLE 40:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,519 for the **Sexual Assault Crisis & Support**. (This article presented by petition.)

*Selectmen Recommend: \$1,417*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$1,417*

**ARTICLE 41:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,350 for the **Kennebec Valley Community Action Program** to begin a bus transit program in Town for all residents interested in using the service.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$1,350*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$1,350*

**ARTICLE 42:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 for the **Literacy Volunteers - Waterville Area**. (This article presented by petition.)

*Selectmen Recommend: \$500*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$500*

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## RECREATION

**ARTICLE 43:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,430 for the **Recreation Department**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$15,430*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$15,430*

**ARTICLE 44:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,500 for the **Kennebec Trail Riders Snowmobile Club** for the maintenance of snowmobile trails with the understanding that such trails will be open for the use of snowmobiles during snowmobile season.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$1,500*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$1,500*

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## MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS AND REQUESTS

**ARTICLE 45:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,600 for the support of the **Vassalboro Historical Society** to assist this organization with the maintenance of the former East Vassalboro school building.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$3,600*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$3,600*

**ARTICLE 46:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 for the Town's share in the **Maintenance of Cemeteries and Public Grounds and for Memorial Day expenses**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$40,000*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$40,000*

**ARTICLE 47:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 for the support of the **Friends Advocating for Vassalboro Older Residents (FAVOR)** to assist this group of town volunteers with the costs of expenses related to the work of the Committee to provide programs and assistance to Vassalboro older residents.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$1,000*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$1,000*

**ARTICLE 48:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$312,452 for the estimated assessment from **Kennebec County Government**.

*Selectmen Recommend: \$312,452*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$312,452*

**ARTICLE 49:** To see if the Town will vote to take from Alewife Reserves the sum of \$15,000 for the support of the **China Region Lakes Alliance**.

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

**ARTICLE 50:** To see if the Town will vote to increase the **property tax levy limit** of \$582,336 established for the Town of Vassalboro by State Law in the event that the municipal budget approved under the preceding articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than that property tax levy limit. (Written ballot)

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

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

**ARTICLE 51:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$4,283,072.79 for **Regular Instruction**.

*School Committee Recommends: \$4,283,072.79*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$4,283,072.79*

**ARTICLE 52:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$1,140,697.92 for **Special Education**.

*School Committee Recommends: \$1,140,697.92*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$1,140,697.92*

**ARTICLE 53:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$133,729.76 for **Career and Technical Education**.

*School Committee Recommends: \$133,729.76*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$133,729.76*

**ARTICLE 54:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$53,837.12 for **Other Instruction**.

*School Committee Recommends: \$53,837.12*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$53,837.12*

**ARTICLE 55:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$305,710.95 for **Student and Staff Support**.

*School Committee Recommends: \$305,710.95*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$305,710.95*

**ARTICLE 56:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$167,348.75 for **System Administration**.

*School Committee Recommends: \$167,348.75*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$167,348.75*

**ARTICLE 57:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$288,134.39 for **School Administration**.

*School Committee Recommends: \$288,134.39*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$288,134.39*

**ARTICLE 58:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$476,406.92 for **Transportation and Buses**.

*School Committee Recommends: \$476,406.92*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$476,406.92*

**ARTICLE 59:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$533,897.51 for **Facilities Maintenance**.

*School Committee Recommends: \$533,897.51*  
*Budget Committee Recommends: \$533,897.51*

**ARTICLE 60:** To see what sum the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend for **Debt Service and Other Commitments**.

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

# WARRANT: TOWN OF VASSALBORO

Annual Town Meeting: June 5-13, 2017

**ARTICLE 61:** To see what sum the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend for **All Other Expenditures**.

*School Committee Recommends: \$.00*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$.00*

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

**ARTICLE 62:** To see what sum the municipality will appropriate for the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act (Recommend \$6,277,903.31) and to see what sum the municipality will raise as the municipality's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688.

*Statutory Recommendation \$2,634,009.33*

*School Committee Recommendation: \$3,572,987.13*

*Budget Committee Recommendation: \$3,572,987.13*

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

**NOTE:** Per PL2009, Chapter 571, the amount recommended by the School Committee as the required local share for the FY 2017-2018 budget may be no less than 82.22% of the Title 20-A, Section 15688 amount, in order to receive the full amount of state subsidy.

**ARTICLE 63:** To see what sum the municipality/district/unit will vote to raise and appropriate in additional local funds for school purposes under Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, §15690.

*School Committee Recommends: \$796,752.11*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$ 796,752.11*

The school budget does exceed the state EPS funding model. Increased cost for special education, salaries & benefits, and tuition.

**Explanation:** *The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above the school administrative unit's local contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Pro-*

*grams and Services Funding Act and local amounts raised for the annual payment on non-state funded debt service that will help achieve the municipality/district budget for educational programs.*

**ARTICLE 64:** To see what sum the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018 from the school administrative unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, non-state-funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy and other receipts for the support of schools.

*School Committee Recommends: \$7,382,836.11*

*Budget Committee Recommends: \$7,382,836.11*

**ARTICLE 65:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend such other sums as may be received from federal or state grants or programs or other sources during the fiscal year for school purposes provided that such grants, programs or other sources do not require the expenditure of other funds not previously appropriated.

*School Committee Recommends: Approval*

*Budget Committee Recommends: Approval*

**ARTICLE 66:** In the event that the Vassalboro Community School receives more state education subsidy than the amount included in the above budget articles, shall the School Committee be authorized and required to use the additional state subsidy up to \$338,681 to decrease the local cost share expectation and tax commitment, as defined in Title 20-A, section 15671-A(1) (B), for local property taxpayers for funding public education as approved by the School Committee?

*School Committee Recommends: Approval*

*Budget Committee Recommends: Approval*

**The following articles will be decided by secret ballot election. The polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the Town Office.**

**ARTICLE 67:** Do you favor approving the Vassalboro Community School's budget for the upcoming school year that was adopted at the June 5, 2017 Annual Town Meeting?

**ARTICLE 68:** To elect all necessary municipal officers/officials by secret ballot.

Given unto our hands this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2017, AD

\_\_\_\_\_  
Philip W. Haines, Selectman

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lauchlin W. Titus, Selectman

# VARIANCE IN PROPOSED BUDGET

ACCOUNT	CURRENT YEAR 2016-2017	SELECTMEN'S PROPOSED BUDGET	\$ change	% change	
<b>TOWN BUDGET:</b>					
ADMINISTRATION	\$ 424,043.00	\$ 428,143.00	\$ 4,100.00	0.97%	
PUBLIC WORKS	440,392.00	480,065.00	39,673.00	9.01%	
SOLID WASTE	286,634.00	299,795.00	13,161.00	4.59%	
PAVING/MAINTENANCE PROGRAM	301,100.00	370,950.00	69,850.00	23.20%	
FIRST RESPONDERS	12,275.00	10,000.00	(2,275.00)	-18.53%	
FIRE DEPARTMENT	71,600.00	61,100.00	(10,500.00)	-14.66%	
PUBLIC SAFETY	66,576.00	67,937.00	1,361.00	2.04%	
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT/RESERVES	110,000.00	40,000.00	(70,000.00)	-63.64%	
RECREATION	15,000.00	15,430.00	430.00	2.87%	
ROUTE 3 REST AREA	300.00	0.00	(300.00)	-100.00%	
LIBRARY	31,729.00	32,729.00	1,000.00	3.15%	
UTILITIES	37,500.00	37,500.00	0.00	0.00%	
CEMETERIES	30,000.00	40,000.00	10,000.00	33.33%	
GENERAL ASSISTANCE	3,000.00	3,000.00	0.00	0.00%	
ASSESSMENT COSTS	43,300.00	43,800.00	500.00	1.15%	
SOCIAL SERVICES	11,767.00	13,617.00	1,850.00	15.72%	
MISCELLANEOUS REQ.	9,500.00	11,100.00	1,600.00	16.84%	
DEBT SERVICE (Fire Truck Lease)	63,625.00	63,625.00	0.00	0.00%	
TOTAL MUNICIPAL BUDGET	1,958,341.00	2,018,791.00	60,450.00	3.09%	
<b>REVENUE BUDGET:</b>					
GENERAL REVENUES	1,091,500.00	1,165,900.00	74,400.00	6.82%	
SURPLUS	150,000.00	150,000.00	0.00	0.00%	
HOMESTEAD AND BETE REIMB (est.)	131,558.00	216,427.00	84,869.00	64.51%	
TOTAL REVENUES	1,373,058.00	1,532,327.00	159,269.00	11.60%	
TAX LEVY REQUIREMENT - TOWN BUDGET	585,283.00	486,464.00	(98,819.00)	-16.88%	
MIL RATE MUNICIPAL	1.93	1.61	-0.32	-16.44%	
<b>COUNTY TAX:</b>					
COUNTY TAX MIL RATE	312,194.00	312,452.00	258.00	0.08%	
	1.03	1.03	0.01	0.61%	
<b>SCHOOL BUDGET:</b>					
REGULAR INSTRUCTION	4,348,792.66	4,283,072.79	(65,719.87)	-1.51%	
SPECIAL EDUCATION	1,114,412.06	1,140,697.92	26,285.86	2.36%	
CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION	126,835.32	133,729.76	6,894.44	5.44%	
OTHER INSTRUCTION	51,681.30	53,837.12	2,155.82	4.17%	
STUDENT & STAFF SUPPORT	300,885.88	305,710.95	4,825.07	1.60%	
SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION	167,193.40	167,348.75	155.35	0.09%	
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION	314,085.09	288,134.39	(25,950.70)	-8.26%	
TRANSPORTATION & BUSES	455,338.24	476,406.92	21,068.68	4.63%	
FACILITIES MAINTENANCE	493,827.74	533,897.51	40,069.77	8.11%	
DEBT SERVICE & OTHER COMMITMENTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	
ALL OTHER EXPENDITURES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	
TOTAL SCHOOL BUDGET	7,373,051.69	7,382,836.11	9,784.42	0.13%	
TAX LEVY REQUIREMENT - SCHOOL BUDGET	3,234,306.07	3,572,987.13	338,681.06	10.47%	
SCHOOL MIL RATE	10.65	11.83	1.18	11.06%	
OVERLAY (estimated)	19,494.00	23,566.00	4,072.00	20.89%	
Overlay mil rate	0.06	0.08	0.01	21.53%	
TIF DISTRICT	116,274.99	116,274.99	0.00	0.00%	
TIF mil rate	0.38	0.38	0.00	0.53%	
COMBINED TAX LEVY REQUIREMENTS	4,267,553	4,511,745.00	244,192.00	5.72%	
ESTIMATED COMBINED NET MIL RATE	14.05	14.93	0.88	6.28%	
VALUATIONS (estimated as of 3/27/17)	303,740,400.00	302,139,400.00	(1,601,000.00)	-0.53%	
BUDGET TOTALS GROSS AMOUNTS					% of Budget
COUNTY TAX	312,194.00	312,452.00	258.00	0.08%	5.17%
MUNICIPAL BUDGET	1,958,341.00	2,018,791.00	60,450.00	3.09%	33.40%
SCHOOL BUDGET - local portion raised	3,234,306.00	3,572,987.00	338,681.00	10.47%	59.12%
OVERLAY	19,494.00	23,566.00	4,072.00	20.89%	0.39%
TIF DISTRICT	116,275.00	116,275.00	0.00	0.00%	1.92%
TOTAL ASSESSMENTS FOR TAX COMMITMENT	\$ 5,640,611.00	\$ 6,044,072.00	\$ 403,461.00	7.15%	100%





# Vassalboro

[www.Vassalboro.net](http://www.Vassalboro.net)