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2016

## Town of Searsmont Annual Report for the Year Ending June 30, 2016

Searsmont, Me.

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# Searsmont Annual Report



For the fiscal year ending January 31, 2016

**In Memoriam**

***Edith Shepard***



*We were looking forward to presenting the town report to Edith this year, knowing that she would be delighted at the dedication and recognition, and anticipating that distinctive laugh we so often heard. Sadly, that is not happening, as Edith passed away in December in Florida. Edith loved to be involved and keep her eye on what was happening in town. This trait was helpful when she hosted Edith's Kitchen, a cable access local news show, and serving as the Searsmont correspondent for The Republican Journal for so many years. Edith also participated in Eastern Star, volunteered in the Library, helped with the library sale, and participated in SWAG (Searsmont Women's Auxiliary Group), among other activities. We will miss her bright smile.*



**A Recognition and Commendation**



*Photo from Searsmont Youth Baseball Facebook page*

This year we would like to recognize and give thanks to an individual who has contributed much to our youth and baseball for our youth. That individual is Jason Fuller. Jason has been the person that has been very much involved in setting up Searsmont's Youth Baseball Teams and making things work: The ballfield on Route 3, recruitment of participants, scheduling of games, field maintenance, and all that goes with making the program successful. We must not forget the parents, supporters, and volunteers that have been and are continuing to be involved in the support of this program. We thank you Jason, the Robbins Family and all of the others that made this work for our young people.

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**Elected & Appointed Officials**

Selectmen/Assessors/Road Commissioners/  
Overseers of the Poor

Bruce Brierley (2018)  
Donald Corcoran (2016)  
Christopher Staples (2017)

Town Clerk/Treasurer/Tax Collector/  
Municipal Agent/Information Officer/  
Registrar of Voters

Kathy Hoey

Deputy Clerk/Selectmen's Assistant/  
General Assistance Administrator

Contessa Mancini

Election Warden

Tamara Roberts

Bookkeeper

Jane McLaughlin

Assessor's Agent

James Murphy, Jr.

Code Enforcement Officer/  
Local Plumbing Inspector/  
E911 Addressing Officer

Ernest "Frank" Therio

Planning Board Clerk

Nancy Robbins

Health Officer

Sandra Weagle (2017)

Fire Chief  
Assistant Fire Chief  
Dispatch  
Firefighters

Neil Bergeron  
Marc Coffey  
Joel Cox  
Kyle Cox  
Hubert McCabe

James Ames (2017)  
Wayne Woodbury  
Joanne Ames  
Rob Hoey  
Basil Pearse, Jr.  
Paul Sweetland  
Tom Wolf  
Tracy Harford

Rescue Chief

Joanne Ames

Assistant Rescue Chief

Dawn Bryant

Ambulance Personnel

Valerie Sanborn  
Paul Sweetland

Emergency Management Director

James Ames (2017)

Constable

James Ames

Assistant Constable

Leslie "Ernie" Ladd

Animal Control Officers

Nadine Cotier  
Christopher "Cade" Nickels

Sexton

Donald Corcoran

Librarian

Thomas Neely  
Dan McCarthy

## Town of Searsmont

Transfer Station

Neil Colburn, Manager  
Basil Pearse

Tree Warden

True Bragg

Athletic Field Coordinator

Jason Fuller

School Board Representative RSU #20

Valerie Mank (2015)

School Board Representative RSU #71

Evelyn deFrees (2016)



*Selectman Brierley presents Spirit of America Award to William Hyland in recognition of his Eagle Scout project to provide "Welcome to Searsmont" road signs.*

*--photo courtesy of Contessa Mancini*

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BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Board of Assessment Review (appointed)

Michael Sirota (2017)

Vacant (2015)

Janette Brewster (2016)

Catherine Robbins, Alternate (2017)

Carol Browning, Alternate (2016)

Cemetery Committee (elected)

Jenness Robbins, Chair (2017)

Karen Withee (2018)

Doug Calhoun (2017)-resigned

Sharon Soule, Secretary (2016)

Michael Sirota (2018)

Mark Tibbetts (2017)-appointed

Donation Advisory Committee (volunteer)

Michael Sirota, Co-Chair

Christopher Kulbe

Jean Wakem

Sandra Weagle

Joyce Sirota, Co-Chair

Martha Porter

Robert Ward, Jr.

Parade Committee (volunteer)

Sandra McLellan, Chair

Mack Page

George Sprowl, Jr.

Shirley Sprowl

Cenobio Rico

Bruce Brierley

Andrew Butler

Ernie Ladd

Travis Reynolds

George Benson

Planning Board (elected)

Jana Herbener, Chair (2016)

Sarah Crosby, Vice Chair (2017)

Samantha Helander (2018)

Jon Thurston (2018)

Rob Hoey (appointed) (2016)

David Marceau (2017)

Jon Leith Smith (2018)

Planning Board of Appeals (appointed)

Mickey Sirota, Chair (2016)

Heather Kennedy (2016)

Melvin Shure (2017)

Mark Tibbetts—Alternate (2016)

Arthur Richardson, Secretary (2017)

James A. Robbins II (2017)

Sarah Nelson—Alternate (2016)

RSU #20 Withdrawal Committee

Carol Browning

Valerie Mank

Donald Corcoran

Carol Robbins

RSU #71 Reorganization Committee

Carol Browning

Carol Robbins

Donald Corcoran

Scholarship Committee

Holly Calhoun

Elsa Chapin

Jon Thurston

**The Selectmen would like to thank...**

- ❖ **Our Military Veterans** for their service to our great nation.
- ❖ **The Waldo County Sheriff's department, the Maine State Police, and the local Constables** for their efforts to keep the town and its residents safe.
- ❖ **The Town Office staff** for their commitment to service and quality.
- ❖ **Dunkin Donuts** for their donation of donuts to the Parade Committee fundraiser.
- ❖ **Sandra McLellan & the Parade Committee** for organizing the Memorial Day Parade.
- ❖ **George Sprowl, Sr.** for the use of his trailer for the Veteran's viewing stand at the Memorial Day Parade.
- ❖ **The many parade participants and spectators** who make the effort worth it!
- ❖ **Harold & George Drinkwater** and their crew for their great job taking care of our cemeteries and grounds, and especially for their snow-clearing prowess in this remarkable winter.
- ❖ **The Otis Family and Evergreen Valley Greenhouse** for their donation of seasonal flowers and wreaths to enhance the beauty of our public areas.
- ❖ **Searsmont Historical Society** for their efforts to preserve and promote the history of our community.
- ❖ **Joanne Ames and Searsmont Rescue** for being there whenever and wherever we need them, and who put in hours of training.
- ❖ **Fire Chief James Ames, the firemen, and support personnel** for all of the hours of training and their willingness to risk their lives to help residents of Searsmont and surrounding communities.
- ❖ **The snow removal and sanding contractors** who deal with sleepless nights and treacherous driving conditions.
- ❖ **Jack DeGraff, Jim Robbins and family** for decorating the Christmas tree at the Community Building.
- ❖ **Neil Colburn and Basil Pearse Jr.,** for operating our Transfer Station so well in all conditions.
- ❖ **The various contractors** that do work for the town in a professional manner.
- ❖ **All of the community members** who volunteer in or for the library, and serve on the various committees that are needed to run this town well.



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**Departmental Reports**

SELECTMEN

As usual, we have had various issues and problems throughout the year. We had a problem with the heating system in the community building that required a new boiler system, as the old one was fading. One of the chimneys needs attention this coming year, and needs to be topped out. Time goes fast. The community building is now 15 years old, and maintenance is an ongoing process. A large portion of the asphalt driveway was repaved by Wellman Paving of Winterport. They also did the balance of the paving in Searsmont, and we were pleased with the quality of their work.

We had several rainstorms that required extensive clean up by the crews. There will be more detail in Chris' road report. We also had a forest fire which required considerable manpower and equipment to bring it under control. Fortunately, our insurance covered a good portion of the cost, but our Emergency Management Reserve Fund took a big hit. James Ames and the Fire Department did a good job, as usual, and we are grateful for the mutual aid support of many of our nearby towns, the Forest Service, and inmates and staff from the Maine State Prison crew who also came to help.

Taxes are always a concern for all of us. The Selectmen and Department Heads try very hard to keep costs under control. We, the Selectmen, are committed to operating the Town as efficiently and effectively as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bruce Brierley  
Searsmont Selectmen

Donald Corcoran

Christopher Staples



TOWN CLERK

IFW SALES



Licenses	Hunting	49
	Fishing	57
	Combination	
	Hunting/Fishing	56
Registrations	Boats	124
	Personal Watercraft	8
	ATV's	60
	Snowmobiles	57
Other	Milfoil Stickers	3
		<hr/> 411



**DOGS REGISTERED FOR 2015**

Male/Female	83
Neuter/Spay	384
Total Registrations	365
Kennels	3

COUNTER TRANSACTIONS

**Cash Receipts**  
**Receipt Type Summary**  
 02/02/2015 To 01/31/2016

Receipt Type	# of Trans
IFW Licenses	166
ATV Registration	64
Boat Registration	141
Snowmobile Registration	57
Vital Records	36
Marriage license	12
Town Fees	367
PB/CEO/LPI	50
Fire Department	16
Ambulance	31
Dogs	10
Weapons Permits	10
Library	57
Parade	3
Miscellaneous	50
Reimbursements	13
Transfer Station	211
Electronic funds Transfer	56
Fiduciary Donations	1
Bicentennial	10
Scholarships	1
Real Estate Payment	1,692
Tax Lien Payment	122
Personal Property Payment	36
Motor Vehicle	1,750
Moses	6
Dog Registration	290
Tax Acquired Real Estate Payment	21
Tax Acquired Lien Payment	6
<b>Total:</b>	<b>5,285</b>

VITAL RECORDS

Births		Marriages	Deaths
Males	4	9	12
Females	8		

## Town of Searsmont

*We Remember those who have passed from our lives...*

*"Silently, one by one, in the infinite meadows of heaven,  
blossomed the lovely stars, the forget-me-nots of the angels."*

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Residents				
Nathaniel William	Bennett	62	Searsmont	09/09/2015
Frederick Dwight	Davis	90	Searsmont	12/02/2015
Alfred Bradford Jr.	Drawbridge	85	Searsmont	04/04/2015
Evelene G	Fuller	71	Searsmont	01/14/2016
Margie D.	Grover	88	Searsmont	01/17/2016
Caroline Margaret	Lindt	75	Searsmont	05/04/2015
Chandler	McGaw	58	Searsmont	01/26/2016
Alice	Moller	85	Brookline, MA/Searsmont	05/05/2015
Frederick W,	Palmer	80	Searsmont	06/06/2015
Barbara M.	Ratten	90	Searsmont	06/05/2015
Edith May	Shepard	84	Searsmont/Lee, ME	12/13/2015
Wayne Lowell	Thomas	60	Searsmont	02/03/2015

Former Residents				
Richard H.	Ames	88	Camden, ME	04/11/15
Faylene	Carr	66	Union, ME	01/03/15
Raymond O.	LaRoche	85	Hudson, NH	03/28/15
Ricky	Pomeroy	53	Searsport, ME	06/24/15
Carole	Young	77	N. Chelmsford, MA	08/22/15

### Registrar of Voters

Registered Voters	Republican	354
	Democrat	300
	Green	47
	Unenrolled	363
	Total	964



### ELECTION PARTICIPATION HISTORY

Election	Date	# of Voters	Voter Participation
Annual Town Meeting	April 4, 2015	71	7%
RSU #71 Budget Meeting	June 16, 2015	13	1%
RSU #71 Budget Referendum	June 24, 2015	136	14%
RSU #71 Budget Meeting	June 16, 2015	17	2%
RSU #71 Budget Referendum	August 4, 2015	182	19%
State General & Referendum	November 3, 2015	234	24%

ASSESSOR'S AGENT

James Murphy, Jr., Assessors Representative  
Murphy Appraisal Services, Inc.

So, some slightly good news, the Homestead Exemption increases for 2016 from \$10,000 to \$15,000. For 2017 the Homestead Exemption will be \$20,000.

For 2016, in theory, this would reduce the taxes for each Homestead qualified owner by about \$100+/- if budgets were not going to increase. But, wait for it, here is the rest of the story. The increase in the Homestead exemption reduces the taxable value of the town by about \$2,150,000 dollars. Why is that important?

The tax rate calculation is the amount of budget dollars to be raised divided by the town's taxable value.

If the budget dollars to be raised does not change and taxable value decreases the tax rate increases.

But Jim, you ask, what about the new construction value, does that not reduce the tax rate? Glad you asked. So to cover the decrease in the taxable value from the increase in the Homestead Exemption amount the new construction needs to increase by \$2,150,000 *just to break even* and have a flat tax rate for 2016.

I am required to track the new value increases each year for the LD 1 calculation. Since 2009 the town has never had a gross value increase of over \$2,100,000 in new construction. Gross increase, not net increase. Decreases in value come from a variety of reasons including correction of details, removal of buildings or parts of buildings, surveys with better acreages and other reasons.

So the towns taxable value is starting \$2,150,000 in the hole which means if the budgets do not increase the tax rate is going up from \$20.30 to \$20.50 just to cover the 'tax break' of the increased Homestead Exemption. Property owners with the Homestead Exemption will not see a \$100 decrease but about an \$80 decrease due to the law change if no budgets go up.

Let's not forget about the sales tax increase for some services and snacks. So much for the state government 'reducing' your property taxes. And only about 20% of your tax bill is Searsmont budget.

Next, some real assessing stuff that popped up in the last year.

I recently had a complaint after I increased a property value after an inspection after the sale of a property. How can I do this? Is this not fair to correct errors of facts for a sale property and not for all the properties in town??

It is important to understand the real estate market and how it interacts with valuations for tax purposes. It is my constitutional duty to assess properties equitably, not exactly. No one can guess what a property is going to sell for and to have the exact same valuation for tax purposes.

When I go to a property I will always review existing records to see if there have been changes. Changes are from building permits, sales data, foreclosure notices, and many other reasons. I will change values on approximately 100 to 150 properties each year. Most are building permits. Some values are lowered due to condition changes, vacant for a couple of years, damage, incorrect conclusions from previous decisions.

What does not change are the underlying base valuations used for all similar building valuations. For example, the base value of a garage might be \$20 a square foot. I find a garage that was noted as being in fair condition on the tax records and has recently been renovated and is now in good condition. The value is appropriately increased based on the improvement of condition for the

## Town of Searsmont

building. It would not be proper to increase the base square foot for this garage and not to increase the base square foot for all similar garages.

Maine Law states that assessors can be reasonably accurate if they are within 10% high or low from the average 'market value'. But market and assessed values can be elusive. In a recent Maine court decision, it was stated that even an exact sale price may not be an indicator of market value. It makes it all very interesting to be a tax assessor in Maine.

In the end assessed values are based on an average of market sale prices. Using property valuation theory, statistical analysis and a little bit of artistic interpretation it is the hope that I will have the values used for tax purposes reasonably close to actual market values. That is the goal. But it is like trying to organize butterflies in a field on a windy day.

Tax relief in the form of the Maine Homestead Exemption is available to all qualified property owners. If you have received an exemption in Searsmont in previous years, you do not need to reapply. You are eligible for this program if you have owned a residence in Maine for the last 12 months (April 1 to April 1), are a resident of the town and if your Searsmont home is your current declared residence.

Also available is the Veterans Exemption, Blind Exemption and other programs that can assist at the town and state level. Please call me at 342-5411 if you have a question. I am usually scheduled for the Searsmont Town office on the second and fourth Tuesday.

### ASSESSMENT STATISTICS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015

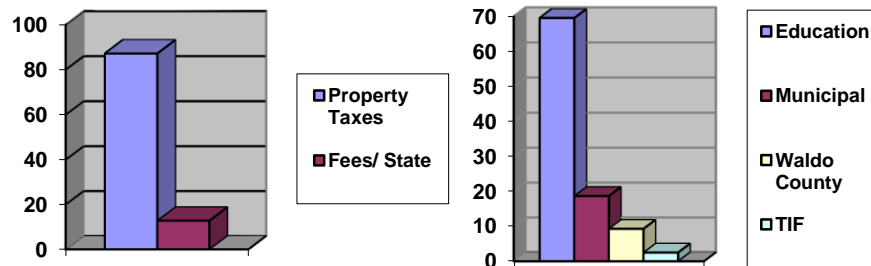
Total Taxable Valuation-Real Estate	\$148,516.500
Total Taxable Valuation-Personal Property	<u>6,194.300</u>
Total Taxable Valuation	\$ 154,710,800
Homestead Exemption Valuation	\$ 3,950,000

Average ratio comparing sales prices to assessed values 100%

State Certified Ratio (+/-10 Percentage points of Average ratio) 100%

Commitment Date	August 11, 2015
Last day to appeal valuation	February 12, 2016
Tax (Mill) Rate	\$20.30 per \$1,000 of taxable value
2015 Tax to be raised	\$ 3,140,629.24
2014 Tax to be raised	\$ 3,037,103.55

### MUNICIPAL REVENUES



Revenue received from....	
Property Taxes	87.2%
Other Fees/State	12.8%

And Expenses for....	
Education	69.5%
Municipal	18.7%
County	9.3%
Tax Increment Financing	2.5%

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW

The Board of Assessment Review hears and decides on tax abatement appeals in accordance with Title 36 M.R.S.A. Section 843. If a property owner requests an abatement and is denied, that person may appeal the decision to the Board of Assessment Review within 60 days of the decision. There were no appeals brought before the Board this year.

TAX COLLECTOR

The Tax Club is becoming more popular as taxpayers realize the benefit. In choosing the Tax Club option, the taxpayer elects to pay monthly toward their tax bill over 12 months, with the payments initially based on the previous years' tax amount, and adjusted once the taxes are committed in July. The Town benefits by having a regular flow of tax dollars coming in, and the taxpayer benefits by paying smaller amounts over time, without interest accruing, as long as the minimum payments are made on time. There are also no penalties for early payment if the taxpayer wants to pay in full by the end of the year to get a full income tax credit. We had 23 accounts signed up for the 2015 tax year. Of course, you don't have to join the tax club to pay ahead on your taxes. State law and a vote by residents at Town Meeting allow taxpayers to pre-pay up to what they owed in the previous year prior to the tax commitment in July.

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**2016 Property Taxes**

2016 Property Tax prepayments	\$ 2,821.72
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**2015 Property Taxes**

2015 Property Tax Commitment 8/11/2015.....	\$3,013,695.37
Tree Growth Penalty .....	\$5,718.80
Robbins, Jenness.....	\$5,718.80
Prepayments .....	\$34,241.97
Payments .....	\$2,425,569.99
Abatements .....	\$694.26
Loring, Jason & Monica .....	\$73.08
Town of Searsmont .....	\$621.18
Refunded Abatements .....	\$1,440.17
Habitat for Humanity.....	\$990.64
Sarnacki, Aaron .....	\$449.53
<b>2015 Property Tax Balance as of 2/1/2016 .....</b>	<b>\$258,907.95</b>

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DELINQUENT 2015 TAXES

\* = paid after close of books

B = Balance after payments made

453	Ackerman, Kimberly A	\$1,621.97	223	Fasone, John S	\$864.78
856	Alderson, Denise	\$1,114.47 *	226	Fellows, G Samuel	\$501.96 B
17	Allenwood, William	\$2,403.52	230	Figueiredo, Christine J. &	
1170	Ames, Elizabeth	\$1,576.22 B		Edward J.	\$2,078.72
22	Ames, Richard H., Heirs of	\$6.09	1020	Flagg, Lori L	\$773.25 B
23	Ames, Richard H., Heirs of	\$50.75	234	Fleck, Jean	\$162.40
24	Ames, Richard W	\$4,683.21	1275	Fuller, Eric F.	\$633.02
933	Anderson, Amanda R.	\$1,531.27	252	Fuller, Russell A & Darlene D	\$929.74 *
1145	Armstrong, Jason	\$1,240.33	179	Fuller, Zona Pollard	\$1,711.29
418	Aylward, Gregory D	\$1,494.08	313	Gerrish, Shane M & Janie L	\$1,321.53
931	Babcock, Joyce D.	\$3,560.62	275	Givan, Thurman B III; Laura G	
1286	Bartlett, Diana	\$615.06		Wilson	\$7,340.48
21	Bartlett, Stephanie	\$2,655.24	1003	Givan, Thurman B III; Laura G	
1291	Bartlett, Stephanie S & Alan	\$649.60		Wilson	\$982.66
719	Bates, David L.	\$1,457.06 B	452	Glidden, Carroll H & Mary J	\$175.74 B
180	Bennett, Daniel A & Jane P	\$3,556.56 *	943	Gould, Michael T.	\$174.58
50	Bennett, Nathaniel W	\$1,534.68	982	Hall, Kevin & Marjorie	\$1,057.63
1174	Bissell, Richard P.; Pers Rep.	\$1,114.16 *	1224	Harding, Stanton L & Melissa A	\$2,011.73
882	Bouton, Lorelei L.; Pers Rep.	\$4,766.44 *	354	Hardy, Benjamin	\$1,254.54 B
208	Bowden, Dana F & Susan E	\$384.40 *	683	Harmer, Jenny	\$225.86 B
68	Bowley, Donovan A	\$970.77	303	Harvey, Merwin Everett	\$222.32 B
767	Bragdon, Robert D	\$911.47	109	Helander, Samantha M	\$2,586.22
955	Brennan, Eleanor	\$1,630.09	312	Hemenway, Steven J., Heirs of	\$1,146.95
495	Bristol, Carmen & Delgado,		991	Hilt, Scott	\$887.11 B
	Martin	\$828.24	797	Holmberg, Bert & Russell	\$1,065.75
897	Brown, Douglas Gilmore	\$253.75	450	Holmberg, Bert R	\$351.19
663	Bryant, Dawn M. & LaCasse,		605	Holmberg, Bert; Holmberg, Russell	\$964.25
	Beth Ann	\$1,761.36 B	1034	Howard, Dawn	\$834.33
102	Burns, Kevin J & Susan K	\$671.31	280	Ingraham, Edwin K; Sharon R &	\$2,046.24
172	Cautela, Deborah M. & Simone, Jr.	\$462.84	801	Ingraham, Samuel	\$1,358.07
1282	Corey, Carrie T. & Eric C.	\$497.35	669	Jackson, Glenn L	\$487.20
253	Cotier, Nadine	\$656.76 *	905	Jackson, Glenn L	\$941.59 B
142	Cox, James	\$2,511.11	1065	Jackson, Ralph B	\$1,065.50 *
247	Cunningham, Robert M	\$2,161.95	979	Jackson, Ralph B.	\$1,153.26 *
03	Cunningham, Robert M	\$1,654.45	344	Jackson, Rodney B & Beverly L	\$1,788.43
782	Curry, Alan A.	\$745.01	424	Johnson, Alan S.; Devisees of	\$255.78
1158	Curry, Jarrod	\$686.14	362	Kinney, Rhonda	\$2,297.96
987	Curtis, Lorri J	\$1,301.23	534	Kunesh, Alan G Jr. & Kyunga A.	\$1,709.26
161	Cushman, George C	\$2,222.85	277	Lamb, Albert D & Loretta G	\$1,142.89
160	Cushman, George C.	\$696.29	741	Leathers, Harold and Jamie	\$117.74
141	Cyranowski, Cheryl	\$699.44 *	985	Lee, Terry F & Laurie	\$1,114.05 B
171	Davis, Shannon L. C.	\$3,536.26	278	Lemar, Brian E.	\$3,798.13
1294	Dearborn, Anita L.	\$1,120.55	386	LeSan, Brian	\$569.92 B
178	Desrochers, Zona Pollard	\$1,187.55	1126	Linscott, Louis	\$3,225.67 *
422	Desrochers, Zona Pollard	\$14.21	393	Littlefield, Maureen L	\$1,449.42
560	Desrochers, Zona Pollard	\$2,793.28	1271	Ludwick, Walter R. & Blaze W	
1051	Devine, John	\$889.14		& Buffy	\$359.31
191	Dodge, Robert & Pauline	\$1,126.65 B	136	Lynch, Mary	\$623.21
514	Dogil, Jennifer	\$2,230.97	359	MacKinnon, Jan L & Robert C	\$1,119.61 B
672	Dow, Mary E. & Robin L.	\$566.59 B	430	Maker, Leonard E. Devises of	\$1,189.58
582	Doyle, Robert L	\$638.69 B	186	Maresh, Peter R	\$507.50
197	Drawbridge, A Bradford;		1011	Maresh, Peter R	\$1,106.35
	Devisses	\$2,472.54	93	Maritimes & Northeast	
1087	Dunham, Gordon & Kathryn	\$1,006.88 B		Pipeline LLC	\$44.66
1106	Dunham, Gordon & Kathryn	\$592.76 *	436	Marriner, Randal	\$369.38 B
216	Edgecomb, Duane	\$481.66	222	Marston, Elliott S.	\$2,781.10
471	Edgecomb, Thomas L & Patricia	\$2,040.15 *	441	Martone, Ugo	\$304.50
936	Farmer, Michael T & Pamela M	\$2,034.06	442	Martone, Ugo	\$310.59



## Town of Searsmont

443	Martone, Ugo	\$247.66	599	Remsen, Richard	\$365.40
444	Martone, Ugo	\$324.80	600	Remsen, Richard	\$146.16
445	Martone, Ugo	\$304.50	1284	Richardson, Dawn M. Scott	\$954.10
446	Martone, Ugo	\$314.65	670	Rolerson, Keith N	\$1,471.75
447	Martone, Ugo	\$314.65	977	Ruuk, Bertha V	\$117.74
448	Martone, Ugo	\$324.80	692	Scott, Erik	\$3,054.66 B
449	Martone, Ugo	\$665.84	1033	Scott, Jeffrey M., Jr.	\$2,679.60
456	McCafferty, John	\$1,389.15 B	691	Scott, Jr, Edward J.;	
1138	McCafferty, Nancy	\$172.55		Devises of	\$1,106.35
459	McGinn, James	\$2,649.15	693	Seekins, Kenneth B. &	
1049	McHugh, Patrick F. & Dawn	\$1,042.05		Gloria L.	\$2,088.87
1285	McHugh, Patrick F. & Dawn	\$494.67	1233	Silva, Tracey L	\$437.47 B
460	McIntosh, Robert Lee	\$14.21	463	Soohey, Joseph & Gabriela	\$1,735.65
461	McIntosh, Robert Lee	\$182.70	690	Soohey, Joseph F & Gabriela	\$2,450.21
399	McKnight, Douglas A &		725	Soper, John F & James W	
	Suzanne M	\$182.70		Bruffy	\$1,664.65 B
557	Moore, Brandice L	\$1,600.00 B	728	Spadola, John S & Glassman,	
497	Moroney, Michael J.	\$3,178.98		Nancy S	\$3,126.20
498	Moroney, Michael J.	\$519.68	288	Stevens, Gerald P	\$267.96
500	Moulton, Larry & Madonna	\$697.30 B	397	Stradtman, Gregory P. &	
1283	Nelson, Geraldine D. &			Colleen A	\$95.41
	Crossman, John	\$919.20 *	398	Stradtman, Gregory P. &	
369	Nelson, Lynn & Travis S	\$3,988.95 *		Colleen A	\$1,155.07
1194	Nickels, Robert D	\$1,305.29	771	Strassenreiter, John C & Noreen	\$4,269.13 B
27	Otis, Albert Patrick III	\$998.76 *	772	Sweetland, Elmer K	\$1,226.12
713	Ottino, Jacquelyn M	\$633.36	1276	Templeton, Jean C.	\$3,365.74
594	Palmer, Alison S	\$2,655.24 B	155	Thomas, Lynn K	\$763.28
542	Peck Jr, Alfred & Estelle	\$3,025.04 B	794	Thomas, Lynn K	\$4,007.22
937	Perkins, Kristopher D	\$870.87	762	Totman, Brian L & Susan M	\$1,910.23
183	Perry-Larson, Mary & Dentone,		581	Trask, Theresa A & Maker,	
	Archie	\$113.68		Leonard E	\$1,134.77
550	Pert, Edgar B & Paulette A	\$1,122.59 *	811	Trattel, Deborah E	\$7.75
402	Petrino, Anthony A.	\$1,033.27 *	1178	Tripp, Chester J & Mary	\$3,101.84
1025	Petrino, Lisa M	\$10.15 *	207	Tripp, Paula L	\$382.17
411	Pietra-Santa, Kathleen M	\$2,949.59	700	Walker, Christopher J. & Andrea L	\$2,302.20
290	Pinto, Terrance & Elizabeth	\$3,290.63	1050	Walsh, Patricia E	\$755.16
564	Pollard, Alva	\$2,643.06	833	Wardwell, Ann W	\$941.92
176	Pollard, Alva B	\$994.70	906	Wardwell, Ann W	\$28.42
177	Pollard, Alva B	\$844.48	842	Weggler, Robert K. & Diana L.	\$1,546.54 B
997	Pollard, Alva B	\$10.15	773	Wheelden, Autumn-Marie &	
1147	Pollard, Alva B	\$1,453.48		Herbert (LE)	\$2,598.40
586	Randall, Richard M & Helena M.		708	Wiley, Jr, Melvin	\$2,450.21
	& Darren	\$1,760.9 B	960	Wilson, Michael D	\$2,574.04
1005	Ratten, Lloyd D.	\$2,018.79 B	738	Wolph, Laurel Moryan	\$2,470.51

### 2015 Personal Property Taxes

2015 Personal Property Tax 8/11/2015 .....\$125,744.29

Payments .....\$123,233.03

**2015 Unpaid PP Taxes as of 1/31/2016 .....\$2,521.26**

Ames, Richard W	\$34.51
Brothers In Arms Masonry	\$81.20
CB Co.; Custom Bulldozing Inc.	\$1,063.72
Dogwood Animal Retreat (DBA)	\$26.39
James Cox	\$872.90
Paulette Pert	\$6.09
Thomas Enterprises Inc.	\$436.45

**2014 Property Taxes**

2014 Property Tax Balance 2/1/15 .....	\$248,851.95
Supplemental.....	\$2,277.60
Geffken, Bruce .....	\$2,277.60
Payments .....	\$170,800.90
Abatements .....	\$1,499.88
Geffken, Bruce .....	\$571.74
Confidential.....	\$928.14
Refunded Abatements .....	\$224.25
Bearce Katherine.....	\$224.25
Unpaid taxes transferred to lien 7/22/2015 .....	\$78,822.92
<b>2014 Property Tax Balance as of 2/1/2016 .....</b>	<b>\$5.85</b>
Ames, Richard H., Heirs of.....	\$5.85

**2014 Personal Property Taxes**

2014 Personal Property Tax balance as of 2/1/2015 .....	\$1,191.53
Payments .....	\$317.93
<b>2014 Unpaid PP Tax balance as of 1/31/2016.....</b>	<b>873.60</b>
Dogwood Animal Retreat .....	\$35.10
James Cox .....	\$838.50

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**2013 Property Taxes**

2013 Property Tax Balance as of 2/1/2015 .....	\$205.07
Supplemental.....	\$2,160.80
Geffken, Bruce .....	\$2,160.80
Payments .....	\$1,624.02
Abatement.....	\$538.35
Geffken, Bruce .....	\$538.35
<b>2013 Unpaid Property Tax Balance as of 1/31/2016.....</b>	<b>\$203.50</b>
Ames, Richard H., Heirs of.....	\$5.55
Ames, Richard H., Heirs of.....	\$46.25
Leathers, Harold & Jamie .....	\$151.70

**2013 Personal Property Taxes**

2013 Personal Property Tax balance as of 2/1/2015 .....	\$453.16
Payments .....	\$453.16
<b>2013 Unpaid PP Tax balance as of 1/31/2016.....</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

**2012 Property Taxes**

2012 Property Tax Balance as of 2/1/2015 .....	\$0.00
Supplemental Taxes .....	\$2,020.64
Payments .....	\$1,517.21
Abatement .....	\$503.43
Geffken, Bruce .....	\$503.43
<b>2012 Unpaid Property Tax Balance as of 1/31/2016.....</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

TREASURER

**2014 Property Tax Liens**

2014 Property Tax transferred to lien 7/23/2014 .....	\$81,531.47
Correction—removed from lien.....	\$2,708.55
Payments .....	\$33,129.56
Abatement .....	\$817.05
<b>2014 Unpaid Tax Lien Balance as of 1/31/2015 .....</b>	<b>\$44,876.31</b>

DELINQUENT 2014 TAX LIENS

23 Ames, Richard H	\$115.21	445 Martone, Ugo	\$362.10
21 Ames, Richard H. (LE)	\$2,725.24	446 Martone, Ugo	\$372.25
1145 Armstrong, Jason	\$1,330.62	447 Martone, Ugo	\$372.25
418 Aylward, Gregory D	\$1,557.87	448 Martone, Ugo	\$382.39
1291 Bartlett, Stephanie S & Alan	\$713.78	449 Martone, Ugo	\$723.27
50 Bennett, Nathaniel W	\$57.79	498 Moroney, Michael J.	\$577.18
767 Bragdon, Robert D	\$975.37	937 Perkins, Kristopher D	\$725.30
247 Cunningham, Robert M	\$2,225.44	1284 Richardson, Dawn M. Scott	\$1,018.14
987 Curtis, Lorri J	\$1,371.85	670 Rolerson, Keith N	\$1,155.50
1051 Devine, John	\$768.04	691 Scott, Jr, Edward J.;	
514 Dogil, Jennifer	\$2,294.08	Devises of	\$1,177.06
1106 Dunham, Gordon & Kathryn	\$139.61	693 Seekins, Kenneth B. &	
936 Farmer, Michael T & Pamela	\$2,383.05	Gloria L.	\$2,145.65
223 Fasone, John S	\$922.12	690 Soohey, Joseph F &	
234 Fleck, Jean	\$220.07	Gabriela S	\$2,506.83
313 Gerrish, Shane M & Janie L	\$1,385.40	288 Stevens, Gerald P	\$332.32
312 Hemenway, Steven J	\$1,001.26	397 Stradtman, Gregory P. &	
991 Hilt, Scott	\$951.18	Colleen A	\$159.85
534 Kunesh, Alan G Jr. & Kyunga	\$1,801.36	398 Stradtman, Gregory P. &	
741 Leathers, Harold and Jamie	\$175.43	Colleen A	\$1,219.02
1126 Linscott, Louis	\$548.95	772 Sweetland, Elmer K	\$325.79
393 Littlefield, Maureen L	\$1,570.05	762 Totman, Brian L & Susan M	\$1,993.47
441 Martone, Ugo	\$362.10	581 Trask, Theresa A & Maker,	
442 Martone, Ugo	\$368.19	Leonard E	\$487.78
443 Martone, Ugo	\$305.29	708 Wiley, Jr, Melvin	\$1,435.73
444 Martone, Ugo	\$382.39	960 Wilson, Michael D	\$2,595.94

### 2013 Property Tax Liens

2013 Property Tax lien balance as of 2/1/2015 .....\$29699.03

Payments .....\$29699.03

**2013 Unpaid Property Tax lien balance as of 1/31/2015 .....0.00**

### Tax Acquired Properties

Year	outstanding 2/1/2015	Paid 2015	Remaining Balance
2010	\$567.48	\$567.48	\$0.00
2011	\$911.34	\$911.33	\$0.00
2012	\$2,634.94	\$8,695.62	\$1,541.43
2013	\$1,927.20	\$843.57	\$1,084.10
2014	\$3,471.16	\$2,328.46	\$1,142.70
2015	\$0.00	added to tax acquired	\$1,189.58

**Due on (1) Tax Acquired property as of 1/31/2016 \$4,957.81**

### Tax Acquired Properties

Maker, Leonard E., devisees of

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### Financial Report

#### Town Salaries and Wages

Raised			\$ 140,000.00
Distribution:	Wages	\$ 97,002.32	
	Payroll Taxes	\$ 7,550.54	
	Benefits	\$ 19,180.03	
	Total Expended		\$ 123,733.49

**Lapsed/(Charged) to Fund Balance \$ 16,266.51**

#### Administration

Raised			\$ 70,000.00
Distribution:	Assessing	\$ 10,090.00	
	Audit	\$ 6,916.50	
	Banking	\$ 976.65	
	Computer Supplies/Service	\$ 11,580.19	
	Dues	\$ 2,341.00	
	Equipment	\$ 1,377.06	
	Insurances	\$ 18,946.31	
	Legal Services	\$ 296.20	
	Mileage	\$ 857.45	
	Miscellaneous	\$ 209.73	
	Lien costs	\$ 2,996.84	
	Postage	\$ 2,138.36	
	Printing	\$ 2,005.61	
	Services	\$ 1,623.63	
	Supplies	\$ 3,453.60	
	Telephone	\$ 2,553.03	
	Training	\$ 365.00	
	Total Expended		\$ 68,727.16

**Lapsed/(Charged) to Fund Balance \$ 1,272.84**

## Town of Searsmont

### Community Building

Raised			\$ 51,000.00
Distribution:	Cleaning Services	\$ 7,016.69	
	Elevator	\$ 1,431.50	
	Grounds Maintenance	\$ 15,617.55	
	Licenses	\$ 70.00	
	Misc	\$ 143.00	
	Paving	\$ 13,692.00	
	Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 1,506.95	
	Security	\$ 360.00	
	Supplies	\$ 1,160.08	
	Electricity	\$ 5,404.37	
	Heat	\$ 4,597.86	
	Total Expended		\$ 51,000.00
<b>Balance moved to Community Building Reserve Account</b>			<b>\$ -</b>

### Planning Board

Raised			\$ 23,400.00
Revenue			\$ 1,678.80
Distribution:	Wages	\$ 17,503.93	
	Payroll Taxes	\$ 1,338.17	
	Mileage	\$ 261.20	
	Supplies	\$ 344.86	
	Advertising	\$ 42.60	
	Legal Services	\$ 1,405.49	
	Training	\$ 110.00	
	Total Expended		\$ 21,006.25
<b>Revenue Moved to Planning Board Legal Reserve</b>			<b>\$ 1,678.80</b>
<b>Lapsed/(Charged) to Fund Balance</b>			<b>\$ 2,393.75</b>

### Fire Department

Raised			\$ 66,450.00
Donations			\$ 553.00
Grants			\$ 5,622.63
Distribution:	Wages	\$ 17,443.02	
	Payroll Taxes	\$ 1,614.86	
	Supplies	\$ 21,699.16	
	Services	\$ 10,734.85	
	Insurance	\$ 2,136.68	
	Electricity	\$ 926.10	
	Heat	\$ 6,083.43	
	Telephone	\$ 816.34	
	Total Expended		\$ 61,454.44
<b>Moved to Fire Department Savings Reserve</b>			<b>\$ 553.00</b>
<b>Lapsed/(Charged) to Fund Balance</b>			<b>\$ 4,995.56</b>

### Constable

Raised		\$ 2,200.00	
Distribution:	Wages	\$ 2,000.00	
	Payroll taxes	\$ 152.90	
	Total Expended		\$ 2,152.90
<b>Lapsed/(Charged) to Fund Balance</b>			<b>\$ 47.10</b>

## Town of Searsmont

### **Searsmont Rescue**

Raised		\$ 34,000.00
From Revenue		\$ 5,000.00
Actual Revenue	\$ 25,032.08	
Excess Revenue		\$ 20,032.08
Distribution:		
Wages	\$ 19,657.34	
Payroll Taxes	\$ 1,460.62	
Supplies	\$ 1,659.27	
Services, Billing	\$ 1,109.28	
Dues/Membership	\$ 1,000.00	
Licenses	\$ 310.00	
Paramedic Fees	\$ 1,300.00	
Training	\$ 3,930.00	
Vehicle maint/rep	\$ 271.98	
Insurance	\$ 1,034.32	
Mileage	\$ 1,339.60	
	Total Expended	\$ 33,072.41
<b>Moved to Rescue Savings Reserve</b>		<b>\$ 20,032.08</b>
<b>Lapsed/(Charged) to Fund Balance</b>		<b>\$ 5,927.59</b>

### **Animal Control**

Raised		\$ 7,000.00
Revenue		\$ 1,503.00
Distribution:		
Wages		\$ 3,500.00
Payroll Taxes	\$ 267.76	
Supplies	\$ 342.65	
Animal Shelter	\$ 1,355.00	
Training	\$ 50.00	
Telephone	\$ 369.46	
Mileage	\$ 73.25	
	Total Expended	\$ 5,958.12
<b>Lapsed/(Charged) to Fund Balance</b>		<b>\$ 2,544.88</b>

### **Emergency Management**

Raised		\$ 2,000.00
Distribution:		
Wages	\$ 1,200.00	
Payroll taxes	\$ 91.80	
	Total Expended	\$ 1,291.80
<b>Lapsed/(Charged) to Fund Balance</b>		<b>\$ 708.20</b>

### **Street Lights**

Raised		\$ 3,000.00
Distribution:		
Electricity	\$ 2,549.41	
	Total Expended	\$ 2,549.41
<b>Lapsed/(Charged) to Fund Balance</b>		<b>\$ 450.59</b>

### **General Assistance**

From Revenue		\$ 5,200.00
Reimbursed from State		\$ 386.90
Distribution:		
Electricity	\$ 282.00	
Heat	\$ 399.85	
Housing	\$ 1,138.93	
	Total Expended	\$ 1,820.78
<b>Lapsed/(Charged) to Fund Balance</b>		<b>\$ 3,766.12</b>

## Town of Searsmont

### **Donations**

Raised		\$ 9,550.00
Distribution:	American Red Cross Mid Coast Chapter	\$100.00
	AMVET Memorial Post 150 Food Pantry	\$300.00
	Belfast Area Child Care Services	\$300.00
	Broadreach Family & Community Services	\$450.00
	Crossroads Food Pantry	\$500.00
	Game Loft (Maine Youth Alliance)	\$150.00
	Habitat for Humanity	\$750.00
	Hospice Volunteers of Waldo County	\$200.00
	Life Flight Foundation	\$100.00
	Midcoast Maine Community Action	\$700.00
	New Hope for Women	\$750.00
	No Greater Love Food Pantry	\$ 200.00
	Spectrum Generations	\$700.00
	Searsmont Scholarship	\$1,000.00
	Waldo Community Action Partners	\$3,000.00
	Waldo County Search and Rescue	\$100.00
	Waldo County YMCA	\$250.00
	Total Expended	\$ 9,550.00
<b>Lapsed/(Charged) to Fund Balance</b>		<b>\$ -</b>

### **Roads & Bridges**

Raised		\$ 225,000.00
Appropriated from Excise		\$ 195,000.00
From DOT		\$ 35,000.00
	Actual DOT Revenue	\$ 224,180.15
	Actual Excise Revenue	\$ 35,968.00
	Excess Revenue	\$ 30,148.15
Distribution:	Supplies	\$ 5,197.53
	Services	\$ 335.40
	Salt	\$ 15,185.36
	Sand/Gravel	\$ 29,723.00
	Summer Maintenance	\$ 16,384.75
	Winter Maintenance	\$ 181,042.07
	Gen'l Maintenance & Repair	\$ 31,818.00
	Mileage	\$ 686.50
	Sand/Salt maintenance	\$ 4,133.00
	Sand/Salt shed paving	\$ 2,856.00
	Sand/Salt shed electricity	\$ 578.82
	Salt Shed services	\$ 4,917.00
	Capital Improvements: Rd Construction	\$ 4,825.00
	Capital Improvements: Paving	\$ 86,006.00
	Total Expended	\$ 383,688.43
<b>Lapsed/(Charged) to Fund Balance</b>		<b>\$ 30,148.15</b>
<b>Moved to Road and Bridge Account</b>		<b>\$ 71,311.57</b>

### **Parks & Recreation**

Raised		\$ 1,000.00
Distribution	Janitorial services	\$ 525.00
	Total Expended	\$ 525.00
<b>Lapsed/(Charged) to Fund Balance</b>		<b>\$ 475.00</b>

## Town of Searsmont

### Searsmont Town Library

Raised			\$	14,425.00
Revenue			\$	6,700.00
From Library Savings Reserve			\$	1,000.00
Actual Revenue		\$	6,904.27	
Distribution	Excess Revenue		\$	204.27
	Payroll		\$	11,425.00
	Payroll Taxes	\$	874.06	
	Supplies: Books	\$	5,756.77	
	Office	\$	48.59	
	Postage	\$	60.00	
	Library	\$	119.26	
	Software	\$	700.00	
	Computer Services	\$	440.00	
	Telephone	\$	401.76	
	Total Expended		\$	19,825.44
<b>Balance Moved to Reserve Account</b>			\$	<b>1,503.83</b>

### Parade Committee

Raised			\$	1,500.00
Revenue			\$	130.50
Distribution	Wages	\$	150.00	
	Payroll taxes	\$	11.49	
	Supplies	\$	936.74	
	Services	\$	225.00	
	Mileage	\$	49.00	
	Total Expended		\$	1,372.23
<b>Lapsed/(Charged) to Fund Balance</b>			\$	<b>258.27</b>

### Transfer Station

Raised			\$	39,800.00
Revenue			\$	16,000.00
Actual Revenue		\$	18,192.89	
Distribution:	Excess Revenue		\$	2,192.89
	Payroll	\$	5,472.75	
	Payroll Taxes	\$	419.76	
	Supplies	\$	20.17	
	Demo Debris	\$	1,125.75	
	Licenses/Dues	\$	3,343.00	
	MRC/PERC/Trucking	\$	40,092.28	
	Mileage	\$	88.00	
	Property Maintenance	\$	2,878.00	
	Telephone	\$	22.10	
	Training	\$	125.00	
	Miscellaneous	\$	383.09	
	Total Expended		\$	53,969.90
<b>Lapsed/(Charged) to Fund Balance</b>			\$	<b>4,022.99</b>

### Cemetery Operations

Raised	Operations		\$	14,000.00
Distribution:	Sexton Wages	\$	1,000.00	
	Payroll Taxes	\$	76.55	
	Summer Maintenance	\$	11,950.00	
	Mileage	\$	38.50	
	Total Expended		\$	13,065.05
<b>Balance Moved to Restoration Reserve Account</b>			\$	<b>934.95</b>



## Town of Searsmont

### **Cemetery Restoration**

Beginning Balance		\$	782.61
Raised		\$	8,000.00
Perpetual Care		\$	6,000.00
Cemetery Lots		\$	1,609.81
Interest		\$	1.56
Unused balance from operations account		\$	934.95
Distribution:	Pine Grove Restoration	\$	12,150.00
	Riverside Fence Restoration	\$	1,170.00
	Total expended	\$	13,320.00
<b>Balance carried</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>4,008.93</b>

### **Firehouse Building Reserve**

Beginning Balance		\$	20,782.73
Raised		\$	10,000.00
Donations		\$	3,870.77
Interest earned		\$	34.65
<b>Balance carried</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>34,688.15</b>

### **Rescue Equipment Reserve**

Beginning Balance		\$	113,705.79
Transfers from other funds		\$	43,144.83
Interest earned		\$	1,068.25
Distribution	Fees	\$	1,865.68
	Total Expended	\$	1,865.68
<b>Balance carried</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>156,053.19</b>

### **Community Building Reserve**

Beginning Balance		\$	37,397.86
Raised		\$	10,000.00
Interest earned		\$	18.78
Expended:	Furnace	\$	21,400.00
	Parking lot 45 Main South	\$	16,174.00
	LL Floor	\$	1,925.00
	Misc.	\$	278.19
	Total Expended	\$	39,777.19
<b>Balance carried</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>7,639.45</b>

### **Salt Shed Reserve**

Beginning Balance		\$	24,403.17
Raised		\$	5,000.00
Interest earned		\$	37.28
<b>Balance carried</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>29,440.45</b>

### **Capital Voting Machine**

Beginning Balance		\$	5,788.30
Interest earned		\$	9.22
Distribution:	Voting Machine	\$	685.00
	Total Expended	\$	745.00
<b>Balance carried</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>5,112.52</b>

## Town of Searsmont

### **Fire Department Equipment Reserve**

Beginning Balance		\$ 151,217.42
Raised		\$ 10,000.00
Interest earned		\$ 1,354.05
Distribution:	<u>Fees</u>	<u>\$ 2,452.06</u>
	Total Expended	<u>\$ 2,452.06</u>
<b>Balance carried</b>		<b>\$ 160,119.41</b>

### **Comprehensive Plan Reserve**

Beginning Balance		\$ 556.70
Interest earned		<u>\$ 0.83</u>
<b>Balance carried</b>		<b>\$ 557.53</b>

### **Bicentennial**

Beginning Balance		\$ 1,558.18
Raised		\$ 5,000.00
Revenue		\$ 5,099.00
Distribution	<u>Film Production</u>	<u>\$ 7,130.00</u>
	Total Expended	<u>\$ 7,130.00</u>
<b>Balance carried</b>		<b>\$ 4,527.18</b>

### **Furniture & Fixtures**

Beginning Balance		\$ 2,313.61
Interest earned		\$ 3.53
Distribution	<u>Supplies</u>	<u>\$ 14.18</u>
	Total Expended	<u>\$ 14.18</u>
<b>Balance carried</b>		<b>\$ 2,302.96</b>

### **Emergency Management Reserve**

Beginning Balance		\$ 13,118.02
Raised		\$ 2,000.00
Interest earned		\$ 29.48
Insurance payment		\$ 25,000.00
Distribution	<u>Forest Fire</u>	<u>\$ 31,008.30</u>
	Total Expended	<u>\$ 31,008.30</u>
<b>Balance carried</b>		<b>\$ 9,139.20</b>

### **Contingency Fund**

Beginning Balance		\$ -
Raised		\$ 5,000.00
	Total Expended	<u>\$ -</u>
<b>Lapsed/(Charged) to Fund Balance</b>		<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>

### **Intergovernmental**

Raised	Waldo County Assessment	\$ 296,315.50
	County Jail	\$ 107,596.93
	County General Taxes	\$ 171,123.48
Raised	RSU #71	\$ 2,209,167.00
	<u>School Assessment</u>	<u>\$ 2,201,151.07</u>
	Total Expended	<u>\$ 2,479,871.48</u>
<b>Lapsed/(Charged) to Fund Balance</b>		<b>\$ 25,611.02</b>

## Treasurer's Cash Flow Report

Beginning balance Cash Account		\$ 982,543.48
	Revenues	
TAXES 14 Real Estate	\$ 170,797.04	
TAXES 15 Real Estate	\$ 2,756,817.54	
TAXES 16 Real Estate	\$ 2,821.72	
TAXES 13 Personal Property	\$ 563.49	
TAXES 14 Personal Property	\$ 317.93	
TAXES 15 Personal Property	\$ 123,223.03	
TAXES 13 Tax Lien	\$ 29,588.70	
TAXES 14 Tax Lien	\$ 33,129.56	
Tax Acquired Real Estate 10	\$ 567.48	
Tax Acquired Real Estate 11	\$ 911.34	
Tax Acquired Real Estate 12	\$ 827.11	
Tax Acquired Real Estate 13	\$ 843.60	
Tax Acquired Real Estate 14	\$ 2,328.46	
LPI	\$ 1,755.00	
Ambulance Revenue	\$ 6,925.99	
Special Accounts (Fire/Resc/Lib/etc.)	\$ 981.12	
MV Excise Tax	\$ 224,180.15	
Boat Excise	\$ 2,474.50	
tax Interest	\$ 12,222.83	
Lien Fees	\$ 3,463.77	
Town Fees	\$ 8,910.85	
Com. Ctr	\$ 650.00	
Plan Bd	\$ 1,678.80	
Animal Welfare	\$ 1,503.00	
Library	\$ 6,909.04	
Transfer Station	\$ 18,192.89	
State subsidies (Homestead, etc)	\$ 182,524.99	
Miscellaneous	\$ 66,993.91	
Voided checks	\$ 192,801.91	
Interest	\$ 1,495.63	
Collected for the State		
GF Sales Tax	\$ 4,381.09	
IFW Fees	\$ 14,137.00	
BMV Fees	\$ 59,724.15	
BMV Sales Tax	\$ 24,524.36	
BMV Title Fee	\$ 5,742.00	
Vital Records	\$ 138.40	
Dog Lic	\$ 1,861.00	
Plumbing	\$ 585.00	
Septic	\$ 75.00	
Gun Permit	\$ 130.00	
trnsfers in	\$ 575,450.28	
Total Revenues		\$ 4,543,149.66
Warrants	\$ (3,793,157.87)	
bank fees	\$ (390.00)	
trnsfers out	\$ (600,473.70)	
Total expenses		\$ (4,394,021.57)
Ending Balance Cash Account		\$ 1,131,671.57



The Auditor's report was not available in time to print in the Town Report. The Auditor's report will be available for viewing in the Town Office and online at [www.searsmont.com](http://www.searsmont.com) when it is available.



#### PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board is charged with the task of interpreting and implementing the Land Use Ordinances of the Town of Searsmont. These ordinances strive to find a balance between the property rights of landowners and those of abutting and neighboring landowners and the community, in general; to ensure that development occurs in such a way that it preserves the safety, health, and well-being of the residents of the community; and to encourage the most appropriate and efficient use of land throughout the community. The Planning Board has delegated the Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) the task of issuing residential permits, and the CEO is also charged with enforcement of the Land Use Ordinances.

The Planning Board is made up of seven (7) elected members who each serve a term of three years, and a Planning Board Clerk, who keeps the records and correspondence of the Board. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our Planning Board Clerk for the last eight years, Nancy Robbins, who recently stepped down due to the demands of her primary job.

The Board's focus this year started out with the ongoing updates to the Land Use Ordinances to make them consistent with the 2013 Comprehensive Plan, and the development of a Wind Energy Facility Ordinance. The Board also processed a site plan review for Come Spring, LLC, Business Park, and, following that, is processing an amendment for a brewery proposed for the business park. The Board is also anticipating a site plan amendment application for Robbins Lumber, Inc., for their proposed biomass energy plant.

The Planning Board is currently meeting the first and third Tuesday of each month, from 7p.m. - 9p.m. in the town office. The meetings are open to the public, but participation by observers is at the discretion of the Board.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jana Herbener  
Planning Board Chair

#### PLANNING BOARD OF APPEALS

There have been no meetings of the Planning Board of Appeals this year.

CODE ENFORCEMENT AND PLUMBING INSPECTOR

During the year 2015 the Code Enforcement office issued twenty-nine (29) building permits for the following:

New Homes	3	Additions	5
Accessory Buildings	15	Replacement Homes	1
Mobile Homes	0	Fill	1
Alterations	1	Sign	0
Commercial Structures	0	Deck	3

There was a two hundred (200) percent increase in new houses and a decrease of seventeen (17) percent in new permits in 2015 compared to 2014.

During the year 2015 the Local Plumbing Inspector issued seventeen (17) plumbing permits for the following:

New Septic Systems	6	Pump Tank	0
Grey Water Systems	2	Internal Plumbing permits	8
Replacement Septic Systems	1	Replacement Field	0

There was a nineteen (19) percent decrease in both new septic systems as well as internal plumbing permits.

Shoreland Zoning activities:

1. There were two violations in the shoreland zone in 2015. These have all been corrected and fines issued as applicable.
2. Worked with multiple shoreland zoned property owners to provide guidance on their projects.

Other activities:

1. Continuing to receive inquiries from potential buyers, property owners and real estate agents in regard Town Ordinances and shoreland properties in Searsmont.
2. Performed site inspections prior to permit issuance and at construction completion on all building permits and subsurface wastewater systems and internal plumbing permits. There are multiple cases where internal plumbing permits were taken and installed without being inspected. These are identified as not being approved due to not being inspected.
3. Provided technical support to the Planning Board as requested as well as applicant preparation for Planning Board presentations for approval.
4. Continued E911 addressing responsibilities and administrated same. In 2015 there were four (4) new addresses added to the system.

It is a pleasure to work with the Searsmont Selectmen and Town Office staff. These officials are very professional and focus on the well-being of the Town in the execution of their responsibilities.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Frank Therio, Searsmont  
 CEO/LPI/Addressing Officer

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

This year we did 880 hours of training and responded to 72 calls, down from last year's 82 calls.

Vehicle Accident	17	Car Fire	3
Jaws of Life	4	Smoke Investigation	2
Structure Fire	3	Structure Fire Mutual Aid	9
Chimney Fire	2	Chimney Fire Mutual Aid	6
Fire Alarm	2	Grass Fire Mutual Aid	1
Grass, Brush Fire	10	Power line, Down Tree	7
Stand by	1	Service Call	1
Cold Water Rescue	1	Lost Person	2
Carbon Monoxide Alarm	1		

This past year we had a forest fire that burned 46.3 acres. We spent four full long days putting out this fire. We had the prison hot shot crew helping us along with the town of Appleton, Belfast, Belmont, Camden, Cushing, Freedom, Liberty, Lincolnville, Montville, Morrill, Northport, Searsport, Thorndike, Thomaston, Troy, Union and Warren. We had a crew of ten guys from Robbins Lumber, the Waldo County EMA, Knox County EMA, and the County IMAT team. The Maine Forest Service and two helicopters. The helicopters played a big part in putting out the fire. We had Dave's World, Fuller Construction, Lucas Construction and Richards Construction there with crawlers, but we did not use them due to wet land.



We applied for four grants this past year and we got all four. One was a scholarship grant that will pay for training. We were trained in confined space. We get a grant to purchase one S.C.B.A. complete, one hydrant in the river on 173 by West Appleton Road.

We have had two new people join us, Melissa and Michael Lanier. We have four people in basic fire school now. When they finish this they will be able to go in burning building to put out fires. Yes, we are still looking for help. If you are interested in helping us, stop in. We meet the first and third Wednesday of each month. You can call me at 342-5707 days or 342-5732 nights or Wayne Woodbury at 322-4972.

I am proud of all the hard work that our firemen do, and hope you are also. We have very good equipment and the very best firemen to make your loss less and we are happy to help you. Just call 911.

James Ames  
Fire Chief



TRI TOWN RESCUE

Tri-Town Rescue is a Jaws of Life Team made up of Liberty, Montville and Searsmont Fire departments. We get called out when someone has a vehicle accident and they cannot get out. We come with the Jaws of Life and cut them out. We had four calls last year.

AMBULANCE

Hi, I am back begging again to get people to help us on the Rescue and Fire Department. We had 80 runs this year a few less than last year.

We put 2 Firemen through EMT Class but they haven't licensed yet so we are still low on EMT's. William decided to go to Florida and stay there so we lost him. We are going to lose Valerie next March, so I think I will license one more time, so P.J. isn't all alone during the day. We have Neil at night with P.J. but mostly just me during the day with James driving.

Once again I would like to thank our Firemen for helping us on scene to life and drive the ambulance. If you would like to join a really nice bunch of people we would be glad to have you, we think of ourselves as a big family. We would like to hear from you.

James Ames 342-5707

Joanne Ames 342-5732

Dawn Bryant 342-4351

Well that's it until next year. Oh, we are going to Baltimore again this year to take classes. We will be gone from February 24 – 29, while we are gone Liberty Ambulance will cover for us.

Well that's it for now,

Rescue Chief,

Joanne Ames

PUBLIC SAFETY

Constable

We had put out some warrants and checked on some people. It has been a quiet year.

James Ames, Constable

ROADS AND BRIDGES

Hello friends and neighbors, I hope the winter has treated you well. As most of you know, we had a very busy year. With the rainstorms in September and January, we had to replace culverts and gravel on Lime Kiln, Muzzy Ridge Road and several other areas, we were able to pave some of Moody Mountain Road and also reclaim Walker Road. We paved the Town Office driveway coming in and a portion of the Lawry Road. I would like to thank our plowing crews for another great job this winter and all of the other crews that have helped throughout the year.

Sincerely,

Christopher Staples

Selectman



## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Well this year has been an average year until September 30<sup>th</sup>. We had a big rain storm. We had roads washing out. We had the culvert wash out on Lime Kiln Road, Muzzy Ridge Road and Lawry Road. We had water going out the roads on Moody Mountain, Main Street North, Main Street South and Ghent Road. It started to wash out the bridge on the Ghent Road. Robbins Lumber had a big mud slide at the mill.

James Ames,  
Emergency Management Director

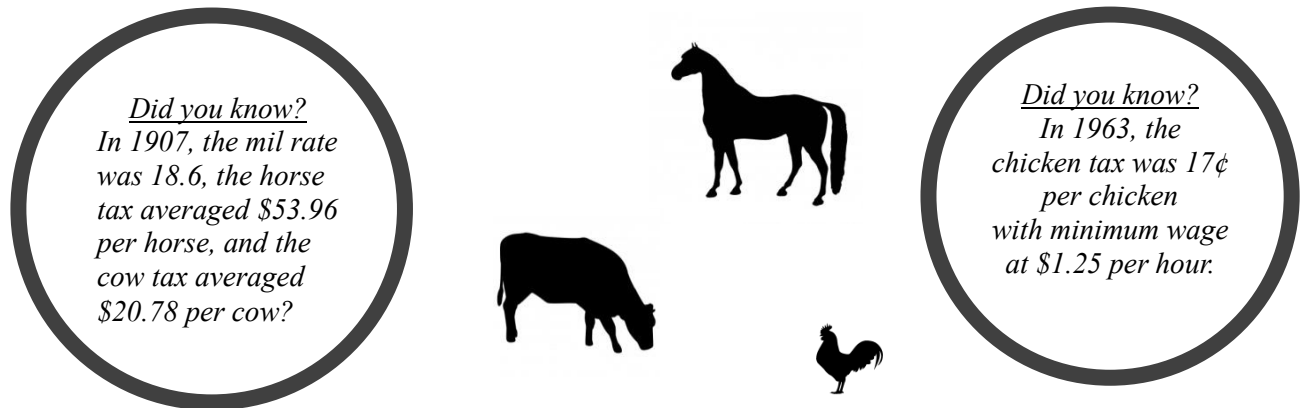




ANIMAL CONTROL

The Town Office and the Animal Control Officers would like to thank the residents for the timely registration of their dogs. This year all but 28 dogs were licensed before January 31, 2016. Dog Licenses expire annually on December 31<sup>st</sup>, but may be purchased as early as October 15<sup>th</sup> for the upcoming year. The annual fees to license your dog are \$6.00 for spayed or neutered and \$11.00 for unaltered dogs. The consequences for failing to license your dog are a \$25.00 per dog late fee and possible court summons. Your dog's rabies vaccination must be current at the time of licensing. The Town Office website, [www.searsmont.com](http://www.searsmont.com) is a valuable resource for information like rabies clinics.

With only a few dog incidents, a herd of sheep and a stray peacock, the Animal Control Officers do not have any complaints or requests pertaining their job this year. Just a friendly reminder that if your contact information has changed, please let the Town Office know. The importance of contacting you on behalf of your pet or to avoid a fine is priceless.



SOCIAL SERVICES

General Assistance& the Packard Fund

With the wonderful warm winter, we experienced plus the help of neighbors, churches and WCAP the General assistance needs have not been as busy as years past. General Assistance is available to assist individuals and families who are experiencing unforeseen hardships. An application is required with your income and expenses; appointments can be made during regular business hours of the Town Office.

General Assistance accepted 15 applications, of which 5 applications were approved, serving 17 people.

Heat:	2 applications	2 people
Electric:	2 applications	12 people
Property Taxes:	1 application	3 people

When an application is processed and General Assistance isn't able to assist due to incomes that exceed the guidelines, the Packard Fund can assist in some cases. The Packard Fund is an endowment that was funded by Ira & Marietta Packard. Ira & Marietta Packard were

## Town of Searsmont

lifelong residents of Searsmont, and very active in the community where Ira farmed and Marietta taught school. In passing Ira and Marietta left a wonderful bequest to the town for those in need. This fund is managed by the University of Maine Foundation, and the interest is dispersed to the town twice a year, to be used by the Selectmen to provide for those in need.

The Packard Fund had 7 applications serving 19 people.

Heat:	2 applications	2 people
Property Taxes:	3 applications	11 people
Home Repairs:	2 applications	6 people

The Town works with many organizations to provide for the needs of our residents, including the State of Maine, and many private and public service organizations. If you are affiliated with an organization that offers services to the public, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are also looking for creative and proactive ways to use the Packard Fund to help those in the community to meet their basic needs for shelter, food, warmth, and safety. If you have any ideas to share with us toward this goal, or if you are aware of anyone who has a need that is not met, or if you or one of your neighbors would like to receive information for assistance you can confidentially contact the Town Office at [deputy2@fairpoint.net](mailto:deputy2@fairpoint.net). Our website at [www.Searsmont.com](http://www.Searsmont.com) also contains general information and local Food Pantry information.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Contessa Mancini  
General Assistance Administrator



### SEARSMONT SCHOLARSHIP

There were several well-qualified applicants for the Searsmont Scholarship this year, making the decision particularly difficult for the Scholarship Committee. In the end, one individual stood out, and that was Maggie Samuels, who is the 2015 recipient of the Searsmont Scholarship. Maggie is in her third year of college at Hampshire College, majoring in Turkish Studies. We congratulate Maggie, and wish her much success as she continues her academic career.

Holly Calhoun      Elsa Chapin      Jon Thurston  
Searsmont Scholarship Committee

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SEARSMONT TOWN LIBRARY

Librarian

At the time of this writing I have been on the job for about two and a half months. One autumn day when I visited the town office to inquire about some land for sale in Searsmont, I saw the library for the first time. I was impressed and on inquiry, I learned a search was on for a new librarian. I applied and shortly after that I was hired and started work in December. Thanks to former librarian Tom Neely, Kathy Hoey, the library trustees and steadfast library volunteers I am happy to say it has been a pleasure getting to know the library patrons, volunteers and collection.

From February 1, 2015, through January 31, 2016, the Library received 4,001 patron visits. During that same period, we circulated 6,386 items from our collection as well as 122 items borrowed from other libraries via interlibrary loan. We also had visits from 1,025 computer users. Our children's programs, such as Story Time and Kindergarten visits saw a total of 915 children. With a collection of 13,320 items the library continues to be an important and well supported part of the community.

Respectfully submitted,  
Daniel McCarthy, Librarian



*This quilt was made by the mothers of the Tuesday Story and Art Time program participants, and presented to Lisa and Tom Neely, in appreciation for their service to the children at the Searsmont Town Library for the last several years. Tom recently retired as the Librarian, and his wife, Lisa, was the creative mind behind the children's story and art time.*

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PARKS & RECREATION

Memorial Day Parade

This year as many of you know was a combination Memorial Day and Bicentennial Parade. The purpose of this event is to honor our Veterans.

We want to thank Ernie Ladd and the volunteers that help with traffic control during this event. We want to thank all of the participants, spectators and veterans that make our parade a success, and Dunkin Donuts for donating donuts for the town meeting. The proceeds help pay parade expenses. Many thanks to the parade committee for the time and effort they put forth for this event.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandra McLellan  
Parade Chair

ATHLETIC FIELD COORDINATOR

An extremely successful 2015 year of baseball in Searsmont is behind us while the 2016 season draws near. The summer of 2015 was one of the most enjoyable years for the families who participate in youth baseball in recent memory. Our Little League team went undefeated during the regular season with a record of 12-0, swept through the playoffs, winning the League Championship and ending the season with a perfect record of 16-0. What a fantastic group of kids I had the pleasure to coach this past year in Little League. I have coached some of these players since they were only 7 years old, to coach them through several very successful seasons and to watch them end their Little League careers in this way speaks volumes to our program. This year was truly a once in a lifetime achievement for those players and coaches. Thank you to all who came out to support us it is appreciated, and for those that did not get a chance to see this team play, you missed out on an amazing time. Players include: Dylan Abbott, Thomas Parker, Tanner Veilleux, Eli Veilleux, Tommy Walker, Chris Kelley, Declan Knowlton, Jeremiah Porter, Josh Miner, Curtis Littlefield, and Michael Ham. Coaches were Jason Fuller, Mike Abbott and Jason Littlefield.

Our Searsmont Beaver minor league teams were just as successful in 2015 as well. Both teams made it to the Semi-final round, with Searsmont Blue making it to the Championship game. Blue won that game as well and ended their season with a perfect 16-0 record. 2015 minor league players for the Blue team were James Ritter, Nathan Mitchell, Will Robbins, Brigham Graf, Lincoln Graf, Hagan Chase, Kayden Richards, Kara Richards, Sully Bryant, Erin Robbins, Abbott Craig, Joseph Parker, Ethan Abbott, Kaitlyn Kelley, Mia Winslow, Levi Farrell, and Sarah Fuller. Red players included Maggie Morse, Madisyn Morse, Jackson Lapierre, Mallory Morse, Macey Morse, Paige Littlefield, Faith Littlefield, Zachary Thomas, Hayle Withee, Alec Rolfe, Joseph Lemon, Taylor Lemon, Jordyn Kneeland, Trinity Haber, Sidney Wadsworth. The minors' teams were coached by Jason Fuller, Randy Abbott, Pat Richards, Jamie Ritter, Chris Morse, Bob Withee and Travis Haber.

Please visit our web page for photos and information on the upcoming season at facebook.com and search Searsmont Youth Baseball.

Thank you for your continued support,  
Jason Fuller

TRANSFER STATION

To my neighbors;

In 2015 the Transfer Station has again reached its goal of 25% recycling. The 'household metal' alone has collected over 4.3 tons of recyclable metal. For a town of 1400 people it is a remarkable number.

I also have to add that the town increased its use of the station on a yearly basis of over 15 tons from last year.

In closing I would like to add the names of Neil Colburn and Basil Pearse to a job well done. Always on time every Saturday, polite, helpful, and courteous. I know many citizens of Searsmont share that same belief. Again a good year.

Thank you,  
Donald Corcoran, 2<sup>nd</sup> Selectmen



*Can you believe these two stones are one and the same? Neither could the ancestor of this individual, who sent us the picture on the left, not believing that we had sent her a picture (right) of the same stone. Kudos to Tom Stevens and his crew for their excellent work!*



CEMETERY COMMITTEE & SEXTON

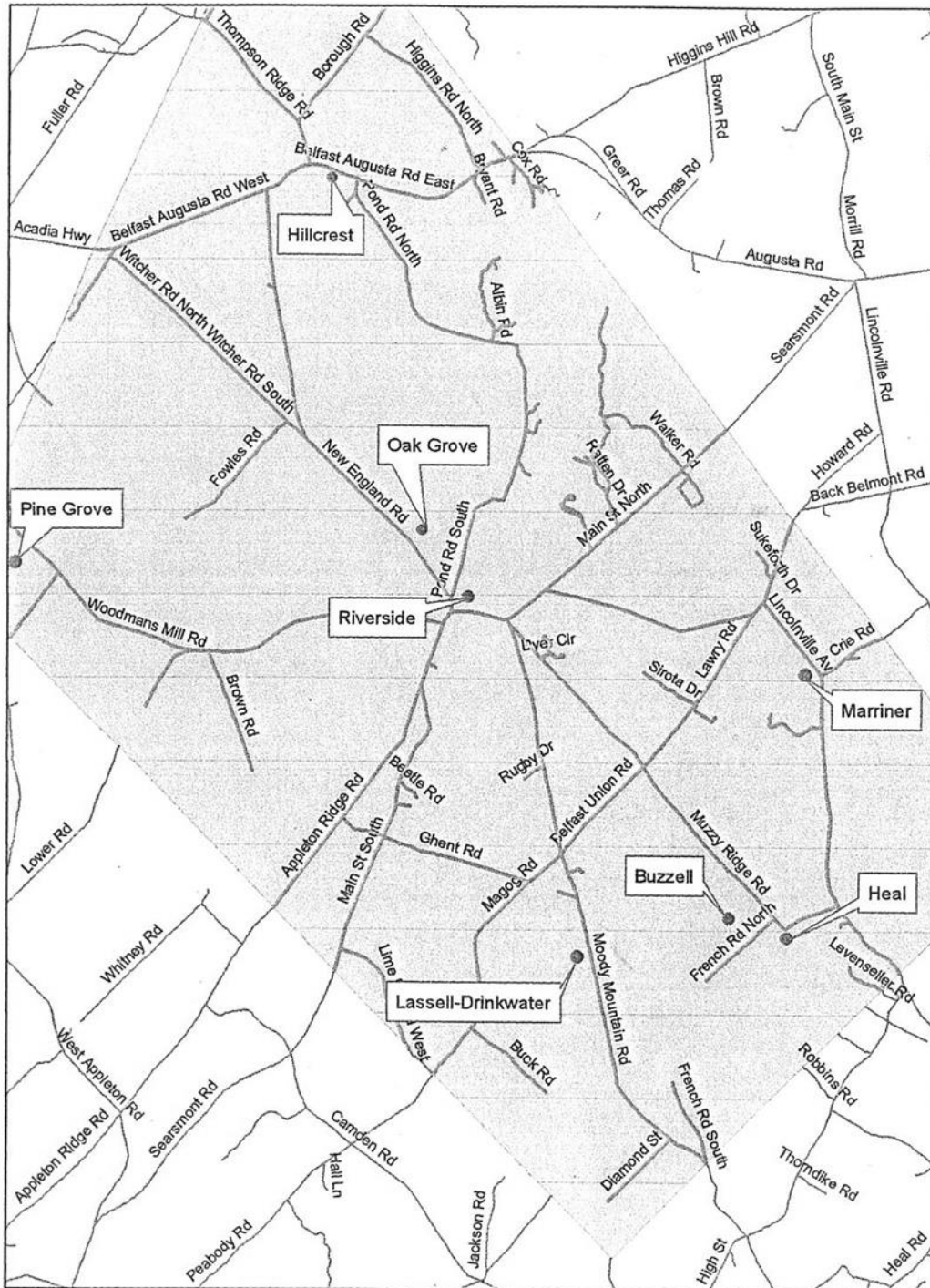
Three of Searsmont's Cemeteries received some major updating this past year. First on the agenda was our oldest cemetery Riverside which received replacement of the wooden rail fencing. C J Fencing of Liberty did an excellent job including cementing end pieces and gate openings into the ground. Next was LaSalle-Drinkwater where twenty-eight (28) sections of wooden fence were replaced with 7' granite posts and new chain link fencing, thanks to the generous support and labor of citizens who wish to remain anonymous. Last, but not least the committee voted to restore two (2) sections of Pine Grove Cemetery, located on the western edge of town, that needed the most work. Tom Stevens of Newcastle, Maine and his crew completed the work, in early October.

It is with regret that the Selectmen are sorry to hear that long time Committee Member Sharon Soule has decided not to run again. Sharon has served on the Cemetery Committee for the past (ten) years. She was the keeper of the Committee's minutes and provided the committee with our history during that time, not to mention she helped to place a few hundred flags on our Veterans graves during Memorial and Veterans Day. She will be missed.

Donald Corcoran, 2nd Selectmen/Sexton



## Cemetery map



# Town of Searsmont Cemetery Locations

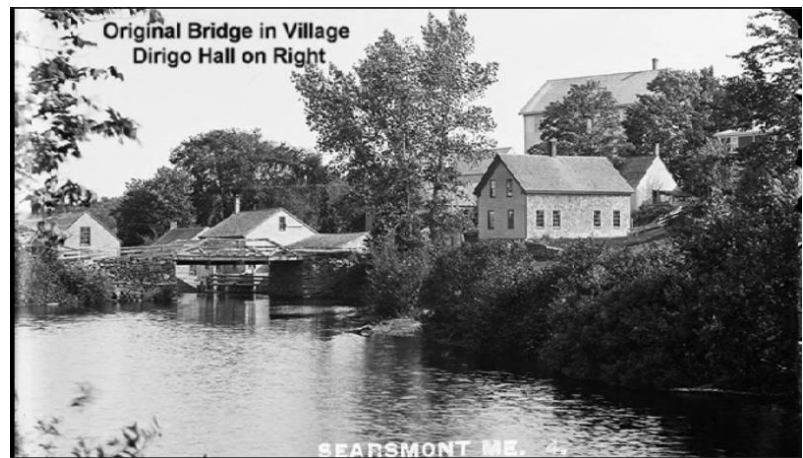


**Searsmont Historical Society**

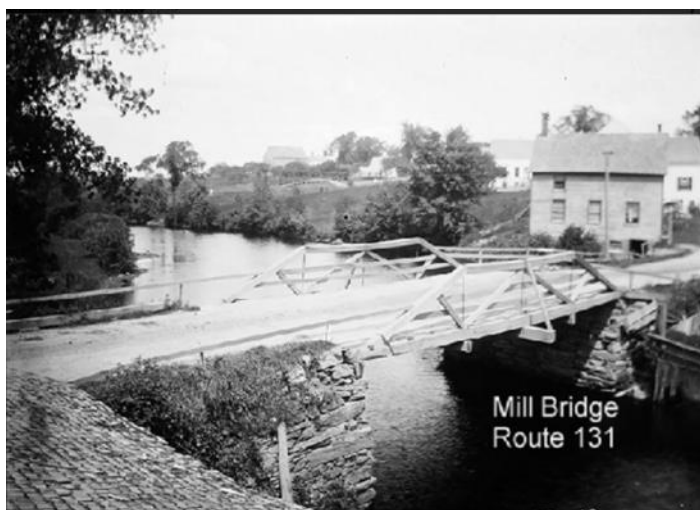
The Historical Society meets at 1:30 PM on the second Wednesday of the months of October, November, January, February, March and April in the Historical Room, which is one wing of the Community Building. The meetings and refreshments are free of charge and open to all. Each meeting features an engaging speaker or presenter from our local area. Topics are wide-ranging from local business owners, to world travelers, to hikers, an archaeologist, and the State of Maine librarian. The most recent presentation was about bats, those flying mammals that are both misunderstood and endangered.

The society enjoys the objects and artifacts housed in both the Historical Room and the red barn adjacent to the parking lot of the Community Building. The Historical Room is open on Tuesdays from 4:00-6:00 PM or by appointment. Membership dues are \$5.00 per year for singles or couples. Come learn about Searsmont's history and share your stories.

Larry Cunningham, Secretary



*Photos courtesy of Searsmont Bicentennial Committee*





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**Schools**

RSU #71 SUPERINTENDENT

**REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT #71**

**Belfast • Belmont • Morrill  
Searsmont • Swanville**

**Paul D. Knowles, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools  
PO Box 325  
6A Lions Way  
Belfast, ME 04915**

**Telephone: 207/338-1960**

**Fax: 207/338-4597**

Dear Citizens,

The new RSU #71 continues to shape its identity related to three school board priority fronts: building infrastructure, system-wide academic programming, and system-wide operational structure. The work on the fronts began with large challenges, but much progress has been made to meet the challenges.

The pool, cafeteria, math wing, and special education wing infrastructure issues at Belfast Area High School will first be addressed through an architectural/ engineering study that will assess the existing facility, the educational space needs and programming, and then develop a concept design for a possible building renovation project. Another architectural/ engineering study will be completed at the Ames Elementary School that will explore the feasibility of adding on to the school and moving the students from the Gladys Weymouth School to the Ames School, eliminating the need to complete major repairs and renovations at the Weymouth School. System-wide heating, ventilation, and other energy saving measures will be addressed by conducting an energy audit and moving forward with a performance contract.

Systemic-wide academic programming is in place for the first time in many years. Mathematics is first subject area to complete a thorough K-12 audit and review. Progress is also being made in finalizing the development of the state mandated teacher and principal evaluation and professional growth system. (TEPG/PEPG) A new curriculum coordinator will be hired to oversee all the academic programming and grants. This will allow for a more concentrated and in-depth leadership to better facilitate the work that needs to be completed.

The school board is beginning to explore the possibility of moving all fifth grade students in the district to Troy Howard Middle School. In concept, such a move would allow for more effective academic programming, teacher collaboration, extended extra-curricular opportunities, and would be more efficient by freeing on classroom space at the Captain Albert Stevens School, the Kermit Nickerson School, and the Ames Elementary School, that could create further possibilities for consolidation of programs and schools.

The above initiatives are significant and will need your continued input and support. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, or any of the RSU #71 School Board Members.

Yours In Education,  
Paul D. Knowles Ed.D  
Superintendent



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RSU #71 REPRESENTATIVE

To Searsmont Friends and Neighbors:

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your school board representative for the Regional School Unit 71, which includes Searsmont and four other towns--Belmont, Morrill, Swanville and Belfast. (Northport is now its own school district.) For the first half of 2015, the School Board worked to set-up the new RSU, develop its first budget, and hire a permanent superintendent. On July 1, RSU 71 officially went into operation and Dr. Paul Knowles came on board as the district's superintendent.

The Board is now addressing challenges and assessing opportunities in three key areas of the district: academic programming, organizational structure and building infrastructure. This includes jump-starting a long overdue assessment of the educational curriculum, new leadership for curriculum development, and preparations to launch a system-wide evaluation program of teachers and principals.

The Board looks for cost-effective, creative solutions as each challenge arises. The district's facilities have been long left without adequate maintenance. An energy audit is underway to help with decisions about energy efficiency, heating and ventilation improvements for the aging high school; savings from energy efficiency can provide resources for future maintenance. To access badly needed technology upgrades, the district now has a lease-purchase agreement which uses funds already allocated in the budget to anchor a four-year loan, allowing equipment purchases and maintenance to take place immediately. Using only the \$75,000 in the budget, the district is getting \$289,330 worth of tech equipment and maintenance.

Issues to discuss and decide in coming months include: review of school enrollment numbers paired with costs and state of physical plant of the elementary schools; exploration of moving the fifth grades to the middle school to enhance educational opportunities and control costs; consideration of the high school physical plant engineering study to help plan for BAHS' future; completing important leadership searches; and, importantly, analysis and approval of a budget for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. Good news: After a lengthy mediation with RSU 20 over the allocation of a windfall of school retirement funds, RSU 71 will receive \$2 million which will be placed in a designated fund and used only to pay the district's portion of state mandated retirement benefits for as many years as possible. (Currently RSU 71 is required by the state to contribute approximately \$300,000 per year to those retirement benefits.)

Above it all and despite many challenges, our children are doing a great job, riding the buses early in the morning, working hard in class, taking tests, making friends, doing homework, playing sports, performing in plays and concerts, volunteering in the community, and much more. These students and their future are the reason the decisions we make are so important.

I'm happy to talk with anyone who has questions, just send an email to: [edefreesrsu71@gmail.com](mailto:edefreesrsu71@gmail.com).

With thanks and respect,

*Evie*

Evelyn deFrees

*NOTE: The School Board holds its meetings generally on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of each month, 6:30PM at schools around the district (the majority being at Troy Howard Middle School's Library). All meetings are open to the public and we welcome public comments. Meeting agendas, minutes, and schedules are all posted on the district's website: [www.rsu71.org](http://www.rsu71.org) (or call the Superintendent's office--338-1960—for more information).*

**Waldo County Sheriff**

**WALDO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

*6 Public Safety Way  
Belfast, ME 04915*

**SHERIFF**  
*Jeffrey C. Trafton*

*Administrative Offices  
207-338-6786  
Fax 207-338-6784*

**CHIEF DEPUTY**  
*Jason W. Trundy*

Honorable Commissioners,  
Citizens of Waldo County,

I am honored to provide you with the annual report of the Waldo County Sheriff's Office. 2015 was an exciting year at the Sheriff's Office. Along with me being sworn in as Sheriff, several promotions were made among the ranks. Jason Trundy was promoted to Chief Deputy. Chief Trundy is a twenty-two year veteran of the Sheriff's Office where he has served as a Corrections Officer, Patrol Deputy, Detective, Jail Administrator, and Patrol/Detective Division Lieutenant. Matthew Curtis was promoted to Lieutenant where he will oversee the Patrol and Detective Divisions. Matt is a twenty year veteran of the Sheriff's Office also with a wide range of experience. He has served as a Patrol Deputy, Detective and Patrol Sergeant. Nicholas Oettinger was promoted to Patrol Sergeant. Nick most recently served as the School Resource Officer at the Mt. View School Complex in Thorndike. In 2015, Sergeant Oettinger received the honor of being named Deputy of the Year by the Maine Sheriff's Association. This leadership team will assist me in taking the Sheriff's Office to even greater levels of service and professionalism.

The patrol division had another very busy year in 2015, handling 7,652 calls for service from the public. These calls include all manner of incidents to include domestic violence, burglaries, thefts, child abuse, sexual abuse, motor vehicle crashes and more. The epidemic of drug dependence continues to ravage the citizens of Waldo County generating much of the crime experienced in our county.

The Maine Coastal Regional Re-entry Center served 52 residents in 2015. These residents were men who were nearing the end of their term of incarceration. Our many programs assist them with their integration back into society as productive and contributing citizens. The re-entry residents provided 6,587 hours of free community service all over Waldo County. If this labor was paid at minimum wage, it would translate to \$48,403 in free labor to Waldo County Communities. The re-entry residents also provided 63,000 pounds of fresh produce to local food pantries from the County's Garden Project overseen by Waldo County Commissioner William Shorey. The residents also paid \$23,992 dollars in room and board payments to the County during the year.

The 72 hour holding and booking facility processed 1,023 persons who were arrested in Waldo County by all the law enforcement agencies serving our County. If a person who has been arrested cannot make bail within 72 hours, he or she has to be transported to the Two Bridges Regional Jail in Wiscasset by our Transport Division. This, along with bringing prisoners to court and medical appointments, generated 390 transports traveling approximately 70,000 miles in 2015.

Our Civil Service Division served 1,536 sets of legal paperwork all over Waldo County.

The members of the Waldo County Sheriff's Office Team are proud to serve the citizens of this great county and we look forward to providing professional law enforcement and corrections services to our County in 2016.

Sincerely,  
Sheriff Jeffrey C. Trafton

**Judge of Probate**

SUSAN W. LONGLEY, Judge  
SHARON W. PEAHEY, Register  
JUDITH M. NEALLEY, Deputy



**STATE OF MAINE**  
PROBATE COURT—WALDO COUNTY  
BELFAST

P.O. BOX 323 - 39A SPRING STREET  
BELFAST, MAINE 04915-0323

TELEPHONE (207) 338-2780  
or (207) 338-2963  
FAX (207) 338-2360

**WALDO COUNTY PROBATE COURT  
ANNUAL REPORT**

To the Citizens of Waldo County:

Thank you for this opportunity to report about Waldo County Probate Court.

In the Waldo County Probate Court, we address family matters such as guardianships (for both minors and adults), adoptions, name changes and wills and trusts.

As for this year's probate court news, we are happy to report that in the many contested family matters in this court. We continue to offer and find that our mediation program helps families develop their own skills at solving family problems. We also believe that these mediation opportunities serve to reduce disputes within families.

As a reminder, each fall, I also continue offer free probate basics workshops in town halls, adult education centers and libraries. At these, I provide free legal forms for medical and financial powers of attorney and wills. By then explaining the various legal provisions on these legal document forms, I try to help all understand how we use these documents to state our wishes. I truly believe that in documenting our wishes, in turn, we also greatly help our loved ones know what our wishes are. As for workshop times and places for my next series of these free probate basics workshops, come fall, simply watch for the times, dates and places posted in our local newspapers. Come one. Come all!

Finally, Waldo County Probate Court is located at 39A Spring Street in Belfast (on the floor below District Court). We stand ready to serve you Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., with additional hours as emergencies require.

Thank you for your ongoing interest and support. I deeply value serving you and all our fellow citizens of Waldo County.

Respectfully,

Susan W. Longley  
Waldo County Judge of Probate

Walker Fund



Anne Bridgette Hennessy, CAP®  
Vice President  
Senior Philanthropic Relationship Manager  
Bank of America, N.A.

December 30, 2015

Ms. Kathy Hoey  
Town of Searsmont  
Board of Selectmen  
Searsmont, ME 04973

Re: Madge H. Walker Trust – 2015 Report

Dear Ms. Hoey:

The Trust Under Deed of Madge H. Walker provides for either free or reduced rate medical care at Waldo County General Hospital in Belfast and MaineGeneral Medical Center in Waterville for residents of the townships of Appleton, Liberty, Montville, Palermo, Searsmont and Washington. Scholarship aid is also provided to residents of the above townships attending the University of Maine.

Enclosed are reports from Waldo County Hospital, the University of Maine and MaineGeneral Medical Center outlining payments made to these institutions from the trust for the fiscal year ended May 31, 2015. Each report itemizes the number of residents served in each of the specified towns.

Please call if you have any questions or if you would like an electronic version of the report.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Anne B. Hennessy".

Enclosures

NYB-114-10-02, 114 West 47th Street  
New York, NY 10036  
646.855.2270 646.855.5463  
anne.hennessy@ustrust.com

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BY: .....

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# Town of Searsmont

## TRUST UNDER THE DEED OF MADGE H. WALKER

Charity : University of Maine  
Orono, ME

Period: June 1, 2014 to May 31, 2015

Opening Balance: \$73,898.42

Distributions: \$132,855.35

Total: \$206,753.77

### Allocations:

<u>Town</u>	<u>Recipients</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Appleton	4	\$14,000
Liberty	9	\$27,400
Montville	11	\$35,200
Palermo	11	\$38,000
Searsmont	8	\$29,000
Washington	9	\$29,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>\$173,100</b>

Total Allocated: \$173,100.00

Closing balance: \$33,653.77

Charity : Waldo County General Hospital  
Belfast, ME

Period: June 1, 2014 to May 31, 2015

Opening Balance: \$0.00

Distributions: \$67,914.53

### Allocations:

<u>Town</u>	<u>Recipients</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Appleton	3	\$1,749.30
Liberty	35	\$32,615.63
Montville	10	\$9,849.70
Palermo	5	\$7,628.96
Searsmont	21	\$15,920.94
Washington	0	\$ 0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>\$67,764.53</b>

Cemetery Care \$150.00

Total Allocated: \$67,914.53

Closing Balance \$0.00

Charity : MaineGeneral Medical Center  
Waterville, ME

Period: June 1, 2014 to May 31, 2015

Opening Balance: \$41,567.77

Distributions: \$67,914.53

Total \$109,482.30

### Allocations:

<u>Town</u>	<u>Recipients</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Appleton	0	\$0.00
Liberty	0	\$0.00
Montville	0	\$0.00
Palermo	0	\$0.00
Searsmont	0	\$0.00
Washington	1	\$364.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>\$364.00</b>

Total Allocated: \$364.00

Closing Balance: \$109,118.30

**Legislative Representatives**

**Senator Susan Collins**

68 Sewall Street Room 507  
Augusta, ME 04330  
207-622-8414 (phone)

413 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-1904  
(202) 224-2523  
[www.collins.senate.gov](http://www.collins.senate.gov)

**Senator Angus King Jr.**

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

359 Dirksen Senate Office Building,  
Washington, DC 20510  
202-224-5344 (phone)  
800-432-1599 (phone)  
[www.King.Senate.Gov](http://www.King.Senate.Gov)

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**Congressman Bruce Poliquin**

Bangor State Office  
6 State Street, Suite 101  
Bangor, ME 04401  
Phone: 207-942-0583  
Fax: 207-942-7101  
Staff Assistant: Mark Kontio  
Brandi Leathers

Washington D.C.  
426 Canon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
Phone: 202-225-6306  
Fax: 202-225-2943

---

**Senator Michael Thibodeau**

3 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333  
207-287-1500 (phone)  
[Senatorthibodeau@aol.com](mailto:Senatorthibodeau@aol.com)

---

**Representative Christine Burstein**

2 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0002  
207-287-1400 (phone)  
[Christine.burstein@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Christine.burstein@legislature.maine.gov)



SENATOR COLLINS

SUSAN M. COLLINS  
MAINE

419 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904  
(202) 224-2929  
(202) 224-2693 (FAX)

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904

Dear Friends:

In November, the people of Maine entrusted me to serve another term in the United States Senate. I am deeply honored to serve you and will continue to work to bridge the partisan divide and to forge bipartisan solutions to the many challenges our nation faces. With the New Year just beginning, I welcome this opportunity to reflect on some of my work from this past year and to highlight some of my priorities for the year ahead.

The biggest challenge facing our State remains the need for more jobs so that Mainers can stay in our great State to live, work, and raise their families. Since small businesses create the vast majority of jobs, we must help them to start up, grow, and succeed. We must update our tax code to encourage small business investment in equipment and other assets, cut the red tape that is hampering job creators, build the transportation and energy infrastructure to support an expanding economy. We must also foster opportunities for key industries, from agriculture to defense. We must ensure that our workers have the skills they need for the jobs of today and tomorrow. These initiatives will remain my top priorities in the new Congress.

I am pleased to report a number of successes from this past year, including provisions from my "Seven Point Plan for Maine Jobs." My proposals to streamline job training programs and better match workers' skills with employers' needs were enacted as part of a workforce investment act. I helped secure promising manufacturing opportunities for our state—from requiring the military to buy American-made athletic footwear for new recruits, just as it does for other uniform items, to an additional Department of Energy investment in the deepwater, offshore wind power project being developed by the University of Maine, Maine Maritime Academy, and private companies. For Maine agriculture, I succeeded in including the fresh, white potato in a federal nutrition program from which it has been the only vegetable to be excluded.

Also last year, I was pleased to join in the christening of the *USS Zumwalt* at Bath Iron Works, a Navy ship for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century that will help protect our nation and strengthen one of Maine's most vital industries. And, for Veterans living in rural areas, I secured a two-year extension of the successful Access Received Closer to Home program, which is improving access to health care for Veterans in northern Maine. Finally, after several years in the making, I am delighted that Congress has approved my legislation to form a commission—at no cost to taxpayers—on the creation of a National Women's History Museum. A museum recognizing the contributions of American women is long overdue, and this bill is an important first step toward that goal.

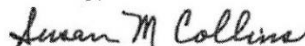
In the new Congress, I will serve as Chairman of the Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee. This position will allow me to continue working to ensure investments are made in critical transportation infrastructure, which is essential for our safety and economic growth. To date, Maine has received more than \$90 million for highway, bridge, airport, rail, and port projects through the successful TIGER grant program.

I will also serve at the helm of the Senate Special Committee on Aging in the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress, a position I sought because Maine has the highest median age in the nation. Working to address pressing issues facing our seniors, from long-term care and retirement security to the vast potential of biomedical research, will be on our agenda. Preventing and effectively treating Alzheimer's should be an urgent national priority as this devastating disease continues to take such a personal and economic toll on more than five million Americans and their families. The Committee will also continue to focus on the scams and frauds targeting our senior citizens and has a toll-free hotline (1-855-303-9470) where seniors and their loved ones can report suspected fraud.

A Maine value that always guides me is our unsurpassed work ethic. As 2014 ended, I continued my record of never missing a roll-call vote since my Senate service began in 1997; a tally that now stands at more than 5,700 consecutive votes.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve the great State of Maine and the people of Searsmont. If ever I can be of assistance to you, please contact my Bangor Constituent Services Center at (207) 945-0417, or visit my website at [www.collins.senate.gov](http://www.collins.senate.gov).

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins  
United States Senator

SENATOR KING

ANGUS S. KING, JR.  
MAINE

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

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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

Dear Friends of Searsmont:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

AUGUSTA  
4 Gabriel Drive, Suite F1  
Augusta, ME 04330  
(207) 622-8292

PRESQUE ISLE  
169 Academy Street, Suite A  
Presque Isle, ME 04769  
(207) 764-5124

SCARBOROUGH  
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MAINE

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Website: <http://www.King.Senate.gov>

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,



Angus S. King, Jr.  
United States Senator

AUGUSTA  
4 Gabriel Drive, Suite F1  
Augusta, ME 04330  
(207) 622-8292

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169 Academy Street, Suite A  
Presque Isle, ME 04769  
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(207) 883-1588

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REPRESENTATIVE POLIQUIN

Town of Searsmont  
37 Main Street South  
Searsmont, ME 04973

Dear Friends,

This past year—my first as your Congressman in the U.S. House of Representatives—I am proud to have supported Maine families, local businesses and communities by working hard with Republicans and Democrats to promote policies that will preserve and create jobs and lower energy costs. I have worked to ensure our Veterans and active military members have the services they have earned and deserve, protected the individual rights and liberties they have fought for, and strengthened our national security to keep Americans safe and free.

I have fought tooth and nail to protect and create jobs for Maine. I stood up against the Washington political establishment, including Congressional leadership, to oppose granting fast-track authority to the President, a policy that allows him to facilitate massive international trade agreements that are unfair to American businesses, especially those in Maine. I am also extremely proud to have led the charge in successfully ending unfair and job-killing Canadian subsidies and to win a major victory for Maine by pushing into law a provision that will continue the FDA's use of paper inserts, efforts that combined to preserve hundreds of traditional Maine papermaking jobs.

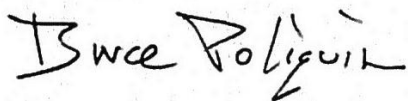
As a proud member of the Military Veterans Caucus, I have been fighting for our Veterans by supporting several bills to increase funding for Veterans' health programs and hold the VA accountable. I also am proud to have introduced my own bill—the Helping Our Rural Veterans Receive Health Care Act—to give our rural Veterans easier access to their earned health care services by letting local hospitals care for them instead of VA centers far from home. I extend my thanks to all who have served.

In this first year, I also had one of my own bills signed into law. My critical and bipartisan Child Support Assistance Act will help children and their families receive legally due support in a timelier manner from delinquent parents. My District offices also helped hundreds of Maine families resolve issues with federal agencies and get the answers, benefits and services they deserved.

There is much more work to be done. Our Great State and Nation face many critical challenges. Please know that I am working hard, every day, to serve you and that I will continue to work here at home and in Washington for our families, local businesses and communities.

If you ever have any concerns or if I can provide assistance, please contact my Congressional Offices in Bangor (942-0583), Lewiston (784-0768), Presque Isle (764-1968) and Washington, DC (202-225-6306), or visit my website at [poliquin.house.gov](http://poliquin.house.gov). It is an honor to represent you and our fellow Mainers in Congress.

Best wishes,



Bruce Poliquin  
Member of Congress

GOVERNOR LePAGE



Paul R. LePage  
GOVERNOR

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

Dear Citizens of Searsmont:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Paul R. LePage  
Governor



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TTY USERS CALL 711  
[www.maine.gov](http://www.maine.gov)

PHONE: (207) 287-3531 (Voice)

FAX: (207) 287-1034



STATE SENATOR THIBODEAU



**Annual Report to the Town of Searsmont**  
**A Message from Senate President Michael Thibodeau**

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

It is an honor to represent you in the Legislature and to serve as the Maine Senate President. I am grateful for the trust and confidence you have placed in me. We are now in the Second Regular Session of the 127th Legislature. We are scheduled to adjourn in mid-April. The first session is the longer of the two and ended last June. During the first session, the Legislature approved a two-year budget which is now in effect and took up about 1500 other pieces of proposed legislation. The second session is typically reserved for emergency bills. This year we have about 300 of them in front of us.

I am proud to say that one of them has already been signed into law. It is an emergency measure to address the escalating drug crisis in Maine. Law enforcement and public health officials have reported a troubling spike in the number of heroin-related overdoses and deaths in recent months. Shortly after the Legislature began work this year, we signed into law a measure that will put 10 new drug agents on the streets and make funding available for drug treatment and prevention efforts. The bill passed unanimously in the Maine Senate and House of Representatives and was quickly signed into law by Governor Paul LePage. This is, by no means, the only steps the Legislature will be taking to combat illegal drugs in Maine, but it is a promising start.

The economic reforms passed by a Republican-led Legislature continue to pay dividends. Maine's unemployment rate is down to 4 percent, statewide. The state reported a surplus of nearly \$60 million at the end of the previous fiscal year, and the quarterly economic reports since have been encouraging, as well.

But there are still enormous challenges ahead of us.

This past year, for example Maine has seen a number of paper mills either declare bankruptcy or close their doors altogether, laying off hundreds of employees. The paper mill owners have identified electricity costs as one of the reasons for their economic woes. I remain committed to lowering energy costs for both businesses and all Maine residents. I believe that Maine can be a leader in paper and pulp production because we have abundant resources and the best-trained, most qualified workers in the nation. But we must do everything in our power to make Maine more attractive to businesses.

Again, thank you for entrusting me to represent you in Augusta. Please feel free to contact me if you ever need my help in navigating the state bureaucracy. I would be happy to help in any way that I can. I can be reached in Augusta at 287-1500.

Sincerely,

Michael Thibodeau  
Maine Senate President

State Representative Burstein



**Christine Burstein**

161 Narrows Road  
Lincolnton, ME 04849  
Phone: (207) 735-7007

[christine.burstein@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:christine.burstein@legislature.maine.gov)

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002  
(207) 287-1400  
TTY: (207) 287-4469

Dear Friends:

Thank you for the opportunity to serve residents of Searsmont in the House of Representatives during the 127<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature. It continues to be an honor to serve as your representative.

During the 2016 legislative session, we will discuss urgent legislation and bills carried over from last year's session. Our work is scheduled to be completed in late April.

Our top priorities this session include strengthening our economy, growing good-paying jobs and addressing the state's pressing drug crisis. We will also be working to ensure the release of the voter-approved Land for Maine's Future bonds, support our growing agricultural sector and boost our economy through investments in broadband internet access and renewable energy, all of which benefit our region.

Throughout this session, I will continue to serve on the Legislature's Health and Human Services Committee. We will consider a range of bills on issues from curbing substance abuse and addiction to helping our aging neighbors live independently.

As always, I remain committed to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to find the best possible solutions to these issues and all the challenges we face as a state.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have, or if you need assistance with any aspect of state government. You can reach me by phone at 735-7007. You can also sign up to receive my email newsletter or contact me by emailing [christine.burstein@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:christine.burstein@legislature.maine.gov).

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christine Burstein".

Christine Burstein  
State Representative

District 96: Belmont, Liberty, Lincolnton, Montville, Morrill, Palermo and Searsmont

**Annual Town Meeting Warrant**

**April 2, 2016**

To James Ames, a Constable of the Town of Searsmont, in the County of Waldo, greetings:

In the name of the State of Maine you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town of Searsmont, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to assemble in the Searsmont Community Center in the village in said Town on the 42nd day of April A. D. 2016, at 9 a.m. to act on the following articles, to wit:

***At 10:30 a.m. there will be a break for a Public Hearing to address the Robbins Lumber and Georges River Energy TIF projects.***

- Art. 1. To choose by written ballot a Moderator to preside at said meeting.
- Art. 2. To choose one Selectman, Overseer of the Poor, Road Commissioner, and Assessor for a three-year term.
- Art. 3. To choose one RSU #71 School Board Representative for a three-year term from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019 (written ballot required).
- Art. 4. To choose two members of the Planning Board, each for a three-year term.
- Art. 5. To choose two members of the Library Board of Trustees, each for a three-year term.
- Art. 6. To choose two members of the Cemetery Committee, each for a three-year term.
- Art. 7. To see if the town will vote to pay the following wages:

Selectmen:	First Year	Second Year	Third Year +
First Selectman/Chairman	\$5,000	\$6,500	\$11,900
Other Selectmen	\$2,500	\$3,750	\$8,000
Fire Chief	\$6,500		
Assistant Fire Chief	\$2,000		
Rescue Chief	\$6,500		
Assistant Rescue Chief	\$2,000		
Emergency Management Director	\$1,200		
Constable	\$1,500		
Assistant Constable	\$500 plus hourly wage		
Sexton	\$1,000		
Men and equipment for roads maintenance, snow removal and sanding (non-contract): Department of Transportation wage scale.			
Snow plowing and sanding equipment (non-contract): Department of Transportation wage scale + 25%.			
All others:	\$10 - \$25 per hour.		

- Art. 8. To see if the Town will vote to allow any unexpended balances in the Rescue Revenue account for FY 2016 to lapse into the Rescue Equipment Reserve account.
- Art. 9. To see if the Town will vote to transfer any unexpended balance from the Library Operations budget for FY 2016 to the Library Savings Reserve account.

Art. 10. To see if the Town will vote to transfer any unexpended balance from the Cemetery Maintenance budget for FY 2016 to the Cemetery Restoration Reserve account.

Art. 11. To see if the Town will vote to transfer any unexpended balance from the Road and Bridge budget for FY 2016 to the Road & Bridge Capital Reserve account.

Art. 12. To see what sum the Town will donate the following amounts for the designated social service and non-profit agencies:

AGENCY	2015 Donation	2016 Request	2016 Recommendation
American Red Cross Mid Coast Chapter	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
AMVET Memorial Post 150 Food Pantry	\$300.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
Belfast Area Child Care Services	\$300.00	\$500.00	\$400.00
Broadreach Family & Community Services	\$450.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Crossroads Food Pantry	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Game Loft (Maine Youth Alliance)	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Habitat for Humanity	\$750.00	\$1,000.00	\$250.00
Hospice Volunteers of Waldo County	\$200.00	\$300.00	\$200.00
Kennebec Behavioral Health	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Life Flight Foundation	\$100.00	\$696.00	\$100.00
Midcoast Maine Community Action	\$700.00	\$800.00	\$700.00
New Hope for Women	\$750.00	\$830.00	\$750.00
No Greater Love Food Pantry	\$200.00	\$650.00	\$200.00
Spectrum Generations	\$700.00	\$700.00	\$700.00
Searsmont Scholarship	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Waldo Community Action Partners	\$3,000.00	\$5,134.00	\$3,500.00
Waldo County YMCA	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00
Waldo County Wood Shed	n/a	\$500.00	\$300.00
Year Totals	\$9,550.00	\$14,110.00	\$10,100.00

Art. 13. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the selectmen to appropriate funds from undesignated fund balance (surplus) as they deem advisable to meet unanticipated expenses and emergencies that occur during fiscal year 2016.

Art. 14. To see if the town will vote to allow the Selectmen to appropriate all or a portion of the money received from the State for snowmobile registrations to local snowmobile club(s) for the maintenance of their network of snowmobile trails, on condition that those trails be open in snow season to the public for outdoor recreation purposes at no charge.

Art. 15. To see if the Town will vote to ratify the expenditures in the last fiscal year in various accounts that were over and above the appropriations or take any action thereon.



# Town of Searsmont

Art. 16. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise or appropriate for the following purposes:

		2015 Actual	2016 Proposed Budget	From Revenue or Reserves	Total From Taxes
	<b>Municipal Government</b>				
a.	Wages & Benefits	\$123,733.49	\$140,000.00		\$140,000.00
b.	Administration	\$68,450.81	\$70,000.00		\$70,000.00
c.	Community Bldg	\$51,278.19	\$55,000.00		\$55,000.00
d.	Contingency	\$0.00	\$5,000.00		\$5,000.00
e.	Planning Board	\$21,006.25	\$25,000.00		\$25,000.00
f.	Fire Dept	\$63,453.33	\$66,450.00		\$66,450.00
g.	Ambulance	\$33,272.41	\$39,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$34,000.00
h.	Animal Welfare	\$5,958.12	\$7,000.00		\$7,000.00
i.	Constable	\$2,152.90	\$2,200.00		\$2,200.00
j.	Emergency Mgmt	\$1,291.80	\$2,000.00		\$2,000.00
k.	Street Lights	\$2,787.89	\$3,000.00		\$3,000.00
l.	Agency Donations	\$9,550.00	\$10,100.00		\$10,100.00
m.	General Assistance	\$1,946.78	\$3,000.00		\$3,000.00
n.	Road & Bridge Maint	\$383,688.43	\$455,000.00	\$35,968.00	\$224,032.00
o.				\$195,000.00	
p.	Library	\$19,790.74	\$22,125.00	\$6,700.00	\$15,425.00
q.	Parks & Recreation	\$525.00	\$2,000.00		\$2,000.00
r.	Parade	\$1,372.23	\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00
s.	Transfer Station	\$54,505.70	\$60,000.00	\$16,000.00	\$44,000.00
t.	Cemetery	\$12,982.21	\$15,000.00		\$15,000.00
u.	Cemetery Restoration	\$12,150.00	\$10,000.00		\$10,000.00
v.	<b>Budgetary Subtotal</b>	<b>\$869,896.28</b>	<b>\$993,375.00</b>	<b>\$258,668.00</b>	<b>\$734,707.00</b>
	<b>Reserve Funds</b>	<b>Current Balance</b>	<b>2016 Proposed Budget</b>		<b>Total From Taxes</b>
1	Bicentennial Reserve	\$ 4,527.18	\$0.00		\$0.00
2	Cem Restoration Reserve	\$ 4,008.93	\$10,000.00		\$10,000.00
3	Community Bldg Reserve	\$ 7,639.45	\$10,000.00		\$10,000.00
4	Emergency Mgmt Reserve	\$ 9,139.20	\$5,000.00		\$5,000.00
5	Fire Dept Bldg Reserve	\$ 34,706.53	\$5,000.00		\$5,000.00
6	Fire Dept Equip Reserve	\$160,119.41	\$10,000.00		\$10,000.00
7	Fire Dept Saving Reserve	\$ 17,926.32	\$0.00		\$0.00
8	Furniture & Fixtures	\$ 2,302.96	\$0.00		\$0.00
9	Library Savings Reserve	\$ 3,319.75	\$0.00		\$0.00
10	Rescue Equip Reserve	\$156,053.19	\$0.00		\$0.00
11	Rescue Saving Reserve	\$ 6,316.22	\$0.00		\$0.00
12	Road and Bridge Reserve	\$ 81,596.07	\$0.00		\$0.00
13	Salt/Sand Shed Reserve	\$ 29,440.45	\$5,000.00		\$5,000.00
14	Searsmont Scholarship	\$ 12,497.50	\$0.00		\$0.00
15	Voting Machine Reserve	\$ 5,112.52	\$0.00		\$0.00
16	Withee Scholarship	\$ 4,740.23	\$0.00		\$0.00
17	Planning Board Legal Reserve	\$ 8,420.76	\$0.00		\$0.00
	<b>Total Budget</b>		<b>1,038,375.00</b>	<b>\$258,668.00</b>	<b>\$779,707.00</b>
				<b>From Rev/Res</b>	<b>from taxes</b>



- Art. 17. To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit of \$828,158 established for the Town of Searsmont by State law in the event that the municipal budget approved under the preceding warrant articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than that property tax levy limit (written ballot required).

*This article may be passed over if the amount raised from taxes in the preceding article does not exceed the tax levy limit of \$828,158 cited in this article.*

- Art. 18. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to accept and/or appropriate, on behalf of the Town, money from State, Federal, and other governmental units, private sources, or foundations, which may be received from time to time in the form of grants or any other source, during the current fiscal year, and to expend those funds for their designated purpose or to reduce taxes.
- Art. 19. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to expend monies from the fund balance (surplus) to reduce taxes.
- Art. 20. To see if the Town will vote to set a due date of September 30, 2016, for 2016 taxes and determine that daily interest shall accrue on 2016 taxes not paid by September 30, 2016, at the rate of seven per cent (7%) per year.
- Art. 21. To see if the Town will vote to set the interest rate to be paid by the town on abated 2016 taxes, pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. §506-A, at seven per cent (7%) per year.
- Art. 22. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to enter into a standard agreement with residential taxpayers establishing a “tax club” payment plan for property taxes, whereby:
- a. the taxpayer agrees to pay specified monthly payments to the town based on his/her estimated and actual tax obligation for the current year property taxes;
  - b. the town agrees not to charge interest on timely payments made pursuant to the tax club agreement;
  - c. the town authorizes the collector to accept tax club payments for current taxes which may be due prior to the commitment of those taxes;
  - d. the agreement is automatically terminated if a scheduled payment is late, and the taxpayer then becomes subject to the same due dates and interest dates and rates as other taxpayers who are not participating in a tax club;
  - e. only taxpayers who do not have any outstanding tax obligations for prior tax years are eligible to participate in the tax club program; and
  - f. Taxpayers wishing to participate in a tax club for a particular property tax year shall enter into an agreement with the town by a publicly-advertised deadline determined by the Tax Collector.
- Art. 23. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector and Treasurer to accept prepayment of taxes not yet committed, pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. §506, and to pay no interest thereon.

- Art. 24. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to expend monies from overlay to pay abatements and applicable interest granted during this fiscal year; the balance of account at year end to lapse to Fund Balance, and to be used to reduce taxes in the next fiscal year.
- Art. 25. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to expend such sums of money as may be required to carry on the Town affairs from the time the Town books close until the next annual town meeting, such sums to be included in amounts appropriated for the next fiscal year, or take action thereon.
- Art. 26. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen and the Treasurer to borrow money in anticipation of taxes.
- Art. 27. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to make final determination regarding the closing or opening of roads to winter maintenance pursuant to 23 MRSA §2953.
- Art. 28. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to sell and dispose of any real estate or personal property acquired from tax sources by the Town for non-payment of taxes thereon, on such terms as they deem advisable, or to convey the property to the prior owner upon payment in full of all taxes, interest, and charges incurred by the town, and to execute a quit-claim deed for such property. The Selectmen reserve the right to reject any and all bids.
- Art. 29. To see if the Town will vote to dissolve the Parks and Recreation Committee.
- Art. 30. Shall an ordinance entitled “Wind Energy Facility Moratorium Ordinance” be enacted? The text of the ordinance to read as follows:

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**WIND ENERGY FACILITY MORATORIUM ORDINANCE  
SEARSMONT, MAINE**

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**Section 1. Authority, Effective Date and Sunset Provision**

**A. Authority**

1. This Ordinance is adopted and hereafter amended pursuant to and consistent with Title 30-A M.R.S.A. § 3001 and Title 30-A M.R.S.A. §4356.
2. This Ordinance shall be known and may be cited as the "Wind Energy Facility Moratorium Ordinance, Searsmont, Maine.”

**B. Effective Date**

The effective date of this Ordinance shall be upon adoption by the legislative body.

**C. Sunset Provision**

This Ordinance shall automatically terminate 180 days from the date of its effective date of adoption, except that the selectmen may extend the moratorium in accordance with Title 30-A M.R.S.A. §4356 subsection 2.

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## **Section 2. Purpose and Necessity**

### **A. Purpose**

The Purpose of this Ordinance is to protect the public health, safety and welfare of the residents of Searsmont by fostering orderly wind energy facility development. During the term of the moratorium the Town of Searsmont will determine the most appropriate methods to regulate all types of wind energy facilities and prepare and/or amend appropriate municipal ordinances to achieve such.

### **B. Necessity**

While the Town of Searsmont has an adopted zoning ordinance, it is unclear if wind energy facilities are a permitted use under the ordinance. In addition, the ordinance does not contain sufficient standards to effectively provide municipal review and approval of wind energy facility development. Without local regulations to address wind energy facility development there exists the potential for serious public impacts if such facilities are developed. Serious public impacts may include but are not limited to safety problems, visual degradation, noise, environmental degradation, loss of property values, and health problems.

## **Section 3. Moratorium**

After the effective date of this Ordinance no applications for the development of wind energy facilities shall be allowed and/or received for review.

## **Section 4. Appeals and Severability**

### **A. Appeals**

An aggrieved party may appeal the provisions of this Ordinance to Superior Court under Rule 80-B of the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure.

### **B. Severability**

Should any section or provision of this Ordinance be declared by any court to be invalid, such decision shall not invalidate any other section or provision.

## **Section 5. Definitions**

Generating Facilities: Wind turbines and electrical lines, not including generator lead lines, that are immediately associated with wind turbines.

Wind Energy Facility(WEF): A facility that uses one or more wind turbines to convert wind energy to electrical energy. A Wind Energy Facility includes generating facilities and associated facilities. Associated facilities are elements of a wind energy facility other than its generating facilities that are necessary to the proper operation and maintenance of the wind energy facility, including but not limited to buildings, access roads, generator lead lines and substations. A Wind Energy Facility does not include small wind turbines with a nameplate capacity less than 100 kW, and a turbine height less than 100 feet.

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Art. 31. To see if the Town will vote:

- (i) To authorize the Town to continue as a member of the Municipal Review Committee, Inc. ("MRC"), organized as a Maine nonprofit corporation and acting as a regional association pursuant to Title 13-B and Title 38 of the Maine Revised Statutes, as

amended (and specifically Section 1304-B(5-A) of Title 38) for the purposes of managing and facilitating solid waste disposal;

- (ii) To adopt, ratify and confirm the Restated Articles of Incorporation and the Restated Bylaws of the MRC in substantially the form on file with the Town Clerk and posted as part of this Warrant;
- (iii) To authorize the Town to execute and deliver a Municipal Joinder Agreement with the MRC in substantially the form on file with the Town Clerk and posted as part of this Warrant (the "Municipal Joinder Agreement") pursuant to which the Town will become a Joining Member of the MRC (as defined therein) and deliver its municipal solid waste for disposal to a waste management facility being developed by Fiberight, LLC and/or its affiliates (collectively, "Fiberight") in Hampden, Maine, or other waste disposal facility;
- (iv) To authorize the MRC to take certain actions on behalf of the Town as set forth in the Municipal Joinder Agreement; and
- (v) To authorize a majority of the Selectmen or their duly authorized designee or designees to execute and deliver the Municipal Joinder Agreement on behalf of the Town and to execute and deliver on behalf of the Town in conjunction therewith such other documents and to take such further actions as they may deem necessary or appropriate in order to effect the transactions contemplated by the Municipal Joinder Agreement.

Art. 32. To see if the Town will vote:

- (i) to support a project proposed by Georges River Energy, LLC (an affiliate of Robbins Lumber, Inc.) known as the Georges River Energy Biomass Project (the "Project") for qualification and certification pursuant to the Maine Community-Based Renewable Energy Project Program (the "Community Energy Program");
- (ii) to adopt, ratify, and confirm the actions of the Board of Selectmen supporting the Project for qualification and certification pursuant to the Community Energy Program as described in a letter from the Board of Selectmen dated November 2, 2015 to the State of Maine Public Utilities Commission; and
- (iii) to authorize the Board of Selectmen or its designee to issue any other documents necessary to support the Project for qualification and certification pursuant to the Community Energy Program.

Art. 33. To see if the Town will vote to (i) amend an existing municipal tax increment financing district and associated development plan known as the "Robbins Lumber Municipal Tax Increment Financing District and Development Program" (the "Robbins Lumber District and Development Program") by adopting the "First Amendment to the Robbins Lumber Municipal Tax Increment Financing District and Development Program" (the "Amended Robbins Lumber District and Development Program") as on file in the Town Office and made available at the public hearing held by the Town on April 2, 2016 on said Amended Robbins Lumber District and Development Program, and (ii) create and adopt a municipal tax increment financing district and associated development plan known as the "Georges River Energy, LLC Municipal Tax Increment Financing District and

Development Plan” (the “Georges River Energy, LLC District and Development Plan”) as on file in the Town Office and made available at the public hearing held by the Town on April 2, 2016 on said District and Development Plan; pursuant to the following findings, terms, and provisions:

WHEREAS, the Town of Searsmont (the “Town”) established the Robbins Lumber District and Development Plan pursuant to Chapter 206 of Title 30-A of the Maine Revised Statutes, as amended; and

WHEREAS, there is a continued need for commercial and business development in the Town of Searsmont; and

WHEREAS, the Town desires to remove certain areas in the Robbins Lumber District and extend the existing term of the aforescribed Robbins Lumber District and Development Program and use the tax revenue from this new value to fund municipal projects that are eligible to be funded with Tax Increment Financing revenues from this aforescribed District (e.g., to cover the costs of administering the Robbins Lumber District and Development Program); and

WHEREAS, the Town of Searsmont (the “Town”) desires to establish the Georges River Energy, LLC District and Development Plan pursuant to Chapter 206 of Title 30-A of the Maine Revised Statutes, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the Town has held a public hearing on the question of amending the Robbins Lumber District and Development Plan described in the “First Amendment to the Robbins Lumber Municipal Tax Increment Financing District and Development Program” in accordance with the requirements of 30-A M.R.S. § 5226, there having been at least ten (10) days prior notice of the public hearing published in a newspaper of general circulation within the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Town has held a public hearing on the question of creating the Georges River Energy, LLC District and Development Plan described in the “Georges River Energy, LLC Municipal Tax Increment Financing District and Development Plan” in accordance with the requirements of 30-A M.R.S. § 5226, there having been at least ten (10) days prior notice of the public hearing published in a newspaper of general circulation within the Town; and

WHEREAS, it is expected that approval will be sought and obtained from the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development, approving the First Amendment to the Robbins Lumber Municipal Tax Increment Financing District and Development Program, as well as the Georges River Energy, LLC Municipal Tax Increment Financing District and Development Plan.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY VOTED BY THE TOWN OF SEARSMONT:

[Amended Robbins Lumber District and Development Program]

Section 1. The Town adopts the aforescribed recitals and further finds and determines that:

- A. At least twenty-five percent (25%) of the real property within the proposed Amended Robbins Lumber District and additional geographic area stated above, as designated, is suitable for industrial/commercial sites as provided in 30-A M.R.S. § 5223; and

- B. The total area of the proposed Amended Robbins Lumber District does not exceed two percent (2%) of the total acreage of the Town, and the total acreage of all development districts within the Town does not exceed five percent (5%) of the total acreage of the Town; and
- C. The aggregate value of equalized taxable property of the proposed Amended Robbins Lumber District as of April 1, 2003 plus the original assessed value of the proposed Georges River Energy, LLC District does not exceed five percent (5%) of the total value of equalized taxable property within the Town as of April 1, 2015; and
- D. The area within the boundaries of the proposed Amended Robbins Lumber District and the Development Program will generate economic benefits for the Town and its residents, including a broadened and improved tax base and economic stimulus, and therefore constitutes a good and valid public purpose. The Town has considered all evidence, if any, presented to it at the required public hearing with regard to any adverse economic effect on or detriment to any existing business and has found and determined that such adverse economic effect on or detriment to any existing business, if any, is outweighed by the contribution expected to be made through the proposed Amended District and the Development Program.

Section 2. Pursuant to Chapter 206 of Title 30-A of the Maine Revised Statutes, as amended, the Town hereby amends the aforescribed Robbins Lumber District described within the “First Amendment to the Robbins Lumber Municipal Tax Increment Financing District and Development Program”, which is incorporated herein by reference.

Section 3. In accordance with the provisions of 30-A M.R.S. §§ 5224 and 5227, the Town hereby adopts the “First Amendment to the Robbins Lumber Municipal Tax Increment Financing District and Development Program”, which includes adoption of this document’s stated extension of the term associated with the Robbins Lumber District and Development Program and this document’s stated removal of certain areas from the Robbins Lumber District.

Section 4. The Board of Selectmen or its duly authorized representative is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to submit the First Amendment to the Robbins Lumber Municipal Tax Increment Financing District and Development Program to the State of Maine Department of Economic and Community Development for review and approval, without any requirement of further action by the Town, Board of Selectmen, Town Meeting, or any other party.

Section 5. The foregoing adoption of the First Amendment to the Robbins Lumber Municipal Tax Increment Financing District and Development Program shall automatically become final and shall take full force and effect upon receipt by the Town of approval of adoption of the First Amendment to the Robbins Lumber Municipal Tax Increment Financing District and Development Program by the Department of Economic and Community Development, without any requirement of further action by the Town, Board of Selectmen, Town Meeting, or any other party.

Section 6. The Board of Selectmen or its duly authorized representative are hereby authorized and directed to enter any credit enhancement agreements related to and consistent with the First Amendment to the Robbins Lumber Municipal Tax Increment Financing District and Development Program.

Section 7. The Board of Selectmen or its duly authorized representative is hereby authorized and empowered, at its discretion, to make such technical revisions from time to time to the First Amendment to the Robbins Lumber Municipal Tax Increment Financing District and Development Program reasonably necessary or convenient in order to facilitate



the process for review and approval of said document by the Department of Economic and Community Development, so long as such revisions are not inconsistent with this Article or the basic structure and intent of that document and this Article.

[Creation of Georges River Energy, LLC District and Development Program]

Section 8. The Town further finds and determines that:

- A. At least twenty-five percent (25%) of the real property within the proposed Georges River Energy, LLC District and additional geographic area stated above, as designated, is suitable for industrial/commercial sites as provided in 30-A M.R.S. § 5223; and
- B. The total area of the proposed Georges River Energy, LLC District does not exceed two percent (2%) of the total acreage of the Town, and the total acreage of all development districts within the Town does not exceed five percent (5%) of the total acreage of the Town; and
- C. The aggregate value of equalized taxable property of the proposed Georges River Energy, LLC District as of April 1, 2015 plus the original assessed value of the Amended Robbins Lumber District does not exceed five percent (5%) of the total value of equalized taxable property within the Town as of April 1, 2015; and
- D. The area within the boundaries of the proposed Georges River Energy, LLC District and the Development Plan will generate economic benefits for the Town and its residents, including a broadened and improved tax base and economic stimulus, and therefore constitutes a good and valid public purpose. The Town has considered all evidence, if any, presented to it at the required public hearing with regard to any adverse economic effect on or detriment to any existing business and has found and determined that such adverse economic effect on or detriment to any existing business, if any, is outweighed by the contribution expected to be made through the proposed Georges River Energy, LLC District and the Development Plan.

Section 9. Pursuant to Chapter 206 of Title 30-A of the Maine Revised Statutes, as amended, the Town hereby creates the aforescribed District described within the “Georges River Energy, LLC Municipal Tax Increment Financing District and Development Plan”, which is incorporated herein by reference.

Section 10. In accordance with the provisions of 30-A M.R.S. §§ 5224 and 5227, the Town hereby adopts the “Georges River Energy, LLC Municipal Tax Increment Financing District and Development Plan”, which includes adoption of this document’s stated allocations of the percentage of increased assessed value to be retained as captured assessed value as part of this District’s development program.

Section 11. The Board of Selectmen or its duly authorized representative is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to submit the Georges River Energy, LLC Municipal Tax Increment Financing District and Development Plan to the State of Maine Department of Economic and Community Development for review and approval, without any requirement of further action by the Town, Board of Selectmen, Town Meeting, or any other party.

Section 12. The foregoing adoption of the Georges River Energy, LLC Municipal Tax Increment Financing District and Development Plan shall automatically become final and shall take full force and effect upon receipt by the Town of approval of adoption of the Georges River Energy, LLC Municipal Tax Increment Financing District and Development Plan by the Department of Economic and Community Development, without any requirement of further action by the Town, Board of Selectmen, Town Meeting, or any other party.

Section 13. The Board of Selectmen or its duly authorized representative are hereby authorized and directed to enter any credit enhancement agreements related to and consistent

with the Georges River Energy, LLC Municipal Tax Increment Financing District and Development Plan.

Section 14. The Board of Selectmen or its duly authorized representative is hereby authorized and empowered, at its discretion, to make such technical revisions from time to time to the Georges River Energy, LLC Municipal Tax Increment Financing District and Development Plan reasonably necessary or convenient in order to facilitate the process for review and approval of said document by the Department of Economic and Community Development, so long as such revisions are not inconsistent with this Article or the basic structure and intent of that document and this Article.

Section 15. This Article shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

Signed: March 22, 2016

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Bruce E. Brierley

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Donald C. Corcoran

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Christopher Staples  
Selectmen of Searsmont, Maine

A true copy attest

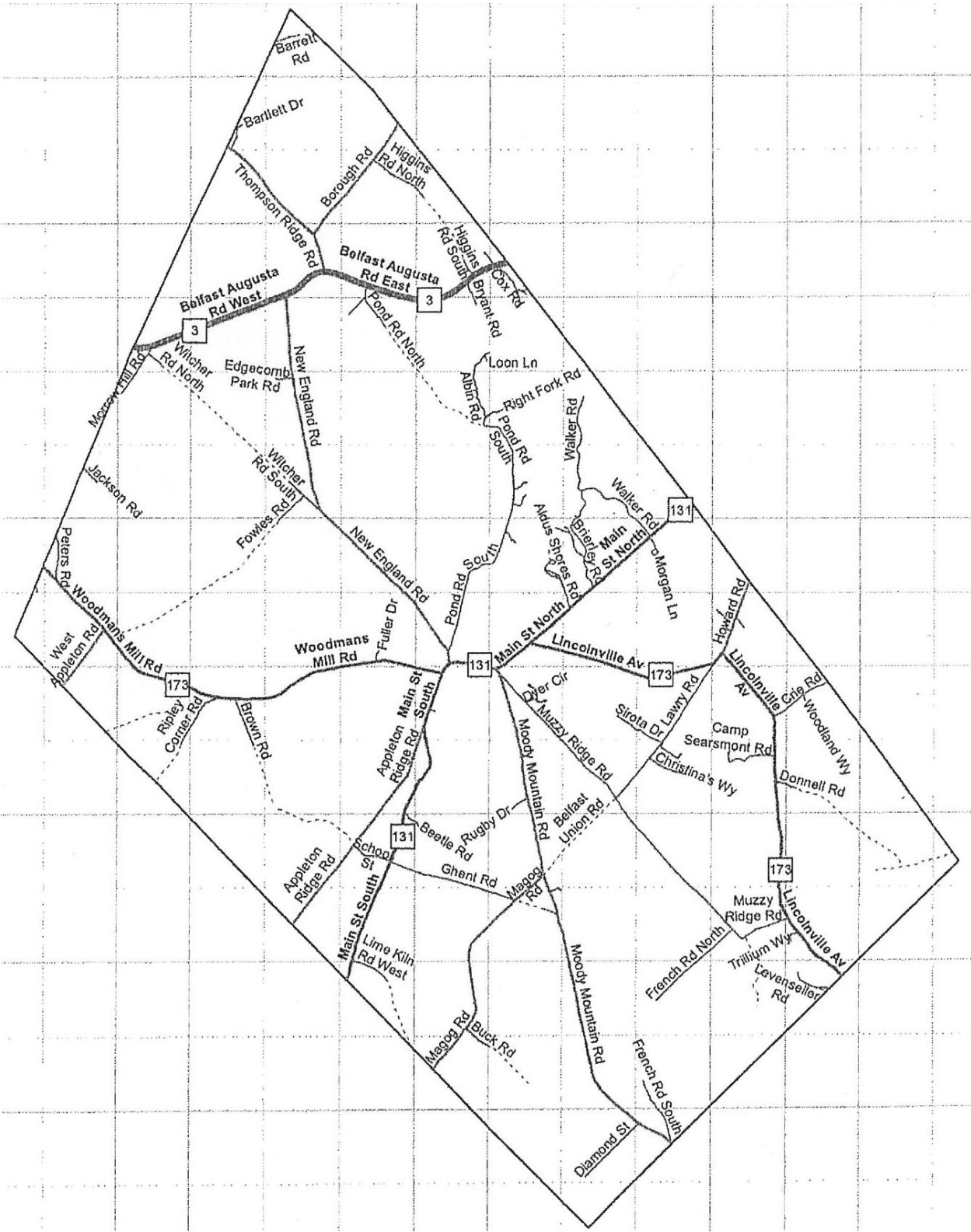
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Kathy Hoey, Town Clerk





Searsmont Road Map



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**Town Information**

**Searsmont Town Office**

PO Box 56  
37 Main Street South  
Searsmont, ME 04973  
Phone: 342-5411 Fax: 342-3495  
Web site: [www.searsmont.com](http://www.searsmont.com)  
e-mail: [townofsearsmont@fairpoint.net](mailto:townofsearsmont@fairpoint.net)

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**Town Office Hours**

Monday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. & 1:00. - 6:00 p.m.  
Tuesday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. & 1:00. - 7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 - 6:00 p.m.  
Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
Closed Friday, Saturday, and Sunday  
Closed on all State observed Holidays

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**Transfer Station**

104 Crie Road

**Summer Hours**

Saturday 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
Wednesday 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.

**Winter Hours**

Saturday 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
Wednesday 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.

***2016 Demo Debris Days: May 14 & August 20: 8:00 a.m. – 1 p.m.***

Single Stream recycling/Cardboard recycling/Metal Recycling

Town trash bags:	30 gal	\$5.00/5 bags	Commercial trash bags:	>33 gal	\$4.00
	10-13 gal	\$5.00/10 bags		≤33 gal	\$2.00
	Includes disposal fee			Disposal fee	

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**Searsmont Town Library**

Tuesday 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.  
Thursday 4 p.m. – 8 p.m.  
Friday 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.  
Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Searsmont Historical Society**

Tuesday 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.  
& by appointment  
342-5975 or 460-7955

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**Searsmont Post Office**

207-342-5944

**Lobby Hours (box access):**

Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Saturday 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

**Counter Hours (sales):**

Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
and 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Saturday 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

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