

# TOWN OF YORK, MAINE

2020-2021



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TOWN OF YORK, MAINE – 2020-2021 ANNUAL REPORT

SUSAN M. COLLINS  
MAINE

413 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904  
(202) 224-2523  
(202) 224-2693 (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

January 1, 2021

Dear Friends,

2020 was a year unlike any in our lifetimes. Our state and nation dealt with unprecedented challenges--the coronavirus pandemic, ensuing economic fallout, and a prolonged, heavily divisive campaign season each took a significant toll on all of us. The worst part? In order to protect each other, we had to face these challenges in isolation. But a new year represents new possibilities; a chance to take stock of what we're grateful for and focus on the opportunities in front of us. As we reflect back on 2020, we will remember heartbreak and loss – but we cannot forget the shining rays of hope that broke through the darkness, reminding us all that better days are ahead.

Throughout the pandemic, my top focus has been on bridging the partisan divide in Washington in order to deliver desperately-needed relief for Maine people. Joined by colleagues last March, we pushed for bipartisan negotiations to produce a strong bill that helped fellow Mainers, businesses, and institutions weather this storm. In the weeks and months after the *CARES Act* passed, our team stayed in close contact with people throughout the state to determine how we should adjust our response to best support our citizens. Unfortunately, the aid provided by the *CARES Act* lapsed without Congressional action, leaving too many families and businesses in limbo. I never stopped pushing for a bipartisan relief bill and, after extensive negotiations, we ended the year on a good note by breaking the gridlock and passing new relief legislation. This new bill isn't perfect; in fact, it should just be the start our renewed response. As we enter 2021 with a new administration and new Congress, we must fight for additional legislation to help restore stability to our working families and rebuild our economy and public health infrastructure.

In the midst of this crisis, Congress did manage to accomplish a few successes that will outlast this awful pandemic. Among these was the *Great American Outdoors Act*, a bipartisan bill which was enacted into law in August 2020 and will help address a \$12 billion backlog at our national parks so future generations of Americans can enjoy these beautiful lands and create lifelong memories. Also, as we learn more about the recent hacks of our nation's networks, there is help on the way: 27 of the cybersecurity recommendations made by the Cyberspace Solarium Commission – which I co-chair with Republican Congressman Mike Gallagher – made it into this year's defense bill. While there is no guarantee that these provisions would have prevented the massive hack, they will certainly improve our cyber defenses.

Despite the challenges, I'm hopeful for the future. Vaccines are being distributed across our state – starting with our healthcare heroes, who have sacrificed so much throughout this unprecedented catastrophe and deserve our eternal gratitude. If there can be a silver lining from these challenges of 2020, maybe it will be this: I hope that, in the not-so distant future, we will be able to come together physically and we will be reminded of our love for each other. We have differences, without a doubt. But as Maine people stepped up to

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support each other, we saw again and again that our differences pale in comparison to the values we share. We are one state, and one community – and there is nothing we cannot or will not do for each other. Mary and I wish you a happy and healthy 2021. We can't wait to see you soon.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Angus S. King, Jr." The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Angus S." on the first line and "King, Jr." on the second line.

Angus S. King, Jr.

United States Senator



## EDITOR'S STATEMENT

The Town Report includes documentation required by Maine State Statute - MRSA 30A §2801.

This collection of reports has been submitted by the Town Manager, Department Heads, School Officials, the Water and Sewer Districts, the Library, and from those who volunteer on our Boards, Committees and Commissions. You will also find the financial statements from the Town and School Department's Auditors.



## PHONE NUMBERS

### MUNICIPAL

Animal Control	(207) 363-4444
Center for Active Living	(207) 363-1036
Code Enforcement	(207) 363-1002
Dispatch Center	(207) 363-4444
Finance Department	(207) 363-1004
General (Welfare) Assistance	(207) 363-5504
Parks and Recreation Department	(207) 363-1040
Planning Department	(207) 363-1007
Police Department	(207) 363-1031
Public Works Department	(207) 363-1010
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	(207) 363-1003
Town Manager's Office	(207) 363-1000
York Beach Fire Department	(207) 363-1014
York Village Fire Department	(207) 363-1015

### SCHOOL

School Superintendent's Office	(207) 363-3403
York High School	(207) 363-3621
York Middle School	(207) 363-4214
Coastal Ridge Elementary School	(207) 363-1800
Village Elementary School	(207) 363-4870

### STATE/COUNTY

Attorney General's Office	(207) 628-8800
District Attorney's Office	(207) 363-1230
State Police (Gray)	(207) 657-3030
York County Emergency Management Agency	(207) 324-1578
York County Registrar of Probate	(207) 324-1577
York County Registry of Deeds	(207) 324-1576
York County Sheriff's Office	(207) 324-1113

### OTHER

Greater York Region Chamber of Commerce	(207) 363-4422
Waste Management	(800) 972-4545
York Community Service Association	(207) 363-5504
York Public Library	(207) 363-2818
York Sewer District	(207) 363-4232
York Water District	(207) 363-2265



## GENERAL INFORMATION

Population: Approximately 15,000 year-round residents

Location: Longitude – Between 70 degrees 53 minutes (Bald Head Cliff) and 70 degrees 45 minutes (Western tip, Route 91 and South Berwick)

Latitude – Between 43 degrees 16 minutes (Northern tip, Shore Road and Ogunquit) and 43 degrees 6 minutes (Southern tip, Brave Boat Harbor Road and Kittery)

Approximate Distance From:      Boston, Massachusetts      60 miles  
     Portsmouth, New Hampshire      9 miles  
     Portland, Maine      45 miles  
     Augusta, Maine (State Capitol)      105 miles

Beaches:      Harbor Beach      Route 1A, York Harbor  
                             Long Sands Beach      Long Beach Avenue, York Beach  
                             Short Sands Beach      Ocean Avenue, York Beach  
                             Passaconaway Beach      Shore Road, Cape Neddick

Tax Rate (Fiscal Year):

1990 \$37.00	1991 \$28.00	1992 \$13.20	1993 \$12.90	1994 \$12.80	1995 \$13.10
1996 \$13.10	1997 \$14.10	1998 \$14.60	1999 \$15.70	2000 \$17.10	2001 \$19.00
2002 \$10.25	2003 \$9.70	2004 \$8.75	2005 \$8.46	2006 \$8.14	2007 \$8.10
2008 \$8.23	2009 \$8.58	2010 \$9.10	2011 \$9.35	2012 \$9.96	2013 \$10.43
2014 \$10.70	2015 \$11.00	2016 \$11.15	2017 \$10.95	2018 \$11.15	2019 \$11.15
2020 \$11.15	<b>2021</b> \$11.10				

Voting Regulation: Any United States citizen of at least 18 years of age is entitled to vote. To be eligible to vote, you must first register with the Registrar of Voters at Town Hall or at any Motor Vehicle Office. You may also register at the polls with two forms of identification and proof of residency. In order to vote in a Primary Election, you must register as a member of one of the political parties. Absentee Ballots are obtained through the Town Clerk's Office.



## TOWN AND SCHOOL BUILDING INFORMATION

### **Town Hall**

186 York Street

Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

### **Recreation Department**

200 US Route One

Monday through Friday 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

### **Police Department**

9 Hannaford Drive

### **Village Fire Department**

1 Firehouse Drive

### **Beach Fire Department**

18 Railroad Avenue

### **Public Works**

115 Chase's Pond Road

### **Recycling and Composting Facility**

65 Witchtrot Road

Wednesday and Saturday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

### **York Public Library**

15 Long Sands Road

### **School Central Office**

469 US Route One

### **York High School**

1 Robert Stevens Drive

### **York Middle School**

30 Organug Road

### **Coastal Ridge Elementary School**

1 Coastal Ridge Drive

### **Village Elementary School**

124 York Street



## ELECTED OFFICIALS

### **Selectmen and Overseers of the Poor**

Todd A. Frederick  
Robert E. Palmer, Jr.  
Michael L. Estes  
Marilyn McLaughlin  
Kinley Gregg

### **Budget Committee**

Nan Graves  
James Smith  
Heather Bridges Campbell  
Michael Spencer  
Jerry Allen  
Edward Little  
Marla Johnson

### **School Committee**

David Herbein  
Brenda Alexander  
Julie Eneman  
Meaghan Schoff  
Meredith Schmid

### **Town Clerk**

Mary-Anne Szeniawski

### **Town Treasurer**

Lawrence A. Graves

### **Moderator**

Russell F. Osgood



## TOWN MANAGER



# TOWN CLERK AND TAX COLLECTOR

## TOWN CLERK AND TAX COLLECTOR STATISTICS

*Respectfully Submitted By: Mary-Anne Szeniawski, Town Clerk*

<b>MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS</b>		<b>DOG LICENSES</b>	
PASSENGER CARS	9358	NON-NEUTERED	152
COMMERCIAL VEHICLES	375	NEUTERED	2285
MOTORCYCLES/MOPEDS	603	KENNELS	2
TRAILERS	840		
<b>RECREATIONAL VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS</b>		<b>VITAL RECORDS Jan.1 2020 - Dec.31 2020</b>	
BOATS	781	BIRTHS	273
ATVS	211	DEATHS	227
SNOWMOBILES	157	MARRIAGES	272

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**UNPAID REAL ESTATE TAXES AS OF 6/30/2020**

<b>Unpaid Real Estate Taxes as of 6/30/2020</b>			
		CHURCHILL CHARON	1,777.73
		CHURCHILL CHARON	1,810.47
11 STAGE NECK ROAD LLC	130.99	CHURCHILL COWBOY CAFÉ CORP	2,794.08
A T E LLC	3,267.38	CLARK ELLEN	2,744.84
AFM TRUST	178.91	CLOUTIER GERMAIN SR	224.42
AFM TRUST	16,617.15	CONANT TROY	367.09
ALTERMAN ROSE F LIFE ESTATE	3,542.61	CONLEY KEVINS/SYBIL	217.51
ANDELLA JAMES TRUSTEE	5,935.44	CONLEY LOUISE/KEVIN	497.04
ANDERSON CATHY MARDEN	1,519.19	CONNOLLY THOMAS/CHRISTIE	4,288.68
ANDERSON STEVEN	97.95	CONNOLLY THOMAS/CHRISTIE	3,210.33
APPLE TRUST	40,930.14	COOLEY KIM/FRANKLIN R SCOTT TRUST	2,428.00
AVERY WAYNE D II	227.63	COOLEY PATRICK/DANIELLE	1,463.11
BELL BRANDON	251.43	COVIELLO RONALD	76.25
BESSETTE PATRICIA	178.49	CRONIN ELLEN	170.66
BLAISDELL, DOUGLAS M	5,423.92	CURRAN WILLIAM/VIRGINIA HRS	204.41
BLAISDELL, DOUGLAS M	1,783.78	CURRIE STEPHEN/TRECARTIN MARY	5,872.40
BOSSI JOHN/MICHELLE	4,274.76	DELORIE DIANE K	88.78
BOSSI JOHN/MICHELLE	4,172.89	DENIS MARC/CHERYL	3,837.34
BOYLE KEVIN/JOANNE D	2,059.47	DENNIS GWENDOLYN TRUSTEE	991.47
BRACY GERALD A	354.35	DENTREMONT DAVID	3,051.27
BROWN KEVIN	822.18	DENTREMONT DAVID TRUSTEE	2,319.24
BUCKLEY RICHARD	2,282.86	DIXON CLYDE JR	1,367.20
CABRAL JOHN	1,008.07	DIXON CLYDE N JR	3,505.07

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CALLAHAN DANNI L	3,026.35		DIXON CLYDE N JR	3,682.72
CALLERY III JAMES	4,418.61		DIXON CLYDE N JR	2,353.15
CAME MAGDALENE TRUSTEE	79.80		DIXON CLYDE N JR	799.95
CAMIRE CLAYTON H	2,516.65		DREW ANITA/MARK	1,814.35
CARLETON TOM/KATHY	163.71		EASTBROOK TIMBER CO INC.	348.5
CARRICO DONALD R	2,262.33		EATON WENDY A	197.51
CHURCHILL CHARON	1,777.73		EFH INC	22,558.37
FASTMAN ROBIN D	3,682.11		FERREIRA MICHAEL/GAIL	1,365.74
CHURCHILL COWBOY CAFÉ CORP	2,794.08		FIFTEEN RAILROAD ONE LLC	4,709.73
CLARK ELLEN	2,744.84		FINN DIEDRE	106.40
CLOUTIER GERMAIN SR	224.42		FITZGERALD LIZ	177.74
CONANT TROY	367.09		FORBES JASON	70.10
CONLEY KEVINS/SYBIL	217.51		FREEMAN MARK E	3,370.68
CONLEY LOUISE/KEVIN	497.04		FREEMAN MARK TRUSTEE	1,608.02
CONNOLLY THOMAS/CHRISTIE	4,288.68		FREEMAN MARK	1,154.34
CONNOLLY THOMAS/CHRISTIE	3,210.33		GAFFNEY PAULINE M TRUSTEE	4,377.69
COOLEY KIM/FRANKLIN R SCOTT TRUST	2,428.00		GANEM SCOTT E	2,423.32
COOLEY PATRICK/DANIELLE	1,463.11		GANEM STEPHEN C	3,709.85
COVIELLO RONALD	76.25		GEORGES KATHLEEN	6,276.96
CRONIN ELLEN	170.66		GIBSON JOHN/MARY	4,696.74
CURRAN WILLIAM/VIRGINIA HRS	204.41		GLANCY ROBERT JR	194.11
CURRIE STEPHEN/TRECARTIN MARY	5,872.40		GOLDMAN EDWARD C/ANITA L	2,185.90
DELORIE DIANE K	88.78		GOODWIN ALLEN/DOROTHY	4,819.78
DENIS MARC/CHERYL	3,837.34		GOODWIN JENNIFER TRUSTEE	991.52
DENNIS GWENDOLYN TRUSTEE	991.47		GORMAN JONATHAN T	4,180.02
DENTREMONT DAVID	3,051.27		GRANITE STATE PIONEER GROUP LLC	8,913.18
DENTREMONT DAVID TRUSTEE	2,319.24		GRANT DEBRA	170.72
DIXON CLYDE JR	1,367.20		GRANT SCOTT/PANTAS JOAN/ANDREWS ROBIN	2,692.21

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DIXON CLYDE N JR	3,505.07		GREY GERALDINE H/JAN HARRIMAN TRUSTEE	532.13
DIXON CLYDE N JR	3,682.72		GREY GERALDINE H/JAN HARRIMAN TRUSTEE	2,957.82
DIXON CLYDE N JR	2,353.15		GRIFFIN WILLIAM	185.93
DIXON CLYDE N JR	799.95		HACKETT WILLIAM J LIFE ESTATE	3,074.78
DREW ANITA/MARK	1,814.35		HAJJAR RICHARD/LAUREN	190.61
EASTBROOK TIMBER CO INC.	348.50		HARDY TED/REBECCA	854.93
EATON WENDY A	197.51		HARDY TED/REBECCA	436.22
EFH INC	22,558.37		HARRINGTON TED	139.15
FASTMAN ROBIN D	3,682.11		HARRIS LINDA TRUSTEE	2,476.35
FERREIRA MICHAEL/GAIL	1,365.74		HART LINDA L	3,245.54
FIFTEEN RAILROAD ONE LLC	4,709.73		HAZZARD PAUL J	2,515.49
FINN DIEDRE	106.40		HERRIN JOHN C TRUSTEE	4,165.99
FITZGERALD LIZ	177.74		HOLLY KATHRYN	3,300.50
FORBES JASON	70.10		HUGHES PHILIP	280.66
FREEMAN MARK E	3,370.68		HUTCH BARRY	3,161.45
FREEMAN MARK TRUSTEE	1,608.02		JOHNSON THERESE	5,327.26
FREEMAN MARK	1,154.34		JUDGE JEN/PAT	164.88
GAFFNEY PAULINE M TRUSTEE	4,377.69		KEEFE KENNETH JR	175.40
GANEM SCOTT E	2,423.32		KNIGHT MICHELLE D/RICHARD S JR	748.09
GANEM STEPHEN C	3,709.85		KNIGHT RICHARD S JR/MICHELLE D	753.30
GEORGES KATHLEEN	6,276.96		KNIGHT RICHARD S JR/MICHELLE	178.96
GIBSON JOHN/MARY	4,696.74		KNIGHT RICHARD/MICHELLE	180.72
GLANCY ROBERT JR	194.11		KNIGHT RICHARD/MICHELLE	180.13
GOLDMAN EDWARD C/ANITA L	2,185.90		KNIGHT RICHARD/MICHELLE	179.55
GOODWIN ALLEN/DOROTHY	4,819.78		KOZLOWSKI STEVEN B	7,397.53
GOODWIN JENNIFER TRUSTEE	991.52		LAFRENIERE STEPHEN M	340.32
GORMAN JONATHAN T	4,180.02		LAMPESIS CAROLE	206.98
GRANITE STATE PIONEER GROUP LLC	8,913.18		LANDRY DONALD TRUSTEE	1,505.27

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GRANT DEBRA	170.72		LAO PROPERTIES LLC	10,926.71
GRANT SCOTT/PANTAS JOAN/ANDREWS ROBIN	2,692.21		LAO PROPERTIES LLC	11,318.63
GREY GERALDINE H/JAN HARRIMAN TRUSTEE	532.13		LAUREN SARA	2,404.77
GREY GERALDINE H/JAN HARRIMAN TRUSTEE	2,957.82		LE VAN ALICIA	1,727.27
GRiffin WILLIAM	185.93		LEMIEUX PAUL/JOANNE	68.26
HACKETT WILLIAM J LIFE ESTATE	3,074.78		LETOURNEAU ROBERT/HUA	499.38
HAJJAR RICHARD/LAUREN	190.61		LILL FRANCIS/KATHRYN	4,974.17
HARDY TED/REBECCA	854.93		LYDSTON JOHN/ANGELA TRUSTEES	1,271.19
HARDY TED/REBECCA	436.22		LYDSTON JOHN A/ANGELA T TRUSTEES	1,971.48
HARRINGTON TED	139.15		LYDSTON JOHN	779.59
HARRIS LINDA TRUSTEE	2,476.35		LYNCH LANNARAE	190.61
MANDRAVELIS ANTHONY/PATRICIA TRUSTEE	3,962.36		PEPEN EMILIA	2,419.82
MARGINAL WAY FILMS LLC	198.11		PERKINS TERESA	212.71
MARONEY JOHN E ET AL	241.95		PLATNER BENJAMIN/JOSHUA TRUSTEE	17,213.75
MARONEY JOHN E ET AL	233.76		POVEROMO MARK	4,777.56
MARTIN ALBERT V/ELEANOR A	2,684.02		PRITCHARD JEANNE	1,854.71
MCANDREW JOHN/PATRICIA	144.99		PROPERTY EVOLUTION SOLUTIONS LLC	85.58
MCCARTHY MARC/ROBIN	1,430.90		RAGO NICHOLAS/AMANDA	3,974.86
MCCARTHY MARC/ROBIN	783.35		RAINVILLE ROBERT HRS	3,286.48
MCCARTHY MARC	1,983.27		RAMSDELL RONALD P	4,701.53
MCCARTHY MARC	796.61		REID ERIC	243.24
MCCARTHY MARC/ROBIN	3,139.35		REPPUCCI RICHARD T	1,032.20
MCCARTHY MARC/ROBIN	2,161.42		RICKER FREDERICK E ET AL	8,586.98
MCCARTHY ROBIN	940.19		ROBERTSON CORINNA/STEVE	233.88
MCKEE RONALD	1,102.88		ROBINSON MICHAEL	181.25
MCNEIL JOHN TRUSTEE	85.41		ROCHE BETTIE M TRUSTEE	119.40
MEYER JESSICA	2,731.85		ROSA DANIEL/MARY TRUSTEES	2,329.76
MILLER JASON	6,963.49		ROSS MICHAEL	9,566.61

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MOARATTY PETER S	1,184.75		ROTMAN TIMOTHY M	5,172.64
MORGAN HOLDINGS INC	4,205.75		RRB GROUP LLC	575.40
MOULTON WENDY S PERS REP	1,249.25		RRB GROUP LLC	3,964.70
MOYLAN MATT/JUDY	184.76		RUCH HENRY ESTATE OF	2,121.57
MULHERN ELIZABETH	150.85		RUCH HENRY ESTATE OF	111.08
MY PLACE BY THE SEA LLC	5,122.58		RUSSELL SCOTT	2,643.20
NICHOLSON THOMAS	203.47		RUTHERFORD JAMES R III/JOANNE	1,314.27
NORTH WOODS REV TRUST	62.57		SAFINA JOANNA L/FRANK J	2,912.09
NOWELL JOSHUA B	481.80		SALVUCCI SUSAN	3,622.14
OLSON KENNETH J	1,310.94		SANDERSON DANA/PAUL	1,455.74
PALETTE LLC	569.20		SASANOA SHORES LAND TRUST LLC	361.30
PALMER-STOVER SHERRELL R	2,642.04		SASANOA SHORES LAND TRUST LLC	326.70
PARSHLEY GREGORY/MICHELLE	5,332.87		SASANOA SHORES LAND TRUST LLC	357.83
PEPEN EMILIA	2,419.82		PEPEN EMILIA	2,419.82
PERKINS TERESA	212.71		PERKINS TERESA	212.71
PLATNER BENJAMIN/JOSHUA TRUSTEE	17,213.75		PLATNER BENJAMIN/JOSHUA TRUSTEE	17,213.75
POVEROMO MARK	4,777.56		POVEROMO MARK	4,777.56
PRITCHARD JEANNE	1,854.71		PRITCHARD JEANNE	1,854.71
PROPERTY EVOLUTION SOLUTIONS LLC	85.58		PROPERTY EVOLUTION SOLUTIONS LLC	85.58
RAGO NICHOLAS/AMANDA	3,974.86		RAGO NICHOLAS/AMANDA	3,974.86
RAINVILLE ROBERT HRS	3,286.48		RAINVILLE ROBERT HRS	3,286.48
RAMSDELL RONALD P	4,701.53		RAMSDELL RONALD P	4,701.53
REID ERIC	243.24		REID ERIC	243.24
REPPUCCI RICHARD T	1,032.20		REPPUCCI RICHARD T	1,032.20
RICKER FREDERICK E ET AL	8,586.98		RICKER FREDERICK E ET AL	8,586.98
ROBERTSON CORINNA/STEVE	233.88		ROBERTSON CORINNA/STEVE	233.88
ROBINSON MICHAEL	181.25		ROBINSON MICHAEL	181.25
ROCHE BETTIE M TRUSTEE	119.40		ROCHE BETTIE M TRUSTEE	119.40

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ROSA DANIEL/MARY TRUSTEES	2,329.76		ROSA DANIEL/MARY TRUSTEES	2,329.76
ROSS MICHAEL	9,566.61		ROSS MICHAEL	9,566.61
ROTMAN TIMOTHY M	5,172.64		ROTMAN TIMOTHY M	5,172.64
RRB GROUP LLC	575.40		RRB GROUP LLC	575.40
RRB GROUP LLC	3,964.70		RRB GROUP LLC	3,964.70
RUCH HENRY ESTATE OF	2,121.57		RUCH HENRY ESTATE OF	2,121.57
RUCH HENRY ESTATE OF	111.08		RUCH HENRY ESTATE OF	111.08
RUSSELL SCOTT	2,643.20		RUSSELL SCOTT	2,643.20
RUTHERFORD JAMES R III/JOANNE	1,314.27		RUTHERFORD JAMES R III/JOANNE	1,314.27
SAFINA JOANNA L/FRANK J	2,912.09		SAFINA JOANNA L/FRANK J	2,912.09
SALVUCCI SUSAN	3,622.14		SALVUCCI SUSAN	3,622.14
SANDERSON DANA/PAUL	1,455.74		SANDERSON DANA/PAUL	1,455.74
SASANOA SHORES LAND TRUST LLC	361.30		SASANOA SHORES LAND TRUST LLC	361.30
SASANOA SHORES LAND TRUST LLC	326.70		SASANOA SHORES LAND TRUST LLC	326.70
SASANOA SHORES LAND TRUST LLC	357.83		SASANOA SHORES LAND TRUST LLC	357.83
PEPEN EMILIA	2,419.82		SHEEHAN MARY/KEVIN	180.08
PERKINS TERESA	212.71		STENBERG SANDRA L	2,341.45
PLATNER BENJAMIN/JOSHUA TRUSTEE	17,213.75		STONEY BROOK REALTY LLC	186.45
POVEROMO MARK	4,777.56		SUCCI KELLI	2,770.32
PRITCHARD JEANNE	1,854.71		SWETT JOHN/ANN MARIE/LISA/THEODORE	75.64
PROPERTY EVOLUTION SOLUTIONS LLC	85.58		SYLVESTER MARK W/LYNNE	4,486.33
RAGO NICHOLAS/AMANDA	3,974.86		SYMONNS ROBERT W JR	650.75
RAINVILLE ROBERT HRS	3,286.48		T ROZ INC	2,495.84
RAMSDELL RONALD P	4,701.53		TARTARINI DENISE M TRUSTEE	175.25
REID ERIC	243.24		TAYLOR PATRICIA O TRUSTEE	3,468.92
REPPUCCI RICHARD T	1,032.20		TAYLOR PATRICIA O	6,353.09
RICKER FREDERICK E ET AL	8,586.98		THIBODEAU THERESA M	2,329.76
ROBERTSON CORINNA/STEVE	233.88		TOMES M. CAROLINE	6,048.77

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ROBINSON MICHAEL	181.25		TRIDER MATTHEW J/KATHRYN A	1,513.28
ROCHE BETTIE M TRUSTEE	119.40		TULLY SCOTT	954.34
ROSA DANIEL/MARY TRUSTEES	2,329.76		ULRICH PATRICIA	6,743.73
ROSS MICHAEL	9,566.61		UNKNOWN OWNERSHIP	238.56
ROTMAN TIMOTHY M	5,172.64		VANARIA TONY/TINA	161.37
RRB GROUP LLC	575.40		VENTOLA ANTHONY/LEE	5,115.68
RRB GROUP LLC	3,964.70		VINTER STEPHEN/PATRICIA	4,308.75
RUCH HENRY ESTATE OF	2,121.57		WALSH FAMILY LTD PARTNERSHIP	5,919.18
RUCH HENRY ESTATE OF	111.08		WEARE PETER	2,433.85
RUSSELL SCOTT	2,643.20		WEARE PETER	2,313.38
RUTHERFORD JAMES R III/JOANNE	1,314.27		WELCH CHARLES/SANDRA LEE	197.63
SAFINA JOANNA L/FRANK J	2,912.09		WHITE LORI	3,381.09
SALVUCCI SUSAN	3,622.14		WIGGIN JEFFREY	105.82
SANDERSON DANA/PAUL	1,455.74		WILLIS DANA J TRUSTEE	22,291.81
SASANOA SHORES LAND TRUST LLC	361.30		YOUNG GLENN S	1,677.11
SASANOA SHORES LAND TRUST LLC	326.70		YOUNG GLENN S	973.07
SASANOA SHORES LAND TRUST LLC	357.83		YOUNG ROBERT/BEVERLY	2,651.16
ZOMBECK MONIQUE J. TRUSTEE	82.53			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>556,122.55</b>			

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**UNPAID PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES AS OF 6/30/2020**

Unpaid Personal Property Taxes as of 6/30/2020				
ALLEN JERVIS	\$34.45	KEENE RAYMOND		\$18.51
ANDREWS ANNE	\$41.81	KENNEDY JAMES		\$95.22
B&B TRAP	\$40.70	LAMPINEN BRENDA		\$53.52
BARTLETT JAMES P.A.	\$50.51	MAINELY GRASS HOLDINGS LLC		\$46.38
BOLDUC DAN	\$131.24	MANTER LEA		\$252.32
BOULIER JEREMY	\$19.62	MARCURI MICHAEL		\$1,431.88
BRITTON WILLIAM	\$54.52	MARSHALL NATHANIEL III		\$133.80
CIAMPA HUMBERT/ISABEL	\$1,232.86	MCCARTHY THOMAS J		\$27.32
CIAMPA RICHARD H JR	\$50.12	MIRICK JOSH		\$55.75
CONANT SONJA	\$103.14	MOUSESIAN ED/JANETTE		\$5.80
CROCKER HELEN	\$8.59	NEAL SEAN		\$133.80
DAVIDSON JEREMY	\$50.18	NORTHPOINT REALTY LLC		\$227.79
DELLA PASQUA RICK	\$115.63	PETROV IVAYLO		\$22.97
DIXON CLYDE JR	\$183.42	PHIRI DOLE/LUBANSKI KRZYSZTOF		\$596.13
DONOVAN JIM	\$11.48	PURE HEALTH SOLUTIONS INC		\$4.13
DONOVAN MATTHEW MD	\$50.73	RAMSDELL STONE & GRAVEL		\$94.66
DUSSAULT JOSEPH H	\$258.12	REARDON SEAN		\$116.07
EMMONS LISA	\$8.47	ROLLOCK CATHERINE		\$75.93
FEUER MARTIN/ANDERSON ARTHUR	\$30.44	ROY SEAN		\$281.76
FLANAGAN EDWARD/DEBORAH	\$159.56	RUSSELL HUME MASONARY CONT.		\$19.74
FREESTYLE SUNGLASSES	\$18.96	RUSSO JOHN		\$3.68
GREEN DEREK	\$535.20	RUTHERFORD JAMES		\$16.17
HART LINDA	\$58.89	SCHMID ALLEN L		\$8.36
HILBOURNE DALE	\$19.40	SCHRIEFER JUDITH/DONALD		\$18.96

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HUBBARD TODD	\$133.80		SINCLAIR MICHAEL	\$133.80
JAMES JOYCE	\$13.94		SLEEPER BRIAN	\$124.88
JENLEW ENT LLC	\$40.30		STACY CHARLES	\$44.04
JOHNSON THERESE/STEVEN	\$16.73		STEPHENS SAMANTHA	\$72.48

STRATER NICHOLAS	\$49.28			
SUCCI MICHELLE	\$50.84			
THOMPSON EVAN	\$100.35			
TOMES M CAROLINE	\$30.33			
UNICYN FUNDING	\$21.07			
US TELEPACIFIC DBA TPX	\$50.84			
VILLAGER MOTEL	\$667.10			
WEGER BRUD	\$16.61			
WILLIAMSON LLC	\$9.81			
WISWELL AARON	\$255.89			
WOODS FAMILY INC	\$1.31			
YORKE KENNETH	\$30.11			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,872.20</b>			



# TAX ASSESSOR

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## 2021 ASSESSOR'S REPORT

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**Office Hours:** 8:00am - 4:30pm Monday - Friday

Tel. 207-363-1005

Fax 207-363-1009

Email: [assessor@yorkmaine.org](mailto:assessor@yorkmaine.org)

**Office Staff:** Rick Mace, Assessor  
Julie Romano Ethridge, Assistant Assessor  
Luke Vigue, Lister/Appraiser

The Assessor's Office is responsible for the valuation of all real and personal property in York. Other duties of the office include the maintenance of all property ownership records (deeds, addresses, etc.), property record cards, updating and maintaining the tax maps, administering exemptions, answering inquiries by property owners, appraisers, real estate agents and others from the public, and maintenance of E911 addresses.

The 2020/2021 taxable valuation for the Town of York is \$4,796,904,610. This includes taxable real estate with a total of \$4,770,171,550 and taxable business personal property with a total of \$26,733,110. The assessed value of exempt property is currently \$223,246,700. York's certified assessment ratio for 2020/2021 is 100%. York's 2020 State Valuation (2018 actual) of \$4,752,100,000, which is the State's estimated 100% valuation, ranks third in the State of Maine. York's land area is 56 square miles and is made up of 9,123 land parcels. York has 11,112 real estate accounts, 615 personal property accounts, and 254 exempt accounts.

York's current **tax rate is \$11.10** per thousand dollars of valuation. Annually, the Assessor's Office reviews valuations and makes adjustments to the valuations to include any additions and deletions. Part of the assessment process includes conducting an annual "sales ratio study", which compares the actual selling prices of properties to assessments. The most recent study, conducted for the state valuation purposes, indicated the assessed values to be, *on average*, at **95.9%** of market value. The average assessed value of improved single family non-waterfront

residential properties that have sold during the twelve months prior to April 2, 2020 is \$484,728. The average selling price for those same properties is \$518,968. The average assessed value for a single-family waterfront home sold during that same time period is currently \$1,222,779. The average selling price for those same homes is \$1,324,750. The average assessed value of unimproved lots that have sold during the twelve months prior to April 2, 2019 is \$168,345, with an average selling price of \$163,741.

The Assessor's Office is a clearing house of information such as building and land records, monthly sales transactions, and assessment valuation information used by other town departments, the public, and their representatives (appraisers, brokers, attorneys, surveyors, title companies, etc.). Reports are often generated from the commitment file for use by various town departments. The office is also the source for administering all street naming and numbering issues. Valuation reports containing assessment and ownership information, as well as individual tax maps are available upon request.

One very frequent taxpayer question is in regard to resident versus non-resident property ownership. For the 2019/20 tax year, resident owned properties made up 60% of the real estate tax base, while non-resident property owners made up the remaining 40%. Another question that often arises is comparing residential versus commercial properties. In 2020, residential property valuation totaled \$4,363,730,784 (86.4%) and commercial property valuation totaled \$691,851,516 (13.6%).

For more information please visit the Town of York website at: <http://www.yorkmaine.org>

### **PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS & PROPERTY TAX RELIEF**

There are several forms of property tax relief available to York residents.

**HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION:** The Homestead exemption reduces the property tax bill of all York resident homeowners who apply for the exemption by April 1st and who have owned and lived in their house for the prior 12 months. An exempt amount of \$25,000 is deducted from the property's total taxable value. Applications can be obtained in the Assessor's Office and must be filed on or before April 1st of the year it will go into effect.

**VETERAN'S EXEMPTION:** Any York resident who was in active service in the armed forces of the US during a federally recognized war campaign period and, if discharged or retired under honorable conditions, may be eligible for a \$6,000 reduction in valuation. The veteran must have reached age 62 ***or*** be receiving a pension or compensation from the US Military for total disability. Applications can be picked up in the Assessor's Office and must be filed with discharge documents on or before April 1st of the year it will go into effect.

**BLIND EXEMPTION:** Any York resident who is certified to be legally blind by their eye care professional is eligible for a \$4,000 reduction in valuation.

These exemptions will be adjusted annually by the community's ratio of valuation to actual market sales. Forms are available in the Assessor's Office, or download online from the Assessor's page at: <http://www.yorkmaine.org>

## **AVAILABLE PUBLICATIONS AND GENERAL INFORMATION**

“Understanding Your Assessment”  
“For the Property Owner Who Wants to Know”  
Business Equipment Tax Rebate information

The Assessor's Office welcomes all taxpayers to visit or call with any questions pertaining to real estate assessments, or further information on any of the assistance programs.

To access the Assessor's database please visit the Vision Appraisal website at: <http://gis.vgsi.com/yorkme/>



## PARKS AND RECREATION

Parks and Recreation Department

Town Report- February 2021

Like so many of our residents, visitors, businesses, and civic organizations, maneuvering the impacts of Covid-19 has been a challenge. I am happy to report that the multi-skilled, hard-working, and dedicated Recreation Professionals, who are Team Parks and Recreation, have met each challenge, in the past year, with one goal in mind; to find a way to safely continue to build community and enrich quality of life through recreation.

The Parks and Recreation Department's responsibilities include the operations and maintenance of public buildings, grounds, parks, beaches, and recreation facilities as well as school and community athletic fields and green spaces. Public properties include the maintenance of veteran grave sites and ancient burial grounds located throughout Town, as well as oversight of the Cliff Walk.

We are the stewards and managers of York's beaches, and our goal is to provide a clean, well-managed, safe, enjoyable, family friendly experience to the beach-going public while working to sustain one of our most precious natural resources and economic drivers. We have implemented an overall new approach to sustainable beach management which focuses on environmental responsibility, staff safety, enforcement, and public relations. We will continue with beach raking and cleaning along with water quality monitoring. We found success in the summer of 2020, with a pandemic-related unexpected shift to a carry-in/carry-out trash policy and we are planning to continue with this initiative in 2021. Thank you in advance for doing your part to help keep our public properties and beaches healthy and beautiful.

Our department provides the resources necessary to develop, market, implement and supervise community recreation programs and special events. Programs and Events are a means through which we promote and develop community. Imagine, for a moment, the challenge of bringing people together when we could not bring people together! Our staff has remained community focused and committed to providing high quality recreational services that are safe (which takes on a whole new meaning during a global pandemic), affordable, and meet the needs of the community. Our first priority continues to be to provide the opportunity for the enhancement of well-being and the enrichment of lifestyle. Whether new programs or modified 'ole favorites, the team at the Parks and Recreation Department has remained focused on creatively serving our community with a "think outside the box" mentality. Our community recreation program is

primarily self-funded. The recreation operating budget is generated from program user fees, fundraising and sponsorship.

The Center for Active Living also falls under our direction. Work at the Center is community focused and involves advocacy and program development for older adults. The Center is located in the lower level of the building at 36 Main Street. The primary space consists of the dining room/kitchen, activity room and card room. Much of the socialization of the Center focuses around a daily meals program offered Monday through Friday. In response to Covid-19, our meals program transitioned into a “to-go” program which provides meals 3 days a week to an average of 5-60 individuals, per day. Activities at the Center vary from recreation and social to educational, enrichment and health and well-being. In-person programming has been limited, with our greatest success being those small group, in-person offerings that could be facilitated outdoors. The need for additional and updated space is evident and limits the staff’s ability to expand upon current programs and add new ones. With voter approval, last July, to fund planning and design of the building at 36 Main Street, we are hopeful for the growth and development of new and exciting opportunities.

Have you noticed? The outdoors is having a moment! This includes Mt. Agamenticus. Mount A’s summit park and trail system saw a dramatic increase in use last year as people sought outdoor spaces where they could be active at a safe social distance. While most other activities were not available, visitation in the Mount A region surged. This unprecedented demand underscores the value that this area has always had as one of York’s prominent attractions and community resources. Two capital improvement projects are in the planning process. The Mt. Agamenticus Parking Expansion and Improvement Project and the Mt. Agamenticus Public Restroom Upgrades. Thank you to you, the voters, who approved both of these projects last July. Recently, the Board of Selectmen executed a lease amendment between the Town of York and the York Water District, which allows for these infrastructure improvements, provides for continued and uninterrupted public access to the summit and trails, and extends the agreement through the year 2050, including two, 20-year renewal terms beyond 2050.

To date, four phases of the historic restoration project of the Cape Neddick Light Station have been completed. We are confident that you will agree that the transformation of this historic gem is stunning. Due to the island environment and harsh conditions, it has been successful to have the overall project implemented in smaller phases. This has allowed us to prioritize the work and avoid a prolonged project during the peak tourist season. This summer, with voter approval, we will begin phase V, which includes interior/structural restoration of the “connector” building between the house and the tower and the restoration of the port hole and wooden tower windows. I would remind you, that all of the funds for the restoration project, and the operation of the park, are generated from the Sohier Park Gift Shop. No tax dollars are requested. We are planning to

open the gift shop, as we did last year, following Covid-19 guidelines, and will continue to provide retail opportunities through our on-line store.

Team Parks and Recreation is humbled by the responsibilities that are bestowed upon us. We thank you for your continued trust and support; allowing us to build community through recreation. You have been patient and understanding as we have re-learned, re-invented and re-started, quite literally, everything this past year. York really is a wonderful place, get out and enjoy it, we look forward to seeing you out there!

Be Well,

Robin Cogger  
Parks and Recreation Director



# POLICE DEPARTMENT

York Police Department

Fiscal Year 2020

**Submitted by: Chief Charles J. Szeniawski**

In 2020 our nation was confronted with the COVID-19 Pandemic. The COVID-19 Pandemic has made every citizen make significant sacrifices and changes to their daily lives. I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank the citizens of our community for the personal sacrifices they made. Across the country serious measures are being taken during this national emergency to prevent and reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus. It is imperative that all our citizens, in all age groups, continue to follow guidelines set forth by the CDC, Federal, State and Local Governments. Again, I am very pleased with the resolve of our citizens and their efforts to protect one another. With all of the changes that occurred in 2020, the York Police Department continued to operate at full capacity to protect our citizens and the community we serve. In 2020 we developed several new procedures to ensure public safety and the sustainability of our emergency services during this pandemic.

I would also like to take this opportunity to commend the men and woman of the York Police Department, both civilian and sworn, for their outstanding dedication to serving this community. We are all adjusting to the changes in our every day lives, including our First Responders, Dispatchers and Administrative Assistants, and their commitment and dedication to service to ensure that your public safety needs were met. Our officers and communication specialists worked 24 hours a day, 7 days a week ensuring the safety of our citizens and the community.

There were many challenges facing Law Enforcement in 2020 and I am proud to say that due to the quality, professionalism, and training of the entire police department we were equipped and ready to face these challenges. The York Police Department has always been committed to training and the fair, impartial and unbiased enforcement of the law. In fact, the Mission Statement of the Police Department is:

*“The Mission of the York Police Department is to provide law enforcement and public safety services to the Town of York. We will ensure the safety and peaceful quality of life of the residents and businesses of the Town of York, and to all those who may visit the community. We will cultivate partnership within our community to identify and effectively respond to the ever-changing needs of the town. Together we will accomplish our goals with an emphasis on integrity, fairness, service and respect.”*

Our department has always been committed to having highly trained officers, well versed in dealing with all types of situations to include high stress confrontations and low stress interactions with citizens in need of help. One example of this training was when Patrolwoman Meghan Pierce and Patrolman Brandon Barragan responded to a 9-1-1 call of a woman who had been stabbed several times and was being driven to York Hospital; the vehicle had stopped on Greenleaf Parsons Road where the officers were confronted with an extremely chaotic situation – they immediately provided medical aid where Patrolwoman Pierce applied pressure to several wounds to the neck and back of the victim, she was able to slow the bleeding while Patrolman Barragan packed the wounds with a hemostatic agent that significantly reduced blood loss to the victim. The victim was then transported to the Hospital where she recovered from her injuries. All of our officers are trained in de-escalation techniques as well as dealing with individuals in a mental health crisis. All of our officers have received training in mental health first aid and nearly all of our officers have completed the forty-hour certification course on Crisis Intervention. Half of the department has received Officer Wellness Training from a licensed therapist. Lieutenant John Lizanecz serves as the Cumberland and York County coordinator for the Post Traumatic Stress Management Team. We also have an officer on the Town’s Committee to Combat Racism and Bias.

In March of 2020, Deputy Chief Owen Davis graduated from the prestigious FBI National Academy. The FBI National Academy is a professional course of study for U.S. and international law enforcement managers nominated by their agency heads because of demonstrated leadership qualities. The 10-week program—which provides coursework in intelligence theory, terrorism and terrorist mindsets, management science, law, behavioral science, law enforcement communication, implicit bias, racism, and forensic science—serves to improve the administration of justice in police departments and agencies at home and abroad and to raise law enforcement standards, knowledge, and cooperation worldwide.

In 2020 our department was extremely fortunate to welcome back Patrolwoman Jordan Floyd to the ranks – Welcome back Patrolwoman Floyd! Jordan previously worked for our department but had to move to Colorado where she continued her Law Enforcement career. In early summer we were fortunate to rehire this valuable asset to our team. Jordan is an exceptionally hard-working officer and is committed to community policing and having a positive impact.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic another challenge for Law Enforcement was the closing of courts, jails restricting access, and agencies had to reduce enforcement activities for many traffic and non-violent offences. The York Police Department realized the limited capacity of the Criminal Justice System, but we also realized that this would not stop individuals from attempting to take advantage of and victimize others. Our officers remain vigilant in making numerous building checks, neighborhood patrols, as well as being highly visible in high crash locations and at all times throughout the day. Due to many businesses and schools being closed and individuals in quarantine, we saw a dramatic decrease in motor vehicle crashes. In 2019 there were 407 crashes, 80 of which were personal injury crashes. In 2020 we had a reduction to 288 motor vehicle crashes, 57 of which were personal injury crashes. We also saw a reduction in OUI crashes, in 2019 there were 31, and in 2020 there were 25.

The York Police Department has always been, and always will be committed to the community policing philosophy – unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and the necessity to limit personal contact interacting with the public became more challenging. However, this did not stop our outreach efforts within the community – our School Resource Officers continue to work with school administrators, faculty and the students. They were able to identify and assist kids in need and continued to reach out and connect with kids even when the schools were shut down. Our department developed community outreach programs such as a drawing contest, a cooking contest, and a driveway chalk “kindness messaging” contest. Our department was able to host an ice cream social. This was held at the Police Department, the Harbor Beach and the Cape Nedick Beach. Our officers were able to hand out over 800 ice creams to kids in the community while maintaining social distancing. New safety procedures were in place for our annual Christmas program – The Giving Tree – which helped over 17 families in need. This was accomplished through generous donations from the community as a whole. The outpouring of support was so generous that we are still able to assist families that are experiencing emergency need for food, water, or shelter.

The York Police Department has partnered with York Hospital and other community members to create an organization called Serving Our Seniors. This group or “S.O.S” was created to address

the needs and issues faced by York's aging population during this difficult time. We have been able to connect our elders with services and support systems designed to help them, as we recognize some of our residents are struggling with isolation and health concerns due to the threat of COVID-19. In addition to their medical needs, we have also focused on educating and informing our elders about activities and services that we can provide them, for example: medical identification cards, and salt buckets to reduce the risk of falls during the winter months, we also educate our elderly population about current scamming trends.

The York Police Department holds a seat on the York County Child Advocacy Centers Advisor Board. The Child Advocacy Center supports the needs of children who have been sexually and physically assaulted. The Advisory Board is working hard to make sure services are available to these most vulnerable of victims during this difficult time of limited opportunities and isolation. These services include, but are not limited to Forensic Interviewing, counseling services, legal support, and medical services at no cost to the family.

2020 has been without a doubt one of the most challenging years, not only for our department, but for the entire community. I would like to thank the York community for their outpouring of support to our organization and to each other. It is an honor to serve the citizens of York, and the men and women of the York Police Department are committed to providing the best service in a fair and impartial way.



# PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS

**York Communications Department**

**Fiscal Year 2021**

**Submitted by Chief Charles J Szeniawski**

The York Communications Center is currently staffed by eight (8) full time and three (3) part time dispatchers. We are the regional PSAP (Public Safety Answering Point) for the communities of York, Kittery, Eliot, Ogunquit, Wells, and Kennebunkport. We unfortunately lost South Berwick and Berwick to Sanford Regional Dispatch Center last year as they closed the South Berwick Dispatch Center.

As a regional PSAP center, our dispatchers receive and transfer all E 9-1-1 calls for the communities listed above. State law requires all E 9-1-1 call takers to be EMD (emergency medical dispatcher) certified. This allows our dispatchers to provide appropriate medical instructions to aid the caller in handling specific medical emergencies until emergency personnel arrive on scene. The State also requires all PSAP personnel to be EFD (Emergency Fire Dispatching) certified. Both these mandates require our center to review 100% of these calls for quality assurance. This is done to ensure they are meeting the legislative mandates.

Both EMD and EFD are required when our dispatchers transfer a call to another dispatcher center. If the other center is busy or have no certified dispatcher working at the time, our dispatchers must remain on the line and "dispatch" that call until emergency personnel arrive on scene. This change has required our center to maintain minimum staffing levels to provide the necessary service to the other communities as required by these rules. These protocols require a center to have at least a minimum of two dispatchers on duty 24 hours a day to insure we can maintain compliance with these rules.

We contracted with the Town of Kennebunkport in 2017 to provide both EMD and EFD services which has worked very well. This contract provides an additional \$55,000 in revenue. The loss of South Berwick and Berwick has created a loss of \$40,411 in projective PSAP revenue. In July 2018 we increased the fees we charge

communities for E-911 call taking services. A survey of other PSAP centers made last year made it apparent we were providing this service at a very reasonable rate below other centers. These increases in each of the next three years from our participating towns will absorb some of the loss of South Berwick and Berwick.

Discussions about regionalization are still ongoing with other towns. It is very difficult for the smaller dispatch centers to meet these state mandates with only one dispatcher working per shift. We are actively seeking partnerships with other agencies because consolidation and regionalization are the future for communication centers in Maine. The York Dispatcher Center has some of the most professional and experienced dispatchers in the state. It is important for us to continue to provide quality service to our community and those we serve.

This past winter we testified to stop the implementation of an EDP (police dispatching protocols) mandate in the Legislature. Several of our members testified successfully against moving forward with this proposed mandate. If EDP was mandated it would be too costly and burdensome for our center.

Our Communications personnel are responsible for handling a multitude of tasks and receive all types of calls for services and assistance. They are charged with dispatching the appropriate agencies such as police, fire, ambulance, water, sewer, highway departments, as well as other local, state and federal agencies. We currently provide full dispatch services for the Town of York and handled 28,574 calls for service last year.

Communications personnel continue to handle walk-in complaints and requests for services daily ranging from concealed weapons permits, sexual offender check ins, probation check ins, parking ticket complaints, requests for copies of reports, yard sale permits and requests for directions just to name a few. They also take part in the community service efforts such as the "Good Morning Program" where senior citizens call in on a daily basis, so we know they are well and not in need of assistance. If a call from a registered senior is not received by a prescribed time, dispatchers send an officer to check their well-being. The program continues to be a huge success and has created a wonderful opportunity to connect our senior citizens with members of our communications staff and police officers alike.

As the regional PSAP, we received approximately 13,200 E 9-1-1 calls. This is an increase of over 1,200 E-911 calls we received last year. This is due to the Maine State Police PSAP center in Gray closing. Many of the cell towers that were directing calls into Gray were diverted to our center. Many of those calls were from

the I-95 corridor. We also are receiving several cell calls from callers who are in the State of New Hampshire and hitting Maine cell towers. Our dispatchers must transfer those calls back to New Hampshire authorities for service.

The requested increases in the salary line and benefits are due to COLA, step increases, and other benefits negotiated through a contractual agreement and out of a need to stay competitive with other centers. It is becoming harder to hire and retain experienced communications personnel. It also is taking longer for new trainees to acquire the necessary certifications, which can range from six months to a year. Over the last several years we have been utilizing two of our Administrative Assistants, Margaret Scamman and Virginia A very, to cover an open 8-hour block in the dispatch schedule. They both retired over the last year so now we are filling that shift with overtime personnel. We have recently hired two part-time dispatchers, Meghan Rooney and Jessica King, who both work full-time in Kittery. This will allow us to potentially reduce the cost of overtime.

We have also increased the training and travel lines of the Communications Budget so that we can send a dispatcher to the NENA (National Emergency Number Association) Conference. NENA is the 911 association which works to improve 911 through research, standards development, training, education, outreach and advocacy. It is important that we provide our dispatchers with current national training so that they can provide the best quality service to the Town of York and to the other towns we serve.



# ANIMAL CONTROL

## York Animal Control

### Fiscal Year 2021

**Submitted by Chief Charles J Szeniawski**

Our Animal Control program strives to protect our citizens as well as the wellbeing of domestic and wild animals. Our two part-time Animal Control Officers, as well as our entire department, enforce without prejudice all state and local laws relevant to all animals. Our Animal Control Officers work with members of the community and nonprofit organizations to educate our citizens to comply with our laws and take the appropriate measures to safeguard animals.

Currently, our Animal Control Officers maintain and follow up on over 800 dog licenses to ensure compliance with state and local regulations. It is also estimated that statewide, over 40% of all dogs are not licensed. When our Animal Control Officers discover an unlicensed dog, they work with the citizens to ensure compliance with their obligation to register their dog yearly. In 2018, our Animal Control officers handled 960 calls for service, and currently in 2019, they have covered over 760 calls for service. These calls will range from finding a lost pet and reuniting it with their owner, to serious animal bites that require medical attention. Their goal is to ensure that the victim, whether human or animal, is properly cared for.

The Town of York is very fortunate to have the Center for Wildlife located within our jurisdiction. This has allowed our department to transport numerous injured animals to their facility so that they can be cared for and rehabilitated. This excellent care does come at a cost. The Animal Control budget contributes to the Center for Wildlife \$4,000 per year. This contribution has remained the same as last year and is an extreme value for the services we are provided.

We have worked very hard to maintain a fiscally responsible Animal Control budget. With the resignation of long-time Animal Control Officer Larry McAfee, we have requested a slight increase of \$400 in training to obtain the state certification for our new Animal Control Officer Forrest Brenske. We are also requesting an increase for ACO uniforms so we can outfit our new ACO with the

proper uniforms and protective equipment. There was no increase in meetings and memberships, fuel, equipment, printing and advertising, R&M equipment, supplies, telephone, cable, internet, or contracts.

We are supplementing the budget with \$17,000 from the Municipal Animal Welfare Account. The Animal Welfare laws of the State of Maine dictate that these fees and fines go into a special revenue account to be used for animal control and are carried forward each year. We need to be mindful as more people register their dogs early, that we will continue to collect less in late fees, which is the primary funding of the Municipal Animal Welfare Account. Over the last few years, we have seen this shortfall become a trend. However, we are confident there will be adequate funds in the Animal Welfare Account in FY21.

In closing, I would like to thank ACO Keith Bishop for his dedication to the Animal Control position throughout the year. Keith worked diligently to provide coverage whenever our department needed it, as we worked to fill a vacant part-time Animal Control position. Keith takes great pride in his work in protecting our citizens and animals within the community.



# PUBLIC SAFETY HARBORMASTER

## **Harbormasters Report**

**Fiscal Year 2021**

**Submitted by Chief Charles J Szeniawski**

The Harbormaster office had another busy boating season in 2019. Each year there is increased usage of the Harbor. The Harbormaster office, staffed by Drew Donovan, Joe Hogan, and Jerry Carr did an outstanding job of balancing the needs of commercial and recreational users of the Harbor. As always, safety is the primary focus of the Harbormasters. The Harbormasters continue to promote safety through education.

The Harbor Reserve Officer position was again very successful this year. The position was created to address the growing use of the town dock area. The officers assigned to this position were responsible for traffic management, parking enforcement, town ordinance issues, patrolling Fisherman's Walk and Steedman Woods, and most important developing meaningful interaction with the users of this area. We have received several responses from residents describing how these officers were knowledgeable, friendly, and were a positive influence in the area.

The Harbor Board along with the Harbormaster office conducted another survey on paddle craft usage and numbers within the Harbor. They surveyed several weekends and a weekday to find out how often, where and when the paddle craft are used in York Harbor, Paddle craft included but not limited to Kayak, Paddleboard and Canoe. The Harbor Board also have an extensive harbor study done by GEI consultants on the capacity of the river and the use of the river.

The parking issues on Harris Island Road were discussed, at length, by the York Police, the Harbormasters, and the York Harbor Board. On many summer days, there are far more users of the Harbor then there are parking spaces. We are working on Traffic Safety ordinance changes that will include accurate definitions, clear signage, and roadway markings. These changes are intended to maximize access to both recreational and commercial users of the Harbor.

We also had several complaints from Braveboat Harbor and Cape Neddick Harbor which needed an increase in patrol and monitoring. The complaints came from homeowners in the area concerned about the amount of boat and person traffic in those areas.

Active management of the mooring list has increased accessibility for boaters in the harbor. The temporary mooring assignment program has become a popular method to allow existing mooring holders the opportunity to relinquish their unused moorings on a year-by-year basis, without risk of loss of the mooring. If an existing mooring holder decides to take a year off from boating, he or she can allow the Harbormaster to assign the mooring to another person on the mooring list. The mooring does not go unused for the season. We gave out over 40 temporary one season moorings that would have gone unused and allowed someone to utilize the harbor. This program reduces mooring list wait time and increases utilization of the moorings in the Harbor. For more information about this program, please contact the Harbormasters office at 363-0433.

The Harbor was also very vital and active with transient moorings being utilized by more than (250) two hundred and fifty visitors in 2019 from all over the country and the world some as far as England and one boat that had circumnavigated.

The Harbor Board also authorized the replacement of the floats at Town Dock #2 it was a long project that included 11 new floating docks. We also put new signs one at the entrance to the harbor and one at Scotland Bridge rd.

In 2019 the Harbormasters continued our efforts to promote safety through education. The Harbormasters will be involved in the Chris Connors Foundation events, teaching children about marine safety. Additional launch sites for kayaking and other paddle craft activities are being explored.

I would like to thank the members of the Harbor Board for their many hours of dedicated service in seeing that the harbor remains the historic and beautiful place it has been for hundreds of years. Please join me in thanking them for their service and commitment: Chair Mike Sinclair, Vice Chair Matthew Donnell, Secretary, Jeremy Reynolds, David Webber and Timothy Greer Alternate Members John Graning and Nick Strater.

Here are the stats for 2019 season

Here are the rough numbers we don't have a formal reporting system we just do a daily log.

We had 39 boater assists from towing to sinking to responding an assist Coast Guard with searches for lost vessels or vessels having engine trouble.

Complaints we responded to 79 complaints from wake speed, trees in river, jet skis, swimming, kayak, paddle board in the river or off the beach. Also, several complaints at both Braveboat harbor and Cape Neddick Harbor

Boats in distress 19 total 9 outside harbor mostly tow back to harbor 10 inside harbor inside were mostly sinking at mooring or dock due to lack of bilge/ battery died

Paddle craft incidents 9 total 5 outside harbor 4 inside outside were mostly distress calls from

shore. Inside were mostly difficulty with current or no life jacket but a lot of lifejacket incidents go non reported

Assists 10 all outside 3 fireworks 1 swim race 2 barge escorts 5 were to rescue boat that were outside harbor and not in above categories.

All other incidents were in the river mostly trees or logs up and down the river and wake complaints.



## VILLAGE FIRE DEPARTMENT

From: Chief Christopher Balentine

To: The Citizens of The Town of York

Subject: Town Report Information

It is with great pleasure that I submit this annual report to you, together with a summary of responses

made by the York Village Fire Department. We are always interested in recruiting new volunteers for our call force. We welcome any person who may wish to join our dedicated group of men & women in working with the public in any capacity regardless of experience level. Helping people in need gives great rewards.

We have an active group of members who become call firefighters with active training each week at the fire station on a variety of fire and medical topics to keep their skill levels sharp.

**I would like to pass along some important fire safety tips:**

Please make sure your home has a working smoke detector installed nearby each bedroom.

Please consider that most smoke detectors only have an 8-year lifespan.

Also consider that carbon monoxide detectors have become important devices for residential use since they can alert homeowners to potential dangers associated with home heating equipment that may be malfunctioning.

Please be sure to install visible address numbers on the front of your home so we can find you in case of emergency.

Remember that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

**In the event of any type of possible emergency, DIAL 9.1.1. for speedy response**

Check out our website at [www.yorkvillagefire.com](http://www.yorkvillagefire.com) for updates or connect with us on Facebook.

We appreciate the level of support we have received from our citizens.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with comments or suggestions.

It has been a pleasure to serve you again this year.

Christopher Balentine,

Fire Chief

**YORK VILLAGE FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**CALL LOG**  
**JANUARY 1, 2020 - DECEMBER 31, 2020**

	Jan	Fe b	Ma r	Ap r	Ma y	Ju n	Jul	Au g	Se p	Oc t	No v	De c	Total YTD
<b>CALL TYPE</b>													
Structure Fires	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	2	1	1	1	0	9
Mutual Aid To Other Depts.	1	1	2	1	1	2	6	3	2	1	2	3	25
Appliance Fires	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	6
Power Lines Arcing	1	7	1	2	0	3	9	2	2	2	6	4	39
Public Assists	2	4	2	3	1	2	3	0	2	2	4	4	29
Motor Vehicle Accidents	7	6	3	6	5	9	13	11	8	12	11	4	95
Brush/Grass	0	1	5	6	5	5	4	3	3	1	1	1	35
Alarm Activations	14	5	10	4	8	9	24	16	8	7	4	11	120
Smoke Investigations	5	0	8	4	4	13	13	9	6	1	1	7	71
Medical Aid Calls	70	58	63	55	64	49	75	76	75	75	70	95	825
Special Rescue / Water Rescue Etc.	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	2	3	1	6	0	17
Vehicle Fires	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	4
<b>TOTAL CALLS</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>1275</b>



## BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT

Submitted by Jeffrey J. Welch – Fire Chief, York Beach Fire Department.

On behalf of the members of York Beach Fire Department, I would like to thank the citizens of York for the continued support of our department. Over the past years we have been fortunate enough to have had great continued support from our citizens and consider ourselves grateful to be able to provide you with the services that we do day in and day out.

The York Beach Fire Department is made up of a combination of full time and call force firefighters. Staffing consists of 3 full time firefighters and emergency medical personnel that rotate shifts to staff our station 24/7/365. The call force firefighters and emergency medical responders are made up of a group of approximately 25 men and women. These individuals also spend countless hours volunteering their time to serve the community in ways outside of fire suppression and medical calls. I would like to thank each one of the staff at the York Beach Fire Department for their continued dedication and professionalism.

The York Beach Fire Department responded to a total of 953 emergency incidents during 2020. Half of our calls for service were emergency medical calls. The remaining calls were fire related and ranged from structural fires, motor vehicle accidents, alarm activations, hazardous material investigations and more. We saw a steady rise in technical rescue type calls during the summer of 2020 and we attribute that in part to the increased outdoor type activities brought on by the pandemic.

While not responding to calls our staff is busy providing other fire protection services to the town. Annual inspections occur in many of the businesses in our fire protection district. We also

have a fire prevention program that we support in the fall each year to help educate our school children in fire safety and best practices in the event of a fire related emergency.

If you or someone you know that lives in town are interested in becoming part of the call force group of fire fighters, we are always accepting applications. Please call the station at 207-363-1014 or email [ybfire@yorkmaine.org](mailto:ybfire@yorkmaine.org)

In closing I would like to thank the citizens of the Town of York once again. Your continued support ensures that we can continue to provide you and your neighbors with the highest level of excellent service as we have in the past. If you have any questions regarding your home fire safety, please contact us. Connect with us on Facebook for ongoing department updates. It is a pleasure serving you.

## **Dial 911 For Emergencies**

Respectfully,

Jeffrey J. Welch, Fire Chief

**YORK BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**CALL LOG**

**2020**

**1/1/2020- 12/31/2020**

**CALL TYPE**

Structure Fires	13
Chimney Fire	0
Vehicle Fires	1
Still Alarm	120
Mutual Aid	57
Alarm Activations	143
HazMat	5
Medical Rescue	475
Public Assist	85
MVC	45
Search	9
<b>TOTAL CALLS</b>	<b>953</b>



## CODE ENFORCEMENT

December 2, 2020

The Code Enforcement Department provides Code Enforcement Officers, Local Plumbing Inspectors, a Health Officer, a Stormwater Manager, as well as floodplain management services to the Town. The staff consists of 5 full-time employees, a part-time position shared with the Assessing Department (Luke), and a part-time administrative position. Amber Harrison is the Director of Code Enforcement, Local Health Officer, and CRS Coordinator. Luke Vigue and Leslie Hinz are Assistant Code Enforcement Officers. Heather Ross is an Assistant Code Enforcement/Land Use Technician who works within the Code Department and with the Town Planner. Kathy Newell is an Inspector, Catherine Harman is the Administrative Assistant, and Reenie Johnson is a part-time Administrative Assistant.

The Code Office deals with most land use, building construction, business license, special event, development and conservation issues facing our community. We also take a lead role addressing administrative, education and regulatory requirements of the Clean Water Act's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4). The MS4 budget is submitted separately (shared with the Department of Public Works). We also perform a similar role regarding FEMA's Community Rating System (CRS), and the educational and regulatory requirements of FEMA's current flood maps with regards to zoning, construction, and flood insurance. Because of our efforts implementing numerous floodplain management activities in the community, FEMA has determined the Town of York will decrease to a Class 7 in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), CRS which results in a 15 percent discount in the premium cost of flood insurance for NFIP policies.

We have achieved getting all staff to be state-certified Code Enforcement Officers, Local Plumbing Inspectors, and Shoreland Resource Officers. This gives us greater flexibility in providing public assistance at the code counter, issuing permits, performing inspections, addressing complaints, enforcing land use codes, and representing the Town at Board of Appeals and Judicial hearings. During FY20 the Code Office issued roughly 850 building permits (924 in FY19), (does not include septic, plumbing, shoreland, etc.); had 2,107 counter visits (3,037 in FY19); performed 1911 inspections (2,266 in FY19); and accrued roughly \$376,515 in building permit fees (\$417,995 in FY19).

New Housing Units: As past reports have provided calendar year totals; I offer the same. Building permits were issued for 58 new housing units in 2020; 57 in 2019; 62 in 2018; 79 in 2017, 74 in 2016; 68 in 2015, and 61 in 2014.

In calendar year 2020 (through 11/17/2020) the Department has issued a total of 689 building permits (890 in 2019), performed 1,492 inspections (2,140 in 2019) and had 1,441 visits at the code counter (2,986 in 2019). These numbers indicate that despite the pandemic building activity is still steady.

Calendar Year	1/1/2020-12/31/2020
New Housing Units Permitted	59
Building Permits Issued	689
Inspections Performed	1492
Code Counter Visits	1441

Fiscal Year FY20	7/1/2019-6/30/2020
New Housing Units Permitted	49
Building Permits Issued	850
Inspections Performed	1911
Code Counter Visits	2107

I will continue to represent the Town at Board of Appeals and judicial hearings as well as present the updated FEMA PRE-FIRM maps to the community. By the fall of 2021, I will have completed another five-year audit with FEMA on our flood permitting and am actively working on getting an even better CRS score of 6 (potentially the one of the only ones in the state and saving another 15% in flood insurance premiums for the Town).

Water quality and shoreland zoning continues to be a driver in the Department's work. The Town is under increasing scrutiny with respect to stormwater management and expects to have an audit this summer. MS4 work continues to grow with ditch inspections, infrastructure mapping, catch basin cleaning, and outfall inspections. Consistent utilization of GPS/GIS technologies and coordinated work with the Department of Public Works, has led to a more seamless management of the MS4 permit directives. Likewise, the upgrading of our GIS maps with new aerials has helped us to make even more accurate determinations for MS4 and shoreland permitting.

We continue to work closely with the Planner to update deficiencies in the zoning ordinance and collaborate on site visits, pre-construction meetings, and permitting for certain shoreland and Planning Board approved projects. We host a quarterly meeting with other departments to review supplemental ordinances and procedures that affect code and require interdepartmental

collaboration (i.e. Conservation Commission, Historic District Commission, Special Events permits, etc.).

The Code Officers require a balance of time, split between reviewing applications and plans, assisting the public at the code counter, performing inspections, site visits and pre-construction meetings all while staying abreast of local land use code changes and maintaining knowledge and updates to State building codes and shoreland standards. The Code Department continues to strive to make timely inspections, respond to complaints, and provide follow-up during our busiest season while providing exceptional customer service to residents, contractors, and the public.

*Respectfully Submitted By: Amber Harrison, Director of Code Enforcement*



# SCHOOL REPORTS

## **Superintendent's Budget Report**

**April 3, 2020**

Dear York Community,

This report is provided during the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic that we all are experiencing. My thoughts and prayers are with each of you as we go through this crisis together as a community. My dream is that COVID-19 will be greatly diminished by the time voters go to the polls.

Praise goes out to the school department's central office and school administration, faculty and staff for the amazing things they have accomplished, in just a few days, to plan for the implementation of distance learning to ensure continuity of instruction for our students. I am grateful to our custodians and food service workers. The custodians kept our buildings clean and safe for everyone prior to the closure of our school buildings. They continue to work on-site to keep the schools clean and maintained for when our students and staff return. Food service workers are providing school lunches to any student who needs it. They too continue to work on-site to prepare lunches and at the York Police Department to distribute them for pick-up by parents. The school department's business office is working diligently to ensure that all employees are paid in accordance with orders issued by Governor Mills in her Declaration of Civil Emergency. I commend these employees for a job well done.

All school department employees have gone above and beyond the call of duty and are astonishing individuals. I appreciate the parents and guardians of our students for their trust, patience, cooperation, and understanding. They have joined forces with York's educators to provide the continuity of instruction to our students. This partnership is unprecedented. I am truly grateful to them.

Prior to the outbreak of COVID-19, there were weeks of intense planning and coordination in the Town of York to fight the spread of the virus. York School Department employees collaborated with the York School Committee, Board of Selectmen, Town of York employees, Police, Fire and Health Departments as well as other emergency officials, local service agencies, Maine CDC, and York Hospital. Our collective mission was focused on protecting the health and safety of students, school and town employees, and the greater York community. We worked tirelessly and with considerable speed to implement action plans to prevent community spread of COVID-19 well before it occurred in York.

York's preparations to battle COVID-19 has been remarkable. I am thankful to all of the individuals, institutions, and organizations that rallied to put in place prevention measures to protect York citizens. These measures will save lives and they give me confidence that we will get through this unequaled time in our Nation's history. Planning and coordination continue for as long as needed. The silver lining is that the York Community will be stronger. I look to the future with tremendous hope and optimism.

I) The major increases in the FY 21 budget compared to the FY 20 budget include:

- A) Regular education salary and benefits as per the collective bargaining agreements between the York School Committee and the two employee unions. This represents \$645,644 or 58% of the total budget increase.
- B) Special education salary and benefits as per the collective bargaining agreements between the York School Committee and the two employee unions. This represents \$303,224 or 27% of the total budget increase.

C) Maine-Care Seed Special Services: This federal-state program provides for the payment of some school-based special education services such as physical therapy and behavioral supports provided by educational technicians. Federal funds cover 62% of these expenses. The York School Department is responsible for 38% of the expenses. This amounts to \$120,000 or 10.8% of the total budget increase.

D) New positions in the budget: 1) three mental health counselors (one at the elementary, middle and high school respectively) to serve an increasing number of students with mental health needs. I certainly wish we had these positions in the school department now given the COVID-19 pandemic; 2) a part-time lunch monitor at the Costal Ridge Elementary School to supervise children; 3) The reallocation of a library educational technician to the business office due to increased workload in the areas of accounts payable and accounts receivable; 4) an increase of three hours per week to the volunteer office secretary position due to a new school department requirement to requirement to process criminal history background checks; and 5) increasing the York Community Auditorium Manager from part-time to full-time. The costs for these positions amount to \$335,726 and are included under the salary lines noted under #1 and #2 above. This increase is offset by \$112,000 due to a reduction in special education contracted services for counselling.

II) Areas that decreased in the FY 21 compared to the FY 20 budget include:

A) \$455,228 in debt service reduction due to paying off the York Middle School.

B) \$290,087 in health insurance in the current fiscal year due to a lower than anticipated insurance rate-set.

C) \$92,597 due to the elimination of one position at the Village Elementary School corresponding to a one retirement and declining enrollment.

D) \$112,00 reduction in special education contracted services for mental health counselling.

Thank you to the school personnel, school committee, budget committee, and citizens who provided me with essential information and feedback to bring a well-reasoned budget to the voters. Moreover, thank you to the York community for its outstanding support for our schools. It is truly appreciated. I long for the day when students and staff return to school and to walk the sands along the Atlantic Ocean. Stay well.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lou Goscinski, Superintendent



## YORK LIBRARY

### York Public Library

#### **Highlights from 2020-2021**

It would be an understatement to say Library operations have undergone a dramatic sea change this past year. COVID forced us to shutter our doors, bring library services as we knew them to a screeching halt, and reimagine our entire operational model. Libraries are all about connecting people--with information, ideas, services, and each other. How is that even possible in the midst of a global pandemic with lockdowns and social distancing? I am happy to say YPL rose to the challenge and made the impossible...possible.

#### **Outreach & Communication**

In the early days of COVID, the entire staff worked remotely, largely in triage mode. To keep the public engaged and informed, we stayed in touch by way of our regular monthly e-newsletter. To provide some levity, we launched an additional newsletter: “Comfort in the Time of COVID--a new, semi-regular, temporary email series.” The “fun” newsletter, as it came to be known, consisted of things like faux interviews with our pets; links to smile-inducing videos; and COVID Bingo (with the winner receiving a highly coveted roll of TP).

It wasn’t as easy to keep the significant number of our “offline” patrons informed and involved. Many depend on the Library not only for computer access, but as a social setting in which to catch up with friends, attend a program, or take in an art exhibit. Lending laptops and/or wifi hotspots wasn’t a viable option for those who didn’t know - or want to know - how to use them.

For those patrons, many of whom were frequent visitors and well-known to staff, we simply made phone calls to check in and to see if they needed anything for which we could provide assistance. In an effort to help people stay informed and feel connected despite the unusual circumstances, we also edited our email newsletter for our “offliners.” We removed references to online information and services; substituted content from the “fun” newsletter; snail-mailed everything out; and were overwhelmed with the accolades.

## **Digital Resources**

In mid-March, one of the first things we did after shuttering the Library was research various digital content providers to determine what services we could offer people that they could access from home. This required us to re-engineer - and supplement - our operating budget. Within 2 weeks, we secured subscriptions to two services solely for York cardholders: (1) Hoopla, a streaming platform with access to tens of thousands of movies and tv shows, audiobooks, music, ebooks, and comics and (2) RB Digital: a digital platform with over 3000 magazines--including many foreign language titles. Though costly, both have proven to be hugely popular and as one resident wrote, “Hoopla has saved me during the pandemic!”

Perhaps the most important feature of these services was having no limit on the amount of people who could check out an item at the same time. This was in sharp contrast to the State of Maine’s CloudLibrary, another resource we, along with 100+ libraries in the state, have long subscribed to for digital audiobooks and ebooks. Though it has tens of thousands of titles, CloudLibrary only allows items to be checked out by one patron at a time. Since York patrons are in the greater State of Maine pool of patrons, depending on the title you want, there might be 200 people ahead of you. Waiting.

## **Access to physical resources**

From early in our closure, we began evaluating how a limited staff might safely provide in-person services when state restrictions began to ease. Armed with PPE, plexiglass at our main desk, new filters for our HVAC, an electrostatic mister, sanitizer, sanitizer everywhere, and lots of Lysol...we launched curbside pickup in June 2020. In July, we opened for computer use by appointment; and in August we began general browsing appointments. These services remained in effect until December 2020 when a sharp increase in new cases forced a necessary closure until March 2021, when the number of cases fell and state restrictions began to ease again. For

this second re-opening, we did away with appointments and based on state guidelines and available staff, we began allowing limited numbers of people into the building on a drop-in basis.

## **Programming**

In-person programming, the primary way by which any library engages with the community, required a concerted re-imagining in lieu of COVID. In a way, we moved programming from our place to yours.

Early on, our Children's Librarians began recording story-times to post on our YouTube and social media channels. When parents began asking for more offline interaction in light of school by Zoom, the Library began providing other services like custom book picks; craft projects to go; and story-times to go. To-go kits included all the fun supplies we would normally use in-house, but assembled and packaged for home use and available for curbside pickup. Over time, we began creating kits targeted to different age groups. How to do a summer reading program when people can't come to the library? We added Beanstack, a digital learning platform to help guide our annual program in a fun, albeit different way. Beanstack encouraged participation with reading challenges, contests, and badges.

Young adults have been volunteering and interacting with their peers through the virtual YA room, as well as on Instagram. For adults, first we moved our in-person meditation series to Zoom, then gradually ramped up our live-streamed programming to include authors, lectures, book clubs, and forums for conversation. We recorded many of these programs and archived them on our YouTube channel for anyone to view at their leisure. Programs of note include a discussion of the 2020 presidential election; a look at the history and modern-day implications of Malaga Island; and several discussions about racial equity in the wake of the Black Lives Matter movement.

## **Facility**

In an effort to make lemonade out of (COVID) lemons, while the building was closed, we took the opportunity to move up the dates of planned repainting projects. With the economic uncertainty in early COVID days, YPL opted to paint only 50% of the building exterior. As the months wore on and we had to close the building a second time, we took advantage of an empty building and repainted the entire interior.

We modernized our phone system (our old equipment was original to the building); designed, built, and launched a new website with a new domain; and introduced a new logo and tagline.

While none of these projects may be particularly exciting to the average person (except, perhaps, the website), they have streamlined our workflow; increased efficiencies, and freshened things up.

## **Support**

The Library applied for and was granted a PPP loan to fund two months of operating expenses. The loan enabled us to forego Town support for those two months and allow the Town to retain those funds for possible budget shortfalls.

In addition to our annual Town appropriation, we received support from many generous patrons, Association members, residents, visitors, and friends from all corners of the country. Furthermore, the Library was fortunate to receive support from the Virginia Hodgkins Somers Foundation; Kennebunk Savings Bank; and from the David A. Dionne Charitable Trust.



## MUNICIPAL SOCIAL SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

### AIDS Response Seacoast

1 Junkins Avenue Portsmouth, NH 03801  
Richard Wagner, Executive Director 603-433-5377  
[Rwagner@aidsresponse.org](mailto:Rwagner@aidsresponse.org)

**Background:** AIDS Response Seacoast (ARS) is a nonprofit, community-based HIV/AIDS service organization, which serves Southern Maine and the Seacoast NH area. ARS started as a grassroots effort to address the HIV/ AIDS pandemic at the local level and became incorporated in 1988. The mission of ARS is:

- To honor the inherent dignity and strength of people living with HIV/AIDS
- To support and assist persons infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS in maintaining a high quality of life through direct assistance, education and advocacy
- To prevent new HIV infection and promote safer practices through education/prevention activities for local and regional communities
- To counteract myths and stereotypes about HIV/AIDS
- To increase & diversify the network of HIV/AIDS related service providers
- To play an active role in affecting local, state, and national policies on civil rights, discrimination, HIV/ AIDS prevention, education, research, and direct care

**Services:** Last year, ARS provided direct services to 3 York citizens. Those services were valued at \$7,260. Please note ARS did not coordinate programs for the YHS HIV team and provide Prevention Education for the YHS senior class due to 2020 Covid concerns.

**Comment:** ARS has stable finances and governance. ARS has historically provided imperative education/prevention and direct services to York citizens. ARS clients also have access to an extensive food pantry located at their offices. All services provided by ARS are free of cost.

**Caring Unlimited**

P.O. Box 590  
Sanford, ME 04073  
Susan Giambalvo, Executive Director  
207-490-3227

**Background:** Caring Unlimited is a non-profit, community-based organization and is York County's Domestic Violence Program that has the mission of: "Working to Make Every Home a Safe Home." It was established in 1977 and is the only organization to which the residents of York can turn to twenty-four hours a day for vital safety planning and emergency supports when in danger from domestic abuse. York County, for the 6<sup>th</sup> year in a row, experienced the highest number of reported domestic assaults in Maine. CU's 24-Hour Hotline, 18-bed Emergency Shelter, 15-unit Transitional Housing, Outreach Services, Legal Assistance, Youth Focused Prevention and Community Response Program are all available at no cost to York residents.

**Pro bono Services to York residents:**

For period 10/1/2019– 9/30/2020.

Number of residents (unduplicated individuals) served	27
Individual advocacy/counseling hours provided	122.2
Support group hours provided	11.25
Emergency shelter bed nights provided	0
Cost to CU to provide services*	\$10,515

\*Calculated at the DHHS contracted rate

**Comments:**

Municipal support is critical to these efforts as it is the major source of leveraging other funding. COVID-19 has had significant impact on the services provided and the community need due to increase in reports of domestic violence over these last several months.

72% of the people served through Caring Unlimited reported increased safety concerns because of COVID-19 and social distancing. All programs and services have continued uninterrupted – shelter requests have remained high, and length of shelter stays have increased. People receiving legal services was 66% higher than the previous year, and Caring Unlimited received twice as many inquiries for legal services and assistance. In total, direct service programs (including the 24-hour helpline) served 2047 people in the last year. And despite school closures, Caring

Unlimited were able to reach over 1000 middle and high school students to provide education on dating abuse and violence.

The coming year will focus on pivoting to virtual platform for prevention and education materials. Efforts are underway to collaborate with York County Sheriff's Office to improve access to services for rural communities, and there is work to expand transitional housing options for people who have become homeless because of domestic violence.

Caring Unlimited works closely with Chief Charlie Szeniawski at York Police Department coordinating services and protection for abuse victims. The Organization works with Lisa Robertson at York Adult Education as well as with YCSA, York Library, York Town Hall and York Hospital. Mary Testa at York High School arranges Dating Abuse Awareness training and 2 trainings were conducted in FY 20. Awareness materials are provided to any York organization who may have contact with individuals needing the services of Caring unlimited. Community Awareness and Education are important parts of Caring Community's mission.

**Crossroads House**

600 Lafayette Rd.

Portsmouth, NH. 03801

Martha Stone, Executive Director (603)436-2218 x110

M.Stone@crossroadshouse.org

**Background:** Crossroads House provides emergency and transitional shelter services to homeless individuals and families in the Greater Seacoast. The capacity of Crossroads is 76 adults and 20 children. With the challenges of Covid 19 Crossroads House needed to use motel rooms to house some emergency shelter clients because of need to comply with State social distancing requirements. This has resulted in a longer waiting list for Crossroads services.

Crossroads House provides three meals a day (total of over 23,000 meals/year) to residents and offers needs assessment and case management services. On site medical services are provided through a Families First Health Team; mental health services and substance abuse counseling are provided by Seacoast Mental Health Center. These partnerships mean that Crossroads is able to maintain a low per night/per person bed cost of \$40.85 and allows for continuation of services with the same agencies once the homeless individual or family leaves the shelter. Crossroads has instituted a program to reduce recidivism: Housing Stability Case Managers follow people leaving the shelter and offer coaching on budgeting, landlord/tenant issues and help access supports in the community. This is an essential service to help individuals to maintain their independent housing. Data shows if a resident stay in the Crossroads program over 90 days 82% are moved into permanent housing. Crossroads has a 5% recidivism rate for all adult who move to permanent housing and 0% for families in permanent housing.

Municipal support is critical to maintaining Cross Road's shelter services. Federal grants (e.g., from HUD) account for only a small percentage of the agency's annual revenues. Crossroads is primarily dependent on donations.

**Services:** The fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, Crossroads had not provided shelter services to any York residents. Contact was initiated with YCSA here in York to find why there was no referrals to Crossroads since YCSA is a primary service provider in York but also manages the Town of York welfare system. Through conversation with YCSA's family service coordinator she indicated they had been told that New Hampshire resident took preference. Cross Road, states unequivocally that York in their Southern Maine catchment area. In consultation with Crossroads, it was recommended that YCSA's Family Services Coordinator be connected with Crossroads Program Manager in order to facilitate a more effective referral process. This was done on 12/14/2020 and it is expected this will help with getting York residents the vital services provided by Crossroads.

**Comment:** Crossroads House provides a vital service to people experiencing homelessness. Without these services, towns would be obligated to use shelter services further away or house homeless in motels which is not only more expensive but also makes access to support services difficult. Crossroads has always served York residents and it is expected they will do so in FY22. They are an important safety net and a resource needed here in York.

## **Kids Free to Grow**

57 Portland Road, Unit #4  
Kennebunk, ME 04043  
Patrice Leary-Forrey, Director  
(207) 985-5975  
[patricel@kidsfreetogrow.org](mailto:patricel@kidsfreetogrow.org)

**Background:** Kids Free to Grow (KFTG) continues to offer child abuse prevention education throughout York County and maintains a mission to empower children and families by offering prevention education and support through positive parenting, school based and professional trainings to prevent abuse and neglect of children in our community. This past year, Kids Free to Grow has maintained several partnerships within the York town community. The letter accompanying their application points out all of the services they would have been providing in our community in a normal year, like providing outreach services to parents, children, and professionals in the schools, library, and community spaces. However, in light of the largely NOT normal year they have had, their application for funding stresses the success they are proud to have achieved in shifting to offering all of their programs through virtual platforms and social media. They were able to add their resource guide in digital format on their website and convert the in-person parent programs, prevention education to children, and professional trainings, to digital presentations that can be shared remotely.

**Services:** Last year, **Kids Free to Grow served 300+ individual York citizens.** Kids Free to Grow reaches school-aged and preschool-aged children in York through their evidence-based prevention education programs. Their services continue to be offered at no cost. Before March 2020, KFTG served children at VES with their Healthy Relationships program. This same program was made available to YMS students at the York Public Library. Community outreach and events for parents also took place at the library. In the fall of 2019, they provided parenting resource materials to families and professionals at York Hospital--specifically providing education around the Period of Purple Crying (aimed at preventing shaken baby syndrome) along with their Purple Hat donation. Their programming includes the national “Click for Babies” campaign to raise awareness around infant care, growth, and development; through this program KFTG collected knitted infant hats and delivered them to the birthing center at York Hospital. They coordinate with town departments/contacts such as the librarians, Officer Robie, and Sharron Talbot at VES.

**Comments:** Kids Free to Grow is a 100% grant funded organization. Funds available are leveraged as an incentive for matching grants and attract monies from other towns as well as charitable donations. They seek our continued support in their efforts to end all forms of child abuse in York County. Their work with York residents not only raises awareness in order to support children in our community, but also provides crucial education to children, parents, and educators who live and work with our most vulnerable community members. KFTG has continued to provide consistent community outreach and education with the goal of preventing child abuse and neglect in our community, and the agency has successfully transitioned as much of their programming as possible to a remote/online format in the wake of Covid-19.

**Maine Health Care at Home**

15 industrial Park Rd.

Saco, ME. 04072

Contact: Roy Garland

[rgarland@mcah.org](mailto:rgarland@mcah.org)

207 391-6462

**Background:** In 2016, when HomeHealth Visiting Nurses joined with Kno-Wal-Lin Home Care & Hospice, and Waldo Home Health Care & Hospice it brought together more than 100 years of combined experience in providing home health services. Services include skilled nursing, physical, occupational, and speech therapies, home health aides, counseling, palliative care, diabetes education, health tests, and flu shots. In addition, Maine Health Care clinicians identify and address needs such as fuel assistance, inadequate food and nutrition, and potential abuse or neglect.

Financials for periods ending 9/30/2020 show a stable financial condition.

**Services to York Residents:** From October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020, MHCAH served **45** York residents. The organization generates a patient list noting unduplicated count by program. The total dollar value was **\$61,200** calculated using the 367 visits/tests multiplied by the cost per visit. Uncompensated care given to York Residents was **\$3,733**. Those in need of basic services such as fuel, food, or shelter are referred to York's General Assistance Manager by their social workers and nurses.

MHCAH has serviced a census of over ten covid positive patients since May, caring for patients discharged from other sites and helping limit the incidence of viral spread within hospitals and other congregate settings.

**Comments:** Town contributions allow MHCAH to provide free and reduced fee health care for residents who lack insurance or other resources to pay for care. Municipal contributions leverage funding from other communities, community foundations, and United Way organizations. In FY20, MHCAH's overall uncompensated care cost was more than \$1,005.000.00.

**Southern Maine Agency on Aging**  
136 U.S. Route One  
Scarborough, Maine 04074  
Liz Thompson, Donor Relations Specialist  
207-396-6591  
[www.SMAAA.ORG](http://www.SMAAA.ORG)

**Background:** Southern Maine Agency on Aging provides residents of York with resources and assistance to address the issues and concerns connected with aging. The agency's programs seek to improve the physical, social, emotional, and economic wellbeing of Maine's older population, adults with disabilities and those who care for them.

SMAA is governed by a board of directors and is financially stable.

**Services:** In the last fiscal year (October 1, 2019-September 30, 2020), **556** York residents received the following support and assistance from SMAA; services are valued at **\$176,808**:

- **261** residents received information and support through the agency's Information & Resource program. **66** received Medicare and other insurance counseling.
- **199** residents participated in congregate dining programs through which they received **12,304** affordable and nutritious meals;
- **2** York residents who are caregivers received **2349** hours of valuable respite through the Caregiver Respite Respite program; **11** York residents participated in classes/support groups. **2** York residents were matched with a Money Minder volunteer who assisted in the "business" of daily living: creating a budget, paying bills and maintaining financial independence. The client spent **59** hours working with the volunteer.
- **41** York residents received **3,953** home-delivered meals, safety checks and vital socialization through the Meals on Wheels and Simply Delivered for ME programs.
- **27** York residents participated in **54** Agewell Program classes designed to help participants reduce risk and fear of falls, live healthier lifestyles.

**Comment:** York consistently ranks in the top five towns in a state which is aging at a faster rate than the rest of the country. Municipal funds are critical for federal and state funding for SMAA, and leverage for grants. SMAA collaborates with York Hospital, The Senior Center, and York Housing Authority to provide supportive services to residents.

Due to COVID19, SMAA have adapted to ensure critical services remain intact and those impacted by the pandemic have access to support. The older adult population, already at risk for social isolation, are experiencing even greater challenges and risk due to limited social resources available and worsening social isolation. The needs of older adults have become more complex and critical leading to dramatic increases in food insecurity, request for home delivered nutrition, housing and rent assistance, need for family caregiver supports, growing mental health challenges due to extreme social isolation, anxiety, and stress. SMAA is serving nearly twice as many home-delivered meals and home-based services. SMAA anticipates this need will continue to grow far in to 2021.

**Sweetser**

50 Moody Street  
Saco, Maine 04072

Contact: Jodie Hansen, Development Director  
(207) 294-4476

[jhansen@sweetser.org](mailto:jhansen@sweetser.org)

**Background:** Sweetser has been providing critical mental health services to children, adults, and families in need since 1828. The agency provides a wide range of services to York residents and collaborates closely with York Hospital and the School Department. Specifically, Sweetser plans to use potential funding to expand access to primary care integration services and substance use therapy for York residents.

**Services:** Last year, Sweetser served **253** York residents. The dollar value of services provided was **\$422,870**, calculated on the fee charged for each service. On top of that amount, Sweetser provided **\$90,000** of free care to York residents who are either uninsured or insured with high deductible co-pays. The agency offers comprehensive mental and behavioral health services, including school-based outpatient therapy, medication management, crisis intervention and stabilization, clinic-based outpatient and substance use treatment, and primary care integration at family practice and pediatric office locations. Additionally, Sweetser contracts with York schools to provide Individualized Education Plan (IEP) support to students, families, and school staff as well as supervision and consultation with school social workers. The agency has expanded their ability to respond to school districts experiencing traumatic events such as suicide, vehicle accidents, and loss of life. Sweetser provides these services free of charge to support local communities. The agency also partners with YCSA to help connect community members in need of available resources.

This year in response to COVID the agency was forced to transition to remote work settings. This required the purchase of secure video licenses to stay connected to clients in the community.

**Comments:** Sweetser is a financially stable organization that provides essential services in the areas of mental and behavioral health. Ongoing partnerships with the schools as well as health care providers in our community have strengthened the benefits to our residents. The agency's support in these areas and services in substance abuse identification, prevention, and treatment within the Town of York is critical.

**York Community Service**

**Association**

PO Box 180

York, Maine 03909

Contact: Michelle

Surdoval

[msurdoval@ycsa.org](mailto:msurdoval@ycsa.org)

351-8324, Office; 650-8702

**Background:** York Community Service Association (YCSA) has had to change operations due to Covid. The thrift shop and food pantry are closed to the public and available to those in need to shop freely by appointment. In the last fiscal year, YCSA has provided services to a total of 2068 York residents. The dollar amount of assistance given \$337,552.83.

Among the wide range of services provided to York residents are the following:

- 146 needy families are registered at/regularly use the food pantry by appointment
- 520 backpacks of food were distributed to families
- 144 boxes of food provided to senior citizens
- 15 households with utility bills
- 38 households for fuel assistance
- 117 residents gas and automobile repair
- 80 households rent assistance
- 501 resident's financial assistance

This list does not include all the provided services. As the above list makes clear, YCSA fills the gaps of other local social service programs. The agency provides case management services and assists York residents with applying for tax abatement and/or property tax abatement.

**Comments:** YCSA works with several town departments including: Town Clerk, Parks and Recreation, The York Senior Center, School Department. YCSA has stable services and sound finances. The agency leverages town funds by using volunteer staff hours. YCSA also partners with local faith groups and other nonprofits. The agency has been able to maintain employment for 4 full time staff.

**York County Community Action Corporation**

6 Spruce Street, P.O. Box 72

Sanford, Maine 04073 207-324-5762

Brad Bohon, Community Relations Manager

**Background:** York County Community Action Corporation (YCCAC) was incorporated in 1965; the agency's mission is to alleviate the effects of poverty, attack its underlying causes, and to promote the dignity and self-sufficiency of the people of York County, Maine. YCCAC's programs include: Economic Opportunity (Community Outreach, emergency financial assistance, homeownership education, foreclosure prevention, tax preparation and legal advocacy); Head Start, and Early Head Start; Women, Infants and Children (WIC); transportation, fuel assistance for low-income residents (LIHEAP); one on one financial counseling; and the federally qualified community health center Nasson Health Care (multiple sites). The agency's board is comprised of 1/3 low-income individuals, 1/3 public sector clients and 1/3 private sector clients. Municipal funds and matching funds are critically important to YCCAP. YCCAP reports that 90% of funding is federal, 5% is state grants, and 5% comes from donations and local funding support.

**Services:** Last year YCCAC served **377** York citizens, at a cost of **\$259,000**. In the fiscal year 2019/2020 services provided to York residents include:

Community Outreach workers who provided education and assistance such as legal advocacy, tax preparation, financial coaching, housing counseling and homeownership education.

- Emergency financial assistance
- Energy and weatherization support
- Headstart
- Nasson Healthcare services
- Transportation support
- WIC support to households

**Comment:** YCCAC has a long history of providing badly needed services far in excess of the amount requested, using resources available and volunteers to meet the needs of our residents in need. Outreach workers do case by case assessments to target all the needs of their clients and collaborate with other agencies allowing YCCAC to "bundle" services. Funding this agency helps reduce the reliance on General Assistance in the town.



## SOHIER PARK COMMITTEE

Our committee has the privilege to support and assist in the preservation of both Sohier Park and the Nubble Lighthouse.

We are blessed in a multitude of ways among them are: 1) the Sohier Davies Families donated the land now representing Sohier Park, a pure gift of beautiful views of coastal Maine. 2) Based on a strong application by the Nubble Light Acquisition Committee on behalf of the town we became the new guardian of historic Nubble Light in December of 1997.

These are awesome and welcome responsibilities which fall under the town Parks and Recreation Department and Sohier Park Committee. The Parks Department handles the day-to-day operational work in the park and at the Lighthouse. The Sohier Park Committee dedicates its efforts in a multitude of ways as we work with the Parks & Recreation Director to historically protect and preserve our gifts of Nubble Lighthouse and Sohier Park. This is accomplished with the indispensable support of our dedicated volunteers, called the Nubble Light Ambassadors, who serve our guests both in the park and in the gift shop. We all cherish and love the work we do! How fortunate are we to preserve and protect one of the most majestic lighthouses in the world and the park that provides such picturesque views and rich experiences!

### **Responsibilities of Guardianship**

When the voters of York accepted the Deed, they also accepted the responsibilities and requirements as the new guardian. We have those promises to keep.

Our responsibilities, as a community are listed in the deed of guardianship:

- ❖ Historically preserve and protect by following Historic Standards for Nubble Lighthouse which is on the National Register of Historic places since 1985.
- ❖ Identify and Protect the wildlife inhabitants on the island and surrounding area.
- ❖ Provide access to the US Coast Guard who will maintain the Aids to Navigation (4<sup>th</sup> Order Fresnel Lens and Fog Horn) on this working lighthouse.
- ❖ Provide a financial plan and raise the funding to pay for and maintain the historic nature of the footprint and all buildings listed on the National Register for Nubble Lighthouse.

### **Financial Plan and Gift Shop**

The financial plan was essential because our acquisition committee did not want the taxpayers of York to pay for the Nubble upkeep once we became the guardian. The original Gift Shop was

built under the tutelage of the Sohier Park committee & Mr. Henry and Mrs. Verna Rundlett in 1990's and provided the initial funding for our beginning endeavors.

Beginning in 2014 the Gift Shop was expanded to meet the growing expenses needed to repair a historic building located on the island. The Gift Shop today is managed by the Parks Department along with our Nubble Light Volunteers. All proceeds pay for the costs of the park and lighthouse maintenance.

In 2016 we identified a tremendous amount of historic preservation work needed on the island. We focused on the exterior areas for the scope of this work. We asked the board of selectmen to let us begin by hiring a qualified historic contractor to guide our work and meet the requirements by the State Historic Preservation Officer, (SHPO for short)

The Park Director and Sohier Park Committee interviewed several applicants and made a recommendation to the town. We are currently working with Jim Leslie and Company who qualified based on our requirements, his references and the lowest bid.

**Nubble Restoration:** all projects paid for by funds raised by the gift shop and meet Historic Preservation Guidelines.

1. Phase 1 \$102,000 – Complete (Began in the Spring, 2018)
  - a. Keepers house & walkway exterior repairs: trim work, brick work, historic features adorning the buildings were repaired and painted.
2. Phase 2 \$103,000 - Complete
  - a. Tower: removal of corrosion & rust (down to the cast iron) applied primer and two coats of industrial marine grade paint.
  - b. Fuel House – Brick masonry repaired damaged mortar joints.
3. Phase 3 \$81,500 - Complete (Summer, 2019)
  - a. New roof: 3 buildings (keepers house, workshop, fuel storage building)
  - b. Workshop: structural and foundation work, reflooring, repaired damage to the support walls then primed and painted.
4. Phase 4 \$45,920 – Summer 2020
  - a. Lantern and Battery Room both inside and outside: Surface preparation to receive priming, and two coats of paint. The glazing of the lantern windows housing the historic 4<sup>th</sup> order lens.
5. Phase 5 TBD

### **Sohier Park Masterplan**

Sohier Park needed a plan to protect our natural resources and to provide a safe setting for all to enjoy this valued resource. The Masterplan was approved by the Selectmen, Planning Board and the Voters of York Maine. This masterplan decides what can and cannot be

placed in or on the park but most importantly to protect the park's natural resources and provide safety to our guests.

1. Phase 1 - \$15,000 Complete
  - a. Retain the services of an engineering landscape architect to design a plan to meet all requirements.
2. Phase 2 -
  - a. Financial Plan
  - b. Implementation of the Plan

Thank you to all who care about and who support our majestic Lighthouse and Beautiful Park!

**The Sohier Park Committee!**

**Brenda Knapp, Chair, Brian Ross, Vice Chair, Evie Lipka, Sue Moran, Diane Ross, Dick O'Brien and Tony Knox**



## CLIFF WALK COMMITTEE

### Cliff Walk Committee Report 2019

Use of the accessible part of the Cliff Walk encountered no serious problems during 2019 despite heavy traffic throughout the spring, summer, and autumn months. The presence of the walk ranger, Cassie Page, during the period of heaviest traffic contributed to this trouble-free operation. She was able to meet and greet walkers, explain the path features, and deal with problems before they became serious. Common issues she encountered were walkers bringing their dogs on the path in spite of the clear warnings that, other than service dogs, they are now allowed; and people who wander off the path on to the adjoining private property. An infrequent but recurring problem in recent years has been with some physically challenged individuals who do not heed the posted warning that the path is rugged in places. This led to situations where someone started on the walk only to find it too difficult to either continue or to retreat. A few times this year the walk ranger found it necessary to summon assistance. More emphatic sign language will be installed to help avoid this problem next year.

As has been the practice for the past several years the committee sent a letter to all owners of property crossed by the Cliff Walk in June. The letter covered current issues and ongoing maintenance work. We are fortunate that the Parks & Recreation Department (P&R hereafter) staff members who maintain the operational part of the walk have established good working relations with owners of property crossed by the path, and cooperate with them in the management of vegetation, placement of signage, and related issues. Because of this constructive interaction problems that formerly festered are now resolved before they become conflicts.

The principal concern of the Committee and the P&R staff in 2019 was repair of the damage caused by two storms in 2018. These washed-out parts of the path, caused local erosion that narrowed the path, and lifted and destroyed the concrete walkway that carried the path over a section of rugged rock near its present eastern end. This damage was too extensive to repair within the ordinary P&R trail maintenance and town budgets. An application to FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) was successful and allowed the restoration work to be undertaken this year. Robin Kerr, responsible for the P&R trail system, has primary responsibility for repair and maintenance of the walk. Robin and Ryan Coite presented a repair plan to the selectmen on 17 April. The work faced a major difficulty. There was no access to the most heavily damaged section of the walk for the heavy equipment needed for the repairs.

Robin and her staff solved this problem by having the necessary equipment brought in on a barge. It was then offloaded across the beach directly onto the path. With this accomplished, all the restoration work was completed during the autumn of 2019, well before winter weather set in.

In November 2018, our committee submitted a report to the selectmen outlining ongoing issues with the management of the entire Cliff Walk. One unresolved issue is whether or not the town wants to regain access to the three-fifths of the walk made inaccessible by the fence erected by Mr. Peterson several years ago. A second concern has arisen because walk users now enter or leave the eastern end of the walk by way of the sewer easement adjacent to Mr. Peterson's fence. There have been no problems with this use in the absence of an established right of way. Nevertheless, the town may want to obtain a legal right for walkers to use this route. The selectmen discussed the committee report at their 11 February 2019 meeting, and subsequently held a joint meeting with the Cliff Walk Committee on 10 June 2019. No decisions on these issues have been made as of March 2020.

Robert Gordon



# COMMITTEE FOR VETERANS' AFFAIRS

## 2020 Town Report Input

**9 March 2021**

The York Committee for Veterans' Affairs was established by the Board of Selectmen in April 2019 and has convened nearly every month since that date. Its mission is (in part) "to serve as a point of contact for matters relating to veterans and the military, to develop and maintain a broad perspective of the Town's approach to and participation in all such matters, to help ensure the Town honors veterans and the military, and to advise the Board of Selectmen accordingly." The Committee currently consists of seven members, five of whom are veterans. Two alternate member positions are yet to be filled. Since the 2019 report, two members have resigned, and three new members were appointed.

### **HOST CITY FOR USS CALIFORNIA**

When the Town of York was chosen to be the Host City for USS *California*, a nuclear-powered, Virginia class submarine temporarily based at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard for a major overhaul, the Committee was given primary liaison responsibilities. The Committee has worked closely with the crew to build relationships. Volunteers from *California* provided many hours of support to the town in 2019, but in 2020, their participation was, understandably, severely hampered by the Department of Defense rules regarding the covid-19 pandemic. Still, crew members were able to:

- Clear trails on Mt. Agamenticus
- Participate in Wreaths Across America, including wreath laying
- Participate in the pumpkin offload in support of First Parish Church
- Show uniformed support for our veterans who attended the pancake breakfast at the Center for Active Living
- Help with trail clearing for York public schools

York has reciprocated with both public and private acknowledgements including:

- Free Thanksgiving dinner for the duty crew (compliments of the VFW)
- Free Christmas dinner for the duty crew (compliments of the VFW)

The committee will continue to work with USS *California* to explore both future volunteer opportunities, as well as opportunities for York to show its appreciation to the crew for their service to York and to the country.

### **STREET BANNERS**

Perhaps the most visible aspect of the Committee's work is the project to honor York's fallen military heroes with street banners. Each of these banners features the portrait of a York veteran, his name, age, branch of service and war in which he made the supreme sacrifice in order to protect our Constitution and our American way of life.

Committee members have expended much effort in uncovering information on these men, with great help from the community. The effort of this mission is to ensure that the names, lives and sacrifices of these young men are not forgotten. Our plan is to display these banners in the weeks prior to Memorial Day and again prior to Veterans Day. We have been ably assisted in this effort by the Department of Public Works. Those currently honored with a banner are:

#### **WWI**

Edward Ramsdell

#### **WWII**

Bill Turner

Gene Boardman

Richie Ellis

Roger Haskell

Edward Grant

Harvey Rogers

Vietnam

Bob Young

Larry d'Entremont

Gerry Dorr

Ronnie Parsons

The Committee will continue to gather information and photographs on other fallen veterans and to create additional banners as that information becomes available (and as budget allows). In this project, we are guided by the words of 19th century British Prime Minister, William Gladstone:

“Show me the manner in which a nation or community cares for its dead, and I will measure with mathematical exactness the tender sympathies of its people, their respect for the law of the land and their loyalty to high ideals.”

## **ACTIVITIES WITH THE YORK SCHOOL DISTRICT**

The Committee coordinated with York High School, York Middle School, Village Elementary, and Coastal Ridge Elementary School throughout the year. Although COVID restrictions have significantly impacted activities (in particular, veteran individual participation at the schools,) the Committee has provided material for “in-school” displays. We currently coordinate the display of banners of our town’s fallen heroes, with supporting information. These banners are rotated between the schools and provide the centerpiece for additional veteran displays.

Additionally, we are in the early stages of coordinating a proposal for a November 2021 Veterans Day event at YHS. To date we have established a working group and contacted the Superintendent’s office.

The Committee has a bookshelf display at the York Town Library that will have artifacts and other veteran-related information. These displays will also be cycled through the York school system in the same manner as the individual banners.

## **MEMORIAL DAY**

For the first time in memory, York was not able to hold a traditional Memorial Day parade in 2020, due to covid restrictions on gathering. Nevertheless, the committee worked with town officials, local service groups and volunteers to engineer a “reverse parade” to honor the country’s war dead. York’s memorial events included:

- The display of street banners, honoring those veterans who paid the ultimate price. Photos and a brief bio of each hero was shown on Spectrum Cable channel 1302.
- A group of veterans, York Police, VFW, American Legion, First Parish Church Cemetery crew and other volunteers placed a memorial flag at each veteran gravesite in the cemetery and a flag at each war memorial. The VFW donated the flags.
- The York Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution created 9 wreaths and placed them at each war memorial.
- A 5-ton Army truck with commemorative markers for all military branches was parked on the drive near Town Hall, as was a cannon towed by a Jeep.
- Patriotic music was played on the First Parish Church carillon at 9am, 12pm and 6pm.
- CDR Jim Henry, Commanding Officer of USS *California*, gave pre-recorded remarks on TV channel 1302 throughout the day (CDR Henry had previously agreed to be the keynote speaker at the Memorial Day ceremony following the parade).
- Flag-carrying veterans lined up (at 6-foot intervals or more) on the drive-in front of Town Hall to honor the fallen from 10-11 am. The veterans were joined by an honor guard from the York Fire Department.
- Taps was played just before 11 am, followed by one minute of bell tolling from the First Parish Church.

All participants were reminded (as author Osmar White wrote): "The living have the cause of the dead in trust."

We are currently exploring options for Memorial Day 2021.

## **VETERANS DAY**

As with other events, plans for Veterans Day were curtailed because of covid restrictions. Still, York was able to show support for veterans past and present by:

- The display of street banners honoring York's war dead.
- York Parks and Rec held a "take out" pancake breakfast that was free for veterans (with support from USS *California* sailors).
- York High School displayed some of the "York Heroes" street banners and conducted various projects with students relating to veterans. They also had a veterans display in the library for the month of November
- Coastal Ridge Elementary School had a veterans display outside the school library. They conducted a brief ceremony outside by their flagpole, with Committee members in attendance.
- Old York Historical Society conducted walking tours of York's war memorials. The tour was named "Answering the Call: York's Wartime Service." OLHS prepared a script based largely on research conducted by Committee members.
- First Parish Church tolled the bell at 11am on November 11.
- VFW held a patriotic ceremony at 11am on November 11. Also, the VFW held an essay contest for High School and Middle School.

## **PARKING SIGNS**

The Committee continued a program to encourage local organizations and businesses to install "Veterans Only" parking signs as a way of expressing our citizens' respect for those who have served in the military. Currently over 30 signs have been delivered.

## **WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA**

The Committee was actively engaged in the planning and implementation of the national Wreaths Across America (WAA) program. Each December the WAA mission to "Remember, Honor and Teach" is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at more than 2,100 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad. York's First Parish Cemetery is one of those locations. Committee members assisted in off-loading wreaths, transporting wreaths to the cemetery, placing wreaths on veterans' headstones, and participating in the ceremony at the cemetery to honor veterans of all services.

## **ELLIS PARK VETERANS MEMORIAL**

The Committee coordinated with trustees of Ellis Park and the troop leader of the local Scouts to initiate an Eagle Scout project to provide badly needed restoration of aging plaques and stone memorials to York veterans. These neglected memorials are currently placed near the gazebo in the grassy area of the Park.

## **FUTURE PLANS**

Future plans for the Committee include:

- War monument repair work.
- Additional street banners to honor York's fallen heroes.
- Working with the DAR to enhance the 2021 and subsequent year Vietnam Remembrance Day ceremony.
- Working with the Old York Historical Society.
- Working with the York Region Chamber of Commerce on "Vets Only" parking signs and veteran discount signage at participating businesses.
- Working with York service organizations to coordinate Memorial Day and Veterans Day activities, as well as a flag retirement program.
- Building a database of York veterans.
- Planning a farewell event for USS *California*.
- Networking with veterans at Sentry Hill, York Housing Authority, York Center for Active Living and other interested organizations.
- Exploring options for a donated Spanish War veteran uniform, which was gifted to the town by the veteran's family.

*Members: Bill Blaisdell, Roger Clements, Lew DiTommaso, Michael Dow, Patrick Garon, Roger LaPlante, Barry Waddell*

*Respectfully submitted by Barry Waddell, Chairman*



# CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Conservation Commission (CC) continues its effort to more fully advance its Mission, approved by the Board of Selectmen (BoS) in 2019. Historical research by a new member has emphasized the central role that the CC has occupied, since its creation in the early 1970's, in conservation and environmental protection within the town, and the current membership has undertaken to resume that role. Because of pandemic restrictions this year meetings were held either out-of-doors (initially) or using video means. Key areas of action are summarized here.

1. In order to better define its responsibilities under its Mission, the CC has developed a draft Charter. Feedback from the Town Manager led to more specific descriptions of responsibilities, and the draft was submitted to the BoS in February. Feedback from the BoS and the Planning Board has been incorporated in a modified draft that will be submitted to the BoS for final approval in March. The CC has been pursuing the responsibilities outlined in the draft Charter, as described in the following.
2. With input from community members, the CC drafted a town pesticide/herbicide policy. Given any pesticide/herbicide/fertilizer can be toxic if used incorrectly, the goal of the policy is community education. The CC strives to encourage community members to follow the principles of integrated pest management (IPM). Those trained professionally follow these principles: basically, practice preventive measures and, when application of a product is needed, do so in the safest effective manner possible. The next step is to develop a town education plan.
3. This year the CC was tasked with gathering information regarding prevalent invasive plant species located within York. Members researched invasive plant species and best management practices and inquired with land management professionals such as the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to get a full understanding of the topic. In September, the CC presented a report to the BOS on invasive species and appropriate steps that should be taken at town management levels to address them. The CC also met, in February, with the York Parks and Recreation Board along with the parks foreman and discussed their current procedures for interacting with invasives. The Board agreed to include information on invasive plants in park designation documents.
4. The CC has undertaken to support management of Town-held Conservation Easements. The goal is to ensure that Conservation Easement properties in York are monitored in accordance with state requirements and that all required data about the Easements is entered into the state Conservation Lands Registry in a timely manner. The CC is studying monitoring processes and data requirements, including meeting with staff from the York Land Trust to further their understanding. Resulting recommendations will be presented to the town/BOS.



# ENERGY STEERING COMMITTEE

2020 Annual Report

March 19, 2021

Susan Covino, Co-chair

## Introduction:

This report would begin in a normal year with the word “DONE” followed by a numbered list of accomplishments. The COVID 19 pandemic made 2020 anything but a normal year. Society faced new challenges and the tragic loss of life throughout the year and beyond.

The York Select Board met continuously to grapple with access to public spaces and social distancing rules for local residents and summer visitors. Uncertainty about local tax revenues delayed or sidelined projects including the planned installation of 2 electrical vehicle (EV) chargers at the York Public Library.

Meetings of the Energy Steering Committee (ESC) were postponed until suitable virtual meeting arrangements using Zoom could be put in place. Nevertheless, the ESC, under the leadership of Chair Rozanna Patane kept working and accomplishing items designated as “underway and planned” in the ESC’s 2019 annual report.

## 1. LED Street Lights Installed

York voters authorized the expenditure of \$556,500 comprised of \$425,000 of principal and \$131,500 of interest for the LED street light conversion on May 12, 2019.

The Town of York contracted with RealTerm U.S. L.P. (RealTerm) to manage the conversion of the streetlights to LED on August 12, 2019. RealTerm launched the project on August 29, 2019.

RealTerm provided the town with a Geographic Information System inventory assessment of the existing public street and other outdoor lights. Following design of the new LED street light network by RealTime and approved by the town, RealTime ordered Acuity Brands cobrahead and decorative street light fixtures.

On Target, RealTerm’s electrical subcontractor, completed installation of 769 cobrahead fixtures and 9 decorative fixtures between February 24, 2020 and March 31, 2020 at a cost of \$337,891. RealTerm recycled the old CMP light fixtures and light bulbs removed by On Target.

Actual costs as of June 18, 2020, according to York’s Finance Director, totaled \$397,731.86, which includes \$94,460 paid to CMP for the old street light fixtures. This total is less than the budgeted amount of \$425,000 by \$27,268.14 but as of this writing, several lights around Town Hall are yet to be installed, and there are a few issues with poles that need replacing. The

monthly charges for streetlighting to the town from CMP show the significant impact of switching streetlights to LEDs. See the chart below.

RealTerm's Investment Grade Audit report to the town projects demand (kw) savings of 60.9% and annual energy consumption (kWh) savings of 67%. These final projections align closely with the analysis provided to the Select Board by Celtic Energy in January of 2019. Celtic's analysis estimated energy reductions of approximately 65%, which equates to a 42.1-ton annual reduction in CO2 equivalent greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

## 2. Maine Climate Council – Service on the Buildings, Infrastructure and Housing Working Group

ESC Chair Rozanna Patane served on one of six working groups established by the Maine State Climate Council. The in-person meetings quickly switched to virtual meetings in early 2020.

Rozanna's mission was to represent the voice of the municipalities, where strategies would ultimately be carried out. She made two recommendations that survived the review process and were contained in the final Plan strategies.

- The first was to require and make available extensive training of contractors in energy-smart building techniques. Contractors are the major interface with property owners so it's vital that they are well-equipped to offer the right choices to consumers. Combined with similar proposals from Code Enforcement staff in other Maine towns and the Buildings and Construction Trades Council, this strategy resulted in one bill currently in the Maine Legislature.
- The second recommendation was to form a State climate corps of Vista and AmeriCorps members. This proposal has been taken up by the Maine Office of Volunteers, which is expanding its current program that includes other Maine fellowship and internship programs.

Rozanna reported that the process was well organized, that she learned a lot, and that she and her fellow working group members felt that their perspectives and ideas were heard and carefully considered. This experience positioned her to guide the anticipated Climate Action Planning process in York.

The 6 working groups completed their work in June 2020. The Maine Climate Council delivered its report to Governor Mills on December 1, 2020". The report contained 7 specific recommendations for making Maine homes and buildings smart and cost efficient. The entire Maine Won't Wait Climate Action Plan can be found at:

[https://www.maine.gov/future/sites/maine.gov.future/files/inline-files/MaineWontWait\\_December2020.pdf](https://www.maine.gov/future/sites/maine.gov.future/files/inline-files/MaineWontWait_December2020.pdf)

The Climate Council recommendations have resulted already in state policy changes and legislation and plans for further changes for several years that will create a transformation of Maine's energy strategy and an emerging energy economy.

### 3. Climate Action Plan for York

The voters approved on July 14, 2020 the expenditure of \$150,000 for a consultant to facilitate the development of a Climate Action Plan (CAP) for York. Unfortunately, the voters did not approve a companion proposal made by the ECS to hire a Sustainability Coordinator to participate in the CAP process and assist in the implementation of the CAP by town government and the town's people.

Later in the year the ESC recommended that the Select Board retain an independent contractor to perform the work of a Sustainability Coordinator. The Select Board forwarded the recommendation to the Budget Committee. The Budget Committee approved the recommendation on November 24, 2020. The related expenditure will be presented to the voters for approval in May of 2021.

Working with Celtic Energy, the ESC drafted a request for proposal (RFP) for a consultant to support the CAP process. The ESC forwarded the RFP to the Town Manager, who used it as the basis of a contract with CivicMoxie, a consulting firm based in Boston, Massachusetts.

The York Planning Board had decided earlier in 2020 to engage CivicMoxie as its consultant to an update of the town's Comprehensive Plan (Comp Plan). Given the interrelatedness of the CAP and Comp Plan and the obvious efficiencies of using the same consultant, the Planning Board, Town Manager and the ESC agreed to coordinate the work of both plans under the guidance of the same consultant. The work was slated to begin in early 2021.

### 4. Global Covenant of Mayors – York Compliance

On July 29, 2019, the Select Board unanimously approved the ESC recommendation to join the Global Covenant of Mayors (GCOM) and directed the Town Manager to execute the Commitment on behalf of the Town of York. The Select Board also approved the target of cutting GHG emissions by 50% from a 2018 baseline and by 100% by 2050.

The GCOM commitment obligates York to undertake specific actions within three years:

- Community-scale GHG emission inventory
- Assessment of climate risks and vulnerabilities
- Time-bound targets to reduce GHG emissions
- Climate change adaptation vision and goals
- Goal to improve access to secure, sustainable, and affordable energy
- Formally adopted climate action plan

Christine Siebert, the ESC's Vista Volunteer, submitted the CDP (Climate Disclosure Project) report for York in compliance with the GHG emission inventory requirement on August 5, 2020. Christine Siebert and her successor, Erin Ferrell, worked with the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) during the balance of 2020 to obtain acceptance of York's CDP report.

## 5. Committee Development Workshop

The members of the ESC engaged in a development workshop on the lawn behind Town Hall on September 9 & 23, 2020. Jeanette Millard of CJM Consulting facilitated the workshop. The ESC invited representatives of York Ready for 100 and Town Manager, Steve Burns to participate in portions of the workshop.

The ESC identified the CAP process as the focus of work in 2020 and beyond. The ESC recognized the need to maximize effort until York can retain a Sustainability Coordinator consultant. The ESC will recommend that the Select Board include funds for a Sustainability Coordinator consultant in the warrants submitted to the voters in May, 2021.

The ESC anticipated working with CivicMoxie to:

- Align the CAP with the Maine Climate Action Plan
- Identify the interests/organizations that will ensure broad and deep representation
- Ensure that participants understand the cost/benefit analysis that will be applied to recommended actions in the CAP
- Develop messaging that builds support for why a local CAP is needed and how the CAP will be implemented after approval

## 6. Hire Third Vista Volunteer

Erin Ferrell joined the ESC team as a Sustainability Associate for a one-year term on October 26, 2020. Her primary duties are to collect municipal energy data for FY2021, streamline the data collection process, create the CDP report for 2021, and support the CAP process. She will also provide support for the York Recycling Committee and York Ready for 100 if and as her work schedule permits. Her annual stipend will be paid by the Town of York and Goodwill Industries of Northern New England.

Ms. Ferrell served as an AmeriCorps Energy Efficiency Coordinator at the University of Maine Orono during the year preceding her assignment to the York ESC. During her service in Orono, Ms. Ferrell conducted free home energy consultations, organized a green job fair, and directed

80 in the building of over 250 insulating window inserts for low-income community members. Ms. Ferrell is a graduate of the University of Dayton, Dayton, Ohio. The university awarded her a B.S. in Environmental Biology with a minor in Sustainability, Energy, and the Environment in May 2019.

## 7. Lease of Witchtrot Road Landfill Site to a Community Solar Developer

The ESC convened an Ad Hoc Solar Committee in March 2019 to explore the development of a solar array large enough to meet the needs of the municipal departments, the school district, the water district, the sewer district, and the library with a 1 MW set aside for low-income and moderate-income families. The impetus for the Ad Hoc Solar Committee, state legislation providing favorable community solar provisions and incentives, passed and became law in mid-2019.

The hard work of the Ad Hoc Solar Committee continued through the balance of 2019. The project at the Witchtrot Road landfill site moved forward. The requirement for ballot approval for leasing the Witchtrot Road site delayed the project until voter approval was obtained on July 14, 2020. The ESC in the meantime submitted a draft lease and a draft RFP for the solar developer to the Town Manager for legal review. The exigencies of the COVID 19 pandemic intervened in early 2020 to further delay the project.

## UNDERWAY AND PLANNED

- Kick off a successful CAP process
- Keep the Town Manager and the Select Board informed of EV developments and incentives
- Pursue the review and approval for the Witchtrot lease and RFP
- Work with York Ready for 100 to grow citizen engagement in EcoHOMES
- Gather data and submit a compliant CDP for 2021
- Assist the Select Board in retaining a contract Sustainability Coordinator when the voters approve the expenditure in May of 2021

Respectfully submitted by the Energy Steering Committee March 19, 2021

Len Loomans and Susan Covino, co-chairs

Gerry Runte

Rozanna Patane

Harry Mussman

Elizabeth Kinzly

Wayne Boardman

Cameron Runte (ex officio)



# BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE

## What is the York Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee?

The York Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee was chartered by the Board of Selectman in June of 2015. The Board adopted the charter stating: “The value of a walkable and bikeable community for health, environmental benefit, added recreational opportunities, and alternative transportation cannot be underestimated. The Town of York recognizes the many economic, social, health and recreational benefits that will result in creating safe spaces to walk and bike, contributing towards networks that link our homes, downtowns, workplaces, parks and beaches”. To achieve that goal, the York Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee was formed.

## What are some of our goals?

- Increase outreach to schools to promote safety and recreation
- Increase awareness of motorist, cyclist and pedestrian laws
- Improve signage and road markings
- Develop and promote biking and walking routes
- Provide bike amenities such as bike racks and repair stations
- Provide benches on major pedestrian corridors
- Improve and expand the sidewalk network
- Create safe connections across Route 1 and Interstate 95

## What did we do this year?

- Completed work with the Maine Department of Transportation and Public Works to obtain and install bicycle and pedestrian safety related signage on state roads.
- Bond funding to fill the gap on the Woodbridge Road sidewalk between Eldridge Road and Scott Ave was approved on the May 2020 ballot.
- Due to COVID 19 restrictions, the Bike Rodeo at Coastal Ridge Elementary School and bike safety and education for third grade students at Coastal Ridge Elementary School was cancelled.
- Participated in discussions to promote walking trails in the proposed McIntyre Woods project.
- Received a mini grant from the Safe Routes to School Program to roll our York Waves program to schools with emphasis on safe street crossing. Stop-Look-Wave bracelets and information cards were provided to all elementary school students.

Committee members: Jeannie Adamowicz, Leah Drennan, Michele Sedler, Brian Ross, David McCarthy.

Donna Hayford, member of the Committee, completed her second term on the Committee. We appreciate all that she has done for the Committee and the Town of York.



# YORK HOUSING AUTHORITY

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## REPORT OF YORK HOUSING

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**Submitted by Patricia Martine, ED**

**The mission: To provide Safe, Clean, Affordable Housing**

Number of Residents Served: 218

Services Available: Transportation, Housekeeping, Meal Program,  
Hair Salon, Educational, Recreational & Service Coordination.

Funding Sources: Housing and Urban Development (HUD)  
Maine State Housing Authority  
Partners Bank  
Kennebunk Savings Bank

Payment in Lieu of Taxes paid to Town of York: Average \$60,000

York Housing is a non-profit housing provider that has been meeting its mission since inception in 1978. York Housing manages 152 units that serve all levels of income for the over 62 Senior population and 29 units of workforce housing units known as Carriage House Apartments. York Housing is proud to serve people of all ages and varying income levels.

Although our housing is what draws people in, the services are what keep people living independently in housing longer and with a greater quality of life. Our service program is constantly evolving. York Housing provides many events free of charge and others are sponsored at affordable rates. We have a sincere desire to sustain the level of services ensuring the same benefits to future generations. We realize that funding these services may not always be possible on a non-profit budget. Please contact us for more information on how you can help us sustain our community housing service programs by donating to our Wishing Well Fund.

York Housing promotes Neighborhood Network which is a referral service that has been developed in to help adults age 50 and over navigate the transitional years. This service is aimed at keeping elders in their own homes by providing a network of solutions to assist with home and lifestyle management. An emphasis on affordable home repairs that focus on health and safety is available through York Housing. For more information please call (207) 351-1828 or visit [www.neighborhoodnetwork.me](http://www.neighborhoodnetwork.me)

Lack of affordable housing for the local workforce is an issue that York Housing is focused on. In 2021, York Housing obtained final approval to develop Moorehouse Place which will consist of a 42-unit building and 10 townhouses. We are excited about breaking ground and making this dream a reality. The timeline will be approximately 12-18 months. We are accepting applications to the waitlist. Workforce Affordable Housing Ordinance parameters apply.

For more information please see our website [www.yorkhousing.info](http://www.yorkhousing.info) or call our office at 363-8444.

Patricia Martine  
Executive Director

Fiona McQuaide  
Assistant Director



## THE PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board is comprised of five regular members and two alternate members, all of whom are residents of the Town of York, appointed by the Board of Selectmen to serve three-year terms. The Board's principal responsibilities are the review of subdivision and site plan applications to assure compliance with the Town's Land Use Ordinances, Subdivision and Site Plan Regulations and the Comprehensive Plan, and the continuing review and amendment of the Town Land Use Ordinances and Comprehensive Plan.

This year, as has been true for everyone, the Planning Board was challenged in every direction by the global pandemic, SarsCoV-2. From not being able to meet in Community Room of the Library to learning about the digital options available to us and how to use them, members of the Planning Board worked to continue the business of the Board in as 'open' a way as possible, considering CDC and State of Maine guidelines for safety. Developers, applicants, and staff all had to learn to conduct meetings with often-complicated forms and drawings in ways to include the public.

In addition to approximately ten 'miscellaneous' applications for review, the Board approved a 52-home open space subdivision; 52-unit affordable workforce housing development; and a retail development soon to break ground at the location of the former Mic Mac Motel.

Workshop sessions consisted of revisions to the By-laws of the Board and to the Findings of Fact template. Ordinance amendments approved by voters last November included Stormwater Management Facility Setback Exemption; Outdoor Lighting; and Lighting Standards for Signs. Under current review are proposed revisions to the Open Space Conservation Ordinance and the development of Zoning for the Green Enterprise Overlay District. Ground-mounted Solar Energy Systems in the Shoreland Overlay District, and Piers, Docks Causeways and Bridges will both be reviewed in the context of the update to the Comprehensive Plan.

A major focus of attention of the Board has been the long-overdue update to the 1999 Comprehensive Plan after voters two years ago approved a consultant to assist the Planning Board in this process. With Town Planner Dylan Smith we developed the RFP, interviewed

applicants, and selected the consultant who began work on the project last month. Selectmen asked the Planning Board to also oversee the development of a Climate Action Plan, approved by voters last year, and the same consultant is assisting with this project, as well. The Climate Action Plan is estimated to be completed in 12 months and will greatly inform the work of the Comprehensive Plan, scheduled to be completed in 18 months for approval by Voters in November, 2022. Between now and then, the Planning Board will be reaching out to residents many times via surveys, events, polls, social media, and email, asking for your thoughts about the York you envision, into the next decade.

The Planning Board meets on the Second and Fourth Thursday of every month and we welcome your comments and questions at the beginning of every meeting, or by email anytime.

Submitted by:

Kathleen Kluger, Chair

Wayne Boardman, Vice Chair; Gerry Runte, Secretary; Pete Smith; Al Cotton; Ken Churchill; Ian Shaw.



# SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD COMMITTEE

From: Chair Deborah Meyers  
To: The Citizens of the Town of York  
Subject: Town Annual Report Information

**Senior Citizens Advisory Board Committee:** This committee meets the second Tuesday on alternating months beginning each year starting in January, and ending November, primarily at the York Public Library at 9:00 AM. The public is welcome to attend.

The Senior Citizens Advisory Board Purpose, as mandated by the Board Charter; “It shall be the purpose of the Senior Citizens Advisory Board to advocate for services to older adults in the Community.”

This committee through, its chartered responsibilities “will work to identify needs among the older adult population and provide recommendations for beneficial and enriching programs and opportunities designed to meet those needs.” The Board may work with Town departments, as well as other senior service agencies and organizations, to accomplish their goals. The Board will report annually, in writing, to the Board of Selectmen. The Board’s function is advisory only.”

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

Town of York Voters approved, in May, an increase of two (2) additional members to this committee.

October 2020, new board member Greg Fyfe was appointed by the Board of Selectmen.

Elections results commenced:

Chair: Deborah Meyers

Vice-Chair: Greg Ffyne

Secretary: Elizabeth A. Maziarz

Members: Carollyn Anderson, Maxine Brown, James Plourde

Vacancy: One (1)

Note:

March 2020 meeting cancelled due to lack of quorum.

May, and July 2020 cancelled due to COVID.

September meeting held on October 19, 2020, after location obtained

Chair Meyers: Instituted a virtual, internet/working board.

Zoom capabilities, Minutes of Meetings, Correspondence, Communication via internet

Reached out to YCSA identifying needs

**New Board Member:** Miriam Wolfe – appointed by Town of York Selectmen

### **Established a Boston Post Cane Committee:**

This new assignment from the Town of York Selectmen will be a permanent task to identify and select the new honoree.

The Boston Post Cane, a New England Tradition created by the Boston Post Newspaper as a feature for Towns to identify and honor their oldest resident.

**BOSTON POST CANE:** With the assistance of Mr. Kevin McKinney, the Board identified Mr. Daniel Donnell, this year, as the recipient of the Boston Post Cane, a tradition that began in 1909. He was presented with this honor on February 4, 2021.

Members: Greg Fyfe, Elizabeth A. Maziarz, Carollyn Anderson, Maxine Brown, Miriam Wolfe

Respectfully submitted:

Chair, Deborah Meyers



## BUDGET COMMITTEE

The York Budget Committee consists of seven members elected by York voters to serve three-year terms. The terms are staggered so that two or three members are elected each year. The committee meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month from March to December to monitor the implementation of the budgets and to become familiar with the accounting methods and issues, as well as progress on the budgets.

Two committee members are assigned to liaison with the Town Manager and Finance Director, two members liaison with the School Department and one member is assigned to the Library. This year Marla Johnson and Mike Spencer acted as liaisons to the Schools; Jerry Allen and Ted Little were liaisons to the Town; and Jim Smith was Library liaison.

We also continued to meet with town and school department heads at our monthly meetings from September to December in order to get a better understanding of their financial concerns for both FY 21 and FY22.

Due to Covid-19, there was no Capital Planning Committee this year. In addition, most of our meetings were held via Zoom, and townspeople were given the option to ask questions via a special email address set up specifically for that purpose.

In January and February, the Budget Committee conducted the FY 22 budget deliberations via Zoom that were televised and held hearings on the FY22 Town, School and Library budgets. We were scheduled to meet every Tuesday and Thursday evening. During the meetings, presentations were made by departments at all levels from Department Heads and Principals to the Town Manager and School Superintendent.

The Committee asks many questions during “budget season” as the Committee reviews the budgets, and it is common for changes to be made voluntarily by the departments in the course of the review. When the reviews are completed the Budget Committee then votes to approve, and in some cases, increase or decrease each Town and School warrant item.

Two public hearings were held in February. The townspeople were allowed to attend the hearings and make public comments via Zoom.

At our next to last meeting in February, the Budget Committee took our preference votes, and at the final meeting, went through the wording of the warrant articles and statements of fact. Due to changes in Maine State Law, the statements of fact are no longer on the ballot, but are listed with the warrant articles in the voter guide.

All Committee meetings are available to the public by accessing Town Hall Streams from the front page of the Town’s website.

In May of 2021 the terms of Jerry Allen, Heather Campbell, and Nan Graves and expire. In May 2022 the terms of Jim Smith and Ted Little expire. In May of 2023 the terms of Mike Spencer and Marla Johnson expire.

During the past year, Jim Smith served as Secretary, Heather Campbell as Vice Chair and Nan Graves as Chair.

*Respectfully Submitted by: Nan Graves, Chair*



## YORK SEWER DISTRICT

The District continues to make significant investments into the treatment facility and the collection system.

In 2020 the District was recognized by the Maine Joint Environmental Training Coordinating Committee (\*JETCC) with the Lee Agger Award. This award serves to acknowledge York Sewer District in a myriad of ways to assist with training wastewater operators, drinking water operators, and local community personnel in erosion control practices. York Sewer District's management and staff have a general sentiment of public service and support to educate and protect our environment.

The District continues the process of updating our Master Plan to look at facility sustainability planning, and a sewer system expansion/needs assessment. The District received \$70,000 in grant money to develop a Fiscal Sustainability Plan (FSP) and a Climate Adaptation Plan (CAP). Both these plans are currently in review by YSD personnel. These steps will allow the District to make informed decisions regarding the replacement/updating of aging infrastructure as well as being prepared for the effects of ever-present climate change.

The District replaced 400 feet of mainline sewer and extended the sewer another 200' on Oceanside Avenue Extension West along with all sewer services in the right-of-way. This allowed for the ability to serve 4 additional properties. The District also replaced 550' of old clay sewer on Wild Goose Lane with new 8" pvc pipe along with associated manholes and appurtenances. The replacement of 200' of old 4" clay sewer pipe on Millbury Lane with new 6" pvc pipe was also accomplished. Freeman Street was another project the District took on relining 685' of 12" reinforced concrete pipe (rcp) and 347' of rcp with a state-of-the-art ultraviolet cured pipe. This is a trenchless repair in which the new pipe is pulled through the host pipe. It is then inflated and cured with a train of ultraviolet lights pulled through the pipe. The product is strong enough to stay in place even if the host pipe were to decay.

The District also took on 4 sewer extensions this year totaling 1,725'. These extensions took place on Ridge Road, Atlantis Lane, Georgia Street, and the aforementioned Oceanside Avenue West Extension. This brought the ability to serve to 18 new properties.

In addition to the line extensions and rehabilitation the collection system crew was very busy with pump station maintenance and upgrades. The Stonewall Kitchen Pump Station saw the installation of a new pump and replacement of all the piping integral to the station.

The District has entered into a solar agreement through Maine Power Options that will provide green energy to the Treatment Facility and other large accounts.

With last year's hiring of the key staff position of Instrumentation Technician the District has been able to make remarkable instrumentation upgrades with in-house staff. Some of those upgrades include updated electronics at several pump stations as well as designs for future upgrades to electrical components at both the treatment plant and pump stations. The Instrumentation Technician has been successful in the continued effort to keep our electronics up to date. With the fast-moving technology in today's world this is a key position to keep us moving forward. This position allows our operators to remote monitor the District's infrastructure on nights and weekends. This reduces the need for the operator to physically respond to call outs, although this is still required in some instances.

The treatment facility still experiences difficult process challenges during the summer. This is largely due to high levels of fat, oil, grease, and other summertime seasonal wastewater components including hydrogen sulfide in liquid and gaseous forms. The new Industrial Pretreatment Program (IPP) and Fats, Oils, and Grease program (FOG) has made, and continues to make a difference. The primary focus has been on commercial industry and Food Service Establishments (FSE's). The District's approach has put an emphasis on education but has ramped up the enforcement actions where needed. There are currently 2 major users that have required remarkable enforcement action. It should be noted that some businesses in Town have not only been willing, but leaders in doing their part to protect the environment. In 2021 YSD will continue our outreach efforts to businesses and the public at large as well. To address the problem of Hydrogen Sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S), the District is in the process of installing a pure oxygen system which will control hydrogen sulfide generation. This system will help to eliminate odor from this source and provide additional operation and process control benefits.

The District continues to be a leader in the State and throughout New England, supporting and influencing public policy impacting the water and wastewater industry. The Superintendent has been the Chairman of the MEWEA Government Affairs Committee for several years and has been instrumental in facilitating the passing of important legislation. In December he stepped down from this position to focus on turning the District over to a new Superintendent at the end of 2021. The Assistant Superintendent is the President of Maine Water Environment Association (MEWEA) this year. Other staff participate on Committees, including Chair of the MEWEA's Collection Systems Committee, and the Chair of the Pretreatment Committee. These positions keep them well informed on current issues Statewide, regionally, and nationally. The involvement in these organizations exposes the employees to some of the most cutting-edge technology and those who use it. The District also regularly sponsors regional training events and hosts JETCC training classes throughout the year. This has been somewhat diminished this year with the pandemic.

The District has many projects planned for 2021, some of which are already underway:

The largest of those projects will be the replacement of the aging administration building. The new building considers future and existing space needs, climate change and protection of the building, modifications to appropriately handle similar situations as the pandemic such as contactless service area, remote access provisions, greater space for social distancing and meetings. The new administration building will also have solar panels which will allow us to operate all our administrative needs with green energy. Other projects slated for this year include:

- In the fall the District will finish the Nubble Road sewer replacement. This will be approximately 200' of sewer that will pick up where the project stopped in the fall of 2019.
- Update of facilities at the Wastewater Treatment Plant Control Building.
- Nubble Road Pump Station will be getting new pumps, controls, and piping this year. This again will all be done in house with YSD staff.

\* JETCC provides training for Operator Certification and Contact Hours which are required for all licensed operators to maintain their licenses.



# YORK WATER DISTRICT

*Submitted by Donald D Neumann Jr., Superintendent & Staff*

**Trustees: Richard E. Boston -President, - Russell Peterson -Treasurer,  
Stephen C. Rendall Jr. – Clerk, Karen Arsenault & Richard Leigh**

To the Citizens of the Town of York and Customers of the District:

## ORGANIZATION

The York Water District was created by an act of the State of Maine Legislature under the Private & Special Laws in 1929, Chapter 8, and as specified in our Charter. The District is administered by an elected board of five Trustees. One Trustee is elected each year at the Town of York's May Election for a term of five years. Regular Trustee meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month. Meeting notices for regular & any special meetings are posted in York Town Hall, York Post Offices, at the District office & on our website at [www.yorkwaterdistrict.org](http://www.yorkwaterdistrict.org) . The public is always welcome to attend.

The District is regulated by Rules and Regulations of the Maine Public Utilities Commission & the Maine Department of Health & Human Services Drinking Water Program. The District prepares an Annual Report for the Public Utilities Commission on special forms supplied by them and an Audited Financial Report filed with the Town's Treasurer. Both reports are based on the calendar year and are available for review at the District office and the Town Hall.

## FUNCTION

The District's purpose and function as stated in our Charter is to supply the Town of York, its inhabitants and others located in the District with potable water for domestic, sanitary, commercial, manufacturing, industrial, agricultural and municipal use. Ensuring the production of safe, reliable, high quality drinking water at the most reasonable cost while providing exceptional customer service, is our number one priority.

## SOURCE

The District's only source of supply is Chase's Pond, with a watershed of 2.64 square miles and a safe yield of 2.05 million gallons per day. Available storage capacity of the pond is approximately 480 million gallons. Average daily use in 2019 was of 1.01 million gallons and 1.07 million gallons in 2020.

## **SYSTEM REDUNDANCY**

The District also maintains emergency interconnections with the Kittery Water District to the south and the Kennebunk, Kennebunkport & Wells Water District to the north. The interconnections strengthen our distribution systems by providing redundancy in the event of an emergency due to unplanned events such as drought, algae blooms, main breaks and or planned events. There have been several occasions where it was necessary to exchange water via one or more of the interconnections.

## **NON-REVENUE WATER**

In 2020 the District took over 380 million gallons from Chase's Pond and an additional 12.2 million gallons of treated water through our interconnection with KKW Water District to our north. The treated water taken from our interconnected system was primarily in response to a proactive drought strategy to allow us to extend our raw water supply by withdrawing less from Chase's Pond. Another piece of this strategy was to exercise an existing raw water siphon line from Kittery Water District's source, Folly Pond to Chase's Pond. Over a 10-day period, approximately 40 million gallons was transferred to Chase's Pond. This raw water transfer project was made possible by extensive collaboration between York and Kittery Water Districts.

Of the amount withdrawn from Chase's Pond, 0.58 million gallons was used in our treatment process, 334.2 million gallons were consumed, 22.49 million gallons are attributed to 4 water main breaks, 13 service leaks, and the installation of 3 new water mains, one bleeder for water quality, filling water trucks for various uses around town and most important use by the fire departments for training and fires.

8.8 % of treated water pumped into our system was considered Non-Revenue Water (*a loss partly due to allowable leakage in our 90 miles of Distribution system*) which is well below national averages of 15-35%.

## **FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

The District's fiscal year begins January 1<sup>st</sup> and ends December 31<sup>st</sup>. Each December the Board of Trustees vote to approve the next year's Operating and Capital Improvement Budgets. The budget for 2021 includes \$4.3 million in operating revenue. The District will also receive roughly \$300,000 in non-utility income generated largely from the communications tower on

Mount Agamenticus. Of that revenue approximately \$3 million will be spent on operations and maintenance costs. Approximately \$1.2 million will be spent on capital improvements in the distribution system, treatment plant and watershed. Another \$500,000 will be spent servicing the District's debt incurred from past capital improvements and land purchases. \$100,000 will be added to the District's tank maintenance (painting & rehabilitation) reserve.

Items of note in the 2021 Budget include:

- **A main replacement job on Axholme Road will begin in the spring. This main replacement project will consist of replacing 1,100 feet of 8-inch cast iron water main with an 8-inch ductile iron water main prior to York Department of Public Works (YDPW) re-paving the road. This project will improve water quality and increase fire flows.**
- **The second phase of a large main replacement job on Nubble Road will begin in the fall. This main replacement project will continue by replacing 880 feet of 6-inch cast iron water main with 10-inch ductile iron water main. It will be done in conjunction with YDPW as they rebuild the road for sidewalks, drainage and pavement. Nubble Road Phase II was delayed from 2020 to 2021 due to COVID-19.**

#### MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMPLETED

### CHASE'S POND WATERSHED

### FORESTRY

In 2020 the District continued its forestry management program with a planned timber harvest in the Dickens parcel on the upper north side of Chase's Pond. This parcel was purchased in late December 2019 and is an important piece of watershed land to have in District control. The parcel was one of the few remaining larger parcels not owned by the District and is the last piece of property between District owned land and Mountain Road on that side of the pond.

### NEW MANAGEMENT ROAD EXTENSION

With the purchase of this parcel and pending timber harvest we planned a one-half mile extension to the Red Management Road. This extension when completed would give the District a continuous management road from Chase's Pond Road to Mountain Road.

### SOURCE WATER PROTECTION GRANT

In addition, we applied for and received a \$5,000 Source Water Protection Grant from the Maine Drinking Water Program to fabricate and install a new access gate for this management road at the Mountain Road end.

By December 2020, the one-half mile road was built connecting the existing Red Management Road with Mountain Road, the gate had been fabricated and installed and the timber harvest was completed. The income generated by the harvest nearly covered the cost of the Red Road extension.

## **SEEDLINGS**

In May of 2020, the District continued the tradition of planting white pine seedlings in recent timber harvest sites located throughout the watershed. This year 1,000 seedlings were planted bringing the total number of seedlings planted since 2014 to 3,200.

## **WEEDING**

A few years after a timber harvest, small saplings will begin to take over the site. In 2020 the District started a process called “weeding” which is the removal of undesirable species of trees to promote the growth of desired species. In areas where we have planted trees, weeding leaves room for these trees to grow. In a few years, these trees may need to be thinned to allow the healthiest trees room to grow to maturity.

## **PATROL PROGRAM**

Our watershed patrol program began in 1997 to educate recreational users and enforce the rules and laws related to the protection of this important resource. York Water District has been keeping records of recreational use as seen by the patrol officer ever since. 2020 saw the most recreational use (the most people) by far, in 23 years of record keeping. This increased trail use can be attributed directly to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The good news is there was no increase in unwanted or illegal recreational use.

## **JOSIAH CHASE WATER FILTRATION PLANT IMPROVEMENTS**

## **COMPUTER UPGRADE**

In early 2020 our contractor specializing in control communications and automation, completed Phase 1 of this project to replace the computer brain of the filtration plant. In 2020 we also changed out some treatment components to ensure compatibility with the new system to be installed. Phase 1 consisted of purchasing the new components, mounting them, and performing new component wiring and initial programming. Phase 2 was scheduled to be performed in the fall of 2020 but with the COVID-19 pandemic, we were forced to postpone phase 2 to 2021.

## **CONTINUED PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE**

This past year operators performed continued maintenance on the outside of all three large water system storage tanks. Over time the outside paint of these tanks become coated in mold and mildew that must be removed to ensure the greatest longevity of the specialized and costly coatings. Operators worked safely from a tall hydraulic crane with a person lift to power wash/clean the outside of each storage tank. This procedure also allows improved inspection of the outside coatings. Also, this year operators continued replacement of numerous mechanical components that had exceeded their design life. This included a very large valve in the filtration plant piping system and other essential mechanical devices responsible for regulating and controlling valves in the treatment system.

York Water District and its staff have been diligent in our efforts regarding the changing developments of COVID-19 (coronavirus). Modifications were made to ensure our Trustees and Employees did everything possible in keeping your drinking water safe here in York.

Respectfully Submitted

Donald D. Neumann Jr.

Superintendent

York Water District