

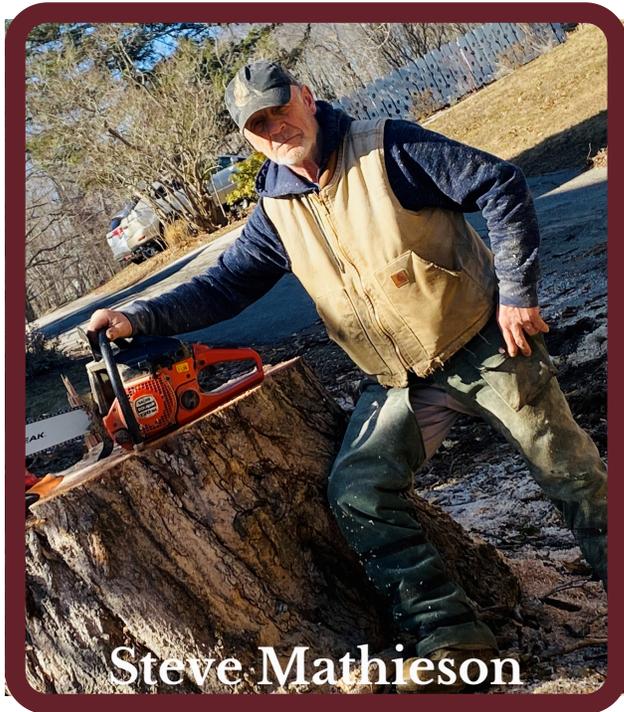
CITY OF BELFAST ANNUAL REPORT



FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022

COVER PHOTO BY CHAUSA TRA

DEDICATION



ON SEPTEMBER 9TH, 2021, THE CITY OF BELFAST LOST AN INVALUABLE FRIEND AND EMPLOYEE, STEPHEN MATHIESON, FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. THIS TRAGIC ACCIDENT AND LOSS CAME AS A SHOCK TO EVERYONE IN THE BELFAST COMMUNITY, AS WELL AS HIS CLOSE FRIENDS AND FAMILY. IN HIS HONOR, THE CITY OF BELFAST MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL WOULD LIKE TO DEDICATE THE 2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT TO STEVE.

STEVE, A DETERMINED AND HARDWORKING EMPLOYEE, PASSED AWAY AFTER NEARLY 20 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CITY OF BELFAST AND THE ENTIRE BELFAST COMMUNITY. THROUGHOUT HIS HARD WORK AND DETERMINATION TO CREATE A BETTER BELFAST FOR ALL WHO LIVE AND WORK HERE, HE DEMONSTRATED IMMEASURABLE PRIDE, CARE, AND INVESTMENT IN THE CITY AND ITS COMMUNITY.

STEVE WAS A FAMILY ORIENTED, CARING, AND SELFLESS INDIVIDUAL WHO TOOK ON THE INCREDIBLE TASK OF ENSURING THAT BELFAST IS MAINTAINED, FUNCTIONAL, AND BEAUTIFUL FOR US ALL TO ENJOY ON A DAILY BASIS. HE WAS WELL LIKED BY HIS FELLOW COWORKERS IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, AS WELL AS BY HIS COWORKERS CITY-WIDE.

A MAN OF THE EARTH, STEVE COULD BE FOUND WORKING ON HIS FARM OUTSIDE OF WORKING HOURS FROM THE MINUTE THE SUN ROSE TO THE TIME THE SUN SET. HE LOVED HIS FAMILY VERY MUCH AND WILL BE SORELY MISSED BY HIS FAMILY. HE SPENT A LOT OF TIME ON THE FAMILY FARM AND ENJOYED BEING A GRANDFATHER FIGURE TO HIS NIECE AND NEPHEW. HE WAS PROUD OF HIS SON AND HIS STEPDAUGHTER AND WHAT GREAT PEOPLE THEY TURNED OUT TO BE IN LIFE.

THE LOSS OF STEVE LEAVES AN INCREDIBLE HOLE IN THE COMMUNITY THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO FILL. HIS PRESENCE AND SERVICE TO THE BELFAST COMMUNITY WAS A TREASURE TO US ALL THAT WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN. THANK YOU, STEVE, FOR YOUR INCREDIBLE SERVICE AND IMPACT ON BELFAST. THE COMMUNITY WILL MISS YOU GREATLY.

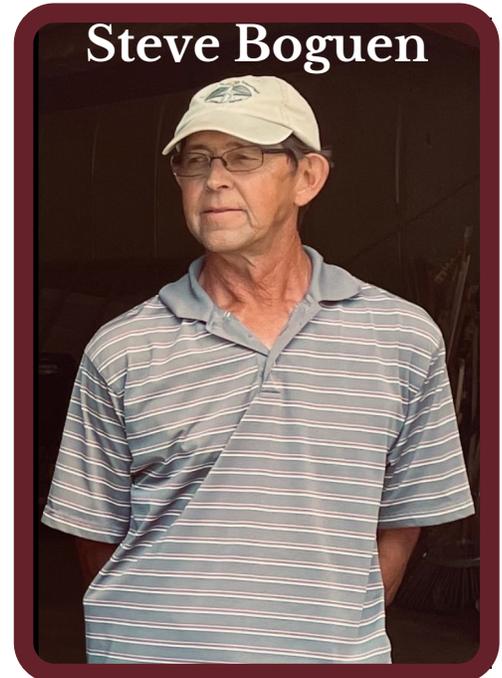
Dedication photo provided by Bob Richards

SPECIAL THANKS

Steve Boguen retired in July 2021 as Cemetery Superintendent. Steve served the City of Belfast for over 40 years. Starting out as a crew member, Steve worked his way up into the Cemetery Superintendent position in 1984. He served the City in that capacity until his retirement.

During his tenure, he cared for and maintained all Belfast City cemeteries with attention and respect. Steve took great pride in assisting families that utilized the cemeteries and took special care in helping them work through their losses. He took great interest in the historical nature of the cemeteries and had a wealth of knowledge to share about the cemeteries' history with anyone who expressed interest in learning.

Steve Boguen



Special thanks to Steve Boguen for his hard work and dedication to the outstanding maintenance of the cemeteries for the last 40 years. The City of Belfast wishes Steve well in his retirement and is incredibly grateful for his service. His legacy will live on forever in our beautiful cemeteries.



Belfast Mayor & City Council



Eric Sanders

Mayor

mayor@cityofbelfast.org

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Mary Mortier

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207-323-1748



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Michael Hurley

City Council Ward 4

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Paul Dean

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DEPARTMENT HEAD CONTACTS

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ASSESSING OFFICE

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CITY CLERK, AMY FLOOD

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CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT, LEIGH WILCOX

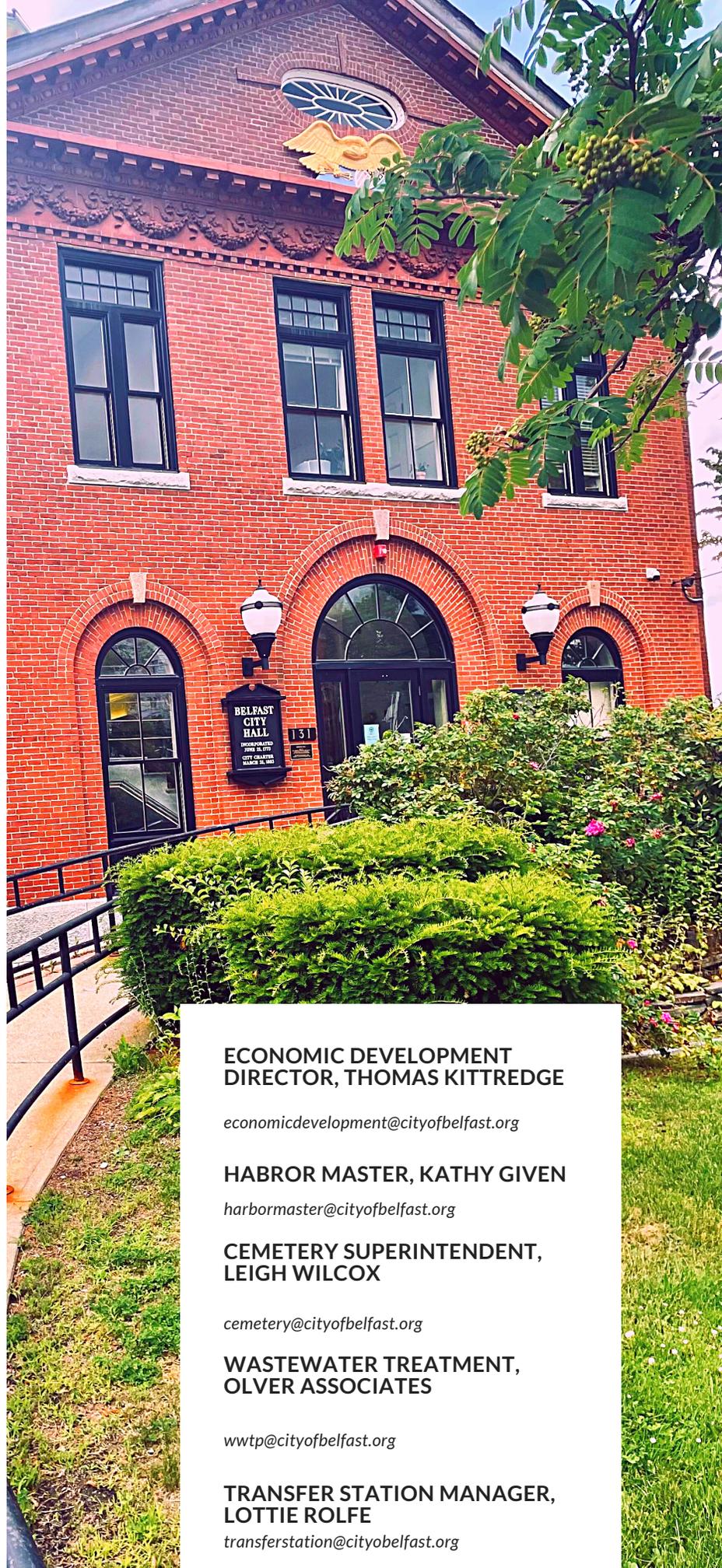
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WASTEWATER TREATMENT, OLVER ASSOCIATES

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TRANSFER STATION MANAGER, LOTTIE ROLFE

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CITY MANAGER



Erin Herbig City
Manager

It was hard to imagine what this year might look like, yet here we are. Now more than two years into a pandemic, the City of Belfast has continued to provide non-stop service to the citizens of Belfast 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Like all employers across our state and country, we too have felt the labor shortage, in nearly every City department, but most severely in our emergency response positions.

And like all employers across our state and country, the cost of doing business has increased. Just as a bag of groceries costs a lot more than it used to, so do tar patch, salt, sewer pipes, ink cartridges, paper, and vehicles, if you can get them.

We too feel the labor and financial pressures that the pandemic did not entirely create but certainly further intensified. With one eye navigating us through the remainder of the pandemic, the other must look toward investing in the future of the City of Belfast. This includes investment in our aging infrastructure for maintenance and growth, investments in equipment and programs to keep up with a modernizing world, and investment in our staff with more support and training so that we may continue to provide the level of service the citizens of Belfast expect and deserve.

The impacts of COVID-19 have certainly challenged our community, but together we set in place a plan that has helped us get through the worst of the past two years together. In FY22-23 the City of Belfast continues to look for the opportunities that exists despite the challenges.

After over two years of doing business through a pandemic, it's hard not to long for days past. But I truly believe there is something to be said for change and the positive impact it can have despite the challenge. The City of Belfast has never been afraid of change, facing it head on and becoming even stronger and more unified with the people that live and work here, than when we started. A large part of this is due to the work our Mayor, Councilors, City employees, businesses and citizens have accomplished together to adapt and respond to all the changes that have come our way over the last year, including an ever-evolving pandemic. Together we have and will continue to find balance. Continue to evolve. Continue to become the best our community can be.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the City of Belfast as City Manager. After two years in this chair, I know I am part of the best municipal team in the State of Maine, and I am thankful to be part of it every day.



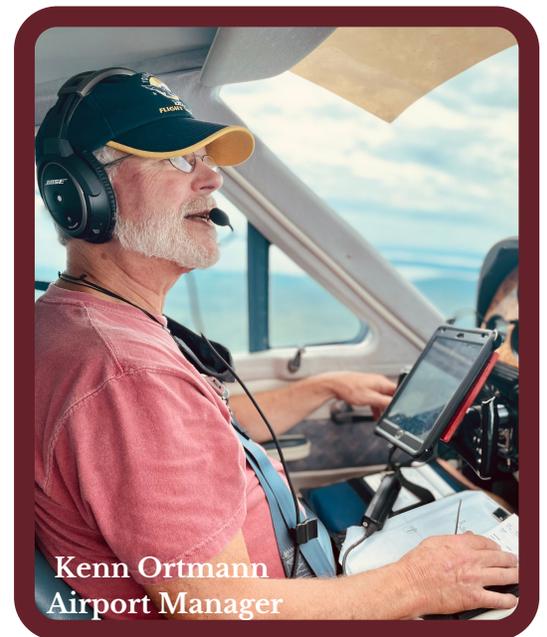
Assistant to City
Manager Manda
Cushman



Communications
Assistant
Mackenzie Barnhart

AIRPORT

The Belfast Municipal Airport (Airport code BST or KBST) is a general aviation Airport located in Belfast between Lincolnville Avenue, U.S. Route 1, Congress Street, and Little River Drive. It has an area of approximately 218 acres, and has in addition approximately 165 acres of aviation easements (rights on other parcels of land to remove obstructions that could affect Airport operations). BST's paved runway, Runway 15-33, is 4,000 feet long. The airport is well-suited to accommodate small to medium charter and corporate jets along with typical privately owned aircraft; regular commercial service does not currently exist at this airport. The airport has been in existence since the 1940s, and has been in its current configuration (an orientation of approximately 150°/330° for the runway) since the 1960s.



The airport supports the economy of Belfast and the surrounding region. The airport also serves as an important gateway to the Belfast region; for many visitors, this facility is their first impression of the City of Belfast. Some of these people may ultimately choose to construct a private hangar at the airport, purchase housing in Belfast, spend their tourism dollars here, and/or bring their business and job(s) to Belfast.

While there will always be challenges, a focused approach on prioritizing projects to maximize the benefit/cost ratio, proactively protecting our pavement asset, looking for additional revenue sources, and being prepared to take advantage of unusual opportunities, will effectively leverage this transportation resource and economic development asset.



The Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA's) current formula-based estimate for the number of annual aircraft operations (an operation being a takeoff or landing) is 3,172 (or 61 operations per week). A new GARD system was installed in the fall of 2020 that gathers data from "ADS-B" technology that broadcasts information about an aircraft's GPS location, altitude, ground speed and other data to ground stations and other aircraft. In addition, the new system still records radio transmissions with settings assuming 9 radio transmissions as equivalent to 2 operations. It is the opinion of the Airport Manager that this new system will provide much more accurate information about actual use of the Airport. For calendar year 2021 the GARD system estimates just over 2,200 operations per year.

AIRPORT

Known regular users of the airport include: athenahealth, LifeFlight, Front Street Shipyard clients, and HNP AIR LLC. Many vacationers and visitors also come in their own jets (Embraer Phenom 100, Eclipse 500, Cirrus Vision SF50), and by charter flights, including in an IAI Astra 1125, Beech King Airs, Cessna CitationJet/CJ1, Cessna Citation V/Ultra/Encore, Cessna Excel/XLS, Cessna Citation Latitude, Bombardier Challenger 300, Bombardier BD-700 Global 5000, and Pilatus PC-12.

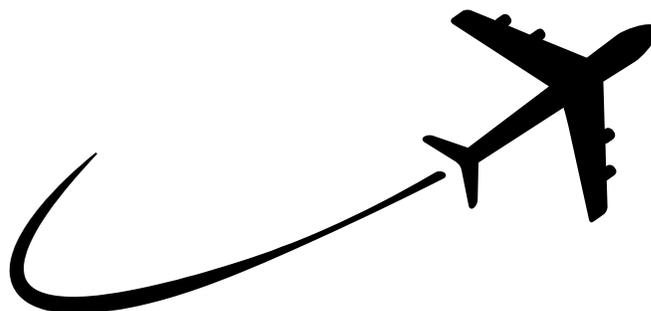
In anticipation of construction of a fuel farm in 2022, we have already begun discussions with businesses interested in offering flight training on a regular basis and offering additional aircraft repair services.

The airport currently generates revenue four ways: 1) ground leases to private individuals; 2) property taxes on aircraft hangars; 3) leases of City-owned buildings; and 4) aircraft excise taxes. The City is receiving approximately \$21,000 per year from 25 ground leases, approximately \$19,500 in property taxes from 25 hangars, \$4,200 per year from the leasing of the City-owned Lowe Hangar and a T-hangar, and approximately \$1,600 in excise taxes. KBST currently has approximately 25 aircraft based here (generally the airport where it spends the most time).

The City of Belfast typically receives an annual allocation of entitlement funds from both the FAA (\$150,000) and the Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) (\$8,333); these funds can be banked for up to 4 years. These funds can be used to pay for 95% of the costs of an FAA-approved project; the remaining 5% of the project costs are covered by the City of Belfast. Certain projects, like the recent parallel taxiway project, may also qualify for additional discretionary FAA funding. The FAA prioritizes projects that improve airport safety. Smaller airport capital projects and maintenance-type projects, however, are typically funded 100% by the City.

During this atypical year, the City of Belfast became eligible for COVID funding from the CARES, CRRSA, and ARPA legislation passed by Congress in the amount of \$51,000. These funds were used to reimburse the City of Belfast for airport payroll expenses.

During this atypical year, the City of Belfast was also able to submit a grant application to the FAA for a single 10,000-gallon 100LL fuel tank with all associated equipment in the amount of \$668,200 that, pursuant to COVID grant provisions, did NOT require the typical local match.



AIRPORT



Because the bids for the full fuel farm project (\$1,075,254) exceeded the amount of Federal funding available, a fallback decision was made to submit a grant to the FAA for funding to pay for the single 100LL fuel tank instead of a two-tank system for 100LL and Jet A. A downside to that fallback option was that \$23,167 in engineering costs associated with the Jet A design work became an ineligible cost and became the exclusive responsibility of the City.

The City then borrowed the additional \$410,000 until October 2025 at an interest rate of 1.86% and an approximate interest cost \$30,859 if the loan is not otherwise prepaid. The loan will then be paid in full utilizing accumulated FAA entitlement funding and State and local matching funds. This allows the Jet A design work to again become an FAA-eligible expense.

In December 2021 we received notification that, through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Legislation (BIL) Act, we will be receiving additional funding for the next five years. The Belfast Airport annual allocation, based on our classification as a "basic" airport, is shown as \$110,000. Pursuant to conversations with the FAA, the Belfast Airport should have been classified as a "local" airport, and our annual allocation should be \$159,000. The Airport Manager has requested that the 2023 - 2026 allocations be corrected to the "local" airport level.

During this past year activities involving a substantial time commitment by the Airport Manager include the Fuel Farm project, engaging the Belfast Airport Advisory Committee in more substantive issues, maintaining equipment (lighting, signage & beacon), maintaining airport grounds, addressing protected surfaces as they relate to a potential cell tower installation and creation of a draft Aviation Overlay District, customer service, snow removal, and budget issues associated with the additional funding sources. This past year we also made critical repairs to the Lowe Hangar airplane doors and installed new seamless gutters on that hangar and the Terminal building.

Subsequent to the completion of the Fuel Farm project, these significant airport projects are planned for the next several years: 1) removal of obstructions on the Congress Street side (runway 33 end) of the runway through collaboration with a private solar farm project, 2) runway pavement patching and crack sealing, and, 3) the installation of a Precision Approach Path Indicator (PAPI), a visual aid that provides guidance information to help a pilot acquire and maintain the correct approach (in the vertical plane) to the airport runway.

AIRPORT

Several important safety and preventative maintenance projects are also planned over the next three years: 1) runway marking painting, 2) bushhogging runway 15 end to eliminate saplings beginning to penetrate protected airspace, and, 3) removal of trees too close to our current automated weather system and upgrading our weather reporting system to an AWOS-3 system that meets all FAA requirements and is included in all official sources of Airport weather.

The airport is also exploring the possibility of leasing some of its land (with extremely limited use-options) for use as a solar farm. There are several Maine airports that have gone through this process and who can provide valuable guidance and advice. The FAA is supportive of airports exploring this option to generate an additional revenue source.

Belfast Municipal Airport has been, and will to continue to be, an asset to Belfast and the surrounding region, providing transportation, economic, health-care, educational, and recreational benefits. The City should continue to improve the airport and make it more viable, through making safety improvements, increasing capabilities and facilities, generating more revenue, and maximizing funding from the FAA and MDOT.

Respectfully offered:

Kenneth Ortmann, Airport Manager



ASSESSING OFFICE



It has been a very busy year in the assessing office! The total taxable valuation from 2021 to 2022 increased by \$13,854,760 because of renovations, new homes, garages and additions. We are very pleased that the tax mil rate is a bit less than last year.

The real estate market has been booming all over Maine, but especially in our community with sales robust and market values often well over the assessed values of the properties. Due to the high market values and sales, our certified ratio with the state of Maine is at 92% for the 2022 tax year. This means that our assessed values compared to market values average 92% overall. The 92% ratio was determined by the state by comparing our real estate sales data from 7/1/2020-6/30/2021. You will notice that your homestead and veteran's exemptions are 92% of \$25,000 and \$6,000 this year. Even with this reduction in those exemptions, your tax bill should be a bit lower than last year when the mil rate was \$22 per \$1,000 of the valuation.

The current billing distribution of your taxes are as follows: for every tax dollar of your bill, 56.49 cents goes to the school district, 34.64 cents to the city budget, and 8.87 cents to the county budget.

The Maine Property Tax Stabilization program went into effect on August 8, 2022 and applies to the property tax year beginning April 1, 2023. This is a program for seniors 65 years and older who have had a primary residence in Maine for at least ten years. For those who have applied and qualified by December 1, 2022, the tax bill amount on your tax bill for 2022 will carry forward to tax year 2023. The state will reimburse the municipalities for any difference in the 2022 tax amount and the 2023 amount. The homeowner must reapply each year for this program. As of November we have over four hundred applications on file.



ASSESSING OFFICE

The Homestead exemption has been in effect for many years in Maine. If you are a permanent Maine resident and have lived in your home for at least a year as of April 1, you should apply for this exemption. Currently the state allows up to \$25,000 (adjusted by the municipality's certified ratio) to be deducted from the total property valuation. Mobile homes also qualify. Revocable Trusts are acceptable but not Irrevocable Trusts or LLC's. Check your tax bill to see if you have any exemptions, and if not, we encourage you to apply for 2023. You can find applications on the city of Belfast website, under the Assessor's page.



The Assessing Office constantly strives to make assessed values fair and equitable. Please contact us if concerned with any changes in valuation. We will make sure all eligible exemptions are applied on a timely basis. For business owners, we can walk through the various state filing requirements and explain which exemptions are available. We appreciate emails or phone numbers for our records as we constantly are reaching out to property owners with questions or suggestions.

Best regards,

Avis Winchester
Interim Assessor

Sheila Fountain
Assistant to the Assessor



Photo provided by Sheila Fountain

PUBLIC WORKS

In January we had three snow (9") events. February brought us four snow (12") events and one freezing rain event. In March we had four rain events and one snow (1") event. Early April brought one snow dusting event and then came spring. The year of 2021 ended with 6 snow (10") events and 11" of rain in the month of November. We accumulated 161 hours overtime with these events. The Public Works Department used approximately 2450 yards of sand and 1,337 tons of salt. The airport runway and ramps were plowed 9 times this year.

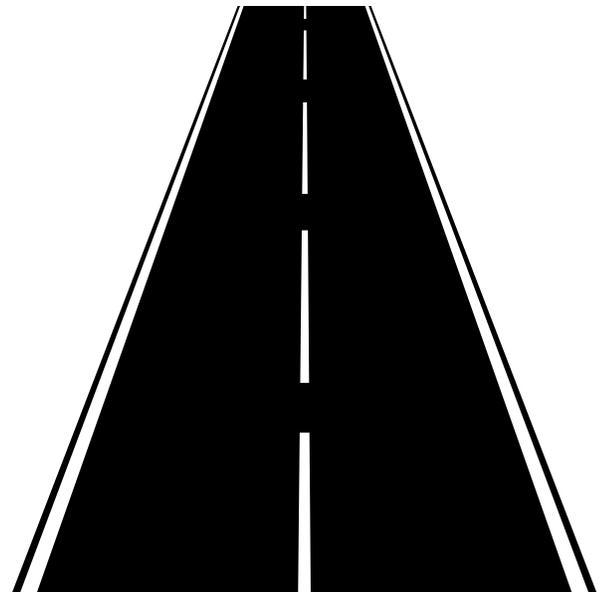
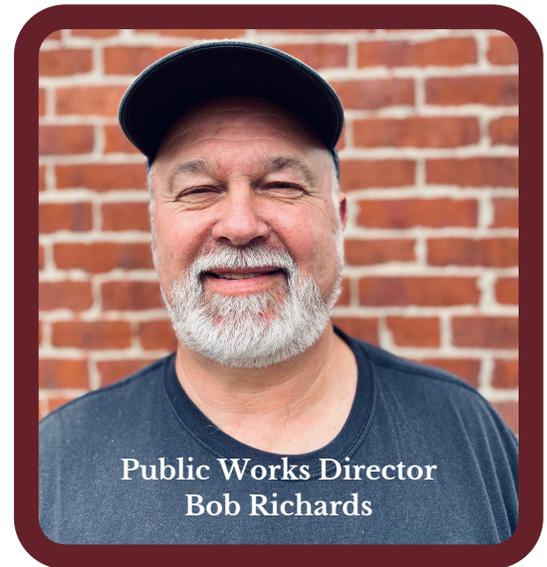


Photos provided by Bob Richards

PUBLIC WORKS

Projects that were done by the Public Works Department in the summer of 2021:

1. We ditched roughly 1,348 feet on 5 different roads.
2. We set up barricades, cement barriers and cones for outdoor dining in the downtown area at eight locations due to the Covid - 19 pandemic situations.
3. We replaced / installed some driveway and crossover culverts at 29 various locations. A total of 1,015 feet of various sizes (12" to 18").
4. Annual roadside mowing, street sweeping; we painted the icons, parking, crosswalks; debris / leaf pickup, Airport mowing, landfill mowing and the installation / removal of the city floats and ramps.
5. The annual installation / removal of benches (8), bike racks (10), rubbish containers (53) flower pots (12) and crosswalk signs (14).
6. We rebuilt and repaved some sidewalks on Waldo Avenue, Lincolnville Avenue and from Congress to Lincolnville Avenue through Wales Park with new light installation work provided by Reynolds Electric. We worked with Jeff Butterworth in rebuilding a section of cement sidewalk on Main Street by All About Games and on High Street near Pendleton Street (2,160Ft.).
7. This year's street paving project consisted of Upper High Street, City Point Road, Oak Hill Road and the East Waldo Road. (3.8 miles)



PUBLIC WORKS



The Public Works Department which consists of 13 summer employees and 16 winter employees maintains the streets, sidewalks, sewer lines, storm water, public parking lots, fleet vehicle and equipment maintenance for the city. We maintain 57 miles of roads in the summer and 66 miles of roads in the winter which consists of seven snow removal routes, 18 miles of sidewalks which is maintained with 2 snow removal machines, and 22 public and municipal parking areas.



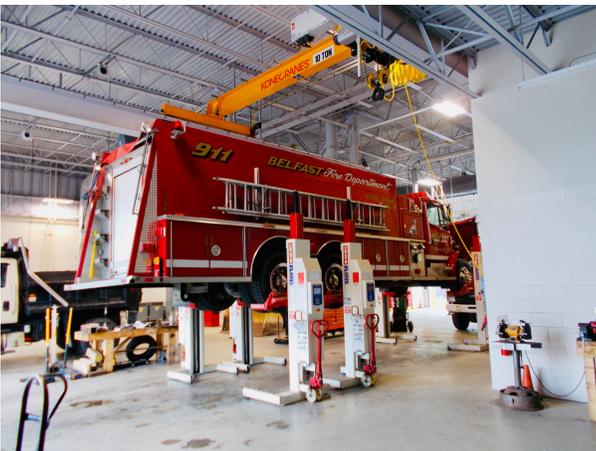
Photos provided by Bob Richards

PUBLIC WORKS



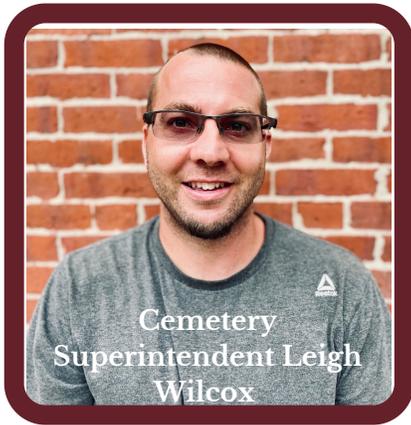
The Public Works Department has approximately 25 big and medium size pieces of equipment which include dump trucks, loaders, backhoe, excavator, grader and street sweeper. The department also has about a dozen smaller pieces of equipment which are a couple of sidewalk machines, two sewer line maintenance machines, hay mulcher, roller, small tractor for roadside mowing and a wood chipper. The plow trucks we try to replace every 10-12 years. The heavy equipment machines are replaced in the 18-20 year range. All other equipment is replaced as needed. This year the city purchased a 2019 loader and a 2022 six wheel truck chassis that will be setup as a plow truck.

Submitted,
Bob Richards, Public Works Director



Photos provided by Bob Richards

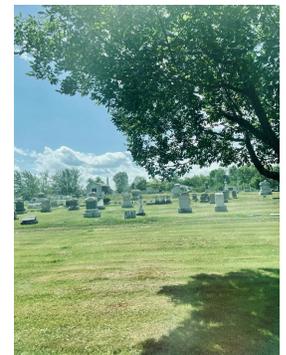
CEMETERY



The cemetery work crew performs all regular maintenance and groundskeeping at all cemeteries of Belfast. This includes mowing, leveling and cleaning of stones. We also service all funeral arrangements in the grounds, providing tables, a tent and chairs for the public. In 2021 - 2022 season we cared for 12 traditional burials and 41 cremation burials. The Grove Cemetery Chapel is open to the public for services and other functions. The fee for the rental is \$150.00 and arrangements can be made through the Superintendent.

The members of the Belfast Garden Club must be thanked for their continued maintenance and plantings around the chapel area in Grove Cemetery. The American Flag and heart-shaped gardens receive their special attention.

The Cemetery Board of Trustees is developing a plan to convert burial data from outlying cemeteries from file cards to a digitized spreadsheet. A project initiated this past year is the placing of signs for all Belfast cemeteries. The first has been installed at the Pitcher Road Cemetery, established in 1808. More signs are in production at Belfast Signs. Dan Ladd, Head of the Tide Masonry, completed work repointing the granite receiving tomb in Grove Cemetery.



CEMETERY

The process of getting a columbarium for Grove Cemetery has begun. A columbarium is a permanent, above-ground structure with individual niches for holding the cremated remains of the deceased. This will make an attractive addition to the cemetery.

The cemeteries are open to traffic from April to December depending on the weather and we have employees available to assist from May to October. Our hours are 7:00am to 3:30pm, Monday through Friday.

Please feel free to contact me for any information on Belfast Cemeteries. 207 338-2264 or at cemetery@cityofbelfast.org.

The Cemetery Department is both privately and publicly funded and has the responsibility of maintaining all seven cemeteries located in Belfast. They are:

- Grove Cemetery - Belmont Avenue
- East Belfast Cemetery - Route 1, East Side
- South Belfast Cemetery - Woods Road
- North Belfast Cemetery - Doak Road
- West Belfast Cemetery - Pitcher Road
- City Point Cemetery - Oak Hill Road
- Piper Cemetery - Back Belmont Road

Respectfully submitted,
Megan Pinette



Photos provided by Megan Pinette

CLERK'S OFFICE



Clerk Amy Bradford

As we say hello to 2022 we reflect on the passing of 2021.

It's always a pleasure serving the citizens of Belfast. We provide general information, by phone, mail, email and in person to the citizens of Belfast and visitors alike, as well as City Council and other City employees. We provide information about the services offered by the different city departments as well as general information about our community. So if you have questions please don't hesitate to contact us; if we can't answer your question we will help you find someone who can.

The City Clerk's office is the keeper of the records of the city. We process birth, death and marriage records, burial permits, dog licenses, hunting & fishing licenses as well as genealogy requests. We process all fees and receivables for the city, such as Code Department permit fees, Ambulance Department, Cemetery Department receipts, Transfer Station receipts, Police Department receipts and Harbor Department receipts. We issue business licenses and permits such as taxi cab license, liquor licenses, special amusement, catering, victualer (food service), coin operated machine licenses and lunch wagon licenses. We help provide prospective businesses with the information on how to obtain their state licenses as well as their local licenses required to start a new business or expand their current operation. If you're thinking of starting a business in Belfast or have any questions about our services we provide, please give us a call.



Deputy Clerk/Deputy Tax Collector Angie Crosby

The City Clerk's office now cross trains for better customer service with our Tax Collector's department as well. This includes tax payments, sewer payments, hanger tax payments, registrations: vehicles, trailers, campers, RVs, ATVs, snowmobiles and boats. This has proven to be very efficient for meeting customers' needs in a timely manner.

The City Clerk's office administers all elections, Federal, State and Local. If you have any questions about registering to vote or anything elections related, please feel free to contact us at 207-338-3370 or via email at cityclerk@cityofbelfast.org.

The City Clerks Office is here for you; stop by and see us sometime.

CLERK'S OFFICE

Vital Statistics	2020	2021		2020
Births	149	150	Certificates Issued:	497
Deaths	154	224	Certificates Issued:	496
Marriages	64	58	Certificates Issued:	112

Dogs	2020	2021	IF&W Fishing & Hunting Licenses Issued	2020	2021
Licenses Issued	858	488	Fishing Licenses	220	195
			Hunting Licenses	146	158

Voter Information as of 12/31/2021			
Democrats	2733	Total Registered Voters	5922
Republicans	1319	New Voters	202
Green Independent	262	Changed Voter Registration	159
Un-Enrolled	1608	Removed Voters	94

Thank you for allowing us to serve you. We look forward to another wonderful year in Belfast.

Respectfully Submitted, Amy I Bradford, City Clerk

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

While Belfast has certainly not been completely immune from the economic ravages brought on as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, its economy/business community does appear to have been able to withstand these impacts better than many other communities elsewhere in Maine, experiencing only a handful of permanent business closures during the past 24 months, and being well positioned to efficiently complete its economic recovery.

The primary services that the City of Belfast Economic Development Department performs are: 1) business and community infrastructure development; 2) grant research, writing, and management; and 3) provision of technical assistance to businesses.

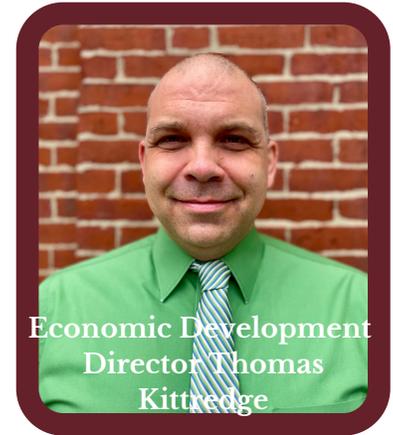
The plan that currently provides the largest amount of guidance to this department's efforts is the City's economic development plan, which was last revised in 2012. This plan contains five strategies: 1) lower the cost of doing business and remove/prevent obstacles to private investment/business development; 2) bring more people to Belfast throughout the year, especially during non-summer seasons; 3) improve quality of place; 4) pursue targeted business attraction; and 5) efficiently connect existing businesses and start-ups with current business development resources. Other plans and reports that provide additional guidance to this department's efforts include Creating Vibrancy in Belfast, Maine, the development plans for the City's various tax increment financing districts, and the City's Comprehensive Plan.

The City of Belfast utilizes a team approach to economic development, with participation from the Mayor, City Councilors, and the City Manager, along with other City Departments including Assessing, Harbor, Planning & Codes, and Public Works. The City of Belfast also partners with outside economic development-related entities on projects of significance, chief among them being the Belfast Area Chamber of Commerce, Eastern Maine Development Corporation, and Our Town Belfast.

The City of Belfast should, through its various strategies and initiatives, pursue important economic and community development goals, including the attraction and creation of quality (i.e. livable wage) jobs, the reduction of poverty, the reduction of the mil rate, and the development of housing that is affordable to the employees of our businesses, in order to address the challenges it currently faces, and to help buttress and augment the economic progress it has achieved over the past decade.

Respectfully offered,

Thomas Kittredge, Economic Development Director



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

THIS YEAR'S ACHIEVEMENTS

During the period of time of April 2021 to April 2022, the City of Belfast was fortunate to continue to experience substantial economic and community development activity; this activity was restricted neither to certain types or sizes of businesses, nor to specific areas of the City. Some notable economic and community development-related events that occurred in Belfast during this time period included the following:

Two affordable older adult rental housing developments, located at 75 and 80 Wight Street, which have a combined 50 units, have been completed and are now occupied.

Developers Collaborative, a Portland-based affordable housing developer, was awarded an allocation of Low-Income Housing Tax Credits from MaineHousing, which will allow it to proceed with constructing 36 affordable rental housing units, and 12 market rate rental housing units, located at the former site of the City's Public Works facility (115 Congress Street).

Penobscot Community Health Care, the largest federally qualified health center in Maine, purchased the building complex (7 buildings, totaling 316,000 square feet, located on 142 acres) that is the home to Bank of America from Stag Industrial Holdings, LLC. This large property will allow Penobscot Community Health Care to grow its busy local clinic while expanding services to meet growing community needs.

Great Works Internet Partners, Arctaris Impact Investors, and the Finance Authority of Maine announced plans to build new fiber broadband networks in Belfast and in four other communities in Maine. The Finance Authority of Maine is providing a loan and commercial guarantee support to the project.

The former Em-Bee Cleaners property at 126 Church Street was acquired and the existing building demolished to facilitate future mixed-use development.

Waldo Community Action Partners purchased 78 acres of land next to Tractor Supply, at 45 Belmont Avenue. Waldo Community Action Partners' goals for the site include the development of offices, classrooms, maintenance, and community spaces that will meet the needs of a growing organization and community. In addition, there is the potential for future housing development which may include low-income housing, special needs housing, and workforce housing.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

COMPARATIVE FISCAL STATISTICS AND TRENDS

Looking at the readily available economic indicators to evaluate the Belfast economy, during the period of February 2021 to February 2022, Belfast's unemployment rate decreased from 5.7% to 4.6%, and ranged from 4.1% to 5.7% during this time period. In comparison, during this same time period, the unemployment rate for Waldo County decreased from 5.6% to 4.8% (and ranged from 3.8% to 5.6%), the unemployment rate for Maine decreased from 5.5% to 4.2% (and ranged from 3.5% to 5.5%), and the unemployment rate for the United States decreased from 6.6% to 4.1% (and ranged from 3.7% to 6.6%). (None of these unemployment rates are seasonally adjusted.) Belfast is known to be a net importer of jobs, meaning that there are more people who work in Belfast but live outside it, than those who live in Belfast but work outside it; in 2019, there were 4,674 of the former versus only 1,034 of the latter. While this could be attributable to relative lower property tax rates in the communities that surround Belfast, this could also be attributed to a lack of quality workforce housing within Belfast (forcing lower-wage workers to commute to their jobs).

Turning to earned wages (across all industries and all types of ownership), both Belfast's total wages and its average weekly wage increased significantly from the 3rd quarter of 2020 to the 3rd quarter of 2021, with total wages increasing by 11.1%, from \$72,472,203 to \$80,551,357, and the average weekly wage increasing by 7.2%, from \$903 to \$968.

Regarding the poverty rate, Belfast's poverty rate had decreased for five straight years (decreasing from 27.1% in 2010-2014 to 13.5% in 2015-2019), but it did not improve for 2016-2020, remaining unchanged at 13.5%. Belfast's poverty rate currently remains higher than that of Waldo County (12.5%), the State of Maine (11.1%), and the United States (12.8%).

Looking at taxable retail sales, during the time period of the 4th quarter of 2020 to the 4th quarter of 2021, total quarterly taxable retail sales for the Belfast Economic Summary Area (the smallest geographic area for which taxable retail sales data is available, and which is comprised of the municipalities of Bayside, Belfast, Belmont, Brooks, Jackson, Knox, Liberty, Monroe, Montville, Morrill, Northport, Searsmont, Swanville, and Waldo) went from \$60,944,634 to \$65,032,605, representing an increase of 6.7%. However, this lagged the State of Maine's rate, whose total quarterly taxable retail sales experienced a larger increase of 13.6% during that same time period.



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Specific categories of the Belfast Economic Summary Area's taxable retail sales to be noted for their significant increases and/or increases relative to the State of Maine include: general merchandise, which increased by 21.5% (compared to an increase of only 13.8% for the State of Maine); and other retail (which includes a wide selection of taxable sales not included in another defined category, such as dry goods stores, drug stores, jewelry stores, sporting goods stores, antique dealers, morticians, book stores, photo supply stores, and gift shops), which increased by 13.2% (compared to an increase of only 13.1% for the State of Maine). Both restaurants (which increased by 30.4%) and lodging (which increased by 59.8%) experienced significant increases, but both lagged behind the State of Maine (which increased by 34.9% and 81.0%, respectively). Only two of the Belfast Economic Summary Area's categories of taxable retail sales experienced a decrease during this time period: building supplies, which decreased by 4.0% (compared to an increase of 10.0% for the State of Maine); and transportation, which decreased by 5.0% (compared to an increase of 6.3% for the State of Maine).

OTHER COMPARATIVE STATISTICS AND DATA

While it is not the best barometer of the impact or value of this department, the number and amounts of grants secured is one of the easiest to measure/quantify. This department is currently managing/implementing/closing out the following grants: 1) a \$100,000 Community Development Block Grant Community Enterprise Grant, which was awarded in 2020 and is being used to provide façade improvement subgrants to for-profit and non-profit businesses in Belfast; 2) a \$100,000 Community Development Block Grant Community Enterprise Grant, which was awarded in 2021 and is being used to provide façade improvement subgrants to for-profit and non-profit businesses in Belfast; 3) a \$44,335 Community Development Block Grant Public Service Grant, which was awarded in 2020 on behalf of the Starrett Children's Center to cover their salary, operational, and workforce development costs, and to purchase new appliances, playground furniture, books, and science equipment; 4) a \$16,000 Central Maine Power Make-Ready Grant which was awarded in 2021 and is being used to construct an electric vehicle charging station at the City's parking lot at the intersection of Bridge, Front, and Pierce Streets; 5) a \$240,000 Community Development Block Grant Economic Development Program Grant, which was awarded in 2021 on behalf of GO Logic, to fund the acquisition of specialized business equipment that will outfit their planned future facility to be built in the Belfast Airport Business Park; 6) a \$500,000 Community Development Block Grant Housing Assistance Grant, which was awarded in 2021 on behalf of Developers Collaborative, to help pay costs that would be associated with their proposed development of 36 affordable rental housing units at the site of the City's former public works facility at 115 Congress Street; 7) \$972,000 in Congressionally Directed Spending, to help pay for improvements to Congress, Salmond, and/or Wight Streets; and 8) \$1,000,000 in Congressionally Directed Spending, to help pay for replacing old damaged vitrified clay sewer pipe with new polyvinyl sewer pipe along Mayo Street, High Street, Vine Street, Waldo Avenue, and/or the side streets of miler Street. Management of grants/projects is time

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consuming; typically, the time spent on the management of these grants/projects is several multiples of the time that was spent actually applying for them. Since this department was established in June of 2010, it has played a lead role in securing \$12,879,304 in various sources of grant funding.

FUTURE TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

Looking ahead, the Maine Consensus Economic Forecasting Commission (CEFC), in their most recent report on February 1st, 2022, made revisions to its major indicators relative to its November 1st, 2021 report. Specifically the CEFC: revised its forecast for the annual percentage change in wage and salary employment downward for 2022 (2.3% to 1.8%), 2024 (0.7% to 0.4%), and 2025 (0.7% to 0.2%); revised its forecast for the annual percentage change in personal income upward for 2022 (0.5% to 1.7%), 2023 (4.6% to 5.0%), and 2024 (4.8% to 4.9%); revised its forecast for the annual percentage change in wage and salary income upward for 2022 (5.0% to 6.5%) and 2023 (5.0% to 5.5%); and revised its forecast for the annual percentage change in the consumer price index for all urban consumers upward for 2022 (3.5% to 5.0%), 2023 (2.1% to 4.0%), 2024 (2.1% to 2.5%), and 2025 (2.1% to 2.5%).

Positive statements and indicators pointed out by the CEFC in its report included the following: continued optimism regarding in-migration to Maine, where Maine's net domestic migration rate in 2021 was the highest in New England and seventh-highest in the US, gaining just under 10,000 in population; and nonfarm payroll jobs increased to 616,300 in December 2021, the highest number of jobs since July 2021 and the second highest total in 21 months prior to February 2022.

Negative statements and indicators pointed out by the CEFC in its report included the following: inflation, especially in energy prices, geopolitical upheaval, interest rate increases, and uncertainty pertaining to the ongoing pandemic and future variants are key risks in the near-term forecast; demographic inequalities and uneven access to high-speed internet across the state will limit the range of increased in-migration and thus limit its impact on employment and income growth; and the higher energy prices, increased demand, and supply constraints that have recently led to increased inflation are expected to continue through 2022 and into 2023 before abating.

This report also contained the following statements that provided additional context: migration to Maine, whether from actual moves or remote work opportunities generated by the pandemic, seemed to be a significant factor in driving employment and income growth in Maine; the robust jobs recovery has led to the reemergence of tight labor market conditions, which have led to strong gains in total wages paid, with wages rising much faster than jobs, and job openings in Maine reached record high levels in the summer of 2021; the primary factor preventing further

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jobs recovery has been lower labor force participation, which decreased drastically when the pandemic first began to affect the labor market, and though labor force participation has increased since the spring of 2020, participation remains about 4% lower and the labor force has contracted by 22,000 compared to just before the pandemic.

This department continues to face the following three major challenges:

1) *Increase in demand for services and expectations in the level of service provided.*

Since this department's creation, the number of requests by businesses, particularly startup businesses, appears to have increased year over year (with the exception of the recent COVID-19 pandemic), as Belfast becomes more visible due to its successes and becomes more aware of the fact that the City can offer assistance through this department. Requests for direct assistance from businesses and entrepreneurs currently outstrip available staff time. In the future, if the City does not wish to exclude any businesses or entrepreneurs, or to not reduce the level of assistance provided, additional staff capacity might be necessary (whether it be contract, full-time, or part-time).

2) *Available funding sources for both the City of Belfast and its businesses.*

Another major challenge is continuing to find grant funding sources, both to help the City fund business and community infrastructure projects, and to also directly assist businesses and entrepreneurs. While many of the existing well-known funding sources (such as Community Development Block Grants) have seen their funding reduced year after year, there are still new programs being developed. However, this means that the universe of potential funding sources is always changing, funding opportunities can be missed if they are not found in a timely manner (as many of them are offered or for a limited period of time, sometimes even only once). While the department has expertise in identifying grant opportunities from both state and federal grants, it does not have much expertise and knowledge regarding the much larger universe of private foundation grants (which are generally more for non-profits than governmental entities). Seeking out and identifying potential funding sources can be very time consuming, because one has to access multiple sources of information (there does not appear to be one all-inclusive information source), with some of them still only available in print format. This department is currently making efforts to make Belfast businesses and property owners more aware of, and easier to access, certain incentive programs that could be of benefit to them, such as Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits, New Markets Tax Credits, and Opportunity Zones. There do exist computer-based grant information resources, but they tend to be costly (on the order of thousands of dollars per year), and again, there does not appear to be one single all-encompassing grant information resource.

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3) *Measuring benefits and impacts on the economy of the City of Belfast.*

Finally, measuring this department's impact on the Belfast economy is also a challenge. Determining the amount of impact this department has on the success of a given project necessarily relies on assumptions and is unable to be quantified to a level of absolute certainty. In addition, the City of Belfast does not have the capacity to generate statistically significant economic statistics on its own, and therefore must rely on existing economic statistics, many of which only provide data for larger geographic areas instead of data at the municipal level. Further complicating matters, the City of Belfast has for some time been a significant net job importer; in 2019 (the most recent year for which data was available), 4,674 people worked in Belfast but lived outside of that community, compared to only 1,034 people who lived in Belfast but worked outside of that community. (This may lead to the situation where economic development successes taking place in Belfast result in little or no change to the incomes or the unemployment rates of Belfast residents.) Despite this challenge, it is important over the long term to effectively and as accurately as possible determine the impact of this department, and communicate that information to both the elected officials and the residents of Belfast, to best be able to ensure the department's continued existence and support.



Photos provided by Thomas Kittredge

TAX COLLECTOR



Real Estate Taxes: The tax mil rate decreased for this year, from \$23.30 in 2020 to \$22.00 for 2021. The interest rate was set by the City Council at 6% for 2021, which is a decrease from 8% in 2020. On September 21, 2021, a total of \$18,068,245.80 was committed to Brittany Harris by the Interim Assessor, Avis Winchester. The first installment was due 11/15/2021 and the second installment was due 3/1/2022. The foreclosure date for the 2019 Real Estate Taxes was January 18, 2022, this year there were no foreclosures. As of December 31, 2021 there were 31 unpaid 2019 Real Estate & Personal Property Tax accounts. On July 22, 2021, liens were placed on 142 accounts for unpaid 2020 Real Estate Taxes. These liens have a foreclosure date of January 22, 2023.

Motor Vehicles: Excise tax collected for the Year 2021 was of \$1,220,355.28, which is an increase of \$91,712.79. Agent fees collected were \$31,618.00. We are pleased to offer an email reminder for registration renewals. If you have a current email and are interested in receiving a reminder notice, please stop by or call our office with your registration or plate # and we will set that up for you. This notice provides you with the expiration of your registration as well as the cost for renewal. We also offer online registrations through the State of Maine through the Rapid Renewal Program, this can be accessed on the cityofbelfast.org website under “How do I?” and “pay taxes”.

Inland Fisheries & Wildlife: Our office processed 465 boat registrations with \$11,535.10 collected in boat excise. We also issued 134 ATV registrations and 52 snowmobiles. A total of \$702.00 was collected in agent fees for the Fish and Wildlife registrations processed.

Sewer Department: The sewer charges for the first half of 2021 (January – June), were billed on August 9th with a commitment of \$579,807.66 with 1462 accounts in the system. The second half of 2021 (July – December), was billed in February 2022 with 1463 accounts and a commitment of \$644,149.30. Total charges for the calendar year 2021 were \$1,223,956.96, an increase of \$245,848.84 from 2020.

Airport Hangars: The Tax Office collected \$29,325.25 for hangar lease payments, which is an increase of \$5,716.25.



Respectfully submitted,

Brittany Harris, Tax Collector & Amy I. Bradford, BMV Agent & Sewer Clerk

OUTSTANDING TAXES

Acct Name	Principal	Pre Lien Int	Costs	Current Int	Total
2084 *333 HIGH STREET, LLC	2,857.80	56.77	48.33	23.34	2,986.24
2967 *74 HIGH STREET, LLC	2,037.20	75.72	48.33	16.64	2,177.89
849 *ALLEY, FRANK A ALLEY, REBECCA J	809.60	30.09	62.99	6.61	909.29
2846 *BATES, MELDON L w/Tony Bates Myra A & Clair E Behymer (LE's)	654.49	1.85	38.00	5.35	699.69
4351 *BELLE POINT COMMERCIAL, LLC	1,848.00	68.68	55.66	15.09	1,987.43
4125 *BRIGGS, CHERYL ANN	453.20	16.84	48.33	3.70	522.07
2636 *BROOKINGS, JACK M BROOKINGS, ERICA S	1,701.59	2.84	38.00	13.90	1,756.33
4250 BUCKMASTER, LINDA	4.75	0.00	0.00	0.16	4.91
2434 BUCKMASTER, LINDA S	3.46	0.00	0.00	0.12	3.58
3414 CARBONE, LOREN E	0.80	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.83
2352 *CASSIDA, SAMUEL E CASSIDA, JACQUELINE	4,604.60	171.14	55.66	37.60	4,869.00
3889 *CLARK, ALAN G	499.40	18.56	48.33	4.08	570.37
2130 *CLARKE, DAVID H	1,080.20	40.14	48.33	8.82	1,177.49
16 *COBB, JONATHAN	127.60	4.74	48.33	1.04	181.71
4376 *COBB, JONATHAN	316.80	11.78	48.33	2.59	379.50
951 *COLDEST BROOK, LLC	7,125.80	264.84	55.66	58.19	7,504.49
135 *COLLINS, BRIAN	613.34	13.90	55.66	5.01	687.91
3390 COOPER RIDGE PROPERTIES, LLC C/O ELLSWORTH, ELIZABETH KRUSE, JAMIE	0.90	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.93
1497 *CRAGIN, DEREK MICHAEL	681.99	25.35	55.66	5.57	768.57
2985 *CROWE, MARTIN J	7,207.20	267.87	55.66	58.86	7,589.59
3421 *CUNNINGHAM, MICHAEL	152.13	0.00	0.00	1.14	153.27
1393 *CURTIS, EVERETT	336.60	12.51	62.99	2.75	414.85
797 *CURTIS, EVERETT H	3,577.20	132.96	48.33	29.21	3,787.70
1439 *CURTIS, EVERETT H	897.60	33.36	48.33	7.33	986.62
1440 *CURTIS, EVERETT H	836.00	31.07	48.33	6.83	922.23
1441 *CURTIS, EVERETT H TIBBETTS, FELICIA L	728.20	27.07	48.33	5.95	809.55
1442 *CURTIS, EVERETT H TIBBETTS, FELICIA L	591.80	21.99	48.33	4.83	666.95
557 DAVENPORT, RAYMOND L	4.90	0.00	0.00	0.16	5.06
537 DEVEREAUX, TERRY M	4.11	0.00	0.00	0.13	4.24
3422 *DINSMORE, GENE DINSMORE, JUDITH	983.04	0.49	45.33	8.03	1,036.89
3141 *DRAKE, KASEY EATON, MCKENZIE	66.00	2.45	55.66	0.54	124.65
1606 *DYER, CHRISTOPHER D	631.40	23.46	48.33	5.16	708.35
3997 *EVANS, HOLLY	1,007.81	0.00	0.00	2.86	1,010.67
1153 *EWALD, DAVID C MESSNER, ASHLEY L	2,224.20	82.67	48.33	18.16	2,373.36
2583 FISHLEDER, PAUL S GATIS, RITA B	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.14
4395 FRANCIS, DAVID J FRANCIS, BEVERLY S	0.60	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.62

* - This account is currently liened.

OUTSTANDING TAXES

Acct Name	Principal	Pre Lien Int	Costs	Current Int	Total
4436 *GARTON, SHAE CONARY, ANTHONY	142.59	0.00	0.00	0.19	142.78
1959 GATES, LISA M GATES, CHRISTOPHER	4.56	0.00	0.00	0.17	4.73
4128 *GAWLER, EDITH KONESNI, ERWIN A	1,584.00	58.87	55.66	12.94	1,711.47
2994 *GILBERT, SUZETTE L	3,599.20	133.77	55.66	29.39	3,818.02
4606 *GILBERT, SUZETTE L	2,380.40	88.47	48.33	19.44	2,536.64
223 *GOOSE RIVER OCEAN FRONT LLC	5,055.60	187.90	55.66	41.29	5,340.45
1369 *GORDON, ARTHUR	417.48	0.00	0.00	0.49	417.97
444 GRANT, JARED A FERNANDEZ-GRANT, CATALINA	0.81	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.84
1848 *GREEN, NATALIE	4,877.40	181.28	55.66	39.83	5,154.17
2968 *GREEN, RENE P	4,415.40	164.10	55.66	36.06	4,671.22
1356 *GRINDLE, SHANNA	1,207.80	44.89	48.33	9.86	1,310.88
244 *HARBORVIEW BELFAST, LLC	5,493.40	204.17	48.33	44.86	5,790.76
746 *HARRIMAN, DIANNE M (AKA) DIANNE M RICHARDSON	1,082.40	40.23	48.33	8.84	1,179.80
736 *HAY, JASON M HAY-BRACKETT, HEATHER Q	3,129.10	116.22	55.66	25.55	3,326.53
2866 *HENRY REVOCABLE TRUST DTD HENRY, PETER E AND SUSAN A TRUSTEES	7,447.00	276.78	48.33	60.82	7,832.93
1363 *HEROUX, PHILIP D (HEIRS)	1,843.60	68.52	48.33	15.06	1,975.51
4430 *HODGDON, DAVID HODGDON, TIFFANY M	1,465.20	54.46	48.33	11.97	1,579.96
4577 *HODGDON, NICHOLAS	684.20	25.43	48.33	5.59	763.55
347 *HOLLAND, JAMES A	807.40	30.01	48.33	6.59	892.33
3082 *HOLLAND, JAMES ROBERT, JR GREEN, RICHARD CARL	56.55	0.29	38.00	0.46	95.30
2402 HOYT, ELIZABETH	0.41	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.42
206 *HUTCHINGS, DAVID C	5,519.80	205.16	55.66	45.08	5,825.70
315 *ISTEERO, SUSANNE ALBERT	6,377.80	237.04	55.66	52.09	6,722.59
972 *JACKSON, PATRICIA ANNE JACKSON, TODD M	849.20	31.56	48.33	6.94	936.03
2066 *JOHNSON, JAMES A., SR	1,742.40	18.44	48.33	12.78	1,821.95
1379 JOHNSON, VIRGINIA T MACLEOD, SUZANNE	0.60	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.62
3122 *JOY, ELIZABETH M KELLEY, PATRICIA M	3,152.60	117.17	55.66	25.75	3,351.18
596 *KANDRA, MONIQUE M	8,515.29	271.43	55.66	69.54	8,911.92
2265 *KB REALTY, LLC	1,738.00	64.59	48.33	14.19	1,865.11
4457 *KB REALTY, LLC	389.40	14.48	48.33	3.18	455.39
940 *KBI, INC	5,595.70	158.54	55.66	45.70	5,855.60
1260 *KEENE, CYNTHIA	305.80	11.36	48.33	2.50	367.99
4247 *KEENE, CYNTHIA	369.60	13.74	48.33	3.02	434.69
22 *KEENE, CYNTHIA B KEENE, DANA L	596.20	22.16	48.33	4.87	671.56
3784 *KEENE, CYNTHIA B	52.80	1.96	55.66	0.43	110.85

* - This account is currently liened.

OUTSTANDING TAXES

Acct Name	Principal	Pre Lien Int	Costs	Current Int	Total
1288 *KEENE, DANA	389.40	14.48	48.33	3.18	455.39
1293 *KEENE, DANA	94.60	3.52	48.33	0.77	147.22
1301 *KEENE, DANA	77.00	2.86	48.33	0.63	128.82
2220 *KEENE, DANA	506.00	18.81	48.33	4.13	577.27
3131 *KEENE, DANA	499.40	18.56	48.33	4.08	570.37
3721 *KEENE, DANA	110.00	4.09	48.33	0.90	163.32
KEENE, CINDY					
3757 *KEENE, DANA	448.80	16.68	48.33	3.67	517.48
3932 *KEENE, DANA	367.40	13.65	48.33	3.00	432.38
4020 *KEENE, DANA	228.80	8.50	48.33	1.87	287.50
4021 *KEENE, DANA	939.40	34.92	55.66	7.67	1,037.65
4100 *KEENE, DANA	136.40	5.07	48.33	1.11	190.91
4121 *KEENE, DANA	556.60	20.69	48.33	4.55	630.17
4122 *KEENE, DANA	88.00	3.27	48.33	0.72	140.32
4145 *KEENE, DANA	294.80	10.96	48.33	2.41	356.50
4439 *KEENE, DANA	347.60	12.91	48.33	2.84	411.68
838 *KEENE, DANA L	310.20	11.52	48.33	2.53	372.58
KEENE, CINDY					
2289 *KEENE, DANA L	1,027.40	38.18	48.33	8.39	1,122.30
KEENE, DAVID					
3758 *KEENE, DANA L	110.00	4.09	48.33	0.90	163.32
4181 *KEENE, DANA L	547.80	20.36	48.33	4.47	620.96
SEEKINS, NANCY					
2245 *KEENE, DANA TRUSTEE	1,069.20	39.74	48.33	8.73	1,166.00
SUNNYSIDE FRM IRRVCBL TRUST THE					
2254 *KEENE, DAVID E	6,952.00	258.39	55.66	56.77	7,322.82
KEENE, DANA L					
3783 *KEENE, DAVID E. & SEEKINS, NA	1,566.40	58.22	55.66	12.79	1,693.07
KEENE, DANA L. LIFE ESTATE					
2263 *KEENE, LOWELL E (TRUSTEE)(DC	4,507.80	167.54	48.33	36.81	4,760.48
THE KEENE TRUST					
1901 KENNEDY, ANN	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.52
1474 KEYES, ISAAC	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
DUBOVY, EMILY A					
4477 *KONESNI, ERWIN A	1,302.40	48.41	55.66	10.64	1,417.11
2299 KORSUND, IVAN	4.25	0.00	0.00	0.14	4.39
KORSUND, SALLY					
21 *LANDCO HOMES, INC	195.80	7.27	55.66	1.60	260.33
2292 *LAROCQUE, GLADYS W	1,936.00	71.96	55.66	15.81	2,079.43
454 *LEADBETTER, JOHN H	1,397.00	51.92	48.33	11.41	1,508.66
3682 *LEVANGIE, MARGARET L., HEIRS	3,150.40	117.09	62.99	25.73	3,356.21
LEVANGIE, SARAH A., PR					
416 *LEVI FARRELL TRUST u/d/t May :	924.00	34.34	48.33	7.55	1,014.22
SHAWNA LANPHER, TRUSTEE					
3713 LINDELOF LIVING TRUST, TRACEY	1.86	0.00	0.00	0.03	1.89
1548 *LITTLEFIELD, DANIEL K	695.20	25.84	48.33	5.68	775.05
1017 *LITTLEFIELD, RONALD G	1,048.74	0.00	0.00	0.17	1,048.91
LITTLEFIELD, ROBIN L					

* - This account is currently liened.

OUTSTANDING TAXES

Acct Name	Principal	Pre Lien Int	Costs	Current Int	Total
368 *LODS, CHARLES LODS, ROBINA M	6.47	0.00	0.00	0.01	6.48
4265 *MARESH, ISRAEL MARESH, JAIME	875.60	32.54	55.66	7.15	970.95
4520 *MARESH, JAIME L	818.40	30.41	55.66	6.68	911.15
1038 *MCINTIRE, JEFFREY W BLACK, DEBORAH D	946.00	35.16	48.33	7.73	1,037.22
536 MCQUILKIN, JANA R	0.27	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.28
1856 *MERRILL, DAWN M	1,938.20	72.04	55.66	15.83	2,081.73
2422 MILLS, SCOTT A LIVING TRUST dt MILLS, SCOTT A and MILLS, LORA E TRUSTEES	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.09
1193 MORRISON, DOUGLAS MORRISON, WILLIAM A	3.52	0.00	0.00	0.12	3.64
2137 MORRISON, DOUGLAS W	1.55	0.00	0.00	0.05	1.60
2138 MORRISON, DOUGLAS W	1.34	0.00	0.00	0.05	1.39
3302 MORRISON, DOUGLAS W MORRISON, WILLIAM A	3.91	0.00	0.00	0.13	4.04
3667 MORRISON, DOUGLAS W	1.16	0.00	0.00	0.04	1.20
2785 MULLEN, ANN M., HEIRS OF	3.51	0.00	0.00	0.12	3.63
1126 *MUNROE, SCOTT	1,493.80	55.52	48.33	12.20	1,609.85
744 *MUNROE, SCOTT F	1,729.20	64.27	55.66	14.12	1,863.25
1127 *MUNROE, SCOTT F DIPPEL, CHRISTINE C	477.40	17.74	48.33	3.90	547.37
1128 *MUNROE, SCOTT F DIPPEL, CHRISTINE C	479.60	17.82	48.33	3.92	549.67
1129 *MUNROE, SCOTT F DIPPEL, CHRISTINE C	514.80	19.13	48.33	4.20	586.46
4331 NESTER FAMILY PROPERTIES, LLC	4.90	0.00	0.00	0.17	5.07
4094 *NICKERSON, VICKI L 7/9TH INT ADAM E H & ASHLEY E FLANDERS 2/9TH	319.00	11.86	48.33	2.61	381.80
3926 *PAIGE, PAUL PAIGE, KATHERINE	152.90	4.33	48.33	1.25	206.81
2999 PELLERITI, LEO	3.70	0.00	0.00	0.14	3.84
1489 *PERKINS, ANDREW	2,637.80	98.04	62.99	21.54	2,820.37
3818 *PETERS, UNIQUE	2,692.80	100.08	48.33	21.99	2,863.20
275 *PETERSON, MARGARET I MICHALSKI, MARY ANN	996.48	1.16	38.00	8.14	1,043.78
3626 PETERSON, NEILL C LOOMANS, DONNA L	3.54	0.00	0.00	0.12	3.66
3135 *PORTER, THOMAS E	39.16	0.00	0.00	0.29	39.45
4560 *REYNOLDS, SHANE HARTUNG, ASHLIE L	55.00	1.56	48.33	0.45	105.34
2 *RICHARDS, DOUGLAS B., JR	906.40	33.69	48.33	7.40	995.82
4564 *RIPLEY, NICKIE	102.53	0.00	0.00	0.73	103.26
2050 *ROE, ANTHONY H R	4,285.60	159.28	48.33	35.00	4,528.21
542 *ROE, ANTHONY HR	4,914.80	182.67	48.33	40.14	5,185.94
3482 ROOP, LAWRENCE D ROOP, MIA R	1.36	0.00	0.00	0.05	1.41

* - This account is currently lienied.

OUTSTANDING TAXES

Acct Name	Principal	Pre Lien Int	Costs	Current Int	Total
1134 *SAGGESE, ANNE K	1,698.40	63.12	62.99	13.87	1,838.38
4645 *SEEKINS, CHRIS	22.95	0.00	0.00	0.14	23.09
1438 SHUMATE, MONDRIAN	2.84	0.00	0.00	0.09	2.93
64 *SKINNER PROPERTIES, LLC	1,095.60	40.72	48.33	8.95	1,193.60
4524 *SKINNER PROPERTIES, LLC	1,953.60	72.61	48.33	15.95	2,090.49
1830 SMITH, TERRANCE SMITH, BETHANNE GORDLEY	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.10
1068 *SOLEBELLO, JOSHUA	1,186.05	35.77	55.66	9.69	1,287.17
3728 SPENCER, JAMES	4.49	0.00	0.00	0.08	4.57
4637 SPENCER, JAMES	0.71	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.72
1007 SPENCER, JAMES R SPENCER, MISUK	0.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.19
3921 SPENCER, JAMES R SPENCER, MISUK	1.32	0.00	0.00	0.02	1.34
4532 *STAPLES, ELIJAH	171.60	6.38	55.66	1.40	235.04
1539 *STAPLES, GAYLE	179.45	1.11	48.33	1.47	230.36
3449 *STAPLES, GAYLE	385.00	14.30	48.33	3.14	450.77
553 STATE SAND AND GRAVEL INC	3.03	0.00	0.00	0.08	3.11
558 STATE SAND AND GRAVEL INC	1.72	0.00	0.00	0.04	1.76
613 STATE SAND AND GRAVEL INC	3.98	0.00	0.00	0.10	4.08
614 STATE SAND AND GRAVEL INC	4.92	0.00	0.00	0.13	5.05
913 *STEPHENS, DUSTIN M	1,370.60	50.94	48.33	11.19	1,481.06
1604 *SWEETLAND, TIMOTHY C	572.00	21.26	48.33	4.67	646.26
3595 *TENOFF, DIANE M TENOFF, ALAN C	3,170.20	117.82	77.65	25.89	3,391.56
1262 *TROTT, AERES	123.20	4.58	48.33	1.01	177.12
3483 *WARD, DANNY	677.60	25.18	48.33	5.53	756.64
1651 *WARMAN, BRENDA L	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.10	20.10
771 *WHITE, FRANCINA R LESSARD, GENEVA M	1,515.80	56.33	55.66	12.38	1,640.17
848 *WIGHT, ROY N	6,591.20	244.98	62.99	53.83	6,953.00
3418 WILEY, DYAN SMITH, TOR	0.80	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.83
1322 *WILLIAMS, BRADLEY P	2,424.40	90.11	48.33	19.80	2,582.64
2044 *YORK, WALTER R. & WINSTON H B. B. & M. I. YORK IRREVOCABLE TRUST	968.00	35.97	48.33	7.91	1,060.21
445 *ZEILOR, JOHN D SR	362.03	0.84	38.00	2.96	403.83
2283 *ZOCCHI, JUDITH M	1,551.00	57.64	55.66	12.67	1,676.97
189 *ZOCCHI, JUDITH M.	4,932.40	183.33	48.33	40.28	5,204.34
2737 *ZOCCHI, JUDITH M.	5,018.20	186.51	48.33	40.98	5,294.02

Count: 172 Totals: 219,825.47 7,672.80 6,249.11 1,777.73 235,525.11

* - This account is currently liened.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

In accordance with State of Maine Statute, the City of Belfast is happy to administer the General Assistance Program. General Assistance is a service administered by municipalities for emergency assistance of individuals and families that are in immediate need of assistance due to an emergency or financial hardship. The program was designed to be utilized as a final recourse in providing aid in obtaining basic necessities for life such as food, housing, shelter, electricity, clothing and heat.

Since introduction of the coronavirus pandemic, Belfast has continued to see new and unexpected needs as well as incredible influx on needs for attaining work, housing, transportation, and heating fuel.



Fiscal Year 2021	Applications	Total
Housing	194	\$179,990.96
Utilities	14	\$4,538.77
Food & Household Items	38	\$3,974.62
Other	9	\$339.33
Cremations	7	\$6,760.00
July 2021- June 2022	Total	\$195,603.68

In addition to the General Assistance expenditures, the City of Belfast also administers a Poverty Fund and Trust. These monies can be used to address needs that might not otherwise be reimbursed by the State or fall in the gray areas around what General Assistance can address.

The City of Belfast, under the direction of Deputy Clerk Angie Crosby as well as in cooperation with several other City Departments has been fortunate to be able to reopen the Keep the Faith Fund.

For more information about the General Assistance program, how to apply, and what it has to offer, please contact Kristi Osgood, the General Assistance Administrator at (207) 338-3370 ext. 120 where you can leave your name and a phone number or you can email generalassistance@cityofbelfast.org and we will get back to you as soon as we can. The office is open Monday-Thursday from 8:30am-4:30pm by appointment only.

Submitted: Kristi Osgood, General Assistance Administrator

FIRE & AMBULANCE

On behalf of the members of the Belfast Fire and Ambulance Department, it is my privilege to submit our Annual Report for the fiscal year (FY) 2021-2022.

The Belfast Fire Department presently has 4 full time employees, including the Chief, Deputy Chief and 2 full time Firefighter/Advanced EMTs. The Call Department presently has 23 paid volunteers on the roster. The Fire Department responds to approximately 320 calls for service per year and provides the first due response for the 7,000 residents of Belfast over 38 square miles and the 1,400 residents in the neighboring Town of Swanville over 22 square miles. The Belfast Fire Department also provides automatic mutual aid for the towns of Northport, Belmont and Waldo. Mutual Aid, when requested by the other 20 towns in Waldo County, is provided as well.

The structure of the Department consists of; 1 Chief, 1 Deputy Chief, 2 Assistant Chiefs, 2 Captains, 2 Lieutenants, 1 Safety Officer and 17 Firefighters. Of those currently on the roster, 10 Firefighters hold a Maine EMS license. 4 are Paramedics, 2 are Advanced-EMTs and 4 are Basic-EMTs.

Training

Over the course of the year the Belfast Fire Department responds to a wide variety of calls. The majority of our calls consist of motor vehicle accidents. This requires many hours of specialized training on various aspects of a motor vehicle accident. It starts with scene safety and traffic control, triage of multi vehicle accidents, extrication equipment and methods and HAZMAT control, containment and clean up. Other calls that we respond to are fire alarm activations, Carbon monoxide alarms, odor complaints, structure fires, automobile/equipment fires, dumpster fires, wildfires, HAZMAT incidents, EMS assists, elevator rescues and public assists. Many more hours of training are required to be able to respond to these as well. Training throughout the year includes blood borne pathogens, hazard communication, lock out tag out policy, new and updated SOP's, HAZMAT tech level response, CPR/first aid, ice rescue, cold water rescue, building construction, chimney fire response, gas detection, pumps, driver operator, hydrant, hose lays/rolls, ladders, search and rescue and forestry response. Twice a month the Fire Department members gather to perform a training exercise or a local building walk through. We hold a monthly meeting on the first Tuesday of every month.



FIRE & AMBULANCE

Fire Department Association

The members of the Fire Department also have the Belfast Fire Department Association which is responsible for the museum located on Main Street next to the Fire Station. In this museum is a wide variety of antique fire apparatus and equipment. It is open to the public during the summer months. Donations to keep this facility and the antiques maintained are graciously accepted through the Belfast Fire Department Association.



Services

Services offered by the Fire Department are fire safety inspections, chimney and wood stove inspections, carbon monoxide tests, public safety inspections and our smoke detector program. Belfast residents may also acquire burn permits at the Fire Station either over the phone or in person. Online burn permits may also be obtained through the Maine State Forest Service at Maine.gov. Burn Permits are required for any outdoor fire here in the City. As a reminder, fireworks are not permitted in the City of Belfast.

FIRE & AMBULANCE

Equipment

The Belfast Fire Department has the following apparatuses;

- Engine 4, 2016 Metal Fab with a Freightliner commercial cab. 1,000 gal water and a 1,250 gpm pump. 2041 projected replacement date.
- Engine 2, 1993 Spartan custom cab. 700 gal of water and a 1,250 gpm pump. 2022 projected replacement.
- Tanker 1, 1999 Metal Fab with a Freightliner commercial cab. 3,000 gal of water and a 1,250 gpm pump. 2024 projected replacement.
- Tanker 5, 2005 Metal Fab on a Freightliner commercial cab. 2,000 gal of water and a 1,250 pump. 2030 projected replacement date.
- Tower 3, 2003 American Lafrance 93' Tower- Platform. 300 gal of water and 2,000 gpm pump. 2033 projected replacement.
- Engine 6, 2006 Chevrolet 5500 4x4 mini pumper/ utility truck. 400 gal water and a 750 gpm pump. 2031 projected replacement.
- 2004 Heavy rescue on international chassis. Jaws of Life extrication equipment, cold water/ice rescue and technical rescue.
- 1997 Polaris 6x6 UTV. Used for wild fires and off road rescues.
- 1993 Yamaha Snowmobile and rescue sled, used during the snow season for off road rescue.
- 1994 Lund 17' side console boat. Water rescue and fire suppression.

COVID-19 presented some hurdles when it came to training and response. Members were successful with their response to the pandemic in practicing the recommended COVID guidelines and keeping each other safe and healthy while addressing the needs of the community. Training was modified for social distancing and monthly meetings were postponed.



FIRE & AMBULANCE

New Hires

Deputy Fire Chief Patrick Richards was appointed Fire Chief September 9th, 2021. Chief Patrick Richards started as a volunteer firefighter in 1999. He earned his Maine EMS license in 2001 and continued on to Paramedic level by 2018. Promoted to Lieutenant in 2015 and hired as full time Deputy Fire Chief in 2021. Deputy Fire Chief Christopher Kulbe was hired in 2022. D.C. Kulbe has 20 years experience from career departments in Camden and later in Bangor. D.C. Kulbe is a paramedic as well.

Firefighter Drew Long was hired in 2022. Firefighter Long is an Advanced-EMT and started at the Junior Fire program in Rockport. Firefighter Long has 9 years in the fire service.



Retirements

Belfast Fire Chief James Richards retired on September 1st, 2021. Chief Richards started his career in 1968 as a volunteer firefighter. He was promoted to Captain in 1973. In 1974 he was appointed Fire Chief for the City of Belfast. During his 47 years as Belfast Fire Chief, Chief Richards wore many hats for the City of Belfast. Ambulance Director, Fire Warden, Public Health Officer, Reserve Police Officer, Harbor Master and Local EMA Manager. He was a member of the Maine Fire Chiefs Association, Waldo County Chiefs Association and a leader in the Waldo County Firefighters Association. Chief Richards led the Belfast Fire Department successfully for many years, was a role model to many and a hero to all. The Fire Station located on Main Street is named after Chief James L. Richards for his years of dedicated and meritorious service. Thank you Chief! Enjoy your retirement.

Terry Cook retired after 25 years of service to Belfast Fire and Ambulance. 9 of those years were as a full time Firefighter Advanced-EMT for the City. Thank you Terry for your service and enjoy your retirement.

FIRE & AMBULANCE

Ambulance Services Offered

The Belfast Ambulance Service is proud to provide round-the-clock emergency coverage for the City of Belfast, and towns of Northport, Swanville, Waldo, Belmont and Morrill serving approximately 13,000 citizens across 145 square miles. Last year Belfast Ambulance responded to approximately 2,700 calls for service. The service provides coverage for 911 emergencies, emergency transfers; including critical care, PIFT, ALS and BLS. Non-emergency transfers: local and out of town, paramedic intercepts, community paramedicine, station tours, community outreach programs and CPR classes.

In 2021 the Belfast Ambulance Service responded to 2,746 calls. Of those calls 1,555 were local calls and 829 out of town calls.

Training

With the surge of COVID-19 cases training became a little tricky this past year, but the Belfast Ambulance Service was still able to keep our attendants up to date with training. Ongoing COVID policies and practices both local and national, including PPE usage and proper decontamination techniques were strictly adhered to in an effort to keep us and our community safe. The Belfast Ambulance Service became a vaccination site and provided 536 vaccinations and 70 COVID-19 tests to City employees.

Training includes monthly meetings/training for CEH credits. The national requirements for CEH credits (every two years) are as follows: EMTs 40 hours, AEMTs 50 hours, and Paramedics 60 hours.

Annual training includes: HAZMAT, bloodborne pathogen, FIT testing, SOPP and fire extinguisher. Other training on topics such as basic and advanced airway, ECG, extrication and back boards, run reporting, I.V. access, medication administration, medical and traumatic emergencies. All licensed personnel must have a combination of didactic and practical education. All must hold a valid Basic Life Support (BLS/CPR) certification at the Healthcare Provider Level.

As always, don't hesitate to call us for anything. Oftentimes people don't want to bother us until it's too late. Early action is the best action and no one is ever a bother!



FIRE & AMBULANCE

Fire	Roster	Ambulance	Roster
Patrick Richards	Terry Cook	Patrick Richards	Gabby Rosignol
Christopher Kulbe	Joel Prescott	Christopher Kulbe	Bob Richards
Bob Richards	Ken Larrabee	Debby Heath	Dave Murray
Keith Pooler	Terry Sawyer	Alicia Prescott	Bob Winslow
Donald Hahn	Everett Leathers	Charles Sisson	Sonja Salvatore
Corey Seekins	Drew Long	Mike Sealy	Joel Prescott
Russell Stickney	Harold Dyer	Brittany Whittlesey	Brian Lunt
Thomas Nelligan	Brandon Peal	Amy Drinkwater	Ken Larrabee
Herman Barr	Jacob Fairbrother	Joe Donovan	Jen Buttery
Edgar Spaulding	Roland Littlefield	David Walsh	Mark Cote
Brandon Peasley	Whitney Brown	Natasha Kosowski	Brandon Peasley
Brian Spaulding	Chuck Sisson	Terry Cook	Russell Stickney
Hayden Bradford	Brittany Whittlesey	Drew Long	Edgar Spaulding
Frank Short	Joe Donocan	Colby Robbins	Brian Spaulding
David Murray	Brain Lunt		

FINANCE

The Finance department is responsible for the City’s financial records, accounts payable, organizing and producing the yearly budget, assisting the City Manager with tasks, overseeing the collection of property taxes & sewer accounts for lien and foreclosure purposes, assisting department heads with requests as needed, other various tasks and customer requests.

The total municipal budget for Fiscal Year (FY) July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022 with the comparison of the previous fiscal year July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 is broken down as follows:

	Fiscal Year 2020-2021		Fiscal Year 2021-2022
Gross Budget	\$10,422,588	Gross Budget	\$11,505,437
Less Estimated Revenues	(\$4,342,366)	Less Estimated Revenues	(\$5,134,686)
Net Budget (Taxpayers)	\$6,080,222	Net Budget (Taxpayers)	\$6,370,751

Besides the municipal budget, the tax payers also fund a share of the school and county budgets. The school appropriation for FY21-22 was \$10,491,398 and for FY20-21 \$10,318,570. The county tax for FY21-22 was \$1,562,687 and for FY20-21 \$1,545,085.

The 2021 taxes were committed on September 21, 2021, with a mil rate of 22.00 per thousand, and interest rate of 6.00%. The first half installment was due November 15, 2021, and the second installment was due March 1, 2022. For your convenience, payments are also accepted at any time throughout the year. Although scheduled payments do not stop the lien process on any unpaid balances, it may be a more manageable option.



Finance Director
Theresa Butler

FINANCE



Treasurer
Elizabeth Kelley

I would happily report that again this year there were no tax lien foreclosures in January 2022 for unpaid 2019 tax liens, this would be the third year in a row of no foreclosures. This is down from 2 tax lien foreclosures in January 2019. Please be aware of the available programs to help with either lowering your tax bill or assistance with paying your taxes if you are having financial difficulties. The Homestead Exemption is a great program for Maine residents to help with lowering of their tax bill. If you think you may be eligible or would like to inquire, please stop by the office for an application or visit the City's website. Also, if you may be in need of assistance paying your tax bill, don't hesitate to reach out to us as well. We would be glad to assist with any knowledge of programs available, or point you in the right direction.

Other tasks that are the responsibility of the Finance office are payroll for all City employees, human resources involving working directly with all employees whether it would be a new hire, current employee, or retired employee and maintaining personnel files. The City of Belfast currently employs 71 full time employees and approximately a total of 124 part-time, seasonal, and on-call fire & ambulance staff.

Attached please find the most recent auditor's report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 and supporting financial statements. The full audit can be found on the City's website as well as in the Treasurer's office. Historically, the audit is available in March following the end of each fiscal year.

As always, please do not hesitate to visit our office during regular business hours 7:00am – 6:00pm, Monday through Thursday. We are located on the first floor of the 131 Church Street entrance.

Respectfully Submitted,

Theresa Butler
Finance Director

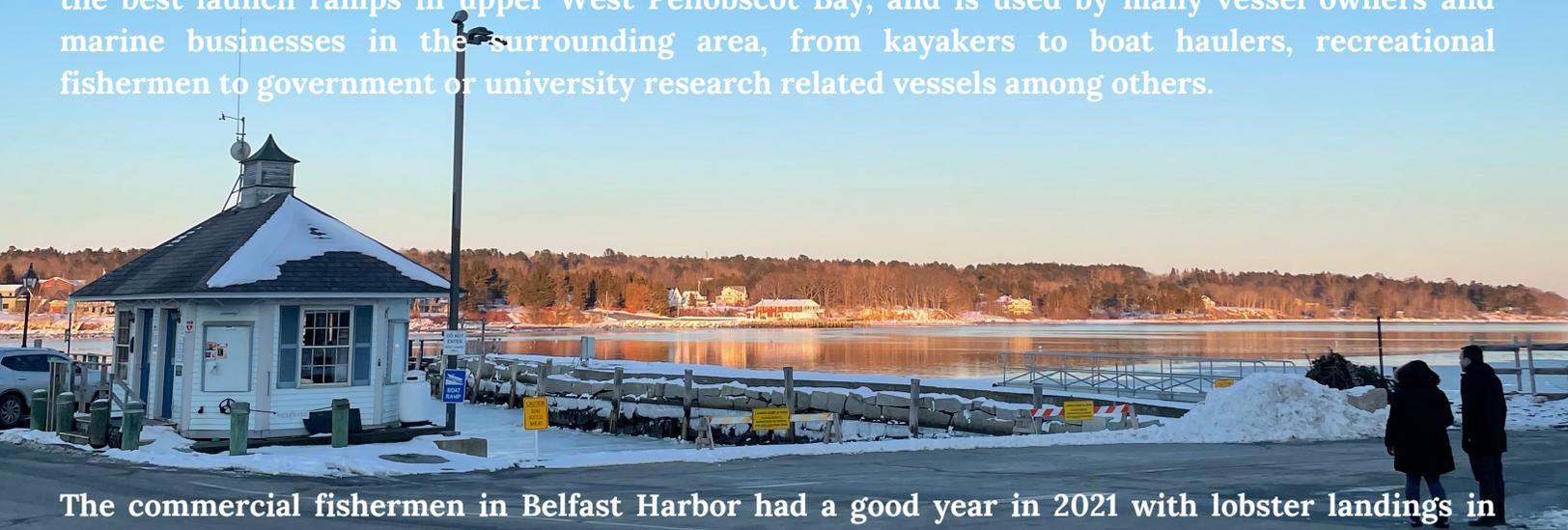


Theresa Butler & Elizabeth Kelley

HARBOR

The City of Belfast Harbor Department has five primary functions: managing the mooring field in Belfast Harbor, managing the City's two slip facilities: the Public Landing used by visiting boaters and Thompson's Wharf - our seasonal facility, maintaining safe navigation for all the boaters on the harbor, emergency response, and overseeing the management of all the tidal waters in Belfast Harbor with guidance from our local marine ordinance, as well as State and Federal maritime laws. Throughout the year, but especially in our summer boating season, we assist the public, other City Departments, local marinas and businesses, and nearby municipalities with water related issues or questions.

The Belfast Harbor has over 300 registered moorings and moored floats. Half of these permits are non-Belfast residents, and approximately a half of that number are out of state residents. The majority of vessels on moorings or in slips are recreational, however, the harbor has a sizable lobster fishing fleet, as well as other fisheries including crabs, menhaden, elvers, sea worms, and aquaculture. Most of these commercial fishermen use a designated area with a hoist at the City Landing for loading and unloading. We also have two privately owned commercial marinas on the harbor, and several area marine businesses that are not located on the harbor but use the facilities to provide services to Belfast Harbor vessel owners. Belfast is fortunate to have one of the best launch ramps in upper West Penobscot Bay, and is used by many vessel owners and marine businesses in the surrounding area, from kayakers to boat haulers, recreational fishermen to government or university research related vessels among others.



The commercial fishermen in Belfast Harbor had a good year in 2021 with lobster landings in Waldo County hitting records with over 434,000 lbs of lobster landed with a value of almost \$3,100,000.00. The lack of bait, cost of fuel, new regulations, and an unstable market kept the boat price higher than it's ever been. Belfast Harbor was one of the few harbors where the Menhaden, or 'Pogies' were present in sizable schools this past season, and large vessels not typically in the area were seen in the outer harbor fishing for them to sell for bait.

The summer of 2021 was extremely busy on the harbor with local and visiting boaters. We also saw a large increase in the number of non-boaters visiting Belfast Harbor by car or other means enjoying the water. All of the 160 or so slips on the harbor were filled, with long wait lists for every slip facility. Most of the 50 rental moorings and moored floats were also full most of the season.

HARBOR

In part because the Canadian border was closed, we saw many more private yachts averaging 100' and more, which are expected to return again as most enjoyed Maine and the Belfast area and appreciated the services offered by Front St. Shipyard, one of the few large vessel service facilities on the coast of Maine. Several yacht clubs also visited, and we saw an increased number of kayakers, rowers, and other small vessel owners on the water. The number of both new and used boat sales this past year were extremely high everywhere, and outboards and marine related parts were difficult to find.

The increased vessel traffic was welcomed as it helped offset our lower revenues in the season of 2020 due to COVID restrictions. Over the same time period in 2020 and 2021 we saw the following increases in revenues: dockage at the City Landing, one of our bigger revenue items: 67%, transient (overnight) mooring rentals: 107%, tender tie-up: 31%, pump-out station: 88%, gallons of diesel: 32%, and non-ethanol gasoline 14%. Not all items above are a large revenue-maker, but they are all indicators of substantially increased vessel traffic in the harbor.

The City of Belfast has had the amazing foresight over the years to have planned for public access in the harbor. The City owns many parcels of land adjacent to the water and has several public range ways. Most recently the City created a Harbor Walk which stretches over 2 ½ miles along the harbor, the Passagassawakeag River, and across a pedestrian bridge. This walkway is used increasingly by many, many different people throughout the year from the elderly who need a flat area to walk, to the joggers, birders, dog-walkers, etc. Presently the Belfast Comprehensive Planning Committee is emphasizing the importance of maintaining public access to the harbor in their review of the Comprehensive Plan. The Belfast City Council has also given attention to the projected sea level rise and storm surge issues, by creating a committee to study the potential effects on the harbor, its infrastructure, and shorefront businesses, by gathering data and installing localized weather instruments. Further development of the harbor because of the increasing demand is a constant consideration but is hampered by the high cost of protecting the infrastructure from the ESE storms which a breakwater or floating wave attenuator would allow.

Currently the Belfast Harbor Committee is working with Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc. to obtain design options and cost estimates to maintain and rebuild our existing breakwater structure, which protects the City Landing facility, launch ramp, and some Inner Harbor shoreline areas. The Committee is also working on a management plan for the Bridge & River Harbors which extend up the river and have recently seen more activity. The Committee is also looking into possibly creating small vessel facilities for non-mooring owners to store rowing-type boats in or close to the water. Rowing has become a popular activity on the harbor but often rowing boats are too heavy to transport easily.

Maintaining the diversity of the harbor and providing for its many different users is an important, but challenging goal for the Harbor Committee because of the limited space and lack of protection. It is an incredible asset to the City of Belfast and its users.

Respectfully Submitted, Kathy Given, Harbor Master

BELFAST FREE LIBRARY

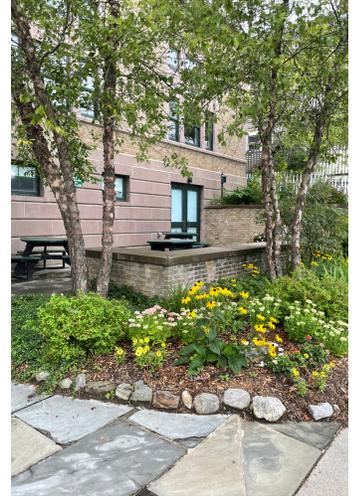
2021 was a pinball year. Plans were made, then ran into COVID complications, then veered off in entirely different directions over and over.

When a State mandate was lifted and the library no longer had to limit the number of people in the building, regular hours of operation resumed after Memorial Day.

In 2021, circulation at the library increased 20% over the previous year. Digital circulation increased only slightly, however, after 2020's huge jump during the COVID shutdown and restrictions. For 2021, library program attendance increased by a whopping 80% due to the easy availability of Zoom programs and post-program access through the library's YouTube channel.

Five of eleven staff members were new to the library in 2021. Stephanie Holman started at the end of August as the new Youth Services Librarian, replacing Erica Rubin Irish. Kelly Lange replaced Tiffany Howard. Pam McKeen replaced Kate Harris. Randi Box replaced Jim Campbell. And Jula Sampson replaced Gail Bryan as Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant.

Still, staff continued their remarkable work. In November, the library was honored to receive the Belfast Area Chamber of Commerce award in the Hometown Heritage category. The library won the vote in a category filled with stellar nominees—clearly recognizing the superlative dedication and talent and work done by the library's staff over many years.



One major accomplishment for the year was the microfilming and digitization of the entire run of The Waldo Independent (1985 to 2008). The digitized Waldo Independent is now searchable on the web and is a one-of-a-kind resource made available by the library. Many thanks to Jeff Shula and Jay Davis (former editor and columnist, respectively, for the Independent) for their help in procuring every single issue that had been missing from the library's archives. Many thanks also to Reference and Special Collections Librarian Sharon Pietryka for carefully packing and unpacking all of the boxes of newspapers for shipping. Incidentally, the Republican Journal from 1829 to 1922 is also searchable on the web. Hard copy and microfilm for the Republican Journal's later years are at the library.

BELFAST FREE LIBRARY

On the topic of microfilm, the library's microfilm reader (a specialized computer) had to be updated this year to keep working. Thank you to the Friends of the Library for bankrolling this expensive upgrade!

Brenda Harrington planned and carried out the All of Belfast Climate Dialog (ABCD) series of programs. This series was funded by a competitive federal grant that was awarded to only fifteen libraries nationally. Brenda has collaborated with many local groups to present these programs. ABCD continues in 2022.

Brenda hosted—as usual, but after a one-year COVID hiatus—the Belfast Poetry Festival in October.

Brenda also managed the library's co-sponsoring and hosting of virtual programs with the Belfast Garden Club, the Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition, and several other local groups.

And Brenda coordinated the art exhibits in the Kramer Gallery in the library's entry. A display of particular note this past year was "Our Town and Times in Editorial Cartoons: 1985 – 2008," a look at Belfast during those years through the Waldo Independent editorial cartoons of Douglas Coffin. One well-known viewer of this exhibit was Governor Janet Mills.

Children's Librarian Erica Rubin Irish recorded many online story times and yoga story times and planned the Summer Reading Program before she left at the start of July. Teen Librarian Logan Merry made sure the Summer Reading Program kept running between Children's Librarians.

When new Children's Librarian Stephanie Holman arrived at the end of August, she had to hit the ground running. Right away, she learned that Captain Albert Stevens School had sustained significant water damage over the summer. Students from CASS were displaced for most of the fall. Stephanie tackled this community challenge like a force of nature. She worked with the teachers and librarian from CASS to provide a home away from home (or library away from school) for the duration. The children's floor at the library was a lively place during all of those many class visits! Chess Club at the library also started again as part of this collaboration with the school.

Erica in June then Stephanie in December arranged Story Walks at Steamboat Landing. The December Story Walk was part of Belfast's Holiday on the Harbor. Thanks to Norm Poirier from the Parks & Recreation Department for his help with the Story Walks.

BELFAST FREE LIBRARY

Take and Make activity kits for children and teens were a big hit in 2021. Grants from the Anonimo Foundation made most of the Take and Make kits possible.

Some especially exciting and gratifying news in 2021 is that the library received a significant anonymous donation in order to augment children's services. Further details will be forthcoming as plans develop.

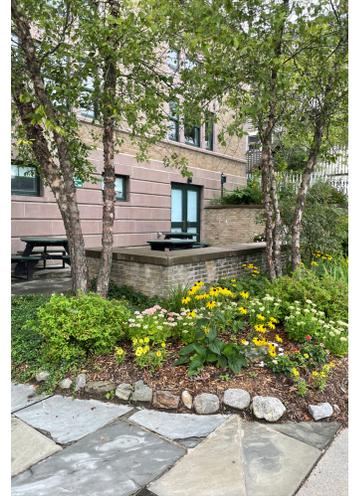
The library purchased OWL videoconference equipment with a federal ARPA (COVID relief) grant through the Maine State Library. The OWL is useful for hybrid in-person/online meetings.

Reference and Special Collections Librarian Sharon Pietryka was active on the Board of the Maine Library Association, as the Belfast Free Library continued its tradition of being a leader among libraries statewide.

Steve Norman was the Minerva consortium's representative to the Maine Infonet Board and served as Vice President of the Infonet Board.

Representatives from the library worked with the City's Energy Committee to create a Request for Proposals for consultant services to replace the library Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning system and to improve the energy efficiency of the building.

Moving from macro to micro building matters: sinks were replaced in the Abbott Room's women's bathroom and in the staff break room, and, in the fall, the ivy was cut back and mortar repair was done on the miler Street side of the library.



Respectfully submitted, Steve Norman

Staff:

Steve Norman, Library Director

Stephanie Holman, Youth Services Librarian

Sharon Pietryka, Reference & Special Collections

Brenda Harrington, Adult Services Coordinator

Julia Sampson

Vicky DePersiis Vona

Kelly Lange

Logan Merry

Randi Box

Pam McKeen

Ashleigh Eastham

CABLE TV

Bel-TV is the government access channel operated by the City of Belfast. It is one of two access channels available on the local cable system. Bel-TV can be found on Cable channel 7 on the Belfast cable system. The City receives annual franchise fees from Spectrum, the local cable operator. These fees, which allow the cable provider to operate within the city indirectly fund the operation of these channels. The government channel is where City Council and Planning Board meetings are shown live, as well as replayed a number of times. The Video Department is also responsible for making these meetings available via the City website. The website offers a library of past meetings available for on-demand viewing. Many of these meetings are indexed, which allows one to click on an agenda item and the video player will play that section of the meeting.

This past year has been the second year of the pandemic. This has meant that many meetings were held remotely on Zoom. In addition to Council meetings, City Committees streamed their meetings on the City website. This provided the public with an opportunity to participate and observe meetings remotely.

Some of the meetings that were streamed included, the Harbor Advisory Committee, the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Library Trustees, the Airport Advisory Committee, and the Broadband Committee.

This year Bel-TV televised and live streamed 36 Council meetings, workshops, budget hearings, and 20 Planning Board meetings. These meetings were replayed on Bel-TV over 500 times. Bel-TV live streamed over 60 different committee meetings this past year.

Bel-TV produces video programming for the City. For example, our Economic Development Director has produced programs to inform the public about various initiatives that are seeking grant funding. Creating these public outreach programs has helped with grant applications, and our Economic Development Director has been very successful in getting grants for the City.

Bel-TV has interviewed City Councilors, City staff, covered press conferences and done programs with the Mayor in an ongoing effort to communicate with the public on various issues facing the City. These programs are shared on the City's social media platforms as well as on the Belfast public access channel (BCTV-2).



Ned Lightner BEL TV
Program Director

As we emerge from the pandemic we will resume in-person meetings. These meetings will include a “hybrid” Zoom component, which will allow for remote participation. This will save the City money by reducing travel expenses and staff time, while also creating operational efficiencies.

Bel-TV is pleased that it is providing a window into the operations and decision making process of Belfast City government.

PLANNING & CODES

The most recognizable function of the Department is the review and issuance of Building Permits and similar permits required by City Ordinances. The Department, through its Code Enforcement Officer, issued the following permits between April 26, 2021 and May 3, 2022:

Permit Issued	Total
Building Permits for one- and two-family homes	15
Other Building Permits for all types of construction	248
New Mobile Home Permits	5
Electrical Permits	241
Plumbing Permits	97
Subsurface Wastewater Permits	25
Sewer Connection Permits	12
Shoreland Zoning Permits	13
Sign Permits	27
Use Permits	13
Flood Hazard Development Permits	4

The number of building permits issued for new residential construction are the same as last year. Similar to most years, the most frequently issued building permit was for renovations to existing houses and the construction of accessory structures, such as sheds, decks and garages. The Department collected approx. \$115,596 in fees associated with the above-mentioned permits, some of which goes to the State and other entities.

PLANNING & CODES

The Code Enforcement Officer conducts inspections associated with all the above permits as well as Curbside Belfast, Lunch Wagons, and Junkyard Permits. The CEO also has been active in enforcing the City's Code of Ordinances and reviewing minor site plans under his jurisdiction.

Department staff regularly provides services to the City Council, Belfast Planning Board and Intown Design Review Committee and occasionally to the Harbor Committee regarding their respective reviews of projects to ensure compliance with requirements in the City Code of Ordinances.

Staff supported the Planning Board meeting 26 times since last May 1, 2021. Various development reviews were completed, and the Board completed a major overhaul of Outside Rural zoning ordinances.

Planning & Codes Director
Bub Fournier



Staff supported the Intown Design Review Committee 8 times since last May 1, 2021, including the review of new privately funded demolition and rebuild of the former Em Bee Cleaners building at 126 Church St. Overall 13 Intown Design Review permits were issued.

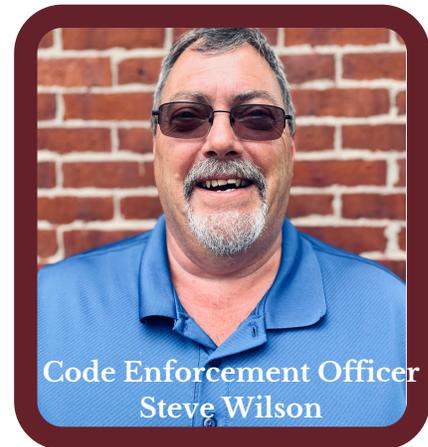
The Department had a limited role in this year in reviewing information related to fulfilling permit conditions associated with the Nordic Aquafarms project as the courts issued multiple rulings regarding the project. Project construction is expected to start in earnest in 2023.

The Department often works with the Council and other City Committees on non-zoning projects, as well as preparing amendments to the City Code of Ordinances. Some of the more notable projects so far in FY 2021 are listed below:

Planning & Codes Office
Assistant Erica Nealley



PLANNING & CODES



Curbside Belfast, a more permanent version of this popular downtown outdoor eating program was made possible with assistance of the Director, City Planner and Code Enforcement Officer along with other Departments such as the City Manager's Office, Public Works and other groups and Boards.

- Response to State Commission report on housing issues to facilitate additional housing opportunities.
- City Code of Ordinance amendments that were adopted with the help of Department staff include: increase in housing density standards for multifamily dwellings in several districts; amendments to allow multi-family housing and a new "flex" housing approach to Outside Rural zoning districts; adoption of State shoreland timber harvesting standards; and adoption of updated building, plumbing, electrical and property maintenance codes.

FY 2021 also was another busy year for the Department. Increased development pressure due to an influx of people wanting to make Belfast their home as well as a hot real estate market resulted in an uptick in inquiries in the office from developers and potential real estate buyers.

During this past year, the Department has grappled with continuing to provide a high level of service during the pandemic. Most meetings were held via video conferencing. A high volume of developers and other community members continue to express interest in projects in Belfast. Due to pressure on real estate, high material costs, the housing crisis, contractor availability issues and further fallout from over two years of the pandemic, the Department continues to experience a difficult development landscape that has added increasing work to already full staff schedules.

The Department provides a diverse range of services to residents and property owners in Belfast. All of our staff, Steve Wilson, Code Enforcement Officer, Jon Boynton, City Planner, Erica Nealley, Administrative Assistant, Wayne Marshall, Project Planner and Bub Fournier, Department Director, hope that our collective efforts have served the City well. If you have questions or comments about the Department, you can call us at 338-3370 x 125, or by email at directorplanning@cityofbelfast.org.

TRANSFER STATION

The Belfast Transfer Station manages the disposal of waste and for residents and non-resident municipal disposal. The Transfer Station also undertakes the responsibility of oversight for recycling materials. Waste disposal is offered through a Pay-As-You-Throw Program. Over the years, as the population of Belfast grows and supply and demand increases, the department has seen a steady influx in Transfer Station usage from residents in every type of material.

The Belfast Transfer Station is able to accept the following materials for disposal:

Corrugated Cardboard: brown paper bags, corrugated cardboard

Mixed Papers: cereal boxes, shoe boxes, paper tubes, non-corrugated poster board, envelopes, cracker boxes, paper towel, non-corrugated cardboard, copier paper, shredded paper

Newspaper: catalogs, magazines, flyers, phone books, newspaper

Glass: bottles, jars, jugs, clear/brown/green glass

Cans: aluminum, steel

Plastics: milk jugs, (some) shampoo bottles, laundry detergent bottles, food containers, yogurt containers, plastic egg containers, salad dressing containers, lids, caps, butter tubs, cleaning product containers

*Please check the bottom of the container for the #1, 3, 4, 5, 6, & 7 on the inside of the recycle logo on the bottles.



TRANSFER STATION

The Transfer Station is unfortunately unable to accept styrofoam, bubble wrap, plastic bags, and motor oil containers at this time. The Station is also unable to recycle plastic buckets, milk/soda crates, laundry baskets, lawn furniture, toys, landscape and microwave trays, plastic drums, shelving, dish drainers, flowerpots, automotive materials (plastic bumpers, bed-liners, grills, hub-caps, etc.) and garbage cans. These items must be dropped off at the demolition pile for disposal at this time.



The department continues to educate residents on what can and cannot be recycled, and what must be disposed of as waste. Residents are encouraged to ask department employees for education and guidance for recycling and waste disposal solutions if there is any question or uncertainty when it comes to particular items. The Belfast Transfer Station is also pleased to offer a donation box to lessen the impact on apparel disposal, accepting clothing and shoes from residents who wish to donate. Another recycling and waste disposal alternative that the department encourages is the practice of composting organic materials, as much household and yard organic materials do not have to be thrown in the trash.



TRANSFER STATION

Transfer Station employees work hard to provide an absolutely vital service to the Belfast Community. Our employees work to process all recycled material by hand, and they are faithful and prideful in their work. Staff also work diligently to keep the facility and the grounds clean and orderly and the equipment maintained.

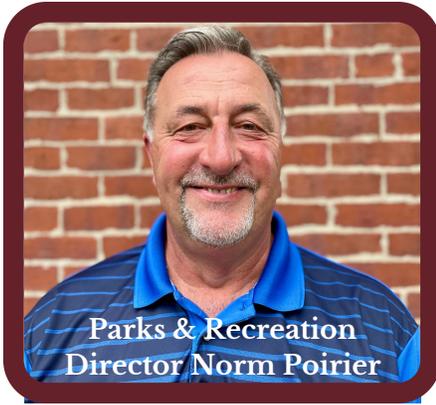
It is a pleasure to be able to serve the City of Belfast and the department is proud to have served the community through the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic, without any disruption in service. I look forward to continuing to serve the City for the next fiscal year and whatever the future has in store.

Respectfully submitted,

Lottie Rolfe
Transfer Station Manager



PARKS & RECREATION



The Belfast Parks and Recreation Department is proud of its park system and the response from the community, its many visitors as to the beauty and condition of the parks. The many City parks are key components for improving public health, increasing physical activity, and reconnecting youth/families with nature and enhancing quality of life. The 2020 year of the pandemic proved just how valuable our parks, trails and natural resources are to people.

Capitalizing on these trends were the 7,000+ people at City Park this summer season enjoying tennis, pickle ball, basketball, the playground and the recently installed two disc golf baskets. The City Park was extremely popular again this year due to the ability to recreate safely from a distance.



The ability of each park to have its own “parksonality” that helps create lasting impacts upon users was facilitated this year through the continued maintenance of a community garden in Wales Park. The popularity of the dog park at the Walsh Field complex provides hundreds of dog owners an important outlet to socialize at a safe distance and recreate with their pets.

PARKS & RECREATION

The “fine-tuning” of planted beds and maintenance of the landscaping demonstrated the effectiveness of a committed and focused work force this year with the excellent workmanship provided by the Parks ground crew. The inclusion of the Harbor Walk and the Rail Trail will be a welcomed challenge for the crews to maintain as their popularity of use continues to grow.



The identification of capital improvement projects provides an excellent road map toward meeting the Department’s stated mission of strengthening and improving services, facilities and programs. A few of the high priority areas for improvements include the City Park restrooms, the public pool and the re-development of a skate park which would create a park environment with a skate facility as part of the park. Another park area on our list of need for improvement with trails for hiking, cross country skiing and snowshoeing is Sportsman's Park on the Shepard Road.

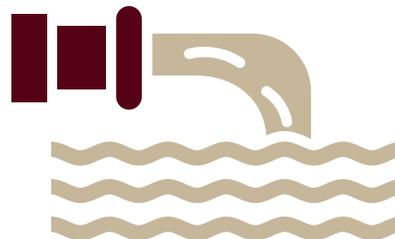
The Belfast Parks and Recreation Department is committed to expanding the services provided with the addition of senior activities and working closely with senior groups / organizations in 2021-22.

As in the past, two dedicated groups continue to support all efforts - the Parks & Recreation Commission and Friends of Belfast Parks. Within both groups, we are always looking for more involvement by the general public. If you have an interest in volunteering within the parks contact the Department for more information of how to get involved.

The Belfast Parks and Recreation Department wants all residents and visitors to enjoy your parks and public lands – get outdoors and recreate safely!

WASTE WATER

During the 2020 season, there were not any final effluent exceedances and the facility operated efficiently within its permit limitations.



Combined Sewer Overflows

The City continues to be required by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to continue implementing Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) abatement projects based on the schedule in the City's ongoing updates to its CSO Master Plan. Every five years, this plan is updated to examine the impacts of the work completed to-date and evaluate the remaining work needed to eliminate ongoing CSOs. Back in 2019, the City updated its CSO Master Plan and submitted it to MEDEP for review. In 2020, we responded to the DEP's letter commenting on the City's Master Plan update and schedule. At this point, we do not yet have an approved Master Plan and Schedule. To date, it appears that the overall CSO abatement program has been successful in reducing overflows but more work will be needed to get below the thresholds required by the DEP. The City has two CSO locations - at the end of miler Street (CSO No. 002) and at the end of Condon Street (CSO No. 003). In 2020, the City experienced 37,414 gallons of wastewater discharged at CSO No. 002 and 59,032 gallons discharged at CSO No. 003. Significant funds have been spent in efforts to reduce these overflows with another estimated \$5.1 million of added work identified in the 2019 Master Plan Update.

2020 Wastewater Treatment Plant and Pump Stations Operations Review

The City WWTP staff of three maintains and operates the central WWTP and eighteen pumping stations and their associated equipment. The wastewater treatment plant treated 203.848 million gallons of wastewater or an average of 0.552 gallons per day. The strength of the wastewater is measured with two tests which have limits based on the City's DEP Wastewater Discharge Permit. The final effluent Total Suspended Solids was an average of 6.9 mg/l compared to an average limitation of 30 mg/l. The percent removal averaged 98 percent compared to the permit limitation of 85%. The final effluent Biochemical Oxygen Demand was an average of 17 mg/l compared to the average limitation of 30 mg/l. The percent removal averaged 94 percent compared to the permit limitation of 85%.

The facility processed about 581 tons of dewatered solids or sludge which was removed for composting at Casella Organics at their Hawkrigde facility in Unity Plantation.

WASTE WATER

Projects and Other Updates

In 2021 the City completed the bidding for the WWTP Energy Improvements Project with Penta Corporation receiving the low bid. The project started in 2021, and is currently well underway with an expected completion of later this year. Along with necessary energy improvements, this project will also permit the City to be in compliance with the DEP's requirement to implement year-round disinfection and meet year-round limits for bacteria. The City also funded and completed design of the next CSO project which is along Mayo Street. As the City still has CSO discharges, it is now working on obtaining funds to complete the major additional improvements to its sewer system which were identified as needing replacement. The City also bid and awarded to Vortex Services, work to clean and video a section of its sewer system. This is required by the City's Collection System Maintenance Program. Lastly, the plant staff has been working to optimize the influent pumping systems in order to prevent or minimize CSO discharges.

We want to commend the City's Wastewater Treatment plant staff for their ability to continue to do their jobs during these challenging times and for their excellent work in keeping the treatment plant and the eighteen pumping stations well maintained. If anyone has any questions regarding any aspect of the treatment plant operations, please feel free to contact us at 338-1744.

Respectfully Submitted,

Travis Jones/Annaleis Hafford, WWTP Superintendent

Fern Barton, Chief Operator, Terry Kennedy, Bruce Richardson, Facility Operators



POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Department

This fiscal year 2021 was a year of transition for the Belfast Police Department. After 5 years of dedicated service to the City of Belfast, Chief Gerry Lincoln retired in February. Chief Robert Cormier of Tilton, New Hampshire was selected to step into this important role for our community. The City of Belfast constructed a hiring committee to select the perfect fit for our incredible community whilst maintaining a non-biased, professional, and organized approach.



Fully staffed, the department operates with 16 full time police officers, 5 part time and reserve officers and 4 civilian staff members in our compliment. The Belfast Police Department is responsible for delivering public safety and law enforcement services to the Belfast Community. Our officers are a capable, well-trained, hard-working, caring, and professional group who care deeply about the community they serve. While responding to citizens' needs, they must practice compassion and equity as well as be prepared for every situation, whether it's a call of escaped goats or the worst-case, person with a weapon. This is no easy task, yet our officers do this every day and do it well.



POLICE DEPARTMENT

Calls For Service

In 2021, our officers responded to 8153 calls for service. These calls for service included but are not limited to the following:

Mental Health and Welfare	Medical 49/Welfare 331
Medical Assists	285
Disorderly Conduct	28
Report of Harassment	116
Domestic Violence	72
Family Fight (Non-Violent)	222
Suspicious Persons/Circumstances	268
Assaults	106
Overdoses	10
Traffic Offenses	2067 Stops/116 Criminal Charges
Threatening	45
Criminal Mischief	79
Fraud	30
Burglary	16

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Calls for service, as they had been throughout the pandemic, were effected again this year, with the continued presence of COVID-19. However, our department is beginning to see a trend towards normal pre-pandemic call conditions. These calls for service do not reflect the calls for service also received by our School Resource Officer in particular, as they carry out of service at the school systems which is different in nature and recorded separately.

2021 Crime Statistics

Rape	3
Aggravated Assault	5
Simple Assault	45
Domestic Violence Assault	56
Burglary	16
Fraud	30
Harassment	116
Threatening	45
Criminal Mischief	79
Criminal Theft	66
Theft	142
Overdose Deaths	10

POLICE DEPARTMENT

During 2021 our officers responded to various crimes, however, much of their services were still geared towards an increase seen in post-pandemic behaviors, including domestic disputes, mental health and welfare checks, and traffic offenses. These increased behaviors can likely be attributed to the increased amount of anxiety that citizens experienced during the pandemic and as they try to adjust back to some sense of normalcy as they begin to go out again.

2021 Traffic-Related Incidents

In 2021, our officers responded to about 2868 traffic related incidents. These traffic incidents included but are not limited to the following:

VSAC Issued Tickets	80
Law Details (Traffic Enforcement)	1318
Property Damage	216
Personal Injury	41
Operating Under the Influence	24
Parking Tickets Issued	1189



POLICE DEPARTMENT

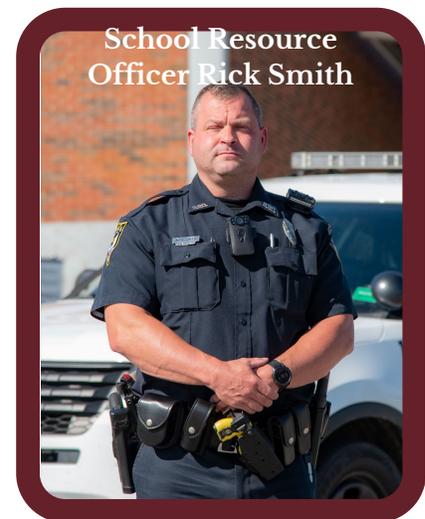
Past, Current and Future Programs:

Due to the shift in leadership this last year, the Belfast Police Department was not able to hold many programs for community involvement and training as expected. However, this year the department has undertaken a variety of new programs and trainings which include K-9 training for a new K-9-unit, drone specialization, police motorcycle training for greater community involvement and a more focused approach to traffic enforcement related issues. In addition, the department will begin training for a new educational program called LEAD which will be taught by both police officers and teachers working together. LEAD is a K-12 evidence based program which focuses on drug and violence prevention in the schools. Over the next year our efforts will be focused primarily on middle school grades where making good decisions is so important. We plan to introduce LEAD into the schools over the upcoming school year and expand it each successive year.

We are also starting to host trainings for our officers which will also be available to officers across the state and beyond. This training will cover a wide variety of topics, such as crime scene investigations, leadership and managing critical incidents to name a few. This additional training will increase their capabilities and give officers the skills, knowledge, and abilities to provide the community with a higher level of service and professionalism.

Other exciting things we will be working on over the next year is to start a Police Explorer Program and work with both Belfast High School and Husson University to create internship opportunities in Belfast for students interested in Criminal Justice.

These programs will engage youth, building stronger relationships with our officers as they also learn the importance of giving back to the community. We will also be attending their annual career days to expand our outreach for more potential police officer applicants.



School Resource Officer

Officer Rick Smith, who has been the School Resource Officer for the past four years recently asked to return to patrol so that he could go through the promotional process. Rick set the bar high for the next SRO who takes his place. Rick was a great role model and mentor to so many kids. He worked seamlessly with school staff and established great relationships with all the families of RSU 71. It is our plan that after completing the selection process for the new SRO, Rick will continue to work with the schools to oversee the SRO Program and keep those important relationships strong.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief's Message

I would like to thank the Police Chief Search Committee and members of the Belfast City Council for your support in selecting me to be your new Chief of Police. It truly is an honor and a privilege to serve you and this amazing community. I would also like to thank the businesses and residents of Belfast for giving me such a warm welcome and making me feel at home. The Department and I are extremely excited for the upcoming year ahead and all that we have planned.

Please feel free to stop by our station anytime to say “hello”, meet with me or speak with any of my officers or dedicated civilian staff if you need anything. Also, if you see us out and about, please stop us to say hi and introduce yourself. Our officers love the community that they serve and would be happy to meet and speak with you.



Lastly, the Belfast Police Department is committed to work diligently to always ensure that we provide the absolute best quality of police services possible. Our officers are truly dedicated to their work and profession and ready to respond to any emergency or community need that arises. There is no greater honor than to serve this wonderful community and to live in such a beautiful place. I greatly appreciate all the support and thank you so much for the opportunity to serve you and protect this wonderful community. I look forward to meeting all of you over the coming year and please reach out if you need anything.

Sincerely yours,

Chief Robert Cormier



Police Chief Robert Cormier

CITY COMMITTEES

AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

7 MEMBERS

3 YEAR TERMS

Kenn Ortmann
Lynn Carlin
William Ryan
Duke Tomlin

Jonathon Pleney
David Aldrich
Jim Truxes

BELFAST WATER DISTRICT SPECIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES 5 MEMBERS 5 YEAR TERMS

Stephen Hall
Bruce Osgood
Henry Chalmers
Tammy Morse

Eileen Dubinett
Kenneth Colby Horne
Keith Pooler

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW 4 MEMBERS & 1 ALTERNATE 3 YEAR TERMS

Biff Atlass
David Bond

Joel T. Lee

BROADBAND COMMITTEE UNLIMITED MEMBERS 2 YEAR TERMS

Charity Leschinski
Mary Mortier

Thomas Kitredge
Zafra Whitcomb

CEMETERY TRUSTIES 4 MEMBERS & 1 ALTERNATE 3 YEAR TERMS

Joyce Fenner
Darrell Gillman
Megan Pinette

Paul Hamilton
Joanna Curtis
Amanda Munson

CLIMATE CRISIS COMMITTEE 8-10 MEMBERS 1 YEAR TERM

Jon Beal
Barbara Bell
Fred Bowers
Jonah Lovejoy

Beverly Roxby
Gerald Brand
Hank Reisner
Elizabeth Sterner

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE 1 MEMBER PER WARD + 2 AT LARGE MEMBERS - TERM UPON COMPLETION OF PLAN

Anne Saggese
Jessica Falconer
Jill Goodwin
John L. Carrick III

Syrena T. Gatewood
Tammy Lacher Scully
Thomas Fowler

ENERGY COMMITTEE 6 MEMBERS STAGGERED 2&3 YEAR TERMS

Jon Fullford
Andre Carpenter
Matt O'Malia

Eric Sanders
Mike Hurley

CITY COMMITTEES

HARBOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE 6 MEMBERS 2 YEAR TERMS

Joanne Moesswilde
Gerry Brand
Kathy Given
Andrew Peters

Dan miler
John B. Turner
Robert Winslow

IN TOWN DESIGN REVIEW COMITTEE 12 MEMBERS NO TERMS

Dominic Mercandante
Gianne Conard
Jim Duff
Gail Savitz

Tangie Abercrombie
Pegi miler
Declan O'Connor
Barry Brindle

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTIES 5 MEMBERS 3 YEAR TERMS

Steve Norman
Kay Zegel
Syrena Gatewood

Dick Swain
Bob Adler
Dorothy Havey

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION 7 MEMBERS & 1 ALTERNATE 3 YEAR TERMS

Larry Theye
Molly miler
Heather Hay-Brackett
Norm Poirier
Amanda Cunningham

Carol Good
Cathy Gleeson
Stephanie Mojonnier
Rafe Blood

PEDESTRIAN, BIKING & HIKING COMMITTEE 5 MEMBERS 1&2 YEAR TERMS

Chris Gardener
Glenn Montgomery
Jack Shaida

Bill Durkin
Bruce Snider

PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS 5 MEMBERS & 2 ALTERNATES 5 YEAR TERMS

Hugh Townsend
Geoff Gilchrist
David Bond

Wayne Corey
Philipia Jollie
Lewis Baker

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS 5 MEMBERS & 1 ALTERNATE 3 YEAR TERMS

Peter Nesin
Michael Nickerson
Dana Keene

Lewis Baker
Douglas Smith
Bub Fournier

Belfast Municipal Airport	(207) 338-3370 ext. 600
Assessing Office	(207) 338-3370 ext. 122
Cable TV	(207) 323-2480
Cemetery	(207) 338-2264
Clerk's Office	(207) 338-3370 ext. 114
Economic Development	(207) 338-3370 ext. 116
Fire & Ambulance	(207) 338-2420
Finance	(207) 338-3370 ext. 111
Harbor	(207) 338-1142
General Assistance	(207) 338-3370 ext. 120
Belfast Free Library	(207) 338-3884
City Manager's Office	(207) 338-3370 ext. 110
Parks & Recreation	(207) 338-3370 ext. 127
Planning & Codes	(207) 338-3370 ext. 125
Police	(207) 338-2420
Public Works	(207) 338-2375
Tax Collector	(207) 338-3370 ext. 132
Transfer Station	(207) 338-1817
Waste Water	(207) 338-1744

LAST YEAR'S PHOTO CONTEST WINNER



From Doug Chamberlin:

"Like many, I find the Fournier Tugs emblematic of Belfast's active harbor. On one of my many early morning explorations, I was lucky to encounter a tug returning to the dock so I could snap this shot. You can see my other images of Belfast and elsewhere at <https://greymont-images.pixels.com>."



CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE CITY COUNCIL OF BELFAST, MAINE

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, and the aggregate remaining fund information of City of Belfast, Maine, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

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

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

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

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

TEL (207) 989-2800

FAX (207) 989-2801

C.H. DORR & CO., P.A. CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

CITY OF BELFAST, MAINE MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

As management of the City of Belfast, we offer readers of the City of Belfast's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the City of Belfast for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The assets of the City of Belfast exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows at June 30, 2021 by \$63,402,117. Of this amount unrestricted net position of \$3,231,434 may be used to meet the government's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

The total net position increased by \$673,499. Of this amount \$428,295 was associated with governmental and \$245,204 with business-type activities.

As of the close of the current fiscal year, the City of Belfast's governmental funds reported combined ending balances of \$6,634,926 an increase of \$2,194,747 in comparison with the prior year. Of this amount \$3,428,896 is unreserved and available for spending, and \$99,003 has been designated for specific future uses by the City Council.

At the end of the current fiscal year, unreserved fund balance for the General Fund was \$3,428,896, or 14% of total General Fund expenditures.

The City of Belfast's total debt obligations (including post retirement benefits) increased by the net of \$0.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This discussion and analysis are intended to serve as an introduction to the City of Belfast's basic financial statements. The City of Belfast's basic financial statements are comprised of three components: (1) government-wide financial statements, (2) fund financial statements, and (3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the City of Belfast's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The statement of net position presents information on all of the City's assets, liabilities and deferred inflows, with the difference between them reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the City is improving or deteriorating.

The statement of activities presents information showing how the City's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of

C.H. DORR & CO., P.A. CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods.

Both of the government-wide financial statements distinguish functions of the City that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities) from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges (business-type activities). The governmental activities of the City of Belfast include general government, public safety, parks and recreation, culture, community services, community development and other charges. The major business-type activity of the City is their sewer treatment system.

FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The City, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the City of Belfast can be divided into three categories: governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds.

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between the two.

The City maintains two individual government funds. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances for the General Fund which is considered a major fund and the Capital Projects Fund which are presented separately for the purpose of consistency.

The City of Belfast adopts an annual budget for its General Fund. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided for the General Fund to demonstrate compliance with the fiscal year 2021 budget.

C.H. DORR & CO., P.A. CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

PROPRIETARY FUNDS

Proprietary funds provide the same type of information as the government-wide financial statements, only in more detail. The City of Belfast maintains one type of proprietary fund; - enterprise.

Enterprise funds are used to report the same functions presented as business-type activities in the government-wide financial statements. The City of Belfast utilizes one enterprise fund account for its sewer treatment system.

FIDUCIARY FUNDS

Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside government. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the City's own programs. The accounting used for fiduciary funds is much like that used for proprietary funds. The fiduciary funds financial statements can be found in exhibits J and K of this report.

Notes to the financial statements: The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Other information: In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain other supplementary information. The combining and individual fund statements referred to earlier in connection with nonmajor funds are presented immediately after the basic financial statements. Also, included are budget comparisons for the General Fund.

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. At June 30, 2021, the City's assets exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows by \$63,402,117. By far the largest portion of the City's net position (90 percent) reflects its investments in capital assets, less any related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. Capital assets are used to provide services to citizens and they are not available for future spending. Although the investment in capital assets are reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities. See appendixes for a comparative statement of net position (Table 1) and comparative statement of changes in net position. (Table 2).

Governmental Activities: Governmental activities decreased the City's net position by \$2,194,747.

Business-Type Activities: Business-type activities decreased the City's net position by \$268,966.

WALDO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

TOTAL NUMBER OF BELFAST COMPLAINTS IN 2021 RECEIVED, BY NATURE OF CALL



Waldo County Sheriff's Office

• 6 Public Safety Way Belfast Maine 04915 •
• 207-338-2040 •



Total Number of Complaints received in 2021 for Belfast

Nature of Call	Total Calls Received	% of Total
911 Disconnect	4	0.33%
Agency Assist	65	5.37%
Alarm	3	0.25%
Animal Prob LAW	1	0.08%
Assault	1	0.08%
BOLO	3	0.25%
Background Chec	151	12.48%
Car/Deer PD	2	0.17%
Civil	5	0.41%
Computer Crimes	1	0.08%
Crim Trespass	1	0.08%
Detail Bail Chk	407	33.64%
Detail Court	3	0.25%
Detail DRE	4	0.33%
Detail Drug TB	1	0.08%
Detail Misc	7	0.58%
Detail Parade	2	0.17%
Detail Radar	3	0.25%
Detail Traffic	2	0.17%
Disturbance	3	0.25%
Drugs	3	0.25%
Electronic Mon	17	1.40%
Failure-Appear	1	0.08%
Found Property	1	0.08%
Fraud	1	0.08%
Harassment	5	0.41%
Information	32	2.64%
Juvenile Prob	2	0.17%
MV Complaint	9	0.74%
Missing Person	1	0.08%
Motorist Assist	9	0.74%
OUI	2	0.17%
Officer Complt	25	2.07%
PD Accident	1	0.08%
PI Accident	1	0.08%
Paperwork	12	0.99%
Public Assist	20	1.65%
Rape	1	0.08%
Recovered Prop	1	0.08%
Scam	2	0.17%
Search Warrant	10	0.83%
Service PO	26	2.15%
Sex Offender V	2	0.17%
Sex Offense	1	0.08%
Speaking	1	0.08%
Speed Complaint	1	0.08%
Suspicious	5	0.41%
Sweetser	1	0.08%
Theft	1	0.08%
Threatening	1	0.08%
Traffic Hazard	2	0.17%
Traffic Offense	10	0.83%
Transport	274	22.64%
Unsecure Premis	1	0.08%
Veh Off The Rd	1	0.08%
Viol Cond Rel	4	0.33%
Wanted Person	46	3.80%
Welfare Check	8	0.66%

SUSAN M. COLLINS

MAINE

413 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE
BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904
(202) 224-2523
(202) 224-2533 (FAX)

UNITED STATES SENATE
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904

COMMITTEES:
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING,
CHAIRMAN
APPROPRIATIONS
HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND
PENSIONS
SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

DEAR FRIENDS

It is an honor to represent Maine in the United States Senate. I am grateful for the trust the people of our State have placed in me and welcome this opportunity to reflect on 2020, an incredibly challenging year for Maine families, small businesses, and communities.

When the pandemic struck, our country faced the specter of an overwhelmed health care system and devastation to our small businesses and the millions of people they employ. I immediately worked with Republicans and Democrats to pass multiple laws allocating approximately \$3 trillion to respond to this public health and economic crisis, including more than \$8 billion directed to Maine to support testing, schools, the economy, and other purposes — that is nearly double Maine’s annual state budget.

I am especially proud of the bipartisan Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) I co-authored. This program has provided three out of four Maine small businesses with nearly \$2.3 billion in forgivable loans, which has helped sustain more than 250,000 Maine jobs. I have met thousands of Maine small employers and employees in all 16 counties who are surviving because of the PPP. As one small business owner told me, the PPP provided “exactly what we needed at exactly the right time.” The PPP also allowed employers to maintain benefits, such as health care, during this challenging time. Another round of PPP is needed to sustain small businesses and their employees.

While the pandemic continues across Maine, our nation, and the world, I thank the first responders, health care professionals, teachers, grocery store employees, factory workers, farmers, truck drivers, postal employees, and so many others who continue to stay on the job during this difficult time. With the deployment of the first vaccines, better tests, and the incredible speed with which these life-saving responses were developed, I am hopeful we can emerge from this crisis in the next few months.

While providing relief to American families was my focus throughout 2020, other accomplishments include the passage of the Great American Outdoors Act, which provides full funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund and addresses the maintenance backlog at our national parks, forests, and wildlife refuges. As Chairman of the Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee, in 2020 alone, I secured \$132 million to improve Maine’s roads, bridges, airports, buses, rail, ferries, and seaports. Finally, as Chairman of the Aging Committee, I led the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act, which funds programs that improve the well-being, independence, and health of our nation’s seniors and their caregivers, and I authored laws to reduce the cost of prescription drugs and protect individuals with Alzheimer’s disease.

As the end of 2020 is approaching, I have cast more than 7,535 votes, never having missed one. In the New Year, my focus remains to work with colleagues to find common ground on policies to help support the health and safety of Mainers and the safe, responsible opening of our communities. If ever I or my staff can be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact one of my state offices. May the coming year be a successful one for you, your family, your community, and our state.

Sincerely,

SUSAN M. COLLINS

United States Senator

UNITED STATES SENATE

Angus S. King, Jr.

133 Hart Senate Office Building

(202) 224-5344

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

Washington, DC 20510

January 1, 2021

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
BUDGET

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
INTELLIGENCE
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Dear Friends,

On the heels of 2020's challenges, 2021 brought us both amazing progress and frustrating setbacks. The incredible rollout of several effective, FDA approved COVID-19 vaccines helped reduce the risks of this deadly pandemic – but vaccine hesitancy, combined with the dangers of new variants, have prolonged this crisis and created new risks for Maine people. The challenges raised tension levels to boiling points during the fallout of the 2020 presidential election and the January 6th Capitol attack. But despite that, Congress was able to deliver for a nation gripped by an unprecedented pandemic. As we reflect back on the year, we see the important action that will make a difference for Maine people – as well as work still unfinished.

As COVID-19 continued to impact communities across our state and the country, Congress's first priority this year was to confront the pandemic's health threats and economic toll. We immediately got to work on the American Rescue Plan, crafting an emergency bill to meet the moment and get our nation back on stable footing. The legislation delivered essential support to businesses facing crises, households in need, and the medical professionals on the front lines of this fight. The funds helped get vaccine shots in arms, while also confronting the damage done to our economy. All told, the American Rescue Plan is bringing billions of dollars to Maine, helping the state continue to push through this crisis and bounce back stronger than ever.

After passing the American Rescue Plan, Congress turned its attention to a longstanding but unfulfilled priority: infrastructure. Through hard work and compromise, both parties came together to pass a bipartisan bill that finally addresses key infrastructure needs. For Maine people, the bill means an estimated \$1.5 billion to repair crumbling roads and out-of-date bridges, \$390 million to improve access to clean drinking water, and more. I am most excited about the significant funding for broadband – because, as we have seen during the pandemic, broadband is a necessity to succeed in the 21st century economy. The historic investments in the bipartisan infrastructure bill, combined with additional funding I pushed for in the American Rescue Plan, will bring an estimated \$400 million for broadband home to Maine. These funds will be nothing short of transformational, creating new opportunities across our state.

These two bills have made and will continue to make a real difference for Maine people, helping to both address the challenges of COVID-19 and lay a foundation for long-term success. I am proud of what we've accomplished this year – but I know there is still a lot of work to do and that the road ahead is challenging. Even still, I am filled with optimism because I know the true nature of our citizens, though challenged, has not changed. Despite every hardship, people in towns and communities have stepped up with strong local leadership, a willingness to help, and a Maine 'neighborhood' spirit. It is why I truly believe we can and will get through anything together. Mary and I wish you a happy, healthy, and safe 2022.

Best Regards,

Angus S. King

United States Senator

AUGUSTA

40 Western Ave
Suite 412
Augusta, ME 04330
(207)-622-8292

BANGOR

202 Harlow Street,
Suite 20350
Bangor, ME 04401
(207) 945-8000

BIDDEFORD

227 Main
Street
20350
Biddeford, ME 04005
(207) 352-5216

PORTLAND

1 Pleasant Street,
Unit 4W
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 245-1565

PRESQUE ISLE

167 Academy Street,
Suite A
Presque Isle, ME
04769
(207) 764-5124

JARED GOLDEN

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

2ND DISTRICT OF MAINE

www.golden.house.gov

Washington Office

1223 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone: (202) 225-6303
Fax: (202) 225-2943

Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you safe and well. It remains a privilege to represent you in Congress, and I appreciate the opportunity to update you on what I have been working on for the people of the Second Congressional District.

This year, our small businesses, workers and families, hospitals, states, and towns continued to face challenges related to the coronavirus pandemic. COVID-19 has been a serious threat to public health and our economy that requires a comprehensive, ongoing response. While we are not yet out of the woods, there is a light at the end of the tunnel. Still, I know there are many Mainers who will continue to need assistance getting through this pandemic. I am committed to making sure our communities' most urgent needs are met to get our economy back on track.

One thing I am particularly proud of this year is that Democrats, Republicans, and the Biden Administration worked together to pass the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which will make a once-in-a-generation investment in our nation's infrastructure and support Maine jobs. This bill will bring \$1.3 billion to Maine for highways and \$225 million for bridge replacement and repairs, as well as \$234 million to improve public transportation options. It will also allocate over \$100 million to help provide broadband access to the 42,000 Mainers currently without it and make 310,000 Mainers eligible for the Affordable Connectivity Benefit to help families pay for internet access. Crucially, it will also provide Maine with \$390 million to combat Maine's historically high rates of lead poisoning by replacing lead pipes and allowing Maine families access to clean drinking water.

Another one of my priorities in Congress is protecting Maine jobs. For one, shipbuilders at Bath Iron Works are a vital part of our economy, and the ships they build are critical to our national security. Throughout 2021, I led the Maine congressional delegation in pushing back against the Biden Administration's proposed decrease in DDG-51 shipbuilding, a proposal that would have had serious consequences for the shipbuilding workforce at BIW, one of the two shipyards that produces these destroyers, and American naval capabilities around the world. We fought successfully to include authorization for construction of three new DDG-51 destroyers in the final National Defense Authorization Act. I will continue to work hard with my colleagues on the House Armed Services Committee to ensure that we protect our national security and shipbuilding jobs in Maine.

My most meaningful work in Congress continues to be providing direct assistance to Mainers. My staff and I stand ready to serve you. If you are looking for assistance with a federal agency, help for your small business, or want to keep me informed about the issues that matter to you, please reach out to one of my offices below:

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

I am especially glad to share that my wife Izzy and I were pleased to welcome our daughter, Rosemary, into the world this year. Mom and baby are happy and healthy, and we're so thankful for this blessing. We look forward to showing her the beauty of Maine in the months and years ahead.

Sincerely

Jared Golden
Member of Congress

Committee on Armed Services

Committee on Small Business

Chairman, Subcommittee on Contracting and
Infrastructure

130th Legislature
STATE OF MAINE
Senate District 11

Senator Chip Curry
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-003
(207) 287-1515
Chip.Curry@legislature.maine.gov

Dear Friends and Residents of Belfast,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your state senator. I am honored to represent Waldo County in Augusta, and I promise to work as hard as I can on your behalf.

In this past year we have confronted a global pandemic, personal and tragic losses, an economic crisis and a host of significant disruptions to our daily lives. Even though the end of this difficult time seems to be coming to a close with the rollout of the COVID-19 vaccines, I would encourage everyone to stay strong and do their part now to slow the spread of the virus. I also ask everyone to continue what we do best, looking after and caring for each other.

In the Legislature, I have been appointed to serve as Chair of the Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business Committee. I requested this committee because I know that a strong diversified economy is essential for our rural communities. I look forward to working creatively to uplift Maine's workers and small businesses and strengthen our local economies. I will also serve on the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee, which oversees many of our heritage industries and hobbies including hunting, fishing and boating.

At least for the start of the session, we will be doing much of our work virtually, and only convening in person when it's necessary. Our committee hearings and meetings will all be live-streamed and recorded and can be viewed online at www.legislature.maine.gov. Most importantly there are many ways you can have your voice heard at the legislature. You will be able to participate and provide testimony on bills via phone or videoconference, as well as by submitting written testimony online at www.mainelegislature.org/testimony. The legislature works best when we hear from you and I will make sure that you have ample access to see our work and to add your voice to the process.

I also want to remind you that I am here as a resource to you or your family. Whether you have an issue with a business recovery grant, unemployment benefits, need to contact a state agency or just have a question or comment, don't hesitate to reach out. You can send me an email at Chip.Curry@legislature.maine.gov or call my office at 287-1515.

I know these are still difficult times, but we will get through them and on to brighter days.

Sincerely,
Chip Curry
State Senator

Website: legislature.maine.gov/senate

FAX: (207) 287-1583:

TTY: (207) 287-1583:

Message Service: 1-800-423-6900

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 0433-0002

(207) 287-1400
Maine Relay 711 (207) 287-4469
17 Vine Street
Belfast, Maine
Phone: (207) 338-1626
jan.dodge@legislature.maine.gov

Dear Belfast neighbors,

It continues to be an honor to serve you in the Maine House of Representatives. I am proud to be your advocate in Augusta.

In 2021, despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, we were able to deliver big victories for the people of Maine. We passed a two-year state budget with overwhelming bipartisan support that will stabilize property taxes, keep free breakfast and lunch available to all students and protect our natural resources. We took steps to make health care more accessible, made much-needed investments in our infrastructure and allocated federal relief funds to help small businesses, fill workforce shortages and expand access to child care.

As I write this, we are preparing to begin the second year of the two-year term in January 2022. In the coming months, I will be working to build on these successes and focusing on the areas where more work is needed. That includes expanding access to affordable housing, combatting the opioid epidemic, strengthening our workforce and providing help to our local governments, among other issues.

I continue to serve on the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee, where we work to support our teachers, students and school support staff. We also oversee the state Department of Education, along with the university and community college systems, the Maine State Library and the Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation.

Through both my committee work, constituent service correspondence and other legislative business, I am committed to hearing all viewpoints and perspectives, regardless of party, to best advocate for our community and move our state forward.

Please contact me if I can be of any assistance or if you would like to discuss or testify on any legislation. My email is Jan.Dodge@legislature.maine.gov. My phone number is 207-338-1626. I also send out periodic email newsletters. Please let me know if you would like to receive them.

Respectfully,

Jan Dodge

State Representative

