

TOWN OF
ORLAND

ANNUAL
REPORT

2024-2025

Dedication

The Board of Selectmen respectfully dedicates the 2024-2025 Annual Town Report to our hardworking and dedicated Volunteer Fire Department. This has been a very busy year between high call volumes, moving into the new fire station, and yearly trainings. Their dedication, contributions, and service to the community of Orland are greatly appreciated.

Thank you all for your continued service.



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Town Officers - 2024-2025

Selectmen & Overseer of the Poor	Term Expires
Lester Stackpole, Chair	June 2026
Regina Bushong	June 2027
Clifton Guthrie	June 2028
Assessors	
Amber Poulin	June 2026
Amy Dunn	June 2027
Ernest Guimond	June 2028
Town Clerk & Tax Collector	
Lisa Tapley	
Deputy Town Clerk & Deputy Tax Collector	
George Dakin	
Treasurer	
Shirley Hincks	
Road Commissioner	
Robert Wardwell	June 2028
Registrar of Voters	
Lisa Tapley	
Superintendent of Schools	
Joshua Tripp	
RSU #25 School Board Committee	
David Burgess, Vice Chair	2027
Nathalie Arruda	2028
Alicia Atherton-Dow	2026
Thomas Foster, Chair	2027
Scott Frasier	2028
Keith Kneeland	2026

Dan Wentworth	2028
Abigail Foster	2027
Fish Committee	
Kyle McGeechan	June 2026
Peter Wardwell	June 2028
Peter Robshaw	June 2029
Jay Clement	June 2029
Anne Leclerc	June 2026
Planning Board	
Donald Baker	
Charles Giosia	
W. Roger Wood	
Michael Roy	
Mark Fowler, Alternate	
Barton Hutchins, Alternate	
Board of Appeals	
William Chandler	
David Burgess	
Michael Malenfant	
Constable	
Brandon Patterson	
General Assistance Administrator	
Lisa Tapley	
Code Enforcement Officer	
Luke Chiavelli	
Plumbing Inspector	
Luke Chiavelli	
Deputy Code Enforcement & Deputy Plumbing Inspector	
Donald Baker	

Town Officers - 2024-2025 (Continued)

Properties Manager

Michael Malenfant

Transfer Station Operator

Gary Newbegin

Transfer Station Attendants

George “Andy” Stanley

Kyle Roberts

Fire Chief, Civil Preparedness Director

Robert Conary

Fire Warden

John Gray

Animal Control Officer

Brandon Patterson

Fish Warden

Peter Robshaw

State Senator District 7

Nicole Grohoski

State Representative District 17

Steven Bishop

Town Office Contact Information

Address: 25 School House Road
Orland, Maine 04472

Phone : (207) 469-3186 Fax: (207) 469-3187

Website: **Townoforland.org**

Schedule of Meetings & Office Hours

Selectmen	1st & 3rd Thursday of each month 5:30pm-7:00pm at the Town Office
Assessors	Fridays 9am-12pm & 1pm-4pm
Treasurer	Tuesday-Thursday 8:00am-2:30pm
Planning Board	1st Monday of each month 7pm at the Community Center
RSU #25 Committee	3rd Tuesday of each month at the Bucksport Middle School
Town Clerk & Tax Collector	Tuesday-Friday 8am-12pm & 1pm-5pm and 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month 5:30pm-7:00pm

Important Phone Numbers

Emergency	911
Hancock County Sheriff's Office	667-7575
Town Office Phone	469-3186
Town Office Fax	469-3187
Animal Control	323-6033
Code Enforcement & Plumbing Inspector	735-6428
Orland Community Center	469-7691
Orland Post Office	548-3729
East Orland Post Office	469-1170



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

Dear Maine Resident:

In January, I was privileged to take the Oath of Office to begin my second term as your Governor. I am deeply humbled by the trust the people of Maine have placed in me, and I look forward to continuing to work hard over the next four years to improve the lives and livelihoods of Maine people.

Over the past four years, we have made real progress. We have expanded health care, leading to the largest decline in the uninsured rate of any state in the nation. We fully funded the State's share of public education. We delivered two-years of free community college. We fully restored municipal revenue sharing to five percent. We delivered substantial tax relief, nation-leading inflation relief, and emergency energy relief to help Maine people through difficult times.

Through the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, we are strengthening and diversifying our economy. In 2022, our state's gross domestic product – a key measure of economic growth – grew at the 9th fastest rate in the United States. People are moving to Maine at a rate higher than any other New England state, and at one of the highest rates in the nation. We have enacted balanced budgets, and we have built up Maine's "Rainy Day" fund to a record high, preparing our state to continue meeting its commitments in the event of an economic downturn.

While I am proud of the progress we have made, there is more to do, like addressing the housing crisis, the workforce shortage, and the opioid epidemic and strengthening health care, education, and the economy. I know that by working together to tackle these issues head-on, we can improve the lives and livelihoods of Maine people and make Maine the best place to live, work, and raise a family.

Thank you again for the honor to serve you as Governor.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Janet T. Mills'.

Janet T. Mills
Governor

SUSAN M. COLLINS
MAINE

413 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20516-1904
(202) 724-7527
(202) 724-7693 (FAX)

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904

COMMITTEES
APPROPRIATIONS
CHAIR
HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR AND PENSIONS
SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE

Dear Friends,

It is an honor to serve the people of Maine, and I welcome this opportunity to update you on the work that has taken place in the Senate over the past year. My staff and I have addressed numerous issues affecting our state, and I would like to share some of the progress that we have made.

Since my *Social Security Fairness Act* was signed into law in January 2025, the law has been fully implemented and restored earned retirement benefits to 2.8 million Americans. More than 25,000 Mainers have seen their monthly benefits increase and have been issued more than \$184.5 million in retroactive payments. I am proud that this legislation has improved the lives of many retired firefighters, teachers, police officers, and other public employees and their spouses.

I was honored to become the first Maine Senator in nearly a century to lead the Appropriations Committee. Since I took this role last January, Congress enacted full-year appropriations bills before December for the first time since 2018. These bipartisan bills included full-year funding for Military Construction and the Department of Veterans Affairs, the US Department of Agriculture, and the Food and Drug Administration. At my request, these bills included nearly \$35 million in Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) for local projects across Maine that will improve fire stations and emergency services, update municipal buildings, and support upgraded facilities at the Maine National Guard and Portsmouth Naval Shipyard (PNSY) in Kittery. This funding builds on the nearly \$1.1 billion in CDS I have secured since 2021 for worthy projects that benefit local communities and nonprofits across 16 counties. As Chair, I remain committed to working to better ensure that federal spending and investments produce real results for the people of Maine.

I have also led other important legislative efforts this year that address problems many Mainers face. This includes bills that expand federal efforts to combat Lyme disease and other tick-borne illnesses and improve access to early testing for Alzheimer's disease. Provisions I authored to strengthen prevention, treatment, and recovery services for those struggling with substance use disorders and mental illness were included in the *SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act* that was recently signed into law. An amendment I authored in this year's *National Defense Authorization Act* will increase apprenticeship opportunities at public shipyards like PNSY. That bill also includes more than \$400 million to support critical infrastructure improvements at PNSY and a well-deserved 3.8 percent pay raise for all our nation's service members.

In addition to advancing legislation, I worked to ensure that federal commitments to Maine were maintained and, when necessary, restored. I secured a seasonal employee exemption for Acadia National Park from the Administration's federal hiring freeze and from closure during the recent government shutdown. I protected local programs like Maine Sea Grant and global initiatives like the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) from harmful funding cuts. I led the effort to resume enrollment at Maine Job Corps centers and fought for full funding for Maine's public schools this school year. I preserved funding for the University of Maine System and secured the restoration of funding to the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Pleasant Point and the Penobscot Nation. I protected low-income Mainers' access to key programs like LIHEAP and SNAP. Although I voted against the *One Big Beautiful Bill Act* due to my opposition to Medicaid cuts, I helped secure \$50 billion to support rural health providers through the legislation's Rural Health Transformation Program. Maine has been awarded \$190 million in the first year of this five-year grant program.

Throughout my Senate service, I have never missed a roll-call vote and have cast more than 9,850 consecutive votes—reflecting the Maine work ethic I bring to Washington. My continued ranking as most bipartisan Senator from the Lugar Center and Georgetown University is a testament to Maine's tradition of working with cooperation and respect.

My highest priority as a Senator is to ensure that the State of Maine's needs are met. If ever I can be of assistance to you, please contact one of my state offices or visit my website at collins.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins
United States Senator

Dear Friends,

With each year we have a new opportunity to recognize our shared achievements and offer up our time and energy to support one another when challenges arise. I am grateful to the towns across Maine for their dedication to their communities, their residents, and our state. Working together has always been our strength, and the past year proved that once again we are stronger when we work together.

However, it is difficult to recall a year more challenging than the one we just experienced – a year that required a steady focus on our founding principles and shared values. For these reasons, I spent hours on the Senate Floor reminding my colleagues—and many of you back home—about the vision our founders demonstrated when they laid the blueprint for the American experiment. A cornerstone in their understanding was a duty to civic engagement and community. I often refer to Maine as a big town with long roads, and in my travels throughout our state, I am reassured by the grassroots participation in our civic process and the neighborly feel that makes Maine unique.

My legislative priorities remain largely the same: supporting Maine veterans, small businesses, and our heritage industries like agriculture, forest products and the marine economy. Additionally, I am grateful to have an exceptional team across Maine ready to assist you with issues involving the federal government. Whether you are facing challenges related to veterans' services, Social Security, the IRS, passports or other matters, I encourage you to reach out to our offices in Presque Isle, Bangor, Augusta, Portland, or Biddeford. We are here to help and welcome the opportunity to work on your behalf.

Together, I am confident we can continue building a stronger and more prosperous future for our state and nation. Thank you for being one of the many reasons Maine is such a special place. It is truly an honor to serve you and to know you. Mary and I wish you a happy, healthy, and safe 2026.

Best Regards,

ANGUS S. KING, JR.
United States Senate



Jared Golden
Congress of the United States
2nd District of Maine

Dear Friends,

As you likely know, my time in Congress will come to an end in January 2027, after which I'll return to my family and my life as a private citizen. In other words, this is my final town letter.

My time as your representative has included a fair share of ups and downs, but one thing that never changed was the pride I brought with me to represent your community and all the others across Maine's 2nd Congressional District.

Maine has been home for my entire life. And while serving in Congress has meant a lot of time in Washington, D.C., I've tried my best to stay connected to the people, places and values that made me who I am.

Growing up in Leeds, I learned the value of hard work and community. When I enlisted in the U.S. Marines, a decision driven by the commitment to service and patriotism instilled in me by the people and places that raised me, I learned a lot about sacrifice and leadership. After my time in the military, I settled in Lewiston and served my city in the Maine State House, where I got a crash course in what representation really meant: listening, understanding, and fighting to make life better for the people and families who'd placed their trust in me.

I brought these values and experiences with me to Congress and tried to live up to them every day I have served. I share all this not because my story is special or my values unique, but because I know that it is not.

It's fair to say that I've worked in one way or another with most every community in the District. Together, we've reduced pressure on property taxes by securing congressional funds for local projects. We've passed laws to support Maine's heritage industries and small businesses. And my staff and I have provided direct constituent services, helping thousands of Mainers across the state — including recovering millions of dollars in missing or delayed federal benefits.

What I've learned through our work together is that there are leaders all over Maine everywhere you look — people committed to service, to their communities and their country: Municipal officials and workers. Business owners and innovators. Servicemembers and law enforcement officers. Volunteer firefighters. And of course, the everyday workers, parents and students who are all doing their part to contribute how they can to their families and communities.

I am grateful to share this state with every single one of you, and despite all our challenges, I am optimistic about our future because of what I've seen and learned. I know that the things that divide us are no match for the things we have in common and our commitment to each other.

While this may be my final letter in this format, I am still working hard to represent you for the rest of this year. If your community, small business, or family has a need, reach out to my nearest district office and talk to us about it. My staff and I can help navigate government programs; find federal resources in Maine; and resolve issues with Medicare, Social Security, the VA, and other agencies. Here's the contact info for my offices:
Caribou Office: 7 Hatch Drive, Suite 230, Caribou, ME 04736. Phone: (207) 492-6009
Lewiston Office: 179 Lisbon Street, Lewiston, ME 04240. Phone: (207) 241-6767
Bangor Office: 6 State Street, Suite 101, Bangor, ME 04401. Phone: (207) 249-7400

Thank you again for the great honor of representing you in Congress and the opportunity to serve you and your community. I will spend the rest of my time in Congress working just as hard as I always have to deliver what I can to Maine.

Respectfully,

Jared Golden, Member of Congress



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE HOUSE STATION

AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1440

TTY: (207) 287-4469

Steven Bishop

PO Box 214,

Bucksport, ME 04416

Residence: (207) 991-7909

Steven.Bishop@legislature.maine.gov

January 2026

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Thank you for electing me to serve as your State Representative for my first term. I am deeply honored by the confidence you have placed in me to represent District 17 in Augusta. As we enter the second regular session of the 132nd Maine Legislature, I remain steadfast in my commitment to addressing the challenges before us with diligence, integrity, and a local focus.

I am honored to serve on the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation. Drawing upon my background in local government with the Town of Bucksport, as well as my experience in law enforcement, I believe I bring valuable perspective and practical insight to the important work of this committee. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve the State of Maine in this capacity.

As the 132nd Legislature moves forward, I am proud of the progress we have made through thoughtful and collaborative efforts. This session, I supported the passage of LD 529, a significant measure that preserves and protects the dams in Hancock County. This is an important win for our communities and local infrastructure. In addition, through my work on the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation, we approved key Department of Transportation projects, including multiple new endeavors on Route 1 in the Town of Penobscot, helping ensure safer and more reliable transportation for residents, businesses, and visitors alike.

My overarching goal is to keep our region a place to live, work, and thrive. I will continue to advance thoughtful, common-sense legislation that benefits all Mainers and ensures that the voices of District 17 are effectively represented in Augusta. Your input and engagement are vital to my work as your representative.

Thank you once again for the privilege of serving you and the people of District 17. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with your concerns, ideas, or questions. You can contact me at (207) 287-1440 or by email at First.Last@legislature.maine.gov. If you'd like to receive email updates, simply send me a request to be added to my list.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steven N. Bishop".

State Representative
Maine House District 17

Nicole Grohoski
Senator, District 7

THE MAINE SENATE
132nd Legislature

December 31, 2025

Dear Friends and Residents of Orland,

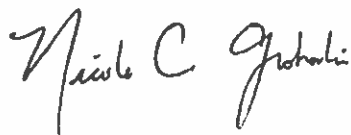
In 2026, I am continuing my second full term as your State Senator to represent the 22 coastal communities of Senate District 7. As always, I will collaborate with my colleagues, regardless of party affiliation, to do the best work we can for all Mainers.

In 2025, we increased our investments in roads, bridges, broadband, housing, and working waterfronts. Recognizing the frequency and severity of extreme weather, my colleagues and I focused on storm preparedness and resilience. We invested \$39 million to strengthen community readiness and resilience, including helping homeowners pay for weatherizing their properties. We also invested \$5 million in the Disaster Recovery Fund, which provides financial support to individuals, businesses, and local governments for disaster recovery and emergency response.

At the same time, we strengthened emergency medical services. We provided funding for the Maine Emergency Medical Services Community Grant, to support rural and underserved municipalities, and we supported the Maine Length of Service Award Program, which incentivizes the volunteer EMS workforce. We also made significant investments in education, which helps alleviate the pressure on municipalities to raise property taxes. We kept our promise to fully fund the state's share of K-12 public education, and we maintained municipal revenue sharing to help our local governments deliver services. In recognition of the significant impact municipal property taxes have on many of our neighbors, the Legislature created the Real Estate Property Tax Relief Task Force. As the Senate Chair of the two-year Task Force, I am committed to delivering comprehensive, data-driven reforms that reduce the financial strain of property taxes on households. You can find all of the details and materials for the Task Force online at legislature.maine.gov/real-estate-property-tax-relief-task-force. As we continue researching reforms, please make sure that you are receiving the Homestead Exemption and also check your eligibility for the Property Tax Fairness Credit when you file your income taxes. The credit helps Mainers of any age afford to stay in their homes, whether they own or rent.

Please contact me if I can be of any assistance with state government or if you have questions about the legislative process: Nicole.Grohoski@legislature.maine.gov or (207) 287-1515. I also share information via Facebook (www.facebook.com/grohoskiformaine) and Instagram ([@grohoskiformaine](https://www.instagram.com/grohoskiformaine)) and send out periodic email newsletters; please let me know if you would like to be added to my mailing list.

I remain at your service, and I am honored to be your advocate in Augusta. Sincerely,



Nicole Grohoski
State Senator, District 7
Part of Hancock County and the Town of Isle au Haut

Properties Manager Report

The Community Center continues to grow new businesses and remains a place where community members gather. A couple new businesses set up shop in our little community here at the center. The Orland Variety is a pizza and sub shop. Ebee's Sweets has settled in the café space and offers coffee, sweets, soups, and a cozy place to hang out. The community kitchen is rented on a regular basis throughout the year.

The gymnasium and conference room are rented regularly for events and special occasions. Suite 19 is also rented for events and in addition it accommodates many committee meetings and recreation activities.

The fitness center is very busy. Over 200 brand new members signed up this past year. We are upgrading and adding new equipment and are very grateful for donations and grant money. We offer a variety of fitness classes throughout the year for those of all ages. Classes and activities vary month to month, so please follow us on Facebook (Orland Community and Fitness Center) to see our monthly calendar for updates on all the classes and programs being offered.

We continue to collect returnable (bottles & cans) for upgrades and grounds improvement. Thank you to all who have donated and continue to donate to support the Community Center grounds, we truly appreciate your generosity and patience.

The Community Center strives to be more energy efficient. A total of 36 fluorescent lights were replaced with 17 LED fixtures, making the two conference rooms more efficient with less fixtures. An on demand generator was purchased. This will be more reliable and allow the center and its businesses to operate more reliably.

Properties Manager Report (Continued)

In other areas of the Town, the overhead doors at the salt shed were rebuilt and the motors replaced making it safer and more reliable. Handicap accessible door openers were installed at the Town Office.

The Town parks and cemeteries are cared for weekly/biweekly. A new mower was purchased to replace the aging one. Keeping the grounds clear of leaves and tree branches is challenging in addition to mowing but we continue to do our best to keep them all looking as nice as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mike Malenfant

Properties Manager
21 School House Rd. Suite 2
Orland, Maine 04472
207-469-7691
propertymanager@townoforland.org

SOLID WASTE TRANSFER STATION

180 Gray Meadow Road – Orland

HOURS of OPERATION

Wednesdays & Saturdays - 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sundays – 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

(Closed Legal Holidays)

The Town of Orland Solid Waste Transfer Station is for disposal of **Orland residential** trash only. No commercial haulers, contractor vehicles or trash from businesses or other towns allowed.

Transfer Station Decals

A Town decal affixed to vehicle is required for access to facility. To obtain a decal, bring your auto registration or tax bill to the transfer station.

Transfer Station Report

The transfer station added a new bin this year and contractors are being sought to pull needed maintenance on bins and associated equipment in need. This will keep us running at full capacity in the forthcoming year. When weather permits will be opening the re-use shop for another successful season. Users are asked to move their vehicles forward from the high traffic areas around the bins and then shop away! Payment for items from the shop in the form of donating what you want has been popular so we will continue with that. Calvin Grindle was added to the transfer station team this year as a sub, opening up and covering vacation days for Andy and myself. Welcome aboard Calvin! As always customers are reminded to operate their vehicles slowly when entering and leaving the facility and watch carefully for pedestrians. Let's have another safe year.

Thank-You,

Gary Newbegin, Transfer Station Manager

transnferstation@townoforland.org

Disposal Fees

- ~ Household demolition - \$15 to \$30 per pickup truck load
- ~ Minimum \$5 charge for demo
- ~ Asphalt shingles - \$15 to \$30. Limit 2 loads per household
- ~ Refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, de-humidifiers - \$15 each
(Refrigerator and freezer doors must be removed)
- ~ Large Appliances (Stove, Washer, Dryer) - \$5.00 each
- ~ Televisions - \$2 each regardless of size
- ~ Fluorescent tubes - \$2.00/8 ft. \$1.00/4 ft. \$.50/bulb
- ~ Fluorescent ballasts - see attendant
- ~ Car Batteries— see attendant
- ~ Lithium Batteries—see attendant

2025 ROAD COMMISSIONERS REPORT

July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025

Road Maintenance & Paving Account(20)

Appropriation:	\$635,000.00
Carry Over:	<u>\$204,335.54</u>
Opening Balance	\$839,335.54
<u>Expenditures: Wardwell Construction & Trucking Corp.</u>	
Sm. Excavator	\$10,110.00
Lg. Excavator	\$15,650.00
Excavator w. Brush Attachment	\$0.00
Loader (6 Yd)	\$0.00
350 John Deere Excavator	\$0.00
Specialized Equipment	\$1,600.00
Loader	\$400.00
Bulldozer	\$0.00
Sweeper	\$150.00
Roller/Paver	\$2,640.00
Backhoe	\$0.00
Grader	\$1,650.00
Labor	\$7,540.00
One Ton	\$4,760.00
6-8 Yd Truck	\$570.00
12-14 Yd Truck	\$170.00
16-18 Yd Truck	\$27,200.00
Lowbed	\$0.00
Bucket Truck	\$0.00
Rock Truck (Case & Mack)	\$0.00
Man with Chainsaw	\$2,475.00
1-6" Gravel	\$25,080.00
3/4" Stone	\$612.00
1.5" Stone	\$2,304.00
4-8" Stone	\$324.00
Stone Dust	\$0.00
Tailings/Rip Rap	\$21,780.00
Loam	\$0.00
Sand	\$0.00
Hot Top/Asphalt	\$10,357.60

2025 Road Commissioners Report (Continued)

Cold Patch	\$2,278.00
Asphalt Grindings	\$3,944.00
Stump Grindings	\$0.00
Flowable Fill	\$1,000.00
Concrete	\$0.00
Seed/Hay	\$100.00
Roadside Mow	\$0.00
Mulcher/Blower	\$0.00
Chipping Gun	\$0.00
Pipe Saw	\$0.00
Water Pump	\$0.00
Piping– Various sizes	\$0.00
Generator (per day)	\$0.00
Flaggers	\$9,990.00
Cement Blocks	\$0.00
Barricades	\$0.00
Culverts	\$1,800.00
Local Roadside Assistance	\$0.00
Calcium	\$0.00
Total	\$154,484.60

Vendors and Materials Used:

Vaughn Thibodeau	\$90,035.54
Atwell Edgecomb	\$3,300.00
NE Paving Co.	\$1,184.50
Rob’s Hardware (DOT Sign)	\$0.00
Local Road Assistance Credit	\$0.00
B & B PAVING	\$374,915.85
Big Jay Tree Service	\$0.00
Contractors Choice LLC	\$0.00
Hammond Lumber	\$3,579.10
Ware Butler	\$3,005.58
White Sign	\$0.00
Total	\$476,020.57

2025 Road Commissioners Report (Continued)

Total Road Maintenance & Paving Account Balance:

\$630,505.17

Credit \$80.00

Unexpended Road Maintenance Account Balance

\$208,910.37

Winter Road Account (10)

Appropriation: \$510,000.00

Carry Over: \$385,386.07

Opening Balance \$895,386.07

Expenditures: Wardwell Construction & Trucking Corp.

Snow Plow Contract \$327,045.60

Ice Sand \$3,960.00

Wardwell Invoices Winter Road Maintenance \$1,800.00

Total \$332,805.60

Vendors and Material Used:

Central Maine Power (Salt Shed) \$4,501.63

NE Salt \$29,880.67

Insurance \$0.00

Total \$34,382.30

Total Winter Road Account Balance \$367,187.90

Credit \$20.00

Unexpended Winter Road Account Balance \$528,218.17

Orland Fire Department Report

Greetings fellow residents of Orland,

Throughout the fiscal year our department saw a 21% increase in incidents, ending with 156 calls for service, a record number for us. Our motor vehicle accidents and water/ice rescues increased as well as mutual aid requests for assistance. With the high number of accidents at the intersection of Acadia Highway and School House/Upper Falls Roads, the Maine DOT has notified us of their intent to add a traffic light to help reduce the number of collisions.

We responded to a few more building fires, but fortunately none were in our own community. Nice job to all of our residents for that.

In late April we began moving into and operating out of the new fire station on Fire House Avenue. To say it's a vast improvement is an understatement. Our department is very grateful for the modern facility. Simply having adequate space to move around, conduct indoor training, provide decontamination and gear cleaning as well as ease of maintenance for our trucks and equipment has been a valuable leap forward. Several towns and their fire departments considering their own building projects have visited and expressed how impressed and somewhat envious they are.

Several of our volunteers successfully completed formal or professional training, including the Hancock County Fire Academy, Emergency Vehicle Operator Courses, Basic Pump Operations and Maine Basic Wildland Firefighter courses of instruction. Every individual who commits their time to complete these educational opportunities improves our overall readiness to respond when needed.

Towns that Orland Fire responded to for mutual aid include: Surry, Penobscot, Verona Island, Bucksport, Blue Hill, Castine, and Ellsworth. These calls included building fires, wildland fires, and car fires.

Our call volume from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 totaled 156 calls for service, 33 more calls than the previous year. Our fiscal year 2024-2025 incidents include:

Building Fires	11
Motor Vehicle Accidents (with injuries)	25
Motor Vehicle Accidents (without injuries)	17
Storm Related (Trees/Power Lines/Flooding)	19
Assist EMS	5
Woods/Wildland Fires	4
Standby/Cover Assignments	3
Dispatched and canceled enroute	25
Other Fires (Vehicles, Chimneys)	15
Other Calls	27
Water/Boat Incident/Ice Rescues	5
Total Calls	123

Orland Fire Department Report (Continued)

As always, our members strongly urge everyone to ensure you have working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in your homes, and make sure to test them regularly. If you need or know someone who may need help checking, replacing batteries, or installing detectors please let us know and we will try to assist. We cannot always provide alarms and detectors, but will certainly assist where we can.

Having reflective numbers are helpful not only to us, but to any other responders coming from other areas. Even in a small town like ours, we don't know where everyone lives. Please help us find you in your time of need. Simple reflective stickers (3-4 inch minimum) with your house numbers mounted on the side of your mailbox or on a sign at the end of your driveway are very effective. There are still a lot of addresses in town without visible numbers.

Contact information for the department is as follows:

For Emergencies (Fire, Police, Ambulance)	911
Station Business Line (Leave a message)	469-3079
Hancock County Regional Communications Center	667-8866
Department Email	OrlandFireDept@gmail.com
Fire Chief's Email	ofd501@gmail.com

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Conary
Fire Chief
Orland Fire Department

Report of the Board of Selectmen

To the Citizens of the Town of Orland:

The 2024–25 fiscal year presented significant challenges and transitions for town officials and staff. We welcomed new members to our team, including Clifton Guthrie to the Board of Selectmen, Lisa Tapley as Town Clerk and Tax Collector, Shirley Hicks as Treasurer, and additional support staff. We also extend our sincere thanks to Brenda Leavitt, Selectman, and Tracy Patterson, Town Clerk, for their years of dedicated service to the Town.

Key improvements during the year included:

- Upgrades to Town Office software and infrastructure, including implementation of TrioWeb, installation of a new heat pump, and construction of an accessible main entrance.
- Enhanced insulation at the Community Center and installation of a new generator to improve resilience and reliability.

The Town is actively addressing solid waste management challenges in collaboration with Eagle Point Energy and Casella Waste Systems at the Juniper Ridge Landfill.

Traffic safety remains an ongoing concern, particularly due to persistent speeding on town roads.

Orland received a two-year grant from the Greenfield Trust to support a feasibility study of the Orland Village Dam, with funding allocated for project scoping, development, and technical guidance.

The Broadband Committee continues its work to expand affordable internet access, with Fidium Fiber beginning cable installation within the town.

Orland joined with Surry, Penobscot, Blue Hill, the Toddy Pond Association, and the Alamoosook Lake Association to address the future of the Alamoosook Lake and Toddy Pond dams

Construction of the new fire station was completed this year, and the Fire Department successfully relocated to the new facility.

The Board is also finalizing updated job descriptions for all town employees and implementing new Computer Use and Social Media policies.

We extend our appreciation to all volunteers, committee members, first responders, and town staff for their continued dedication and service to the Town of Orland.

Respectfully submitted,

Lester Stackpole

Regina Bushong

Clifton Guthrie

Selectmen for the Town of Orland

General Assistance 2024/2025 Report

The General Assistance program is designed to assist residents within the community who find themselves unable to provide basic necessities for themselves or their families, such as rent, food, household supplies, electricity, and heat. The General Assistance program uses the General Assistance Ordinance, and follows income guidelines, rules, and maximum assistance standards, set by the State of Maine through the Department of Health & Human Services. Applicants may re-apply every 30 days, and decisions are made within 24 hours of the interview.

The Selectmen adopted the Appendices (A-H) for Fiscal year 2024/2025 on the 19th day of September, 2024, to stay compliant with State mandates. For 2024/2025 the State reimbursed towns for General Assistance expenses at 70%.

For Fiscal year 2024/2025 the GA program received 5 applications, and approved 1.
2024/2025 carry over balance, credits & appropriation: \$13,323.26
Total General Assistance Expenses paid: \$370.00
Total State Reimbursements: \$259.00
Town General Assistance Expense: \$111.00
End of 2023/2024 GA account balance: \$13,212.26

In addition to helping applicants with the General Assistance application, and the interview process, we also provide education on other resources in the community that the applicant can utilize to help meet their current, and future, needs. Anyone with any questions about how the General Assistance program works, or what the guidelines of the program are, may come to the Orland Town Office during regular business hours.

Sincerely,
Lisa Tapley
General Assistance Administrator

Report of the Treasurer

General Fund Beginning Balance 7/01/24 ----- \$3,307,764.

Revenues:

Tax Revenue, including Exemption Reimb. -----	14,315,047.
Excise Tax -----	610,427.
State of Maine	
State Revenue Sharing -----	265,369.
State Road Assistance -----	39,856.
Tree Growth Reimbursement -----	31,371.
Licenses, Permits and Fees -----	32,675.
Investment Income -----	85,393.
Community Center Rental -----	166,764.
Interest and Fees on Taxes -----	23,774.
Sale of Alewives -----	7,956.
Franchise Fees -----	5,972.
Gain on Tax Acquired Property -----	519.
Other Revenues -----	<u>64,550.</u>
Total Revenues	\$5,649,673.

Expenditures:

Administration -----	\$ 665,096.
Health & Sanitation -----	127,810.
Education -----	2,723,282.
Protection -----	262,495.
Highways -----	415,716.
Unclassified -----	192,399.
Fire Station Debt Service -----	403,812.
Other Assessments -----	13,338.
Capital Outlay -----	<u>651,963.</u>
Total Expenditures	\$5,455,911.

Excess of Revenues Over Expenditures -----	\$ 193,762.
Capital Projects Reserve -----	<u>(50,000.)</u>
Net Changes in General Fund -----	\$ 143,762.

General Fund Ending Balance 6/30/25 ----- \$3,451,526.

Respectfully Submitted, *Shirley Trucks*, Treasurer

Report of the Assessors

Another year in the books for the Board of Assessors; we are fortunate to be part of such a wonderful community as Orland!

The Board of Assessors processed 179 real estate transfers from April 1, 2024 to April 1, 2025 and reviewed over 100 building permits.

As a reminder, here are a few of Maine's tax programs designed to help the tax burden:

Property Tax Fairness Credit:

Eligible Maine taxpayers may receive a portion of the property tax or rent they paid during the tax year by filing a Maine individual income tax return, whether they owe Maine income tax or not. If the credit exceeds the amount of their individual income tax due for the tax year, the excess amount of credit will be refunded to them. More information can be found at:

<https://www.maine.gov/revenue/taxes/tax-relief-credits-programs/income-tax-credits/property-tax-fairness-credit>

State Property Tax Deferral Program:

The State Property Tax Deferral Program is a loan program that covers the annual property tax bills of Maine residents who are age 65 and older and meet income requirements or are permanently disabled.

The loan program requires a repayment of the loan once the property is sold or becomes part of an estate. Applications must be submitted between January 1 and April 1st to the Assessor's Office. More information about this program can be found at:

<https://www.maine.gov/revenue/taxes/tax-relief-credits-programs/property-tax-relief-programs/deferral-program>

It is important to note that these are State programs and while the Town plays a role in the administration of them, the Town is not responsible for the policy objectives of these initiatives. Any questions or concerns property owners have regarding the above programs should be directed to your legislative representative. To find your representative, please visit <https://legislature.maine.gov/senate>

Other programs that can help with the property tax burden are the Homestead, Veteran, and Blind Exemptions; these applications are available at the Town Office or online and are due to the Office by April 1st.

The Board of Assessors is available to assist the public on Friday's 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM to 4:00PM. The Board also can be reached by e-mail at assessor@townoforland.org.

<i>2024-2025 Fiscal Year Commitment</i>	
REAL ESTATE - TAXABLE	
<i>Land</i>	<i>\$163,542,690.00</i>
<i>Building</i>	<i>\$212,365,530.00</i>
TOTAL TAXABLE REAL ESTATE	<i>\$375,908,220.00</i>
PERSONAL PROPERTY	
<i>Business Equipment</i>	<i>\$11,174,723.00</i>
<i>Exemptions</i>	<i>\$8,412,530.00</i>
TOTAL TAXABLE PERSONAL PROPERTY	<i>\$2,762,193.00</i>
TOTAL VALUATION	<i>\$378,670,413.00</i>
TAX RATE PER THOUSAND	<i>0.01238</i>
	<i>\$4,687,939.71</i>
<i>County Tax</i>	<i>\$206,523.00</i>
<i>Municipal Appropriation</i>	<i>\$2,978,237.00</i>
<i>School/Education Appropriation</i>	<i>\$2,943,933.00</i>
<i>Overlay</i>	<i>\$21,345.82</i>
TOTAL ASSESSMENT	<i>\$6,150,038.82</i>
<i>State Revenue Sharing</i>	<i>\$272,291.00</i>
<i>Homestead Reimbursement</i>	<i>\$151,148.42</i>
<i>BETE Reimbursement</i>	<i>\$27,184.69</i>
<i>Other Revenue</i>	<i>\$1,011,475.00</i>
TOTAL DEDUCTION	<i>\$1,462,099.11</i>
NET ASSESMENT FOR COMMITMENT	<i>\$4,687,939.71</i>

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Poulin, CMA
Amy Dunn, CMA
Ernest Guimond, CMA

Report of Animal Control Officer

To residents of Orland,

This year we handled 96 complaints that required a response and many issues that were handled over the phone and via email. The complaints ranged from stray cats to Animal Cruelty with the majority being Dog At Large. Keep in mind Dog At Large fines are up to \$100 per occurrence and require you to go to court.

Please make sure to get your pets vaccinated against rabies and make sure your dogs are licensed with the Town. Please contact me if you have any animal issues or questions my phone number is 207-323-6033 or e-mail, acomaine@yahoo.com

Respectfully Submitted,



Brandon Patterson, Animal Control Officer

Complaints Handled 2024-2025

Dogs at Large: 64

Stray Cats: 10

Animal Cruelty: 8

Animal Trespass: 6

Wildlife Complaints: 4 all turned over to Maine State Game Wardens Office

Dangerous Dog/Dog Bite: 2

Owner Surrender of Animal: 2

Total Complaints: 96

Code Enforcement Officer & Plumbing Inspector Report

**FY 2025 Report
Total Permits– 71**

New Residence Camps	2	Trees/cutting	10
Residence Additions	2	Seasonal Docks	2
Garages	1	Dock, Ramps	3
Sheds	6	Mooring	0
Shoreland Stabilization	1	Shoreland Earth Moving/Driveway	3
Commercial Structures	4	Commercial Signs	0

New Septic System	13
Replacement Septic System	2
Replacement Septic Fields	3
Replacement Septic Tanks	0
Internal Plumbing Permits	17
Primitive Systems	2

Report of the Town Clerk & Tax Collector

This year at the Orland Town Office there were some staff changes and new State law implementation. I would like to thank everyone for being supportive in my first year as Town Clerk. I would like to thank George Dakin, Deputy Clerk, for his great work and excellent customer service.

The Town Clerk's office is responsible for vehicle registrations, ATV and snowmobile registrations, hunting/fishing licenses, vital record issuance, dog licensing, and hosting elections.

Dog Licenses are available starting October 15th for the upcoming year. It is State law that any dog over 6 months old must be registered with the Town, and if re-registration is not done by January 31st a mandatory late fee of \$25 per dog is applied.

The Tax Collector's office collects real estate, sewer and personal property taxes. Tax bills go out once a year usually in July. Each bill has two payment stubs at the bottom. The first half of taxes is due by September 30th and the second half of taxes is due by March 31st. Please feel free to contact our office with any questions.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Tapley, CCM

Vital Records

Births - 23

Deaths - 25

Marriages - 23

Marriage Licenses - 8

Certified Copies of Vital Records - 163

Dog Transactions

Dog Licenses - 212

MOSES Transactions

Recreational Licenses - 310

Boat Registrations - 290

ATV Registrations - 114

Snowmobile Registrations - 91

2024 Uncollected Real Estate Taxes

As of 6/27/2025

Alley, Marvin	\$474.74
Ames, Joseph	\$130.47
Barnes, Dylan C	\$1,249.76
Barry, Kevin	\$4,221.36
Barry, Kevin	\$404.70
Bussey, Aaron P	\$1,951.45
Chattin, Daniel A	\$211.09
Chattin, Daniel A	\$532.72
Cote, Debra R	\$1,831.50
Crafts, Jennifer L	\$445.28
Craig-Green, Laurence	\$73.73
Davis, Adam N	\$342.91
Diamond Star Properties	\$875.01
Fontaine, Stephanie B	\$1,810.38
Gray, Marion D., Heirs	\$698.48
Harriman, Ted S	\$801.25
Heath, Matthew	\$880.35
Jodoin, Henry II, ET ALS	\$817.10
Kennedy, Tracy	\$2,597.34
Kent, Stephen R	\$572.25
Kent, Stephen R	\$195.82
Littlefield & K Dube, Robert H	\$720.50
Maggs, Kris	\$548.36
Nelson, Alan J	\$194.45
O'keefe, Gina Maria	\$3,644.69
Powers, Katie Sue	\$390.86
Schoodic Forestry, LLC	\$779.12
Sweet, Gene D Jr.	\$385.16
Winchester, Janice E	\$7,386.41

2025 Uncollected Real Estate Taxes

As of 6/27/2025

Alley, Marvin	\$470.86
Ames, Joseph S	\$138.72
Anderson, Ross Michael	\$171.83
Barnes, Dylan C	\$1,219.86
Barry, Kevin	\$4,088.15
Barry, Kevin	\$403.28
Beckett, Michael E	\$2,091.35
Boylan Heights Land Company	\$371.31
Bussey, Aaron	\$3,520.83
Bussey, Aaron P	\$2,863.48
Carter, Nicole	\$1,988.46
Chattin, Daniel A	\$216.49
Chattin, Daniel A	\$526.81
Cote, Debra R	\$1,815.66
Crafts, Jennifer L	\$1,720.50
Craig-Green, Laurence	\$468.90
Crosson, James R	\$1,170.66
Davis, Adam N	\$343.68
Day, Martha D	\$514.32
Diamond Star Properties LLC	\$857.92
Doyle, Kate L	\$2,585.19
Drake, Lisa L	\$138.72
Field, Russell G III	\$320.52
Fontaine, Stephanie B	\$1,760.76
French, Albert A	\$1,861.94
Gillam, Lao	\$947.46
Gray, Marion D., Heirs	\$678.31
Grindle, Stacy E	\$344.97
Harriman, Ted S	\$785.88
Heath, Matthew	\$863.92
Hutchins, Roland	\$286.26
Jacques, Jennifer	\$894.92
Jodoin, Henry II, ET ALS	\$801.18
Kennedy, Tracy	\$2,169.11
Kent, Stephen R	\$1,264.05
Kent, Stephen R	\$1,074.25
Kent, Stephen R	\$334.79
Littlefield & K Dube, Robert H	\$717.67
Maggs, Kris	\$541.99

2025 Uncollected Real Estate Taxes (Continued)

As of 6/27/2025

Mccabe, Timothy K	\$622.39
Morgan, Erlene M	\$128.01
Nelson, Alan J	\$1,216.46
Newbegin, Cathleen A	\$3,475.62
Norwood, Brenda (FKA Campbell)	\$1,100.07
Ortiz, Christopher	\$1,094.12
Parsons, Christy M	\$381.85
Perry, James E Jr	\$347.99
Perry, James E Jr	\$364.34
Perry, James E Jr	\$363.28
Perry, James E Jr.	\$360.28
Powers, Katie Sue	\$387.99
Preble, Brit C	\$1,706.67
Ratte, Darlene S	\$61.17
Saunders, Roy B	\$1,611.88
Saunders, Roy B	\$1,447.05
Schoodic Forestry, LLC	\$866.55
Schulster, Dale	\$4,617.10
Small, Keith S	\$352.43
Small, Amy Marie	\$115.90
Springer, Steven	\$97.73
Stewart, Trevor D	\$344.20
Sweet, Gene D Jr.	\$681.84
Thibodeau, Gloria J	\$750.14
Tower, Daniel T	\$3,846.06
Veazie, Thomas O	\$298.60
Veilleux, Joseph	\$575.83
Wilkinson, Joanne	\$645.73
Winchester, Janice E.	\$7,139.29
Wotton-Drake, Lisa L	\$1,902.33

Uncollected Personal Property Taxes

As of 6/27/2025

2020

Richards, Angel \$10.18

2021

Huntington Technology Finance, Inc \$16.14
Pine Shore Motel \$228.52
Richards, Angel \$191.19

2022

Pine Shore Motel \$355.83

2023

Ananda Luna Downeast \$59.45
Penobscot Bay Organics \$55.87
Pine Shore Motel \$206.55
Yoga Downeast \$21.76

2024

Ananda Luna Downeast \$76.19
Deko's Kutz \$26.41
LSR Homestead Wild Game Processing \$66.02
Northern Moon Studios \$26.41
Pine Shore Motel \$291.31
Yoga Downeast \$27.74

2025

AIM Demolition USA LLC \$1,548.93
Bucksport Fort Knox KOA \$698.21
Chandler's Cabinet Shop \$101.43
Deko's Kutz \$29.19
Kim Burgess Tax Service \$64.36
Laforge Catering and Concessions LLC \$200.00
Northern Moon Studios \$29.19
Nurtured Nail & Sole \$24.36
Pine Shore Motel \$322.07
Sandy's Saloon \$861.67
We-Store Inc \$136.47

Scott A. Kane
Sheriff

William R. Birch
Chief Deputy

Hancock County Sheriff's Office

50 State Street, Suite 10
 Ellsworth, Maine 04605
 (207) 667-7575
 Fax (207) 667-7516

TO THE RESIDENTS OF ORLAND, MAINE
 GREETINGS,

I am pleased to provide you with a summary of the events our Sheriff's Office was involved within your town of Orland for the year 2025. Although most incidents were as a result of citizens from your town calling for assistance or to report a crime, some, such as the service of subpoenas, and protection orders were initiated by our office. Also remember this summary only reports those incidents we were involved in and does not include any activity by the Maine State Police.

<u>Nature of Incident</u>	<u>Total Incidents</u>	<u>Nature of Incident</u>	<u>Total Incidents</u>
911 Call	74	Missing Person ALL	1
Abandoned Vehicle	3	Medical Emergency	9
Agency Assist	1	Person with Mental Illness	6
Assist Fire Department	4	Motor Vehicle Complaint	33
Assist Law Enforcement	26	All Court Paperwork	18
Assist Other	2	Parking Violation/Obstructing	5
Alarm	13	Traffic Accident w/ Damage	80
Animal Problem	13	Traffic Accident, w/ Injuries	21
Assault	1	Property Damage, Non-Vandalism	3
Attended Death	1	Public Service Contact	1
Non-sufficient Funds Check	1	Property/Business Check	14
Bail Check	4	Rape/Statutory Rape/Sex Assault	1
Burglary	1	Any Special Detail	21
Check well being	22	Suspicious Person/Veh/ Incident	18
Citizen Requested Assistance	5	Attempted Suicide	1
Neighborhood Dispute	5	Theft	9
Civil Problem	11	Threatening	1
Disabled/Stranded Motorist	5	Road Hazards (Sign/Signal/ Debris)	6
Disorderly Conduct	6	Traffic Violation	10
Domestic Call	10	Trespassing	5
DUI Alcohol or Drugs	3	Criminal Mischief/Damage	2
Escort	3	Vehicle off road	2
Fireworks Violation	1	VIN Inspection	2
Found Property	2	Bail Violation	1
Fraud	1	Violation of Protection Order	4
Shots Fired, Shots Heard	2	Warrant Arrest	3
In Person/phone/text/internet	6	Unattended Death	1
Information Report	43	ATL Subject on a Warrant	11
		Total reported:	558



Greetings to the Orland Community.

The Orland Recreation Department has been a part of our community for many years. Even after the closing of the school, we have been able to maintain a strong bond with the younger community members to participate in our programs. Our vision statement has been to provide sports/activities at a minimal cost for families, as participation is the main focus.

Though volunteers are scarce, the Rec Department has been able to offer Soccer in Sept/October; Basketball in January/Feb; and T-ball in May/June. Each program runs for 5 weeks and is offered to youngsters 3 years to 6 years of age. We charge \$12.00 for the program, which covers the cost of a t-shirt and rewards on the last day. Overall, we have had approximately thirty youngsters participate in each sports program offered. Our goal is to have an incredibly fun, skill-based, non-competitive activity where the children learn basic skills, good sportsmanship, and be able to have a fun time learning the sport. For more information, (and see pictures of the fun we have) visit our website: orlandrecpeewee.org.

And, in conjunction with the Orland Community Center, we have been able to sponsor activities for adults as well. These include cardio-fitness classes, yoga, pickleball, volleyball (adult and teens), and Seniors In Motion. Be sure to follow the Orland Community Center Facebook page for more information on programs.

Respectfully,

Orland Recreation Committee

Jean Sargent

Belinda Harriman

Mike Malenfant

Orland Historical Society 2024-2025

In 2024-2025 the society held monthly business meetings the 4th Thursday during the summer months. We had programs ahead of two of our business meetings that the public was invited to attend.

The museum was open to the public on Saturday afternoons in June, July and August. We also open other days on request. We held an informational program that was open to the public on the History of vintage apple trees in the Penobscot River Valley region.

The society participated in the craft fair at the community center as a fund raiser. We had the book "Best Remembered: Orland, Maine 1800-2000 reprinted and these are available for purchase at the Town Office or at the museum. The society also participated in the Orland River Days event in 2024-2025 Orland Historical Society continues to accept loaned or donated artifacts to the museum for display. We also welcome groups to schedule tours of the museum as well as open on special request by calling 207-598-5741.

Special thanks to our officers: Mary Hauger, secretary, Barbara Dorr, Treasurer and Edward Devito, Vice President for their work and support of the society.

We are always looking for new members to join the society and participate in bringing new life to the organization.

We wish to thank the Town of Orland for its continuing support of OHS to help preserve our past for future generations to enjoy.

Respectfully submitted

Roger Wood

OHS President

Orland Planning Board Report

The Planning Board met seven times this year and reviewed twelve applications.

Subdivision Applications Reviewed:

1. Minor sub-division of Howard property at 910 Castine Road.

Site Plan Applications Reviewed:

1. Review of Short Term Rental cabins for Jewett/Ryberg off Happytown.
2. Review of Lantern Camps off Dodge Hill Road.
3. Review of Marijuannaville, medical cannabis store at 31 Duck Cove Road.
4. Review of SDI Storage expansion at 71 Duck Cove Road.
5. Review of Landlocked Marine at 225 Gray Meadow Road.
6. Review of Pine Tree Storage at 81 Dunbars Road.

Don Baker and Bart Hutchins stepped down from the planning board. Don was chair for several years and a board member for several years before being chair. We thank Don for his years of service and wish him a happy retirement. We welcomed Jason Chaffee to the board.

Respectfully Submitted,
Luke Chiavelli – Code Enforcement Officer

Board Members: Roger Wood (Interim Chair)

Mark Fowler

Charles Giosia

Michael Roy

Jason Chaffee

Bart Hutchins (Alternate)

**James W.
Wadman**

Certified Public Accountant

Telephone 207-667-6500
Facsimile 207-667-3636

James W. Wadman, C.P.A.
Ronald C. Bean, C.P.A.
Kellie M. Bowden, C.P.A.
Wanese L. Lynch, C.P.A.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Selectmen
Town of Orland
Orland, ME 04472

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Orland, Maine as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents, including the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Orland, Maine, as of June 30, 2025, and the respective changes in financial position for the fiscal year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Town of Orland, Maine, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management 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.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Town of Orland, Maine's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material

if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 Town's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise a substantial doubt about the Town's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison information on pages 3 through 7 and 29 through 35 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town's financial statements as a whole. The supplementary information is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. The supplementary information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements.

The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Respectfully Submitted,

James W. Wadman, C.P.A.

James W. Wadman, C.P.A.
November 23, 2023

TOWN OF ORLAND, MAINE
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

Attachment VIII

	<u>Original</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Final</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u> <u>Favorable</u> <u>(Unfavorable)</u>
<u>Revenues</u>				
Tax Revenues, Including Exemption Reimbursements	\$1,322,810	\$1,322,810	\$4,315,017	(\$7,763)
State Road Assistance	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$39,856	\$4,856
Excise Taxes	\$454,000	\$454,000	\$610,427	\$156,427
State Revenue Sharing	\$240,000	\$240,000	\$265,369	\$25,369
Interest & Fees on Taxes	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$23,774	\$5,774
Investment Earnings	\$46,000	\$46,000	\$85,393	\$39,393
Free Growth Reimbursement	\$29,000	\$29,000	\$31,371	\$2,371
Franchise Fees	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$5,972	(\$28)
Licenses, Permits & Fees	\$31,950	\$31,950	\$32,675	\$725
Community Center Rental	\$135,000	\$135,000	\$166,764	\$31,764
Alewives	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$7,956	(\$3,044)
Gain on Sale of Town Assets			\$519	\$519
Other Revenues	\$71,575	\$71,575	\$64,550	(\$7,025)
<u>Total Revenues</u>	<u>\$5,400,335</u>	<u>\$5,400,335</u>	<u>\$5,649,673</u>	<u>\$249,339</u>
<u>Expenditures (Net of Departmental Revenues)</u>				
Administration	\$734,596	\$734,596	\$687,096	\$47,500
Protection	\$273,161	\$273,161	\$273,089	\$72
Health & Sanitation	\$182,425	\$182,425	\$138,410	\$44,015
Highways	\$1,146,200	\$1,146,200	\$997,670	\$148,530
Education Assessment	\$2,717,465	\$2,717,465	\$2,723,282	(\$5,817)
Unclassified	\$163,620	\$163,620	\$219,213	(\$55,593)
Other Assessments & Debt Service	\$437,291	\$437,291	\$117,151	\$20,139
<u>Total Expenditures</u>	<u>\$5,654,758</u>	<u>\$5,654,758</u>	<u>\$5,455,911</u>	<u>\$198,847</u>
<u>Excess of Revenues over Expenditures</u>	<u>(\$254,423)</u>	<u>(\$254,423)</u>	<u>\$193,762</u>	<u>\$448,185</u>
<u>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</u>				
Operating Transfers Out	(\$50,000)	(\$50,000)	(\$50,000)	\$0
<u>Net Change in Fund Balances</u>	<u>(\$304,423)</u>	<u>(\$304,423)</u>	<u>\$143,762</u>	<u>\$448,185</u>
<u>Beginning Fund Balances</u>	<u>\$3,307,764</u>	<u>\$3,307,764</u>	<u>\$3,307,764</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<u>Ending Fund Balances</u>	<u>\$3,003,341</u>	<u>\$3,003,341</u>	<u>\$3,451,526</u>	<u>\$448,185</u>

TOWN OF ORLAND MAINE
SCHEDULE OF DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2015

W-10-1-110

Department	2014		2015		2016	
	Actual	Approved	Actual	Proposed	Estimated	Change
Engineering						
General Excise Taxation	\$74,685	\$74,700		\$74,700	\$74,700	\$0
Officers Salary		\$190,000	\$170	\$190,000	\$188,500	\$1,500
Employment	\$1,700	\$0		\$2,000	\$0	\$1,700
Worker's Compensation	\$960	\$7,800	\$175	\$1870	\$1,870	\$0
Supplies/Supplies	\$17,177	\$20,000	\$28,700	\$22,000	\$22,000	\$0
Travel/Project Management	\$12,040	\$80,000	\$0,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0
Utilities	\$1,700	\$15,000		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
Recognition	\$5,180			\$1,150		\$0
Competition/Plan	\$15,800			\$15,800		\$0
	\$60,282	\$274,500	\$28,945	\$1,013,900	\$677,970	\$0
Fire/Police						
Fire Department		\$50,000		\$50,000	\$77,500	\$27,500
Back-Spot Ambulance	\$300	\$17,500		\$3,000	\$17,500	\$0
Deputy	\$1,000	\$1,000		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
Fire Station Budget	\$30,700	\$10,000		\$30,000	\$30,000	\$0
Fire Helm		\$500		\$500	\$500	\$0
Forest Fire	\$5,000			\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0
Non-Civilian Training		\$10,000		\$10,000		\$0
Civil Preparedness	\$2,000			\$2,000		\$0
Legal	\$0	\$1,000		\$10,000	\$2,000	\$0
Street Light	\$17,000	\$1,000		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
Animal Control	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
	\$141,180	\$220,000	\$29,000	\$92,500	\$120,000	\$27,500
Public Services						
South Ward	\$10,000		\$17,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0
Loaves & Fishes Place	\$0		\$200	\$0	\$0	\$0
Hospital of Hallowell	\$500		\$500	\$500	\$500	\$0
Loaves & Fishes on Agate	\$1,000		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
Hallowell Community Center	\$2,000		\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
Ladies First Community Center	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Domestic Community Partners	\$3,000		\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
Domestic Partners	\$200		\$200	\$200	\$200	\$0
WV Summer Program	\$1,000		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
St. Ann's Hospital Camp	\$500		\$500	\$500	\$500	\$0
Back-Spot Bar Hallowell Coalition	\$500		\$500	\$500	\$500	\$0
Senior Lunches Group			\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
Back-Spot Santa Lucia	\$75		\$75	\$75	\$75	\$0
	\$0	\$102,200	\$20,000	\$120,000	\$140,000	\$0

TOWN OF ORLAND, MAINE

Schedule 1 - Page 2 of 2

SCHEDULE OF DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS - continued
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

<i>Department</i>	<i>Beginning Balance</i>	<i>Appropriated</i>	<i>Revenues Transfers</i>	<i>Total Available</i>	<i>Expenditures Transfers</i>	<i>Lapsed Unexpended Overhead</i>	<i>Ending Balance</i>
<i>Highways</i>							
Town Roads	\$201,336	\$655,000		\$839,336	\$630,425	\$0	\$208,910
Winter Roads	\$385,386	\$510,000		\$895,386	\$367,168	\$0	\$528,218
Road Signs	\$1,732	\$1,200		\$2,932	\$77	\$0	\$2,855
State Road Assistance			\$39,856	\$39,856	\$39,856	\$0	
	\$591,454	\$1,146,200	\$39,856	\$1,777,510	\$1,037,526	\$0	\$739,984
<i>Education</i>							
Education Assessment	\$5,817	\$2,717,465		\$2,723,282	\$2,723,282	\$0	
	\$5,817	\$2,717,465	\$0	\$2,723,282	\$2,723,282	\$0	\$0
<i>Unclassified</i>							
General Assistance	\$11,934	\$1,500		\$13,434	\$111	\$0	\$13,323
Fish Weir	\$38,964	\$2,000		\$40,964	\$509	\$0	\$40,456
Village Dam	\$58,009	\$2,000		\$60,009	\$62	\$0	\$59,947
Orland Village Dam Grant	\$11			\$11		\$0	\$11
Comm. Center Roof	\$725			\$725		\$0	\$725
Comm. Center Reserve	\$8,158	\$20,000	\$1,600	\$29,758		\$0	\$29,758
Comm. Center	\$86,347	\$405,000	\$166,764	\$558,111	\$261,597	\$0	\$93,514
Comm. Center Outdoor Project	\$5,000			\$5,000	\$16	\$0	\$4,984
Comm. Center Acoustics	\$9,000	\$1,000		\$10,000	\$4,140	\$0	\$5,860
Comm. Center Air Conditioning	\$12,012			\$12,012		\$0	\$12,012
Capital Reserve		\$50,000		\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	
Equipment & Vehicles	\$12,210	\$20,000		\$62,210	\$52,409	\$0	\$9,800
Broadband Grant			\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0	
Orland Recreation	\$3,969	\$200	\$1,760	\$5,929	\$956	\$0	\$4,973
Orland River Days	\$1,530	\$3,000	\$2,987	\$7,517	\$3,810	\$0	\$3,677
Hancock County Planning Commission		\$1,595		\$1,595	\$1,595	\$0	
Buck Memorial Library		\$2,750		\$2,750	\$2,750	\$0	
Bucksport Downeast YMCA		\$2,500		\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0	
Family Snowmobile Club		\$575		\$575	\$575	\$0	
Orland Historical Society		\$1,500		\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	
	\$277,869	\$213,620	\$273,111	\$764,600	\$485,560	\$0	\$279,040
<i>Other Assessments</i>							
County Tax		\$157,787		\$157,787	\$157,787	\$0	
Overlay		\$21,715		\$21,715	\$1,576	\$20,139	
	\$0	\$179,502	\$0	\$179,502	\$159,363	\$20,139	\$0
TOTALS	\$1,293,565	\$5,701,758	\$326,051	\$7,321,357	\$5,753,242	\$20,139	\$1,550,976

Report of the Superintendent of Schools



RSU 25 Town Report 2024-2025

The 2024–2025 school year was a year of growth, accomplishment, and continued progress for RSU 25. Our district remains focused on providing meaningful learning experiences and opportunities that help every student succeed. The support of our communities and the dedication of our staff continue to make these successes possible, and we are grateful for the partnership that allows us to meet our educational goals.

Across our schools, attention has been given to maintaining safe, efficient, and welcoming spaces for students and staff. We continue to make facility improvements that include updates to our building systems overall energy efficiency. By prioritizing sustainability and preventative maintenance, we continue to preserve the integrity of our buildings and make wise use of taxpayer resources. To continue to maintain student safety within our buildings, we invested in a crisis alert system that will notify the appropriate agencies in the event of an emergency. This upgrade was consistent with our strategic goal of maintaining safe and secure schools.

Academically, our students continue to perform at a high level. Through the *Aspire Golden Bucks* initiative, students from Pre-K through grade 12 explore future careers, engage with local professionals, and participate in college and workplace visits. These experiences help connect classroom learning to real-world goals and continue to build a strong foundation for life after graduation. Last year we had over 35 of our seniors participate in an internship or extended work experience.

At Bucksport High School, the Class of 2025 achieved a graduation rate of 89%, and together, students earned an impressive \$527,118 in scholarships. These numbers represent more than academic success—they reflect hard work, persistence, and strong community support.

The year also brought many proud moments in athletics and co-curricular programs. The Girls Softball Team brought home the State Championship, demonstrating teamwork, determination, and school pride. The BHS Robotics Team also had an exceptional season, finishing as runner-up in the Ballard Division at the New England Championships and delivering a strong performance at the World Championships. These accomplishments showcase the wide range of talent, creativity, and dedication found throughout RSU 25.

As we look ahead, RSU 25 remains committed to supporting our students in every aspect of their learning—academic, artistic, and athletic. We are proud of what has been achieved this year and look forward to continuing our work together to ensure that every student has the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dr. Josh Tripp".

Dr. Josh Tripp
Superintendent, RSU 25

**RSU #25 ORLAND
STUDENT ENROLLMENT**

Jewett School	19
Miles Lane	57
Bucksport Middle School	61
Bucksport High School	59
Reach	4
Total	198

(As of 10/1/2025)

2025 - 2026 Enrollment (Oct. 1, 2025) Updated	
Jewett Elementary PK-K	85
Miles Lane School 1 - 4	300
Bucksport Middle School 5 - 8	291
Bucksport High School 9 - 12	353
Reach	18
Total	1,029

Orland School Choice Enrollment

9 Orland High School Students attend schools outside of district RSU 25, utilizing school choice.

Brewer High School Enrollment 2025-2026

9th Grade	0
10th Grade	1
11th Grade	0
12th Grade	0

George Stevens School Enrollment 2025-2026

9th Grade	1
10th Grade	1
11th Grade	1
12th Grade	1

John Bapst Enrollment 2025-2026

9th Grade	0
10th Grade	1
11th Grade	2
12th Grade	1

George Stevens Academy Report

George Stevens Academy Annual Report to the Community
January 2026

George Stevens Academy has been serving the students and families of the Blue Hill Peninsula for over 127 years, and we are honored to continue as the community high school for many students and families today.

This year, approximately 206 students from across the peninsula and beyond are engaged in a wide range of academic, artistic, athletic, and experiential learning opportunities. Our programs support the diverse interests and postsecondary pathways of our student body. GSA plays an important role in sustaining access to high-quality education close to home, supporting families, strengthening community connections, and allowing students to remain rooted in the places and people that shape their lives during these formative years.

In recent years, the Academy has placed renewed emphasis on strengthening community partnerships, expanding career-connected and hands-on learning, maintaining rigorous academic programs, and ensuring that students are known, supported, and well-prepared for life after graduation. GSA is committed to serving all students on the peninsula, with robust programming designed to meet diverse learning needs—from advanced academic coursework to comprehensive special education services that ensure every student has access to meaningful, individualized support. The school remains firmly committed to offering peninsula students an outstanding educational experience while exercising strong fiscal responsibility on behalf of our sending towns and families.

GSA Enrollment

Grade Level	Boys	Girls	Total
Grade 9	36	24	60
Grade 10	25	21	46
Grade 11	23	33	56
Grade 12	35	27	62
Total	119	105	224

Enrollment by Sending Towns

Blue Hill – 90
 Brooklin – 14
 Brooksville – 25
 Castine – 11
 Hancock – 1
 Orland – 4
 Penobscot – 18
 Sedgwick – 29
 Surry – 30
 Homestay - 2

Governance – Board of Trustees

Deb Ludlow '79, Chair (Brooksville)
 Eden Cowart (Brooklin) and Kate Stookey (Penobscot), Co-Vice Chairs
 Christopher Young '85, Treasurer (Blue Hill)
 Lisa Arhontes-Marshall, Clerk (Blue Hill)
 Sara Becton Ardrey (Blue Hill)
 Amy Baker (Blue Hill)
 Alden Blodgett '78 (Penobscot)
 Chris Gleason (Blue Hill)
 Chris Gray '00 (Blue Hill)
 K Guinness (Blue Hill)
 Wilson King (Blue Hill)
 Robyn Sealander (Brooklin)

George Stevens Academy Report (Continued)

Administration

Daniel J. Welch, Head of School
Bob Slayton, Director of Admissions
Chrissy Beardsley Allen '98, Dean of Student Life
Billie L. Heures, Athletic Director
Rada Starkey, Director of Advancement
David Stearns, Dean of Curriculum and Instruction

Financial Highlights

GSA has made measurable progress in strengthening its financial position. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, GSA operated with a balanced budget and a modest surplus, reflecting disciplined budgeting, improved cash flow, and sustained community support.

Key Financial Highlights from Fiscal Year 2025:

- **Total operating revenue:** \$5.4 million, derived primarily from tuition and fees, town-approved supplemental tuition, philanthropy, and endowment support
- **Total operating expenses:** \$5.3 million, with the majority directed toward educational programs and direct student support
- **Operating surplus:** \$90,261, marking continued progress after several challenging fiscal years
- **Cash and cash equivalents:** \$1.1 million at year's end, reflecting improved liquidity
- **Total net assets:** \$14.2 million, including an endowment of just over \$11 million supporting long-term sustainability and financial aid

Revenue Breakdown (FY 2025):

Total operating revenues of \$5,416,097 came from:

- **Tuition and fees:** \$4,109,930 (75.9%) from sending towns, special education tuition, and related sources
- **Earned revenues (including food service):** \$194,719 (3.6% of total)
- **Charitable gifts and pledges:** \$1,276,765 (23.6%)
- **Government grants:** \$37,474 (0.7%)
- **Endowment appropriation:** \$379,814 (not reported as earned revenue, simply a release of endowment funds)
- **Offset by Loss on Disposal of property & equipment:** -\$202,821 (-3.8%)

Expense Breakdown (FY 2025):

Total operating expenses of \$5,325,836 were allocated as follows:

- **Educational programs:** \$4,036,301 (75.8%) for faculty/staff compensation, classroom instruction, academic supports, and student services
- **Management and general operations:** \$866,156 (16.3%)
- **Auxiliary services (food service):** \$207,593 (3.9%)
- **Advancement and fundraising:** \$215,786 (4.0%)

George Stevens Academy Report (Continued)

The fiscal year concluded with a positive operating margin of 1.7%, reflecting disciplined budgeting, stable enrollment revenue, and careful cost management while maintaining strong educational programming.

In alignment with our commitment to fiscal responsibility, the Board of Trustees has voted to reduce the supplemental tuition assessment by 10 percent beginning next year, followed by additional 10 percent reductions in each of the subsequent two years. This planned three-year reduction reflects the Board and school leadership's intent to balance educational quality with sound financial practices.

As we plan for GSA's future, we recognize that long-term sustainability requires open dialogue with our communities. In the coming months, GSA leadership and board members will be engaging in measured, one-on-one conversations with residents, town officials, and school committee members about the possibility of town enrollment contracts in the not-too-distant future.

These conversations are exploratory in nature and designed to listen, learn, and understand each town's unique perspective. We believe that decisions about public education benefit from thoughtful relationship-building and transparent information-sharing. No decisions have been made, and any potential changes would only move forward with broad community understanding and support.

We welcome questions, concerns, and ideas from community members throughout this process. To learn more or share your thoughts about town contracts and GSA's future, please reach out to us at community@georgestevens.org. Our goal is simply to ensure that GSA can continue serving peninsula students well into the future, while respecting the autonomy and priorities of each sending town.

The Academy is grateful for the continued partnership of its sending towns and recognizes the responsibility that comes with stewarding public education dollars. Through transparency, open communication, and prudent financial planning, George Stevens Academy remains committed to serving as a strong, accessible, and community-centered high school for the students and families of the Blue Hill Peninsula.

For more about GSA, our programs, campus activities, and the documents mentioned above, visit our website at www.georgestevensacademy.org.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel J. Welch
Head of School

TOWN OF ORLAND
ANNUAL FISH COMMITTEE REPORT
2025 SEASON

The 2025 season has been a busy year for the fish committee. First the harvest, as usual the run started strong. It seems every year the fish slow down a couple of weeks into the run. This happened this year as well. The catch picked up again two thirds of the way through the season. The final catch ended very close to last year.

The fish committee has been given a nonpayment lease on a thirty-foot section of a fish ladder. This will be set in the river below the village dam. We also have plans to build a resting pool at the lower end of the existing fish ladder. We will be using the boulders on site. The new section will aid fish in getting to the existing fish ladder at lower tides. It will be positioned to guide fish to the resting pool.

The fish committee along with the select board, Downeast Salmon Federation, Interfluvic (an engineering company), and volunteers have formed a steering committee to work with Greenfield. This committee will write a scoping document. This scoping document will be sent to engineering firms, requesting qualifications to write a feasibility study concerning work on the dam and fish ladder.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Robshaw

Fish Warden

Anne Leclerc

Secretary

Orland River Day Report

ORD 2025 was spectacular with hundreds of visitors, an interesting Moxie Contest, and the return of the MMA Drill Company! Vendors keep showing up and we had the addition of a car show from the Orland Historical Society, so come again in 2026 and see what's going on. We continue to look forward to your participation, whether it's for some food, a visit with friends/neighbors, or a simple day out to see what's going on around Town. To get involved in celebrating our great community or join in the planning reach out at orlandriverday@gmail.com or follow us on Facebook/Instagram!

In the Celebration of Community,

The ORD Planning Committee

Save The Date!
Orland River Day 2026
will be held
Saturday, September 12, 2026

Orland Broadband Committee

Report for July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

The Orland Broadband Committee (OBC) is pleased to present its annual report, highlighting a year of significant progress and community engagement. This year was marked by the start of, and near completion, of our fiber optic build project and by effective outreach by providing digital learning opportunities for residents of Orland and neighboring communities.

The committee continued to work on its goals outlined in its Guiding Principles. We have outlined our activities as of the end of June 2025, under each specific goal below:

- *Research and work with the Selectmen to implement the installation of Fiber to the Home (FTTH) broadband service for all residents and businesses in the Town of Orland, and particularly those located in underserved and unserved areas*
 - A kick-off meeting, to provide up-front information as the actual build began, was held in April which included the Orland Selectman Board, Simon Thorne, (Senior Manager of Government Relations, Consolidated Communications) and committee members.
 - The OBC members contributed over 600 volunteer hours over the course of the project. Many thanks to all those who have worked on and supported the committee.

- *Ensure reliable, affordable, and faster internet access to support households and businesses in what they need for work, school, healthcare, and more.*
 - An informational booth was set up at Orland River Day in September 2024 where committee members provided residents with important information about the upcoming broadband project, answered questions, and gathered community feedback.
 - The committee authored and distributed a comprehensive fact sheet titled 'Fiber Optic Build Project 2025.' This fact sheet provided community members with details concerning the benefits of fiber optic broadband and expectations for the upcoming infrastructure build.
 - The initiation and near-completion of the fiber optic build project. Construction began in April 2025.

- *Ensure the internet provider service (ISP) offers a range of products and pricing options, which will include a minimum symmetrical speed of 100 Mbps for download / upload, and up to 1 Gigabyte capacity with no data cap or throttling of bandwidth availability.*
 - Fidium Fiber's website and contact information were included in press releases on the town website, local newspapers, local bulletin boards in Orland and Bucksport, the pubfiber.org website, and in the fact sheet distributed at events.

- *Ensure that community members have knowledge about and access to opportunities to obtain low-cost technology hardware (e.g., refurbished computers, printers) and to participate in educational programs to use technology and the internet for their personal gain and growth.*
 - More than 40 adult students participated in 11 digital skills classes presented via Zoom by the National Digital Equity Center (digitalequitycenter.org). These classes were held onsite at the Orland Community Center, empowering residents with vital digital competencies, with two OBC committee members serving as site navigators.
 - A committee member regularly attended monthly meetings of the Bucksport Bay Healthy Community's 'Age and Ability Friendly Committee.' These meetings were a valuable forum for sharing information about NDEC courses, learning about the unique needs of senior citizens, and fostering cross-community connections.
 - In partnership with local organizations, the OBC held a 'Bring Your Cell Phones to Lunch' event at the Bucksport Senior Citizen Center. This initiative provided seniors with hands-on support and answers to their technology questions, helping to bridge the digital divide.

- *Collaborate with Maine Connectivity Authority and other entities to identify funding opportunities needed for broadband project completion.*
 - As noted in last year's committee report, the \$1.8 million Connect the Ready Cohort 2 grant was awarded to Consolidated Communications, Inc. dba Fidium Fiber (FF) for Orland's \$3,743,345 fiber optic build project.

In conclusion, we report that the build project was completed on August 14, 2025! What a memorable time in our town's history! Looking back to the bulk mail survey sent to 1553 townspeople in December 2023, in which we learned that 87% of the respondents stated that it was extremely important and very important to have fast reliable internet access at home, and that no speeds reported were close to symmetrical; e.g. 100/100 Mbps, we understood the importance of this mission. We can now say that every person who wants fast, reliable, and affordable broadband service has access to it. We would like to commend Fidium Fiber's many crews of linemen, splicers, and behind the scenes staff, as well as our committee FF liaison and good friend, Simon Thorne, on their diligence and efficiency during this project.

The OBC, having completed goals in its official group capacity, has since dissolved. Any questions should be directed to the town office (207-469-3186). All committee minutes are available on the town website at <https://townoforland.org> (Government/Agenda & Minutes/Broadband Committee). Other resources available are TechHelpforME.org, National Digital Equity Center (digitalequitycenter.org), giveitgetit.org, and pubfiber.org.

Submitted by Marybeth Allen and Laurie Kelley, previous co-Chairs of the Orland Broadband Committee.

Orland Community Resilience Committee

During the summer of 2024, Orland community members concerned about the effects of storm events and about funding our town's capacities for response asked the Board of Selectmen to consider enrolling in the Maine Community Resilience Partnership (CRP). The Maine CRP has been a key part of our state's climate action initiative since 2021. Membership in the partnership is the way to access competitively the state funding available to improve resilience to weather-related events. Of the 534 towns, tribes and unorganized territories in Maine, 263 are now members of the Maine CRP, including Orland.

The Board appointed the Orland Community Resilience Committee (OCRC) in July 2024. Through the committee, the town competed successfully for funding to 14 Maine towns of technical assistance through the energy efficiency program for rural communities. This program has provided an energy use audit of the Orland community center and the town office, including methods for tracking and improving energy efficiency in the future.

The results of the audit helped the town apply for \$75,000 to replace windows in the retail wing of the community center through the Community Action Grant program of the Maine CRP. The town should hear about funding in early 2026. The final energy audit report is anticipated for late this year and will be available at the town office. Finally, the OCRC is working with the Orland Comprehensive Plan Review group and the Board to identify town priorities that can be funded through the Maine CRP in 2026.

On behalf of the committee, acting chair Claus Hamann thanks the Board and town staff for their support, fellow members for their participation, and our service provider, Resilience Works LLC, for its guidance with enrollment and grant applications. The committee is eager to attract additional members and welcomes your interest. Please contact the Town Clerk for further details.

Respectfully submitted,
CH

Members OCRC: Julie Ream, David DePrez, Todd West, Nicolai Alatzas