

TOWN OF BETHEL
ANNUAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR 2025



★ ★ ★
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
250TH ANNIVERSARY
— 1776 — 2026 —



Stanley Russell Howe (1943-2026)

This year's Bethel town report is dedicated to Stanley Russell Howe, who passed quietly in the early hours of February 22, 2026.

Stan, as he was known to all, was born on August 25, 1943, to Rodney Kimball Howe and Geraldine Alma Stanley Howe. He and his four younger siblings, Greg, Sue, Allan, and Cathy, grew up on the Stanley family farm in East Bethel. Their family roots in this area extend back to the 1770s.

Beginning his education in a one-room school in East Bethel, Stan later attended Bethel Primary (later known as the Ethel Bisbee School) and Crescent Park School. He graduated from Gould Academy in 1962 and from Gorham State College (now University of Southern Maine) in 1966. He went on to earn a master's degree in American history from the University of Connecticut in 1967 and a doctorate in Canadian history from the University of Maine in 1977.

His early interest in history was nurtured by his grandmother, Edith Kimball Howe, who was good friends with Eva Bean, an early leader in the founding of the Bethel Historical Society in 1966. When the Society opened the Dr. Moses Mason House to the public in 1974, Stan was hired as the Society's first employee. As curator and later Executive Director, he headed the Society's operations for 36 years, transitioning to the role of Director of Education and Research in 2010 and retiring in 2012. Most recently, Stan oversaw the transfer of his Broad Street home, the Hastings Homestead, to a new nonprofit, the Hastings Homestead Museum, which plans to develop the property into a historic house museum chronicling five generations of ownership by the Hastings-Howe family.

Stan received numerous awards and honors in the field of history, including induction into the history honor society Phi Alpha Theta in 1974 and selection for the Seminar in Historical Administration at Colonial Williamsburg in 1980. He served on the board of organizations including the Maine Archives & Museums, the Maine Historical Society, the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, and Maine Preservation, was book review editor for the journal *Maine History*, and taught history classes at the University of Maine, Westbrook College, and the University of New Hampshire's College for Lifelong Learning.

He authored, edited, or contributed to numerous books on state and local history, including *A Fair Field and No Favor*, a history of the Maine State Grange (1994); *Bethel, Maine: A Brief History* (2009); and *William Bingham 2nd: A Life* (2017).

Stan's outstanding reputation in the field greatly enhanced the standing of the organization to which he devoted so much of his life. Under Stan's leadership the Bethel Historical Society expanded its focus and range of activities. Today, the Museums of the Bethel Historical Society is one of the leading historical organizations in western Maine.

[Continued on inside back cover.]

ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
TOWN OF
BETHEL, MAINE
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025
JULY 1, 2024
TO
JUNE 30, 2025

Office Hours

Monday through Friday

8 AM to 4 PM

Telephone 207-824-2669 Fax 207-824-3355

Email: info@bethelmaine.org

Website: bethelmaine.org

Message From the Town Manager
Reflecting the last two and a half years

For several years, the Solid Waste Committee worked to have a Scale installed at the Transfer Station. The committee is made up of members from Bethel, Newry, and Hanover, the Bethel Public Works Director, and the Town Manager. The committee updated the 20-year-old Tri-Town Interlocal Agreement that voters from the 3 towns approved in 2025; drafted a Transfer Station Policy; designed an informational brochure for the public; and implemented a new vehicle sticker that must be replaced every 2 years. The cost of the sticker is \$10 for two years for Bethel, Newry, and Hanover residents and taxpayers to use the Transfer Station.

In 2025, Bethel budgeted \$100,000 for a Scale to be installed at the Transfer Station. The project cost was just below the budgeted amount. After receiving Newry and Hanover's share of the Scale, the cost to Bethel taxpayers was \$54,000. On March 4, 2026, we started using the Scale to weigh all construction debris taken in at the Transfer Station. Based on the construction debris tonnage taken over the last three years, we estimate bringing in \$300,000 in first-year revenue with the Scale. The three towns will share this revenue, with Bethel's share approximately \$162,000. The Household Hazardous Waste Day will be at the Public Works Garage, August 29, 2026, from 9:00 AM to Noon.

The first of two WWTP projects was completed in 2026. In 2023, the Town approved a USDA Grant in the amount of \$1,200,000 and a Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) for \$2,200,000 for the Mill Hill Pump Station and Route 2 Sidewalk Project. The Town approved a second USDA Grant of \$975,000 and a BAN of \$650,000 for Upgrades at the WWTP, which are expected to be completed in the fall of 2026. Bethel also received a \$1,000,000 grant from the Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) in 2025 for additional WWTP Upgrades. The Town approved spending \$290,000 received from the America Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) for infrastructure upgrades needed at WWTP with the work being completed in December 2025. There have been many maintenance and infrastructure upgrades in the last two years done to the treatment plant that was built in the 70's.

Another major project that started in 2024 was to have work done in the Cole Block building, which is home to the town office. Maintenance was done to the kitchen and two bathrooms that included replacing the toilets, sinks, floor, and fans. Both bathrooms were painted to complete this project. After discovering moisture and mold in the basement and the offices used on the main floor, the town office staff had to set up temporary working quarters at the Airport and Fire Department for 4 months until we contracted with an Air Quality company to begin the process to clean and remove the mold. To complete the project, we hired another company that included a waterproofing system, by putting in drains, fixing wall cracks, and sealing the concrete floor and walls. We installed 2 large dehumidifiers to help with moisture to help prevent future problems. The staircase in the basement that led to the former space leased to Bethel Citizen was replaced due to its condition. Cast iron piping was replaced with copper to prevent additional leaks. New

floors were installed in the Finance and CEO offices. We also had to replace the old wooden desks and furniture affected by mold.

LED lights were installed in the town office and the PWD garage in 2024 with a grant from Efficiency Maine. Working with CMP and our electricians, we completed electrical upgrades in the building, including installing 3 new outside meters that needed to be replaced. Once this was completed, we installed 6 heat pumps for heating and cooling. This project was funded by another grant we received from Efficiency Maine and a Community Resilience Grant from the State of Maine. We thank the Conservation Commission for being so active in writing the grants for energy efficiency purposes and scheduling energy audits for all Town buildings. We also received funding from the CR grant to purchase window dressers (inside storm windows).

The lower roof and clapboards on the backside of the Cole Block building are being replaced. The new clapboards will be painted, and a drainage system from the roof to the ground will be installed. This project is expected to be completed at the end of May 2026. Funding for this project was approved in June 2025.

After many years of leasing office space in the Cole Block building to the Citizen, their lease ended in July 2025 following a restructuring. The office space is currently empty and is being used for storage. The Select Board has been reviewing options for other town use for this office space.

We have been working with RHR Smith & Company since November 2023, after they were hired to audit the town financials. FY23 and FY24 audits were completed, and they are just completing FY25. The Short Audit Report is at the end of the Town Report. The audit continues to show more detailed reporting for designated and undesignated accounts. This will give you a snapshot of our financials. I am happy to say that the town has a healthy fund balance. We have been working closely with the auditors since they were hired to restate and organize the town accounts to reflect the account balances. This year, the auditors performed additional compliance checks and were required to conduct a Single Audit because the Town exceeded the \$1 million threshold for Federal spending. This was due to the Federal Grants received for the WWTP and Airport projects with the FAA. We also took advantage of moving some of our accounts to other financial institutions to earn more interest.

We are in the early stages of a townwide revaluation by RJD Appraisal Company. The building reviews will be done over the next 3 years. Their cars will be marked if you see unfamiliar vehicles in your neighborhood.

With the approval of \$40,000 in the budget for a Comprehensive Plan Update, we will work with AVCOG to update the Comp Plan, last updated in 1998. We have received many applications from community members interested in serving on the committee to update the Plan.

The Warrant Articles will be presented using the “Capped Money Articles” method instead of the “Open-Ended Articles”. Capped Articles cannot be increased, but they can be decreased. This provides more control over the amounts recommended by the Joint Budget Committee and Select Board to help maintain the mil rate from increasing.

The Select Board and I have been attending joint quarterly meetings with the Town Managers and Select Boards from the towns of Newry, Woodstock, and Greenwood, as well as other invited partners, to share ideas and find improved ways of doing business together. The meetings are organized by representatives from Northern Forest. On behalf of our four towns, with Bethel as the lead town, Campbell Environmental Group submitted a \$1,500,000 Brownfields Grant application to fund environmental cleanup across the four towns.

The Joint Budget Committee and Select Board have approved the FY2027 budget, which will be presented to voters at the Annual Town Meeting on June 10, 2026. If all budgets are approved, the overall municipal budget, including Capital Expenditures, will be down by \$19,810 from FY2026. The Town Report and Budget Reference Material will be available for pickup at the town office and other locations after Memorial Day.

We hope you will enjoy our Town Report. This year, we dedicated the report to Stan Howe. His memory will also be remembered with the Spirit of America Award at the town meeting. We also wanted to recognize staff and projects by adding photos to various reports. We thank the Historical Society for providing some of the photos, including the cover photo. This year, we celebrate the 250th anniversary of the U.S. Semiquincentennial, marking the 1776 signing of the Declaration of Independence.

I truly enjoy working for the Bethel Community and the dedicated staff. I would like to thank all the Town employees who do a great job every day, and thank the many board and committee members who volunteer their time to work together as a team to make Bethel the wonderful town it is.

Please visit the Town Website to obtain information about meetings, events, news and more. www.bethelmaine.org.

Respectfully submitted
Sharon Jackson
Town and Airport Manager

March 2026

Dear Bethel Residents,

It is a privilege to sit on the Board and help Bethel municipal government address our community's various challenges in a responsible manner. This is a team effort that includes critical input from all parties.

The Board's regular schedule includes twice-per-month meetings, typically on Wednesdays, which allow for proper consideration of various matters appearing on the agenda. All meetings are held at the town office and open to the public. Board meetings are also recorded and can be viewed on local cable access and YouTube (WHAT-Western Hills Access Television).

Elected positions in Bethel include five select board members, five assessors, and six school board directors – all on three-year staggered terms with elections held each June. In addition, the Board appoints individuals to various municipal boards and committees in December following public solicitation for applicants in the fall.

In closing, we affirm our commitment to conduct the town's business with transparency, accountability, and common sense.

Sincerely,

Select Board

Faye Christoforo
Michele Varuolo Cole
Pat McCartney
Sarah Southam
Andy Whitney



**Town of Bethel, Maine
Current Municipal Officials**

Select Board:

Michele Varuolo Cole, Chair	Term Expires 2026
Sarah Southam, Vice-Chair	Term Expires 2026
Patricia McCartney	Term Expires 2027
Faye Christoforo	Term Expires 2028
Andy Whitney	Term Expires 2028

Assessors:

Michele Varuolo Cole, Chair	Term Expires 2026
Robert Blake	Term Expires 2026
George Angevine	Term Expires 2027
Reginald Brown	Term Expires 2027
Ronald Savage	Term Expires 2028

Town Manager:

Duties include Treasurer, Tax Collector, Airport Manager, General Assistance Administrator, and Road Commissioner
Sharon Jackson

Finance Officer and Deputy Treasurer:

Stephanie Colby

Town Clerk, Registrar of Voters, Deputy Tax Collector, and General Assistance Administrator:

Tracy R Walker

Deputy Clerk/ Finance & G.A.:

Kristy Aguilar

Deputy Clerk:

Bethany Danforth

Finance Assistant, Board of Assessors Assistant, and Planning Board Assistant:

Emma Davis

Code Enforcement Officer, Plumbing Inspector:

Courtney McPherson

Code Enforcement Officer, Plumbing Inspector Alternate:

Joelle Corey,

Public Health Officer

Courtney McPherson

Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent:

Toby Walker, Sr.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Assistants:

Luke Angevine

Jeff Warden

Public Works Director:

Scott Sumner

Public Works Department:

Michael Bennett

Kevin Wight

Toby Walker Jr.

Randall Grondin

Fred Pierce

Transfer Station & Recycling Attendants:

Matthew Cummings

Jon Swan

Brian Goodrich

Norman Roy Jr.

Airport Deputy Manager:

Randy Autrey

Airport Assistant:

Brad Corson

Recreation Director:

Nate Crooker

Animal Control Officer:

Eric Giroux

Fire Department Officers:

Fire Chief	Michael Jodrey
Assistant Chief	Michael Fleet
Captain	Levi Hill
1 st Lieutenant/ Safety Officer	Cody Dux
2 nd Lieutenant	Donavan Thorpe
Secretary, Treasurer	Thomas Gibb

Bethel Ambulance Service:

Chief	David Hanscom
Deputy Chief	Randy Grondin
Assistant Deputy Chief	Amy L. Hanscom
Lieutenant	Hailey Tripp
Captain	Laura Begin
Treasurer	Mary Buckman
Secretary	Kimberly Wentworth

MSAD #44 Board of Directors:

Stephanie Herbeck	Term Expires 2026
Stephanie Cayer	Term Expires 2026
Mark Hutchins	Term Expires 2027
Beth Weisberger	Term Expires 2027
Levi Brown	Term Expires 2027
Scott Cole	Term Expires 2028

Board of Appeals: Meets as needed

Bill Allen	Term Expires 2026
Reggie Brown	Term Expires 2026
Lennie Shaw	Term Expires 2027
Jeff Martin	Term Expires 2028
Vacant	Term Expires 2028

Budget Committee: Meets Feb., March & April or as needed

Tonya Lewis	Term Expires 2026
Ted Davis – Vice Chair	Term Expires 2026
Travis Wojcik	Term Expires 2026
Robert Everett	Term Expires 2027
Rose Lincoln	Term Expires 2027
Michael Jodrey	Term Expires 2027
Jim Bennett	Term Expires 2028

Levi Brown - Chair	Term Expires 2028
Brian Lenberg	Term Expires 2028

Conservation Commission: Meets on the 4th Wednesday

Brian Lenberg	Term Expires 2026
Julie Reiff	Term Expires 2026
Sarah Southam	Term Expires 2027
Karen Bieluch	Term Expires 2028
Ann Speth	Term Expires 2028

Planning Board: Meets on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday

Michelle Zagardo	Term Expires 2026
Jim Bennett	Term Expires 2026
Aaron Osterhage	Term Expires 2027
Brandy Lee Rodney	Term Expires 2027
Travis Wojcik	Term Expires 2027
Danielle Horton	Term Expires 2028
Mitchell Benedict	Term Expires 2028

Recreation Board: Meets on the 1st Tuesday

Melissa Sheridan- Greenwood	Term Expires 2026
Joshua Fortier	Term Expires 2026
Lindsay Gardner	Term Expires 2027
Susan Radway	Term Expires 2027
Travis Brooks - Chair	Term Expires 2027
Lindsay Gagnon	Term Expires 2028
Cindi Wight- Newry	Term Expires 2028

Airport Authority Board: Meets on the 2nd Wednesday

Mark Szeliga	Term Expires 2026
Bill Allen	Term Expires 2027
John Mason	Term Expires 2027
Randy Autrey - Chair	Term Expires 2028
Edwin Lovejoy – Vice Chair	Term Expires 2028

Ordinance Review Committee: Meets on the 2nd Tuesday

Jim Bennett– Planning Board Rep.	Term Expires 2026
Andy Whitney - Selectmen Rep.	Term Expires 2026
Vacant	Term Expires 2026
Benjamin (Birch) Allen	Term Expires 2027
Brandy Lee Rodney	Term Expires 2028

Bingham Forest Advisory Committee: Meets Quarterly

Carina Walter	Term Expires 2026
Tom Shepherd	Term Expires 2026
Peter Southam	Term Expires 2027
Vacant – Water District Trustee Rep.	Term Expires 2028
Neil Scanlon	Term Expires 2028

Trustee of the Bethel Water District: Meets on the 3rd Wednesday

Reginald Brown	Term Expires 2026
Randy Autrey	Term Expires 2027
Dan Hart	Term Expires 2028

Solid Waste Recycling Board: Meets on the 3rd Wednesday

Jeff Martin - Bethel	Term Expires 2027
Tabaitha Steward - Bethel	Term Expires 2027
Scott Sumner - Bethel	Term Expires 2027
Sharon Jackson - Bethel	Term Expires 2027
Marilyn Difillipo - Hanover	Term Expires 2027
Brenda Gross - Hanover	Term Expires 2027
Loretta Powers - Newry	Term Expires 2027
Virgil Conkright - Newry	Term Expires 2027





**Bethel Town Clerk and Elections Report
Fiscal Year 2025
(July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025)**

The Town Clerk's office is pleased to submit our report for the 2025 fiscal year. This period was marked by significant transitions in our department; I am honored to now serve as your Town Clerk, and we were thrilled to welcome Bethany Danforth as our new Deputy Town Clerk and Deputy Registrar of Voters. Additionally, we are grateful to Kristy Aguilar, who continues to ensure that our office remains fully compliant with all State reporting requirements and assists with finance.

Our office continues to provide essential services to the community, including acting as an agent for the Bureau of Motor Vehicles and issuing licenses for Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. This year, we recorded the following vital statistics: Births- 22, Marriages-49
Deaths: 39

Participation in our local democracy remains strong, with 1,103 voters casting their ballots at the November 4, 2025, Election.

We invite you to stay engaged with our community by following "The Town of Bethel" on Facebook and regularly checking the calendar at Bethelmaine.org for upcoming events and meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Walker
Town Clerk

**Report of the Bethel Fire Department
July 1, 2024-June 30,2025**

The Bethel Fire Department responded to 258 calls.

Fire Alarms: 77	Vehicle Accidents: 69	CMP/Wires Down: 25
Assist Rescue: 22	Carbon Monoxide:10	Grass/Woods Fire: 9
Hazardous Trees: 9	Propane Leaks: 6	Structure Fires: 9
Water Rescues: 4	Unattended Burns: 4	Chimney Fires: 3
Mis: 3	Search & Rescue:2	Asst. Sheriff's
Vehicle Fire:1	Aircraft Incidents: 1	Flood: 1
Mutual Aid: Surrounding Towns, 6		

The Fire Department has 21 active members, 17 trained firefighters, 1 & 2, and 14 are trained to Hazardous Materials Operations Level.

The Fire Department would like to thank all our mutual aid partners, along with Bethel Rescue, PACE, Med Care, Oxford County Sheriff's Department, Maine State Police, and the Maine Forest and Wardens Service.

As the Bethel area grows, call volumes grow with it. Often, we rely on multiple agencies working closely together to handle whatever situation arises.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mike Jodrey
Chief Bethel Fire.



Report of Bethel Wastewater Treatment Plant FY 2025 Annual Report

Total Wastewater Treated: 32.788 million gallons, a decrease of 7.556 million gallons from FY24.

Total Sludge Dewatered: 616,331 gallons. This is an increase of 32107 from FY24

Total Sludge Disposal: 81.39 Wet Tons, which is 18.09 Tons more than FY 24.

Monthly Biochemical Oxygen Demand Removal: permit Limit of 85%

Results: High 99.4%, Low 97.2% - average 98.3% removal.

Monthly Total Suspended Solids Removal: permit limit 85%

Results: High 99.4 % - Low 98.2% -average 98.9% removal.

Progress on awarded upgrade projects.

1. Route 2 Sewer Main Replacement and Mill Hill Pump Station replacement upgrades reached substantial completion in February of 2025.

2, Equipment replacement at the treatment plant

T Buck Construction started mobilization for the Treatment Plant upgrades.

Sincerely,

The Town of Bethel Wastewater Team,
Toby Walker Sr., Superintendent



Report of the Highway Department July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025

While trying to keep up with our regular duties and/or unexpected problems that may have come up, we worked on replacing culverts and/or ditches that were needed along Paradise Rd, Vernon St, Barker Rd, Annis Rd, Flemmings Rd, Swan Hill Rd, Kimball Hill Rd, Bird Hill Rd, and McCrillis Brook Rd.

Paving this year consisted of shim and/or overlay work on Carver Rd, Annis Rd, Barker Rd, Mountain View Circle, Liberty Ln, Flemmings Rd, Park Street, and Bethel Inn Dr. We also worked to move the streetlights out of the sidewalks on Cross St and Lincoln St.

The winter season started off on November 26th this year. We were out a total of 45 times for the season. When the plow season ended on April 3, 2024, we had used approximately 2,922+ yards of sand and 390 tons of salt this year.

Knowles Industrial Services worked on repairing the crumbling concrete walls of the sand dome from the 24th of March through the 15th of May. We started on the spring cleanup items by the 14th of April and had everything clean and ready to open by Memorial Day. The fountain on the Common has been leaking for several years, and we have been unable to pinpoint the source. In May, Chuck Haines helped us find the leak, which had begun to deteriorate the concrete in the center of the pedestal. After searching for the right matching rocks, he rebuilt the nearly 40-year-old structure in time for it to be up and running for Memorial Day.

This year's equipment purchase was to replace the 2008 McLean MV with a new Wacker Neuson mini loader for plowing sidewalks.

After all the plow gear was cleaned and painted for storage, and we got caught up on the potholes and shoulder patching from the plowing season, we worked to get the dirt roads all graded and/or graveled up where needed, so that we can get started on the ditching projects for the next year.

Respectfully,

Scott Sumner



Report of the Bethel Ambulance Service

From July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, the Bethel Ambulance Service responded to 602 calls. Bethel Ambulance Service had 33 active members and 10 per diem paramedics throughout the year. The following is a categorical list of calls made from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025.

Medical	226
Trauma	156
DOA	4
Code	7
Standby	69
Cancelled	30
No Injury/Illness	83
Transfer	1
No pt found/contact	24
Wilderness Rescue	2



Responses were made to the following towns:

Bethel **414**, Gilead **28**, Greenwood **3**, Albany **56**, Newry **28**, Rumford **18**, Grafton Notch **8**, Mexico **1**, Woodstock **3**, Mason **5**, Hanover **26**, Andover **3**, Riley **3**, Dixfield **1**, West Paris **2**, Norway **2**, Stoneham **1**.

Active Members for 2024-2025

Allen, William	Angevine, Jeff	Aylward, Crystal	Begin, Laura
Black, Emily	Bragg, Ross	Bryant, Amanda	Buck, Allen
Buckman, Mary	Corriveau, Fabian	Drew, Kimberly	Grondin, Randall
Dux, Cody	Flynn, Jason	Giroux, Eric	Hadley, Alan
Hanscom, Amy	Hanscom, David	Harlow, Garrett	Hazen, Eliza
Howe, Violet	Hunt, Aelin	Koskela, Adaline	Nichols, Sophia
O’Leary, Ken	Parent, Bryce	Reiner, Clarke	Robichaud, Jen
Thorpe, Donovan	Tripp, Blake	Waters, Joseph	Whitney, Andrew
Yates, William			

Per-Diem Paramedics for 2024-2025

Adams, Melissa	Broomhall, Alberta	Fox, Robert	Higley, Samantha
Nile, Scott	Rivas, Adrian	Ross, Jason	Solmitz, Samuel
Tripp, Haley	Wakefield, Jennifer		

Respectfully Submitted:

David Hanscom, Chief

Bethel Airport Year-End Report 2025

The Bethel Regional Airport is a year-round economic hub for businesses, tourists, flight training, emergency services, weather information, and education. Just like Rt.2 or Rt. 5, the airport provides access to the beautiful mountains, lakes, and rivers of western Maine. It brings people to the area to meet family and friends, invest in businesses, and purchase homes.

It was business as usual at the airport in 2025. LifeFlight of Maine, Patient Airlift Services (PALS), and Angel Flight of New England continued to use the airport to transport patients from rural areas to the bigger hospitals where they could receive immediate, lifesaving care.

The airport had 2484 flight operations, including several private charters, and sold \$76,876 worth of 100LL aviation fuel. According to the terminal sign-in log, planes from around the country landed at the airport throughout the year.

Thankfully, there were no accidents or incidents in 2025.

The airport worked with BAAM to host a group of kids who toured the airport and learned about different types of airplanes and weather conditions. Their favorite part of the afternoon was building and testing Windsocks.

The Airport Authority worked with engineers to plan a taxi lane project to allow pilots to invest in the area and build nine new private hangars in the near future. The Authority also began planning for the FAA-required master plan.

Installation began on the new \$600,000 weather reporting station at no cost to the town. The Bethel Regional Airport is one of two sites selected for this updated weather-reporting system, which is critical for Life Flight and area pilots.

Past challenges with ground transportation have now been addressed through the addition of rental cars provided by Eco Drive. Two taxi services are also available for visitors. There are also 4 Bikes provided for Pilots.

The Bethel Airport Authority remains committed to its mission of enhancing the airport's role as an asset for our local economy and creating and reviewing policies and procedures at the Airport. With the continued support of our member towns and community partners, we look forward to building on the success of 2025, attracting more pilots and visitors, and ensuring that our airport remains an active and accessible hub for the western mountains of Maine.

It is a privilege to serve the Airport Authority. I want to thank John Mason, Ed Lovejoy, Bill Allen, and Mark Szeliga, and a Special thanks to Airport Manager and Town Manager Sharon Jackson, for many hours of dedicated service and commitment in 2025 to making the Bethel Regional Airport the best little airport in Maine.

Randy Autrey
Bethel Airport Authority Chairman
Deputy Airport Manager



**Bethel Planning Board
Fiscal Year 2025
July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025**

The Planning Board is comprised of seven members, all of whom are appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The Board is charged with administering the Town's site plan, subdivision, and other land use ordinances.

The Board meets nominally on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, or as needed.

The Board considered subdivision and subdivision amendment applications, site plan and site plan amendment applications, determinations of site plan applicability, and building permits in the Historic District.

During Fiscal Year 2025, Laurie Winsor served as the Board Chairman. Sue Dunn served as Vice Chairman until April 2025. Currently, in Fiscal Year 2026, the Board Chairman is Brandy Lee Rodney, and the Vice Chair is Travis Wojcik.

Assessor's Agent Report

I have enjoyed serving the Town as its Assessor's Agent over the last year. The Assessing Agent makes recommendations to the Selectmen/Assessors for property valuations, tax abatements, supplemental tax bills, and matters regarding property tax cards/maps and the computerized assessing program. I am available at the Town Office one day per month, generally the first Wednesday. Please call the office to schedule an appointment. Annually, the Assessor's Office reviews valuations and makes adjustments to the valuations that include any additions and deletions. We are also responsible for maintaining accurate records of property ownership. Part of the assessment process includes conducting an annual "ratio study", which compares the actual selling price of property to assessments. The most recent study conducted for the state valuation purposes indicated the assessed values, on average, to be at approximately 100% of market value.

In addition to our annual duties, we have started on-site reviews of all properties in preparation for an upcoming town-wide revaluation. There is a list of which properties will be visited this year. Please contact the Assessor's Office with any questions.

PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS AND PROPERTY TAX RELIEF

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION Most homeowners whose principal residence is in Maine are entitled up to a \$25,000 reduction in valuation (adjusted by the community's ratio of valuation to actual market sales). To qualify, homeowners must fill out a simple form declaring property as their principal residence by April 1 in the tax year claimed. Once the application is filed, the exemption remains until the owner sells or changes their place of residence. Forms are available in the Assessor's Office.

VETERANS EXEMPTION Any person who was in active service in the armed forces of the United States during a federally recognized war campaign period and, if discharged or retired under honorable conditions, may be eligible for a partial exemption from taxes on their primary residence. The Veteran must have reached age 62 or must be receiving a pension or compensation from the United States Government for total disability, either service or non-service connected. Applications forms can be obtained in the Assessor's Office and must be filed with military discharge documentation on or before April 1st of the year it will go into effect.

BLIND EXEMPTION Residents of Bethel who are certified to be legally blind by their eye care professional are eligible for a partial exemption from taxes on their primary residence in the town.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Duplisea CMA
Assessor's Agent

**Code Enforcement Report
Fiscal Year 2025
July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025**

In the fiscal year of 2025, the CEO issued 90 building permits and 96 plumbing permits.

Any interior or exterior work with a fair market value, including materials and labor, of less than \$2,500 does not require a permit. However, all work performed must conform to the provisions of Chapter 96, Building Construction, whether a permit is required or not. Applications can be obtained at the Town Office or on the town website, bethelmaine.org.

Our office always welcomes visitors, questions, complaints or concerns and can be reached at (207)824-2669 or via email at ceo@bethelmaine.org

I look forward to serving the Town of Bethel as Code Enforcement Officer

Respectfully,
Courtney McPherson
Town of Bethel
Code Enforcement Officer

**Bethel Board of Appeals
Fiscal Year 2025
July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024**

The five-member Board of Appeals is appointed by the Selectmen. The Board can hear the appeal of decisions made by the Planning Board and Code Enforcement Officer, as well as grant variances to setbacks and other dimensional requirements of land use code.

The Board of Appeals did not meet at all during Fiscal Year 2025.

There is currently an open seat for the Board of Appeals.

Recreation Board Report
Fiscal year 2025
July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

The year 2025 saw the recreation department continuing to enjoy strong engagement with our core programs while also introducing some new offerings and experiences.

In the summer of 2024, our track and field program trialed participation in the USATF-Maine Summer Meet Series for kids ages 6-14. We had a group of about 10 kids who took advantage of this and participated in a handful of meets, from Poland to Topsham and Lewiston. We even had two kids travel to Augusta for the State Championship in August. Other participants took advantage of the twice-weekly training sessions at the Telstar track.

During the summer, we were also happy to sponsor MKA to provide swimming lessons to local kids, and consistent with prior years, filled all available spots over the 6-week program.

Our Fall Soccer program returned with the same successful format as the prior year, with grades 4-6 participating in the region-wide Oxford Hills Athletic Boosters program and grades 2-4 playing our locally focused “house league.” Younger players from PreK to Grade 1 also participate in local soccer programming. This format offers a great mix of increasing competitive play for the older participants and locally accessible skill-building for younger players. A highlight of the season was seeing one of our grades 4-6 teams, coached by the driving volunteer force behind our soccer program, Melissa Sheridan, play in the league championship game under the lights at the Harrison RADR complex on a foggy November night. While a championship victory to defend our title from the prior year would have been sweet, the atmosphere and experience exemplified all that a positive youth sports program can provide.

The soccer season concluded with indoor play hosted by Telstar High School in November and December for grades 3-8. We broadened the geographic range of our indoor program and welcomed several participants from the greater Oxford Hills area to ensure sufficient participation in the younger age group.

Also, in the fall, we were happy to offer a new cheering program. A group of local volunteers stepped up to make this possible, and 25 kids from PreK to Grade 8 participated in the program, which is aligned with the Telstar Youth Football program, which we continue to support with an annual donation.

Winter programming offered basketball, ice skating, and after-school skiing. The Saturday-morning basketball program for grades K-8 offers a very popular, locally focused format. The participation of Telstar High School athletes as coaches for this program is much appreciated, as are the efforts of long-time lead volunteer Michael Pelletier.

The community ice rink at the Bisbee school lot returned for its 4th year. The rink had a great start to the season, opening to the community on Christmas Day once the fresh snowfall from Christmas Eve was removed. Utilization of the ice rink continues to grow, and we were very happy to see MKA bring a large group of kids in their after-school program to the rink on a weekly basis, providing loaner skates and helmets as needed.

Our after-school ski program at Mt. Abram continued this year, and, in a big win for the department's budget, we secured a much more affordable transportation provider, cutting the program's cost by 80%. Thankfully, the support from Mt. Abram has continued, offering free ski passes and rental equipment to participants.

In the spring, our largest program, baseball and softball, returned with ongoing strong participation numbers. We see participation ranging from PreK kids in T-ball to high school kids in our Babe Ruth baseball league. While other towns that participate in the Andy Valley Cal Ripken league with us continue to see declining numbers for baseball and softball, we saw participation hold steady with the increase achieved the prior year.

An unfortunate outcome during the year was learning in May that MKA would not be offering swim lessons in the summer. While we looked to identify certified instructors in the area, none were available to offer summer lessons. We will need to determine a path forward for providing swimming lessons in the next year.

As has been the case in prior years, our programs are only possible because of the many volunteers who offer their time and commitment to the community, as well as our neighboring towns, Gould Academy, and the SAD44 school district, which make facilities and playing fields available.

Nate Crooker

Recreation



The Bethel Library Association Annual Report

July 1, 2024- June 30, 2025

The Bethel Library Association serves patrons in the towns of Bethel, Newry, Gilead, Greenwood, Albany, and Mason Townships, and students throughout the SAD 44 school district. Temporary cards can be issued to non-residents of these areas for an annual fee of \$15. The library is open 27 hours a week, Monday through Saturday.

During this reporting year, more than 10,000 items were checked out by Bethel Library patrons.

About 1,200 of these items came from the other libraries in the MaineInfoNet database.

The Bethel Library continued to focus on programming during this reporting year. A summary of the programming follows:

A regular story time was held every Wednesday at 10 AM.

The library continued facilitating National Digital Equity Center classes, which aim to improve digital literacy and digital equality.

The library hosted two of these classes during the reporting year.

The Bethel Library gave out a new Take and Make craft or activity to patrons every month for the reporting year. The Library hosted an author talk with local author Amy Wight Chapman. The library hosted an educational talk by Seniors Plus.

The Bethel Library held a summer reading program, which commenced in June of the reporting year.

In September of the reporting year, the library organized a yarn destashing fundraiser that featured donated yarn from volunteers. This initiative proved so popular that the library established a yarn hub, offering the community access to yarn and knitting materials at low cost.

The Bethel Library collaborated with local businesses and nonprofits to offer programs such as:

- A book club coordinated by the Bethel Library and run by a library trustee was held twice monthly during the reporting year.
- An informative birding talk with Bethel Adventure Tours was held three times during the reporting year
- The Maine Mineral and Gem Museum held ten science activity sessions at the library during the reporting year.
- The Library hosted a Digital Navigator from Community Concepts to provide free tech help on Thursdays throughout the reporting year.

The Bethel Library ran, co-sponsored, or participated in more than 100 programs throughout the reporting year. More than 1,100 patrons participated in these programs.

The Bethel Library had more than 7,500 patrons visit the library from July 1st, 2024, to June 30th, 2025.

Town Support:

Bethel: \$20,500

Newry: \$6,000

Gilead: \$200

Greenwood: \$800

Fundraising:

Annual Fund: \$32,631

Book Sale: \$2,389

Plant Sale: \$2,333

Raffles: \$1,350

Books + Brunch Fundraiser with Le Mu: \$873

Spring Fling: \$1,736

Yarn Hub Sales: \$2,097

Respectfully submitted,
Kelcy Boles Arciga
Library Director
Bethel Library Association
bethellibrarymaine@gmail.com
207-824-2520



Bethel Conservation Commission Fiscal Year 2025

We took several exciting steps this year to advance energy planning in Bethel, network with other organizations, and involve the community in conservation initiatives.

As noted in last year's report, the Select Board charged the Conservation Commission with developing a 5-year energy plan for the town. To support this process, we have done the following:

1. We worked with two graduate students at the University of Maine, Orono to help us organize and analyze Bethel's energy data and make recommendations for a five-year plan. Harry Arden and Rafiul Ahmed presented their findings in-person to the Select Board in May 2025. This process was valuable for helping us think about our data and strategies for planning.
2. We received a Technical Assistance Award from the Energy Efficiency Planning for Rural Communities Program (Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future). Working with Power Options, we used this award to conduct in-depth energy analyses of the Cole Block and Public Works garages. We are awaiting their final analysis, but preliminary results are helping us identify how to focus energy efficiency and weatherization projects in those buildings. A critical aspect of this award is access to software that helps us track the outcomes of these improvements, so we can see where we are saving money and how. Please note: we could only work on two municipal buildings through this award.
3. We connected with members of the Maine Community-led Energy and Climate Action Network (MAINECAN) to identify resources, such as five-year energy plans, to assist us with our work. We are drafting our current five-year energy plan, using other municipal energy plans as templates.
4. Finally, with advice from the Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments (AVCOG), we applied for a Community Resilience Partnership grant to install heat pumps, weatherize doors and windows, and build window inserts through Window Dressers to strengthen energy efficiency and reduce heat loss in the Cole Block. These steps align with the recommendations made by Power Options through the technical assistance award. We recently heard that we received the grant! The Select Board accepted the grant in the amount of \$57,964.92 at the March 04, 2026 Select Board meeting

In addition to making strong progress on energy planning, we are also actively engaging the community in efforts such as Green Up Day. Supported by businesses in Bethel and Greenwood, and in collaboration with Greenwood, Woodstock, and Newry, we hosted Green Up Day on May 3, 2025. Green Up Day is a wonderful opportunity for our community

volunteers to celebrate spring while cleaning up our roadsides and public spaces after winter. For the second year in a row, we collaborated with the Mahoosuc Kids Association on a pre-Green Up Day event to

involve the elementary school children in cleaning up around Crescent Park Elementary. This year, a dedicated friend of the Commission, Betsey Cooper, read to the students and helped them think about the importance of Green Up Day before taking them outside to begin cleaning up.

In January 2026, Jeffrey Sloan left the Conservation Commission, and we welcomed Brian Lenberg to the Commission in February 2026. We look forward to continuing this work in 2026 and to further working with community members to explore energy planning options at the municipal and residential levels.

Respectfully,

Karen Bieluch
Brian Lenberg
Julie Reiff
Sarah Southam
Ann Speth



Oxford County Sheriff's Office Annual Town Report

Dear Neighbors, Residents, and Taxpayers,

As I enter my seventh year as sheriff, I am extremely proud of the work our office has accomplished throughout our Western Maine communities. At the heart of our success is the incredible team of professionals who dedicate themselves daily to keeping our county safe. From our deputies and corrections officers to school resource officers and civil personnel, each individual plays a vital role in fostering trust, providing support, and ensuring the well-being of all residents.

In 2024, our office responded to over 12,000 calls for service, a number that continues to grow both in volume and complexity. More and more, deputies are addressing calls involving mental health concerns – a trend that has steadily increased since the COVID-19 pandemic. This underscores the pressing need for greater funding for Sheriff's departments across the state, ensuring we can connect individuals in crisis with the treatment and support they deserve.

We remain committed to addressing the opioid epidemic in Oxford County by partnering with organizations like the Western Maine Addiction Recovery Initiative. Through programs such as Project Save ME, our deputies connect eligible individuals struggling with substance use disorder to recovery coaches, advocates, and treatment services to support their path to recovery.

This year, we added a full-time school resource officer to serve RSU 10. Funded through a Department of Education grant, this position strengthens our ability to build stronger connections with schools, and students, and deliver the proactive support needed to foster safe and positive learning environments.

Since 2018, we've made significant strides in improving the Oxford County Jail, beginning with the priority of restoring it to a full-service operation. This was essential not only to enhance services but also to save taxpayer money. Over time, we've continued to invest in the facility's infrastructure to ensure it meets the evolving needs of our community.

In 2024, the inmate population grew from 43 at the beginning of the year to 88 by January 2025, with a peak of 96 inmates on some days. Throughout the year, we processed 1,683 new bookings and admissions. For most of the year, operations were temporarily relocated to the courthouse holding area while upgrades were made to the facility. A key accomplishment was the replacement of the jail's original HVAC system, funded primarily through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

As an agency, we have great opportunities ahead of us. I look forward to the work we will continue to accomplish in the coming year. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 207-743-9554 and follow us on Facebook at: Oxford County Sheriff's Office.

I wish you all a safe and healthy year ahead.

Respectfully,
Christopher Wainwright
Oxford County Sheriff



Oxford County Sheriffs Office

Town Of Bethel Calls for Service 2024

<u>Offense</u>	<u>Total Incidents</u>	<u>Offense</u>	<u>Total Incidents</u>
911 hangup call (911H)	76	OUI of Alcohol (OUIA)	4
Abandoned Vehicle (ABAN)	5	Parking Problem (PARK)	4
Assault, Domestic Violence (ADOM)	1	Property Damage, Non-vandalism	9
Alarm (ALAR)	92	Peace Officer (PEOF)	4
Ambulance or Medical Assist (AMAS)	12	Suspicious Person/Circumstance	3
Animal Problem (ANPR)	16	Service Of Papers (PSVE)	4
Assault, Simple (ASIM)	4	Protection From Abuse Order (PTAO)	5
Agency Assist (ASST)	24	Property Watch (PWAT)	155
Attempt to Locate (ATL)	3	Radar Detail (RADR)	1
Attended Death (ATTD)	3	Request Call (RCAL)	71
Burglary Of Motor Vehicle (BOMV)	1	Request Officer (ROFF)	34
Burglary, Resident, UnlawfEnt (BRUE)	2	Sexually Explicit Dissem/Mat	1
Citizen Dispute (CDIS)	8	Sex Offense (SOFF)	5
Child Abuse or Neglect (CHAN)	1	Sex Offender Reg Verification	2
Civil Dispute (CIDS)	4	Receive/Possess Stolen Property	1
Civil Issue (CIIS)	28	Subpoena Service (SUBP)	3
Custodial Interference (CINT)	10	Suicidal Person/Welfare Check	3
Citizen Assist (CITA)	6	Suspicion (SUSP)	66
Criminal Mischief (CMIS)	5	Traffic Accident, Fatal (TAFa)	1
Counterfeit Money (COUN)	1	Traffic Accident NonRep (TANR)	4
Controlled Subs/Possession (CSPO)	3	Traffic Acciden t, Prop Damage	50
Cont Substance/Sale/Manu/Other (CSSO)	3	Traffic Acciden t, Pers Injury (TAPI)	12
Concealed Weapon Pennit Check (CWPC)	3	Theft Involving Firearms (TFIR)	1
Disabled Vehicle (DABV)	15	Traffic Hazard (THAZ)	10
Disorderly Conduct (DCON)	5	Traffic Offense (TOFF)	58
Domestic Incident (DOME)	3	Theft, Property, Bicycle (TPBC)	1
Drug Info/Statist ics (DRUG)	4	Theft, Property, Building (TPBD)	1
Detail (DTAL)	51	Theft, Property, From Mtr Yeh	1
DUI Alcohol or Drugs (DUI)	2	Theft, Property, Other (TPOT)	15
Domestic Violence Follow Up (DVFU)	2	Theft, Property, Shoplifting (TPSH)	1
Request Extra Patrol (EXPT)	3	Trespassing (TRES)	15
Fish and Game Offense (FGO)	1	Theft, Vehicle: Automobile (TVAU)	1
False Public Alarm (FPAL)	1	Unattended Death (UATD)	2
(FPR)	5	Unsecure Premises (UNSP)	5
Found Property or Items (FPRO)	1	Unwanted Person (UWAP)	4
Fraud (FRAU)	1	Vandalism (VAND)	1
Fireworks (FWKS)	3	Violation of Bail Conditions (VIOB)	2
Gross Sexual Assault (GSA)	1	Violation of Protection Order (VIPA)	2
Harassment (HARS)	6	Vehicle off Road (VOFF)	5
Identity Theft (IDTH)	3	Welfare Check (WELF)	30
Infonnation (INFO)	35	Warrant Failure to Appear (WFTA)	3
Intoxicated Person (INTP)	10		
Juvenile Problem (ilVP)	14	Total Incidents	1127
K-9 Assisted (K9)	2		
Lost or Found Property (LFPR)	4		
(LPR)	4		
Medicine Disposal Program (MDPG)	1		
Misdialed Number to 911 (MISD)	19		
Missing Person (MPER)	1		
Mental Subject (MTAL)	1		
Noise Problem (NPRB)	17		
Operating After Suspension (OPAS)	1		



REPORT OF TAX COLLECTOR
FY 2023 UNPAID TAX LIENS
(As of June 30, 2025)

OWENS, DAVID *	\$372.53
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*Indicates either payment in full or abatement was made after June 30, 2025

FY 2024 UNPAID TAX LIENS
(As of June 30, 2025)

CHAPMAN, NICHOLAS *	\$413.26
COOLIDGE, JOHN & EVA *	\$745.30
CORDWELL, STANLEY ESTATE OF *	\$1,573.61
GAINEY, CHRISTINA K *	\$154.73
GROVER, DAWN R. *	\$1,035.88
MASON, TONY *	\$138.34
PIAWLOCK, BRIAN *	\$638.53
SHAPIRO, ANNE D *	\$3,018.65
STEARNS, JOYCE *	\$1,663.32
TOMPKINS, PAUL *	\$2,097.64
WALKER, JEFF *	\$1,374.05

*Indicates either payment in full or abatement was made after June 30, 2025



Janet T. Mills
GOVERNOR

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

Winter and Spring 2026

Dear Friends:

It has been the greatest honor of my life to serve as your governor for the past seven years. We have faced many challenges together, from confronting a global pandemic, to healing from a horrific tragedy in Lewiston, to rebuilding from unprecedented storms that damaged homes and businesses across the state. But we have done so with the strength, courage, and kindness that is at the essence of Maine people, the same community spirit that will sustain us in the years to come.

Our towns and cities are the essence of community and the foundation of our democracy. In my last year as governor, I will push to continue fully funding revenue sharing and public schools so those costs are not added to the property tax bills. We will continue to make record investments in housing to bring down the cost of home ownership. We will continue to deliver tax relief to working people and lift the burden of student debt off the shoulders of younger people to encourage them to stay here, pay taxes here and invest in our state.

I fundamentally believe that our strongest asset is you – the people of Maine – which is why my Administration’s approach has always been, and will always be, to make this state the best place in the nation to live, work, and raise a family.

With gratitude,

Janet T. Mills
Governor



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www.maine.gov

FAX: (207) 287-1034

SUSAN M. COLLINS
MAINE

413 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904
(202) 224-2523
(202) 224-2690 (FAX)

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904

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

Dear Friends:

It is an honor to represent Maine in the United States Senate, and I welcome this opportunity to share several key accomplishments for our state from the previous year.

As Vice Chair of the Appropriations Committee, I have secured nearly \$580 million for 230 projects across all of Maine's 16 counties to promote job creation, workforce training, and economic development; expand access to health care; support law enforcement; improve public education and infrastructure; and protect our environment. As the new Congress begins, I am honored to be taking the helm of the Committee, the first Mainer to do so in nearly a century, and I remain committed to ensuring that federal spending produces real results for our state and nation.

Maine has the oldest average age in the country, which is why I have long prioritized health-focused legislative efforts. There were more than 1,860 health care bills introduced during the 118th Congress. Only 15 health care bills were signed into law, and I was a lead sponsor of five of them. These bills will enhance care for individuals with Alzheimer's, autism, and substance abuse issues through improved research funding, strengthened public health programs, and increased support for rural first responders.

Another important bill that I coauthored was the *Social Security Fairness Act*. Since 2003, when I led the first-ever Senate hearing on the Windfall Elimination Provision and the Government Pension Offset, I have sought to end these provisions of the *Social Security Act* that unfairly reduce the Social Security benefits that public employees or their spouses have earned. I am pleased to say that with the passage of my bill, the *Social Security Fairness Act*, in December, public sector retirees will now receive the full Social Security benefits they have earned.

When the Maine way of life was under threat, I was certain to defend the interests of our state. I worked to protect Maine's potato farmers when the Department of Agriculture tried to reclassify the potato from a vegetable to a grain. I thwarted efforts to consolidate USPS mail operations at the Hampden postal facility, which would have disrupted mail delivery throughout our state. I sounded the alarm with leaders at the FBI and Departments of State and Treasury on the spate of illicit marijuana growing operations that are destroying properties and providing refuge to foreign criminals in our state. Following damage to our working waterfronts after last winter's storms, I secured \$15 million to help fishing communities recover. I championed funding to support the Maine Air National Guard base, Bath Iron Works, and Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

As of last December, I have cast more than 9,100 consecutive votes, continuing my record of never missing a roll-call vote since my Senate service began in 1997. My ranking as the most bipartisan Senator reflects Maine's tradition of working with a spirit of cooperation and respect.

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

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins
United States Senator

www.collins.senate.gov

ANGUS S. KING, JR.
MAINE

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

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 1, 2025

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
CHAIRMAN, STRATEGIC FORCES
SUBCOMMITTEE
ENERGY AND
NATURAL RESOURCES
CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL PARKS
SUBCOMMITTEE
INTELLIGENCE
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Dear Friends,

Each year comes with renewed hope – to celebrate each other’s successes and care for each other in times of need. I am thankful to each town in Maine for their commitment to their communities, to their citizens, and to this country. We always work together to get things done. This past year was no different.

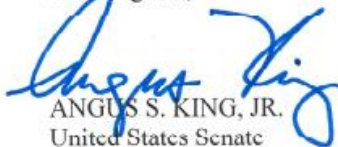
First, it was a true honor to be reelected to the United States Senate for another six-year term. Throughout my travels around the state, I heard many concerns about the cost of living and affordability of housing. Many of you also shared your concerns about access to medical and mental health services. The *Inflation Reduction Act* has been incredible for older people in Maine – Medicare is finally negotiating lower prices for prescription drugs, on top of the \$35 per month cap for insulin that took effect in 2023. We have an opportunity to build on what we have in common and do what Maine people do best; we will continue to help each other and lead through example.

I have also been consistently working to help our veterans. My team has repeatedly been successful in securing long-overdue recognition of military medals for many of Maine’s combat veterans and working to resolve issues with claims, travel pay, and access to healthcare and benefits our veterans earned through their selfless service to our country. I have also worked with my Veterans Affairs and Defense partners in Washington to successfully pass a national defense bill that strengthens our national security, takes care of our service members, and supports Maine businesses from Aroostook to York County.

I am also thankful to have such an incredible team across Maine available to you for hurdles you may face with the federal government. Whether it be veteran issues, social security problems, student loans, immigration, IRS and more, please never hesitate to reach out to my offices in Presque Isle, Bangor, Augusta, Portland, or Biddeford and allow us the chance to be part of your solutions.

Together, over the next six years, I know we can continue to build a stronger, brighter future for our great state. Thank you for being one of the reasons Maine is so special; it is not only a pleasure to serve you — it is a pleasure to know you. Mary and I wish you a happy and safe 2025.

Best Regards,



ANGUS S. KING, JR.
United States Senate

AUGUSTA
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Bangor, ME 04401
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Senator Joseph Martin
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003
(207) 287-1505
Joseph.Martin@legislature.maine.gov

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

Let me begin by thanking you for the honor of serving you in the Maine Senate. It is truly an honor to represent the communities of western Maine; and I can assure you I will work diligently on your behalf.

The First Regular Session of the 132nd Maine State Legislature began on Dec. 4, 2024, when we were sworn in by Gov. Janet Mills. It was a ceremonial day steeped in tradition and attended by the families and friends of incoming members.

Throughout my campaign, I heard from many of you regarding the biggest issues you are facing. Such issues include the increasingly high costs of energy, child care, housing, and concerns about education, mental health and substance abuse, workforce development and community safety, among others.

As your State Senator, I promise to advocate for commonsense solutions to these problems. Additionally, the 132nd Maine Legislature has much work ahead of us regarding our anticipated budget gap and setting our spending priorities for the next biennium. However, I believe there is nothing we cannot accomplish if we work collaboratively.

Throughout my term, I encourage you to reach out to me with your thoughts, concerns and ideas about state government. Your input will greatly help me to represent your interests and those of the community in the best possible way.

Again, thank you for electing me to serve you in the State Senate. Please feel free to contact me by calling (207) 287-1505 or emailing me at Joseph.Martin@legislature.maine.gov if you have comments, questions or would like assistance in navigating our state's bureaucracy. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph E. Martin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "J".

Joseph Martin
State Senator



May 8, 2026

Selectboard
Town of Bethel, Maine
Bethel, Maine

We have been engaged by the Town of Bethel, Maine and have audited the financial statements of the Town of Bethel, Maine as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025. The following statements and schedules are being reviewed by management and have been excerpted from the 2025 financial statements, a complete copy of which, including our opinion thereon, will be available for inspection at the Town Office upon completion of the audit.

Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds	Statement C
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds	Statement E
Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Budgetary Basis - Budget and Actual - General Fund	Schedule 1
Schedule of Departmental Operations - General Fund	Schedule A
Combining Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Nonmajor Special Revenue Funds	Schedule E
Combining Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Nonmajor Capital Project Funds	Schedule G
Combining Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Nonmajor Permanent Funds	Schedule I

RHR Smith & Company

RHR Smith & Company
Certified Public Accountants

3 Old Orchard Road, Buxton, Maine 04093
Tel: (800) 300-7708 (207) 929-4606 Fax: (207) 929-4609
www.rhrsmith.com

STATEMENT C

TOWN OF BETHEL, MAINE

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2025

	General Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 7,145,715	\$ 8,663	\$ 7,154,378
Accounts receivable (net of allowance for uncollectibles):			
Taxes	429,650	-	429,650
Liens	38,887	-	38,887
Other	104,430	-	104,430
Due from other governments	96,640	112,610	209,250
Inventory	-	1,664	1,664
Due from other funds	178,376	1,649,264	1,827,640
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 7,993,698	\$ 1,772,201	\$ 9,765,899
LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable	\$ 536,446	\$ -	\$ 536,446
Accrued expenses	79,965	-	79,965
Due to other governments	12,226	-	12,226
Due to other funds	1,699,720	178,376	1,878,096
TOTAL LIABILITIES	2,328,357	178,376	2,506,733
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Prepaid taxes	17,384	-	17,384
Deferred revenue	-	180,038	180,038
Deferred tax revenue	13,560	-	13,560
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	30,944	180,038	210,982
FUND BALANCES			
Nonspendable	-	1,664	1,664
Restricted	-	12,477	12,477
Committed	860,766	1,314,170	2,174,936
Assigned	500,000	151,242	651,242
Unassigned (deficit)	4,273,631	(65,766)	4,207,865
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	5,634,397	1,413,787	7,048,184
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES	\$ 7,993,698	\$ 1,772,201	\$ 9,765,899

See accompanying independent auditor's report and notes to financial statements.

SCHEDULE G (CONTINUED)

TOWN OF BETHEL, MAINE

COMBINING SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
 NONMAJOR CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

	Covered Bridge	Code Book	Exercise Station	PW Grader	BWD Demolition	Records Restoration
REVENUES						
Interest income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL REVENUES	-	-	-	-	-	-
EXPENDITURES						
Capital outlay	15,000	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	1,866	-	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	15,000	1,866	-	-	-	-
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(15,000)	(1,866)	-	-	-	-
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)						
Transfers in	-	-	-	-	-	1,500
Transfers (out)	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	-	-	-	-	-	1,500
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS)	(15,000)	(1,866)	-	-	-	1,500
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - JULY 1, AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED	15,000	7,203	2,039	975	10,000	19,011
FUND BALANCE CORRECTIONS	-	-	-	-	(10,000)	-
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - JULY 1, AS RESTATED	15,000	7,203	2,039	975	-	19,011
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - JUNE 30	\$ -	\$ 5,337	\$ 2,039	\$ 975	\$ -	\$ 20,511

STATEMENT E

TOWN OF BETHEL, MAINE

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

	General Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES			
Taxes:			
Property taxes	\$ 8,727,669	\$ -	\$ 8,727,669
Excise taxes	809,609	-	809,609
Intergovernmental revenues	993,107	335,412	1,328,519
Charges for services	545,914	-	545,914
Investment income	181,047	5,075	186,122
Miscellaneous revenues	177,581	53,574	231,155
TOTAL REVENUES	11,434,927	394,061	11,828,988
EXPENDITURES			
Current:			
General government	703,039	-	703,039
Public safety	1,262,486	-	1,262,486
Airport	229,655	-	229,655
Public works	1,500,783	-	1,500,783
Recreation and culture	90,421	-	90,421
Health and welfare	117,305	-	117,305
Education	4,332,893	-	4,332,893
County tax	842,608	-	842,608
Municipal buildings	81,606	-	81,606
Unclassified	614,319	201,109	815,428
Debt service:			
Principal	97,058	-	97,058
Interest	3,402	-	3,402
Capital outlay	-	1,267,473	1,267,473
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	9,875,575	1,468,582	11,344,157
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	1,559,352	(1,074,521)	484,831
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Transfers in	15,800	875,500	891,300
Transfers (out)	(1,125,500)	(24,947)	(1,150,447)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	(1,109,700)	850,553	(259,147)
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES	449,652	(223,968)	225,684
FUND BALANCES - JULY 1, AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED	5,521,529	1,635,401	7,156,930
FUND BALANCE CORRECTIONS	(336,784)	2,354	(334,430)
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - JULY 1, AS RESTATED	5,184,745	1,637,755	6,822,500
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - JUNE 30	\$ 5,634,397	\$ 1,413,787	\$ 7,048,184

See accompanying independent auditor's report and notes to financial statements.

TOWN OF BETHEL, MAINE

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGETARY BASIS
 BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts	Variance Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
Budgetary Fund Balance, July 1, Restated	\$ 5,184,745	\$ 5,184,745	\$ 5,184,745	\$ -
Resources (Inflows):				
Taxes:				
Property Taxes	8,602,655	8,602,655	8,727,669	125,014
Excise Taxes	754,500	754,500	809,609	55,109
Intergovernmental Revenues:				
State Revenue Sharing	269,912	269,912	288,436	18,524
Homestead Reimbursement	109,065	109,065	109,065	-
BETE Reimbursement	66,423	66,423	66,425	2
Tree Growth	25,000	25,000	36,902	11,902
Veterans' Reimbursement	1,000	1,000	794	(206)
LRAP	71,312	71,312	71,312	-
Transfer Station Service Fees (Newry and Hanover)	250,000	250,000	351,501	101,501
Other	32,000	54,897	68,672	13,775
Charges for Services	406,700	406,700	545,914	139,214
Interest Income	35,000	35,000	181,047	146,047
Interest on Taxes/Lien Costs	25,000	25,000	30,589	5,589
Mortgage payments	41,388	41,388	41,388	-
Miscellaneous Revenues	38,130	38,130	52,499	14,369
Proceeds from Sale of Assets	-	-	53,105	53,105
Transfers from Other Funds	-	-	15,800	15,800
Amounts Available for Appropriation	<u>15,912,830</u>	<u>15,935,727</u>	<u>16,635,472</u>	<u>699,745</u>
Charges to Appropriations (Outflows):				
General Government	693,083	693,083	703,039	(9,956)
Public Safety	1,367,545	1,367,545	1,262,486	105,059
Airport	305,987	305,987	229,655	76,332
Public Works	1,594,665	1,594,665	1,500,783	93,882
Recreation and Culture	107,570	107,570	90,421	17,149
Health and Welfare	75,232	98,129	117,305	(19,176)
Education	4,332,897	4,332,897	4,332,893	4
County Tax	842,608	842,608	842,608	-
Municipal Buildings	91,455	91,455	81,606	9,849
Unclassified	741,076	741,076	614,319	126,757
Debt service:				
Principal	97,058	97,058	97,058	-
Interest	3,402	3,402	3,402	-
Transfers to Other Funds	875,500	1,125,500	1,125,500	-
Total Charges to Appropriations	<u>11,128,078</u>	<u>11,400,975</u>	<u>11,001,075</u>	<u>399,900</u>
Budgetary Fund Balance, June 30	<u>\$ 4,784,752</u>	<u>\$ 4,534,752</u>	<u>\$ 5,634,397</u>	<u>\$ 1,099,645</u>
Utilization of Assigned Fund Balance	<u>\$ 400,000</u>	<u>\$ 650,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(650,000)</u>

See accompanying independent auditor's report and notes to financial statements.

SCHEDULE A

TOWN OF BETHEL, MAINE

SCHEDULE OF DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

	Original Budget	Budget Adjustments	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Positive (Negative)
General Government -					
Administration	\$ 291,144	-	\$ 291,144	\$ 315,640	\$ (24,496)
Finance	123,707	-	123,707	125,105	(1,398)
Town clerk	176,732	-	176,732	166,754	9,978
Planning/CEO	66,500	-	66,500	64,618	1,882
Assessor's office	35,000	-	35,000	30,922	4,078
	<u>693,083</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>693,083</u>	<u>703,039</u>	<u>(9,956)</u>
Public Safety -					
Police department	588,279	-	588,279	584,624	3,655
Fire department	305,730	-	305,730	277,868	27,862
Ambulance	473,536	-	473,536	399,994	73,542
	<u>1,367,545</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,367,545</u>	<u>1,262,486</u>	<u>105,059</u>
Airport	305,987	-	305,987	229,655	76,332
Public Works -					
Public works	768,710	-	768,710	707,945	60,765
Solid waste/recycling	825,955	-	825,955	792,838	33,117
	<u>1,594,665</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,594,665</u>	<u>1,500,783</u>	<u>93,882</u>

SCHEDULE A (CONTINUED)

TOWN OF BETHEL, MAINE

SCHEDULE OF DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

	Original Budget	Budget Adjustments	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Positive (Negative)
Recreation and Culture -					
Recreation	75,220	-	75,220	63,955	11,265
Angevine Park	14,320	-	14,320	9,107	5,213
Fountain/Park and cemetery	18,030	-	18,030	17,359	671
	<u>107,570</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>107,570</u>	<u>90,421</u>	<u>17,149</u>
Health and Welfare -					
General assistance	4,000	-	4,000	2,448	1,552
Contributions-local	59,620	-	59,620	59,620	-
Contributions-agencies	11,612	-	11,612	11,612	-
Snowmobile grant	-	22,897	22,897	43,625	(20,728)
	<u>75,232</u>	<u>22,897</u>	<u>98,129</u>	<u>117,305</u>	<u>(19,176)</u>
Education	<u>4,332,897</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,332,897</u>	<u>4,332,893</u>	<u>4</u>
County Tax	<u>842,608</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>842,608</u>	<u>842,608</u>	<u>-</u>
Municipal Buildings					
Cole Block/Town office	25,585	-	25,585	22,823	2,762
Fire station	29,175	-	29,175	22,871	6,304
Town garage	17,300	-	17,300	15,550	1,750
Greenleaf Station	19,395	-	19,395	20,362	(967)
	<u>91,455</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>91,455</u>	<u>81,606</u>	<u>9,849</u>

SCHEDULE A (CONTINUED)

TOWN OF BETHEL, MAINE

SCHEDULE OF DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

	Original Budget	Budget Adjustments	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Positive (Negative)
Debt Service -					
Principal	97,058	-	97,058	97,058	-
Interest	3,402	-	3,402	3,402	-
	<u>100,460</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>100,460</u>	<u>100,460</u>	<u>-</u>
Unclassified -					
Employee benefits	648,658	-	648,658	553,274	95,384
Municipal insurance	45,100	-	45,100	46,445	(1,345)
Overlay	47,318	-	47,318	14,600	32,718
	<u>741,076</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>741,076</u>	<u>614,319</u>	<u>126,757</u>
Transfers to Other Funds -					
Capital projects funds	875,500	-	875,500	875,500	-
Enterprise fund	-	250,000	250,000	250,000	-
	<u>875,500</u>	<u>250,000</u>	<u>1,125,500</u>	<u>1,125,500</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Departmental Operations	<u>\$ 11,128,078</u>	<u>\$ 272,897</u>	<u>\$ 11,400,975</u>	<u>\$ 11,001,075</u>	<u>\$ 399,900</u>

See accompanying independent auditor's report and notes to financial statements.

SCHEDULE E

TOWN OF BETHEL, MAINE

COMBINING SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
NONMAJOR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

	Angevine Park	FEMA	Recreation Donation	Airport	Fire Relief	ARPA	Ski Donation	Directional Sign/Post	Bingham Forest	Total
REVENUES										
Intergovernmental	-	\$ 180,355	-	\$ 112,810	-	\$ 32,447	-	\$ -	-	\$ 335,412
Interest income	-	-	-	-	540	-	-	-	-	540
Other	-	-	2,633	-	-	-	-	2,790	47,951	53,374
TOTAL REVENUES	-	180,355	2,633	112,810	540	32,447	-	2,790	47,951	389,328
EXPENDITURES										
Other	-	45,750	-	112,810	-	7,500	-	882	27,056	193,798
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	-	45,750	-	112,810	-	7,500	-	882	27,056	193,798
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	-	144,605	2,633	-	540	24,947	-	1,908	20,895	195,528
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)										
Transfers in	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers (out)	-	-	-	-	-	(24,947)	-	-	-	(24,947)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	-	-	-	-	-	(24,947)	-	-	-	(24,947)
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS)	-	144,605	2,633	-	540	-	-	1,908	20,895	170,581
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - JULY 1, AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED	3,237	(144,605)	4,862	-	19,739	-	5,020	10,226	81,340	(20,181)
FUND BALANCE CORRECTIONS	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,965	-	541	2,506
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - JULY 1, AS RESTATED	3,237	(144,605)	4,862	-	19,739	-	6,985	10,226	81,881	(17,675)
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - JUNE 30	\$ 3,237	\$ -	\$ 7,495	\$ -	\$ 20,279	\$ -	\$ 8,985	\$ 12,134	\$ 102,776	\$ 152,906

See accompanying independent auditor's report and notes to financial statements.

SCHEDULE G

TOWN OF BETHEL, MAINE

COMBINING SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
NONMAJOR CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

	Streets/ Roads	SCBA	Ambulance	Revaluation	Sidewalk Maintenance	Lower Main St Sidewalks
REVENUES						
Interest income	-	-	\$ 2,053	\$ 2,326	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL REVENUES	-	-	2,053	2,326	-	-
EXPENDITURES						
Capital outlay	345,157	-	-	-	12,515	52,954
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	345,157	-	-	-	12,515	52,954
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(345,157)	-	2,053	2,326	(12,515)	(52,954)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)						
Transfers in	295,000	-	50,000	50,000	15,000	-
Transfers (out)	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	295,000	-	50,000	50,000	15,000	-
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS)	(50,157)	-	52,053	52,326	2,485	(52,954)
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - JULY 1, AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED	50,157	51	204,613	160,000	5,109	52,954
FUND BALANCE CORRECTIONS	-	-	-	-	-	-
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - JULY 1, AS RESTATED	50,157	51	204,613	160,000	5,109	52,954
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - JUNE 30	\$ -	\$ 51	\$ 256,666	\$ 212,326	\$ 7,594	\$ -

TOWN OF BETHEL, MAINE

SCHEDULE G (CONTINUED)

COMBINING SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
 NONMAJOR CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

	Cole Blk Building	Fire Dept Pumper	PW Truck Reserve	PW Reserve	Fire Utility Vehicle	Pathway Extension
REVENUES						
Interest income	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
EXPENDITURES						
Capital outlay	129,839	340,500	-	246,733	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	129,839	340,500	-	246,733	-	-
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(129,839)	(340,500)	-	(246,733)	-	-
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)						
Transfers in	40,000	75,000	50,000	50,000	25,000	-
Transfers (out)	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	40,000	75,000	50,000	50,000	25,000	-
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS)	(89,839)	(265,500)	50,000	(196,733)	25,000	-
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - JULY 1, AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED	131,834	465,000	200,681	205,694	-	9,603
FUND BALANCE CORRECTIONS	-	-	-	-	-	-
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - JULY 1, AS RESTATED	131,834	465,000	200,681	205,694	-	9,603
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - JUNE 30	\$ 41,995	\$ 199,500	\$ 250,681	\$ 8,961	\$ 25,000	\$ 9,603

TOWN OF BETHEL, MAINE

SCHEDULE G (CONTINUED)

COMBINING SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
NONMAJOR CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

	Cemetery Restoration	Drainage Improvements	Conservation Commission	Ambulance Power Load Reserve	Snowblower Reserve	Resurface Basketball Courts
REVENUES						
Interest income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL REVENUES	-	-	-	-	-	-
EXPENDITURES						
Capital outlay	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	1,066	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,066	-	-	-	-	-
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(1,066)	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)						
Transfers in	-	10,000	-	-	-	15,000
Transfers (out)	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	-	10,000	-	-	-	15,000
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS)	(1,066)	10,000	-	-	-	15,000
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - JULY 1, AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED	(65,766)	1,485	584	42	52,230	-
FUND BALANCE CORRECTIONS	1,066	-	-	-	-	-
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - JULY 1, AS RESTATED	(64,700)	1,485	584	42	52,230	-
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - JUNE 30	\$ (65,766)	\$ 11,485	\$ 584	\$ 42	\$ 52,230	\$ 15,000

TOWN OF BETHEL, MAINE

SCHEDULE G (CONTINUED)

COMBINING SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
 NONMAJOR CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

	TS Well Septic	BWD/EBS Demo	Rescue Garage Land	Pond Money Contracted	Ball Fields	Rt 2 Design Sidewalk
REVENUES						
Interest income	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
EXPENDITURES						
Capital outlay	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	-	-	-	-	-	-
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	-	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)						
Transfers in	-	-	10,000	-	-	-
Transfers (out)	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	-	-	10,000	-	-	-
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS)	-	-	10,000	-	-	-
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - JULY 1, AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED	1,397	(9,500)	-	5,000	152	110,000
FUND BALANCE CORRECTIONS	-	10,000	-	-	(152)	-
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - JULY 1, AS RESTATED	1,397	500	-	5,000	-	110,000
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - JUNE 30	\$ 1,397	\$ 500	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 110,000

TOWN OF BETHEL, MAINE

SCHEDULE G (CONTINUED)

COMBINING SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
NONMAJOR CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

	Cemetery	Sidewalk Tractor	Admin Equipment	Backhoe Repair	Transfer Station Reserve	Website Reserve
REVENUES						
Interest income	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
EXPENDITURES						
Capital outlay	-	124,775	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	2,982	-	1,397	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	-	124,775	2,982	-	1,397	-
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	-	(124,775)	(2,982)	-	(1,397)	-
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)						
Transfers in	-	125,000	10,000	-	54,000	-
Transfers (out)	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	-	125,000	10,000	-	54,000	-
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS)	-	225	7,018	-	52,603	-
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - JULY 1, AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED	1,066	-	(386)	4,523	-	2,710
FUND BALANCE CORRECTIONS	(1,066)	-	-	-	-	-
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - JULY 1, AS RESTATED	-	-	(386)	4,523	-	2,710
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS) - JUNE 30	\$ -	\$ 225	\$ 6,632	\$ 4,523	\$ 52,603	\$ 2,710

See accompanying independent auditor's report and notes to financial statements.

SCHEDULE I

TOWN OF BETHEL, MAINE

COMBINING SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN
 FUND BALANCES - NONMAJOR PERMANENT FUNDS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

	<u>Cemeteries</u>	<u>Total</u>
REVENUES		
Interest income	\$ 156	\$ 156
Other	200	200
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>356</u>	<u>356</u>
EXPENDITURES		
Other	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES	356	356
FUND BALANCES - JULY 1	<u>12,121</u>	<u>12,121</u>
FUND BALANCES - JUNE 30	<u>\$ 12,477</u>	<u>\$ 12,477</u>

See accompanying independent auditor's report and notes to financial statements.

Stanley Russell Howe (1943-2026)
(Continued)

In addition to his important role in preserving local and regional history, Stan was also a civic leader, serving on the Bethel Select Board from 1975-1983 and again from 2004-2015, including many terms as Chair. He served on boards and committees including the Bethel Planning Board, Bethel Bicentennial Committee, SAD44 Board of Directors, Gould Academy Board of Trustees, Project Opportunity, Bethel Library Association, Oxford County Republican Committee, Republican State Committee, Woodland Cemetery Company, East Bethel Cemetery Association, Alder River Grange, Oxford Pomona Grange, Maine State Grange, Middle Intervale Meeting House Society, and Oxford County League of Historical Societies.

For his many contributions, Stan was honored as the Alumnus of the Year at Gould Academy in 1982, received a special Chamber of Commerce Community Service Award, also in 1982, and was selected by the Bethel Rotary Club as a Paul Harris Fellow in 2003. In 2005, he was presented the Henry H. Hastings Award for Citizenship by the Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce “for decades of service to the citizens of Bethel, Oxford County, and Maine.” After his retirement from the Select Board, the 2016 Bethel town report was also dedicated in his honor.



On July 2, 3, and 4, 1976, the Bethel community celebrated our nation's 200th birthday with an "Old Fashioned Fourth." The three days of activities coordinated by the Bethel Historical Society and Bethel Bicentennial Committee included two dances, a youth walking parade, a chicken shoot, canoe race, Republican vs. Democrat baseball game, and community picnic and variety show.



Bethel, Maine 2026 Miss Poppy
Ayda Wentworth and
Town Manager Sharon Jackson

Daughter of Robie & MaryAnn Wentworth
Grandparents of Alan & Christina Lowe
Great Grandparents Robert J Lowe &
Ramona Grover

