



**Annual Report of the Municipal Officers  
of the Town of China, Maine  
for fiscal year ended June 30, 2013**

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Scott Pierz leads a group of children in Beano during China Community Days 2013.

We are pleased to dedicate this year's town report to Joann Austin.

While Joann was born and lived twenty years in Baltimore, Maryland, the Town of China has been the home of her heart for her entire life. Joann's mother grew up on the Austin Farm in South China and her brother and she came to the farm on the lake every summer of their lives. The Austin farm family were Quakers who somehow sent seven children off to college and instilled a commitment to education, caring for the land, and service to the community in a large extended family, including Joann.



Joann attended Earlham College in Indiana graduating in Biology with honors, received a Master of Arts in Teaching and Mathematics from Johns Hopkins University, a year of accounting education at Johns Hopkins, and after nine years of working as a teacher (Brookline, MA) and as a computer programmer (including working on the Lunar Landing Module at MIT), she finally earned a law degree with honors from the University of Maryland School of Law.

When Joann had completed law school, she and her son, Tarn, were finally able to move to (South) China in 1979 to live on a very small farm where they learned about horses, chickens, pigs, sheep and gardening, and old New England buildings. Besides gardening, designing the Jonesbrook Crossing building on an old 10x50 trailer foundation was one of the favorite creative things she enjoyed in her life.

Joann is thankful that her son, Tarn Petty, his partner, Lisa Lamothe, and her two grandsons are still next door and the boys are in all the sports, it seems, at China and Erskine.

But back to 1980, most importantly Joann wanted to be able to make a living in a rural town, and to provide legal services to the people in her town that would help folks deal with many of the logistics or problems of their lives, like doing taxes, real estate searches, sales, family counseling and financial and elder law counseling. It became very clear to her over the years that there was a wealth of enterprise and good service offered by the people and the small businesses around her that were the foundation of what made China a wonderful place to live and work.

Joann was elected to the Select Board around 1982 and continued until 1989 (when her mother was unwell), then ran again around 2000 until the present. She notes there is a perspective that familiarity with China history offers that has informed her years of service as a Selectperson, including her commitment to the lake water quality, to Thurston Park, to having a grocery and pharmacy in China, to the libraries and Historical Society, and to the Town Line newspaper.

Understanding what has been necessary to have her own work succeed over thirty-three years in a rural town, as opposed to taking the easier course (for me) of working in Augusta or Waterville, keeps her committed to the Town Line as a means of telling people in China and the areas around us about the people, services, issues and happenings that are important and available in all the communities that lie between the two larger towns. The paper has been a labor of love for a few generous people. It is with hopefulness for its ability to offer a more perfect service to the town, that Joann looks forward to helping it continue to grow and contribute to the quality of our greater community.

**F** **To the Honorable Select Board and Citizens of the Town of China:**

**R** It is with utmost sincerity and professional respect that I submit to you the Annual Report of  
**O** the Town of China for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013.

**M** The purpose of an Annual Report is to inform citizens/voters of the financial condition of the  
**T** town at the close of any given fiscal year and to report on the operational aspects of the various  
**H** town departments over the most recent fiscal year. The town of China **financial statements**  
**E** include a section titled **Management Discussion and Analysis**. These are statements from  
management that provide an analysis of the town's overall financial condition and results of  
operations. Management may note current accomplishments and continuing projects and  
noteworthy items to be dealt with by the town. It seemed to me to be important this year to  
focus on China's financial condition in most of this report.

**T** The financial statements reflect a trend of a continually improving financial condition. Long  
**O** term debt is minimal and unrestricted reserves are approaching recommended and expected  
**W** levels that should sustain the town during unpredictable but unfortunate fiscal circumstances.  
**N** Modest reserve accounts in the fund balance have been established to minimize the need for  
borrowing over the long term. The net asset position of the town continues to increase, also  
indicative of a town in good financial health and one with a consistent long term perspective.  
The focus on the long term has served the town well as the Select Board and administrative  
have been conservative and responsible in fiscal stewardship. China is a growing municipality;  
growth has to be managed and understood from the perspective that there will be additional  
service demands from residents as this growth continues. The ability to provide the added  
services demanded, if planned for, will be dependent on the town's relative financial position  
going forward. It is understood that growing municipalities like China need to be focused  
strategically to anticipate fluctuations in the economy and also to understand that the demands  
of residents in this growth oriented town will need additional staff and capital considerations  
over time to accommodate that growth. A Brookings Institution report, Charting Maine's  
Future, notes that in municipalities with populations between 2,500 and 6,500, the residents  
begin to demand more services from their respective towns. Additional police, fire, and  
recreational offerings are a few of the examples. To oblige those demands, a municipality  
necessarily has to anticipate the needs and build additional capacity into its staff and  
infrastructure. The alternative is to not be prepared with all the accompanying issues.

**R** The Select Board manages the town's finances through the Town Manager. The Board manages  
by involving strategic and operational components. Periodic review of the progress on each  
component continues throughout the year and has been a tradition for many years.  
Strategically, the finances are managed to accommodate the changes in the economy and the  
resulting changes in expenses and revenues. Operationally, the Select Board attempts to put in  
place some clear financial goals, policies, and tools to implement the strategic plan. The Select  
Board is aware that any statement about the net financial position of the town necessarily  
should have a complimentary statement about other factors indicative of a healthy community  
financially. The town's property tax base is a stable one, the town's roads, culverts, and ditches  
are in good condition, and stationary and rolling equipment are also in good condition. The  
town's buildings are periodically inspected and are all in good condition.

In the financial statements the town’s basic functions are grouped and reported in multi-year reporting numbers. It has been noted that in the revenue numbers there might be some sensitivity about the shift in the sources of revenues away from intergovernmental to other sources. Specifically, the stability of the source of funds from State revenue sharing is questionable. The town will need to have a conversation about the sources of revenues and the reliability of each source over the longer term. In the expense numbers overall, the actual expenses were under budget for the year ending June 30, 2013. The town continues to look for additional efficiencies in all departmental budgets. The change in the net fiscal position is a positive one contributing to a healthier fund balance.

**Governmental funds:** The focus of the Town of China, Maine’s governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the Town’s financing requirements. In particular, the unreserved fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a government’s net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

As of the end of the current fiscal year, the Town of China governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances at June 30, 2013 of \$3.1 million. Approximately 31% of this total constitutes the unassigned fund balance, which is available for spending at the government’s discretion.

The town has been diligent in trying to hold to a standard of having a balance in the undesignated fund equal to two month’s gross expenditures. With due diligence the Select Board has managed to increase the unassigned fund balance to a more desirable level and very close to the standard. Going forward, it appears that by the end of the 2013-14 fiscal year, the standard will have been met.

China has a relatively low debt obligation. In the near future it seems that that the town will continue operations without additional debt obligations. The healthy undesignated/unassigned fund balance will also relieve pressures to incur debt obligations.

The general fund is the central operating fund of the Town of China, Maine. At the end of the current fiscal year the unassigned fund balance of the general fund was \$972,991. As a measure of the general fund’s liquidity, it may be useful to compare both unassigned fund balance and total fund balance to total fund expenditures.

This comparison of unassigned and total fund balances focuses on one of China’s most significant funds and reflects on a trend in general fund equity and therefore liquidity. The comparison is also significant when considering reserve fund balances in that several of the capital needs in the future are anticipated by a healthy reserve or unrestricted fund balance, allowing for accommodation of planned and unexpected circumstances by use of these funds if needed. Moreover, China has very little long term indebtedness reflecting strong general fund equity. Stewardship of taxpayer funds is very important to the town officials and officers.

**The Town’s general fund operating fund revenues:** The revenue distribution in the town’s financials reflects a high dependency on property tax revenues. It is important to note that the town’s property tax base is relatively stable. Revenue growth limitations have always been a concern of small communities, including China. Intergovernmental revenues are subject to downward adjustment during tough economic times. It looks as though the State economy is improving and therefore the outlook is a little brighter than it was over the last few years. Other

**F** revenues will necessarily need to be considered more seriously if intergovernmental revenues  
**R** and taxes are not available to accommodate circumstances. Preferably it would be good to have  
**O** a more diverse group of revenue sources balanced progressively away from taxes and  
intergovernmental revenues and toward revenues based on the premise that those who create  
expenses should pay for those expenses.

**M** ***The Town's general fund operating fund expenditures:*** The distribution of  
expenditures over time has been consistent, the largest operating fund expenditures,  
education, public works, administration, transfer station, and the county budgeted numbers  
equaling approximately ninety percent of the total. China's capital outlay is also significant in  
**T** that a town must manage the capital infrastructure proactively. If not, there will be a tendency  
**H** to incur indebtedness or for the infrastructure to deteriorate. Resource allocation equitably is  
important yet very difficult as some expenses drive a budget more than others.

**E** ***General Fund Budgetary Highlights:*** The general fund revenues from certain sources  
have been unreliable over the last few years, e.g. State revenue sharing distributions. The  
strengthening of the national and State of Maine economies are encouraging. Some of the  
larger general fund revenues are derived from property taxes, intergovernmental revenues,  
**T** excise taxes, Planning Board and CEO fees and transfer station fees. Though relatively stable  
**O** over time these revenues will not be able to sustain growth over time by themselves. There may  
need to be a conversation about how to increase revenues outside of the property tax to be able  
**W** to accommodate growth of the town.

**N** The general fund expenses have also remained relatively flat over the past three or four years  
corresponding to the national and State of Maine economic circumstances. It will be  
increasingly difficult to "hold the line" as we move forward as we attempt to compensate for  
some of the delayed operational maintenance of infrastructure. Long term liabilities remain  
very low and therefore do not obligate the town to high fixed debt payments annually.

**M** ***Capital Assets:*** China's capital assets increased eight percent over the previous year. In the  
past year the town needed to purchase plowing equipment to complete the plowing for the  
**A** winter season after a plowing contract was terminated. Traditionally the capital planning  
**N** process is coordinated with the annual operations budget, allowing for the regular assessment  
**A** of capital needs as well as the update of a rolling intermediate and long term capital plan. Cash  
allocations to a capital reserve account in the fund balance are done annually to accommodate  
**G** capital needs.

**E** ***Long Term Liabilities:*** China has a very low amount of long term liabilities. It does not  
appear that there will be any additional indebtedness over the near term. The town has a  
**R** significant undesignated/unrestricted fund balance that will accommodate the small capital  
needs or unforeseen capital needs in the near term.

***Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets and Rates:*** Local, state, and national  
economic conditions seem to be improving, though slowly. We are anticipating revenues to be  
stable or to increase slightly. Expenses will be relatively flat except that health insurance  
premiums and wages will need to be accommodated. Two autonomous budgets could impact  
the municipal mil rate, the County budget and the RSU#18 budget. The Select Board does not  
have any authority in those areas of governance.

Central Maine Power Company's Maine Power Reliability Program should add to the town's  
taxable valuation over the next two years. CMP is upgrading power lines throughout the state

and they are working in China at this time. The increased taxable values will serve to stabilize the town’s mil rate.

At this time it seems to me to be appropriate to echo something from a previous Town Manager’s report, which is, running government during sensitive economic and political times is challenging for a Select Board. The frustrations that citizens have expressed toward their federal and state government leaders all too often splash onto municipal leaders, too. Yet it is widely agreed that municipalities represent the most efficient, responsible, and accessible level of the inter-governmental system. Please rest assured that the policy setting and administrative personnel in China will always have the fundamental approach of serving residents in a conservative, efficient, and cost effective manner on the “front burner”. A careful look at the financial information provided to you in the town report will affirm that China has not engaged in the excesses which caused our current troublesome state and national economic condition.

You have sincere, passionate, and extremely dedicated employees working for the town. Their superior quality of work is evident when compared to their peers. I would like to personally and professionally thank all of the **“team”**: Becky, Kelly, Julie, Jen, Scott P., Gary, Shawn, Branden, Elwin, Mary, Scott M., and Tim for their collective and spirited efforts to serve all of you. **These unique individuals do indeed reflect all the enduring qualities that China represents.** I would also like to personally thank every citizen in the town of China for the opportunity you have given me as your Town Manager.

Personal and professional appreciation is extended to the Select Board, our representatives on the RSU#18 Board of Directors, RSU#18, the China Planning Board, the Fire Departments and China Rescue, all the volunteers, town employees, and the various chairs and committee members for their commitment, devotion, enthusiasm and cooperation in town matters. Their dedication, advice, collaboration, and assistance have been invaluable.

Respectfully submitted,  
Daniel L’Heureux  
China Town Manager



Select Board members: (Front row L-R) Peter Foote, Chairman and Paul MacDonald (Back row L-R) Irene Belanger, Amber McAllister and Irene Belanger

**Town Office**

571 Lakeview Drive  
Phone (207) 445-2014  
Fax (207) 445-3208  
Monday–Friday 7:30 am–4:00 pm  
Saturday 8:00 am –11:00 am



**Transfer Station**

191 Alder Park Road  
Phone (207) 445-3033  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday  
7:00 am–5:00 pm

**MUST** obtain and present a transfer station sticker from the Town Office prior to entry. Stickers expire annually.

**Cardboard** recycling is mandatory.

**Code Enforcement**

(207) 445-3540  
Monday–Friday 7:30 am–4:00 pm  
scott@chinamaine.org



**Assessors' Agent**

(207) 445-2014  
Available by appointment

**Select Board**

- Irene Belanger (2015) Phone 445-2349 email: ilbhome@fairpoint.net
- Joann Austin (2014) Phone 445-3333 email: joann@chinamaine.org
- Amber McAllister (2015) Phone 592-1118 email: amber@chinamaine.org
- Peter Foote (2014) Phone 968-2714 email: pfoote@fairpoint.net
- Paul MacDonald (2014) Phone 445-3887 email: pdmac731@fairpoint.net

**China's RSU #18 Directors**

- Robert Bennett (2016) Phone 445-4508 email: ngbobme@hotmail.com
- Elwood Ellis (2015) Phone 968-2507 email: bluesbro@roadrunner.com

**Planning Board**

- District 1 - James Wilkens (2015)  
Phone 968-3777 email: district1@chinamaine.org
- District 2 - Toni Wall (2014)  
Phone 445-4527 email: district2@chinamaine.org
- District 3 - Kyle Pierce (2015)  
Phone 445-4341 email: district3@chinamaine.org
- District 4 - Ronald Breton (2014)  
Phone 215-9371 email: district4@chinamaine.org
- At-Large - Milton Dudley (2014)  
Phone 445-2418 email: at-large@chinamaine.org
- Alternate At-Large - Francis (Frank) Soares III (2015)  
Phone 445-2005 email: alt-at-large@chinamaine.org

**Budget Committee**

- Chairman - Robert Batteese (2015)  
Phone 968-2151 email: rdbatteese@roadrunner.com
- Secretary - Timothy Theriault (2014)  
Phone 968-2641 email: tstheriault@gmail.com
- District 1 - Gregory Pizzo (2015)  
Phone 923-4033 email: flamfam@fairpoint.net
- District 2 - Charles Plumer (2014)  
Phone 968-2400 email: cplumer@fairpoint.net
- District 3 - Sheryl Peavey (2015)  
Phone 445- 7045 email: sheryl.peavey@yahoo.com
- District 4 - Frederick Glidden (2014)  
Phone 445-2117 email: fvglidden@gmail.com
- At-Large - Jonathan Vogel (2014)  
Phone 445-2705 email: jvogelmail@gmail.com

**Appeals Board**

- Spencer Aitel (2014) Phone 445-2452 email: none
- Virginia Davis (2016) Phone 445-4408 email: vdavis@preti.com
- Michael Gee (2017) Phone 445-3593 email: michaelgee77@yahoo.com
- Lisa Kane (2015) Phone 445-4684 email: ljk@fairpoint.net
- Anthony Pileggi (2018) Phone 445-3771 email: ampileggi@fairpoint.net
- Robert Fischer (2018) Phone 445-4258 email: bobfischer@fairpoint.net

**Board of Assessment Review**

- Harold Charles (2014) Phone 968-2298 email: chinacharles@roadrunner.com
- Sharon Johnson (2016) Phone 968-2123 email: smj@fairpoint.net
- Dale Peabody (2015) Phone 968-3809 email: dpeabody22163@roadrunner.com
- Anthony Pileggi - Alt (2016) Phone 445-3771 email: ampileggi@fairpoint.net
- Dwaine Drummond - Alt (2015) Phone 445-3524 email: dbdrummond@roadrunner.com

**Facilities Committee**

- Steven Hughes Phone 445-2713 email: freedomrings13@aol.com
- Daniel L'Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org

**Recreation Committee**

- Dolly Batteese Phone 968-2151 email: dbatteese@yahoo.com
- Becky Theriault Phone 968-2641 email: trtheriault@roadrunner.com
- Al Hawk Phone 437-2129 email: aimees.pappy@gmail.com
- Becky Hapgood Phone 445-2014 email: becky@chinamaine.org
- Hope Shorey Phone 968-3807 email: hshorey@yahoo.com

**Cemetery Committee**

- Julie Finley Phone 445-2014 email: julie@chinamaine.org
- H. Richard Norton Phone 968-2872 email: djnorton207@gmail.com
- Harold Charles Phone 968-2298 email: chinacharles@roadrunner.com
- Horace Stevens Phone 445-4312 email: hstevens7799@fairpoint.net
- Daniel L'Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org
- Elwood Ellis Phone 968-2627 email: bluesbro@roadrunner.com

**Road Committee**

- H. Richard Norton Phone 660-6165 email: djnorton207@gmail.com
- Frederick Anderson Phone none email: none
- Charles Plumer Phone 968-2400 email: cplumer@fairpoint.net
- Milford Thomas Phone 445-2633 email: none
- Dale Peabody Phone 968-3809 email: dpeabody22163@raodrunner.com

**Forestry Committee**

- Daniel L'Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org
- Elaine Philbrook Phone 445-1550 email: ephilbrook@rsu18.org
- Anita Smith Phone none email: tasmith@fairpoint.net
- Tim Basham Phone 445-2363 email: bashamtree@fairpoint.net
- Leslie R. French Phone 445-4375 email: none

**Enhanced 9-1-1 Committee**

- Kelly Grotton Phone 445-2014 email: kelly@chinamaine.org
- Daniel L’Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org
- Tom Stephenson Phone 445-2514 email: tomandmrss@aol.com
- Scott Pierz Phone 445-3540 email: scott@chinamaine.org
- Richard Morse Phone 445-2948 email: danddmorse@fairpoint.net
- Timothy Theriault Phone 968-2641 email: tstheriault@gmail.com

**Emergency Preparedness Committee**

- Ronald Morrell Phone 968-2366 email: ronmorrell28@gmail.com
- Scott Pierz Phone 445-3540 email: scott@chinamaine.org
- Harold Charles Phone 968-2298 email: chinacharles@roadrunner.com
- Daniel L’Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org
- Michael Brown Phone 923-3705 email: mbrown@johnnyseeds.com

**Lake Access Feasibility Committee**

- Daniel L’Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org
- Dale Worster Phone 200-3253 email: daleworster@yahoo.com
- Sheri Wilkens Phone 968-3777 email: wilkengroup@gmail.com
- Steven Hughes Phone 445-2713 email: freedomrings13@aol.com
- Janet Preston Phone 968-2565 email: on-the-lake@fairpoint.net
- Jennifer Clair Phone 968-2104 email: jjaaclair@gmail.com
- Irene Belanger Phone 445-2349 email: ilbhome@fairpoint.net
- Kathy Brownell Phone 968-2073 email: gryphon@fairpoint.net
- Dolly Batteese Phone 968-2151 email: dbatteese@yahoo.com
- Francis (Frank) Soares III Phone 445-2005 email: crossbowme@gmail.com

**Open Space Committee**

- Jamie Pitney Phone 445-4408 email: jpitney@preti.com
- Daniel L’Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org
- Kyle McLaggan Phone 215-9056 email: kmclaggan@yahoo.com
- William Seekins Phone 968-2605 email: seekins@fairpoint.net
- Sheri Wilkens Phone 968-3777 email: wilkengroup@gmail.com
- Joann Austin Phone 445-3333 email: austinlaw@fairpoint.net
- Irene Belanger Phone 445-2349 email: ilbhome@fairpoint.net
- Francis (Frank) Soares III Phone 445-2005 email: crossbowme@gmail.com

**Economic & Community Development Committee**

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- Kyle Pierce Phone 445-4341 email: kpierce.a.b.s@gmail.com
- Nanci Rodrigue Phone 445-7099 email: ndorrian@roadrunner.com
- Donald Bassett Phone 445-2665 email: none
- Sonya Porter-Burrill Phone none email: sporterburrill@krisinsurance.com
- Daniel L’Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org
- Steven Hughes Phone 445-2713 email: freedomrings13@aol.com
- Carlaine Bovio Phone 445-3553 email: carlaine@fairpoint.net
- Joann Austin Phone 445-3333 email: joann@chinamaine.org



Town Manager Daniel J. L’Heureux  
at a recent Select Board meeting

**Thurston Park II Committee**

- William Seekins Phone 968-2605 email: seekins@fairpoint.net
- Joann Austin Phone 445-3333 email: joann@chinamaine.org
- Dolly Batteese Phone 968-2151 email: dbatteese@yahoo.com
- Irene Belanger Phone 445-2349 email: ilbhome@fairpoint.net
- Timothy Theriault Phone 968-2641 email: tstheriault@gmail.com
- Judy Stone Phone 968-2824 email: jstone@colby.edu
- Phillip DeMaynadier Phone 968-3299 email: phillip.demaynadier@maine.gov
- James Booth Phone 445-4670 email: boooth69\_1@hotmail.com
- Leslie R. French Phone 445-4375 email: none
- Sheri Wilkens Phone 968-3777 email: wilkensgroup@gmail.com
- Trevy Bumps Phone 861-1377 email: pssrocket@gmail.com

**Historical Preservation Committee**

- Daniel L’Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org
- Irene Belanger Phone 445-2349 email: ilbhome@fairpoint.net
- Kelly Grotton Phone 445-2014 email: kelly@chinamaine.org
- Dwaine Drummond Phone 445-3524 email: dbdrummond@roadrunner.com
- Carlaine Bovio Phone 445-3553 email: carlaine@fairpoint.net

**China Library Feasibility Committee**

- Daniel L’Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org
- Joann Austin Phone 445-3333 email: joann@chinamaine.org
- Dolly Batteese Phone 968-2151 email: dbatteese@yahoo.com
- Susan Cottle Phone none email: none
- Jonathan Vogel Phone 445-2705 email: jvogelmail@gmail.com
- Elwood Ellis Phone 968-2627 email: bluesbro@roadrunner.com
- Gary Nichols Phone 557-2880 email: jgnichols@fairpoint.net
- Kathy Brownell Phone 968-2073 email: gryphon@fairpoint.net

**Implementation Committee**

- Daniel L’Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org
- Joann Austin Phone 445-3333 email: joann@chinamaine.org
- Irene Belanger Phone 445-2349 email: ilbhome@fairpoint.net
- Francis (Frank) Soares III Phone 445-2005 email: crossbowme@gmail.com
- Virginia Davis Phone 445-4408 email: ggpitney@gmail.com
- Carlaine Bovio Phone 445-3553 email: carlaine@fairpoint.net
- Larry Rancourt Phone 968-2720 email: lrdr@fairpoint.net
- Jamie Pitney Phone 445-4408 email: jpitney@preti.com
- Kyle Pierce Phone 445-4341 email: kpierce.a.b.s@gmail.com
- Dale Worster Phone 200-3253 email: daleworster@yahoo.com
- Carrol White III Phone 968-2435 email: cswhite3@roadrunner.com
- Scott Rollins Phone 445-2247 email: srollins1@roadrunner.com

**Wetlands Committee**

- Joann Austin Phone 445-3333 email: joann@chinamaine.org
- Virginia Davis Phone 445-4408 email: ggpitney@gmail.com
- Irma Simon Phone 445-2816 email: none
- Victor Montminy Phone 649-5304 email: none
- John Hennings Phone 215-7430 email: john@cornerstonefinancial-inc.com
- David Simpson Phone 968-3455 email: none

**Capital Investment Committee**

- Daniel L’Heureux Phone 445-5020 email: danl@chinamaine.org
- Irene Belanger Phone 445-2349 email: ilbhome@fairpoint.net



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**Appointed Officials:**

- Daniel L'Heureux      Town Manager, Tax Collector, Treasurer, Road Commissioner, Civil  
Emergency Preparedness Director, Agent to the Overseers of the Poor,  
Public Access Officer & Building Official  
Phone 445-5020   email: danl@chinamaine.org
- Rebecca Hapgood      Town Clerk & Registrar of Voters  
Phone 445-2014   email: becky@chinamaine.org
- Scott Pierz              Code Enforcement Officer & Licensed Plumbing Inspector  
Phone 445-3540   email: scott@chinamaine.org
- Christian Jandreau      Health Officer  
Phone 445-2014   email: healthofficer@chinamaine.org
- Peter A. & Peter E. Nerber      Animal Control Officers  
Phone 993-2225   email: liberty76@fairpoint.net
- Paul MacDonald          Recycling Coordinator  
Phone 445-3887   email: pdmac731@fairpoint.net
- Timothy Theriault      Chief, China Village Volunteer Fire Department  
Phone 968-2641   email: cvvfd@roadrunner.com
- George Studley          Deputy Fire Warden  
Phone 968-2949
- Thomas Stephenson      Chief, Weeks Mills Volunteer Fire Department  
Phone 445-2514   email: tomandmrss@aol.com
- Richard Morse            Chief, South China Volunteer Fire Department & Fire Warden  
Phone 445-2948   email: danddmorse@fairpoint.net

**Other Officials:**

- Erasmo Gonzalez          Service Chief, China Rescue  
email: chinamerescue@gmail.com
- Gary Smith                Superintendent, Regional School Unit #18  
Phone 465-7384   email: gsmith@rsu18.org
- Carl Gartley              Principal, China Middle School  
Phone 445-1500   email: cgartley@rsu18.org
- Darlene Pietz             Principal, China Primary School  
Phone 445-1550   email: dpietz@rsu18.org

**State Senate District 24**

**Senator Roger Katz**

3 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333

Phone 287-1505 or 485-2394

**State House District 55**

**Representative H. David Cotta**

2 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333

Phone 287-1440 or 445-4067

**Senator Susan Collins**

413 Dirksen Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20510

Phone (202) 224-2523

<http://collins.senate.gov>

**Representative Chellie Pingree**

1st District

1318 Longworth HOB

Washington, D.C. 20515

Phone (202) 225-6116

<http://pingree.house.gov>

**Senator Angus King**

188 Russell Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20510

Phone (202) 224-5344

<http://king.senate.gov>

**Representative Michael H. Michaud**

2nd District

1724 Longworth HOB

Washington, D.C. 20515

Phone (202) 225-6306

<http://michaud.house.gov>

Dear Neighbors,

It is my honor to serve you in the Maine Senate. It may sound corny, but I feel lucky every day I walk into the chamber, knowing that I have the opportunity to help make Maine a more prosperous state so that our children and grandchildren will have economic opportunity here.

Last session was filled with both accomplishments and disappointments. We were successful in passing a bipartisan budget and avoiding a state shutdown. Along with others, I worked hard to retain at least most of the revenue-sharing for our towns and cities that the Administration had sought to eliminate. We also passed a comprehensive energy bill which will help bring more natural gas to our area at a lower cost. That can be a real game – changer for our local economy.

The Workforce Development Committee, on which I served, passed landmark legislation to better match up our educational opportunities with the high-demand high-paying jobs of the future. Working with the Governor, we were able to hold onto many of the positive changes we made in the last Legislature in education, workers compensation and reducing the size and reach of state government. And I was proud to sponsor two bills which will

keep the government from Best, snooping into our cell phone records, texts, and emails without a warrant.

On the disappointment side I think we missed a golden opportunity to finally transform our antiquated tax system. I was part of the "Gang of 11" which proposed comprehensive tax reform to help make us more competitive with other states. We are all committed to continue the conversation. Additionally, I think we missed an opportunity by not participating in federal Medicaid expansion. I proposed an amendment which would have limited our participation to just those years in which the federal government was paying 100% of the cost. We are addressing the issue again this session.

Throughout the past year, I've tried to be an independent voice for the people I represent. I have tried to be a good listener and to weigh each issue separately. I may not always agree with my party, with our Governor, or even with you, but I try to make the best possible decisions I can.

The more I hear from you, the better job I can do. I hope you will continue to contact me in the future with your thoughts, concerns, and ideas.

Roger Katz  
State Senator

Residence  
3 Westview Street  
Augusta, ME 04330  
Cell (207) 485-2394

**Assistant  
Republican Leader**  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0003  
(207) 287-1505



Dear Friends and Neighbors:

It has been an honor to serve the Town of China in the Maine State Legislature. For the past seven years, I have worked to represent you in a transparent and accessible way, and I will continue to do so in the Second Regular Session of the 126<sup>th</sup> Legislature.



The process for submitting bills for the second session is different than it was for those submitted to the first. During the first session, there are no formal limitations on the type or number of bills that may be submitted. In contrast, bills introduced in the second regular session are limited by the Constitution to budgetary matters, legislation of an emergency nature that must receive approval by the Legislative Council and Governor's bills.



Throughout this session, I will continue to advocate for greater government efficiency and accountability when issues concern the use of

taxpayer dollars. In addition, job creation and making Maine a better place to do business will remain top priorities of mine.

H. David Cotta  
State Representative

As the Second Regular Session progresses, I encourage you to visit the Legislature's website at <http://maine.gov/legis/> for up-to-date bill status information, public hearing dates, roll call votes on legislation, and links to live video and audio broadcasts. Our representative form of government works best when we all get involved.

I would like to thank each and every one of you for offering your support over the last seven years. It has been an absolute honor and a privilege to represent you in Augusta. Please feel free to contact me at home at 445-4067, in Augusta at 287-1440 or by e-mail at [cotta@fairpoint.net](mailto:cotta@fairpoint.net).

Residence  
55 53rd Fire Road  
China, ME 04358  
(207) 445-4067  
[cotta@fairpoint.net](mailto:cotta@fairpoint.net)

House of  
Representatives  
2 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0002  
(207) 287-1440  
TTY: (207) 287-4469

Dear Friends,

Since arriving to the U.S. Senate last January, I have been looking for ways to provide Mainers with improved access to federal services through the use of digital technology and on the ground outreach initiatives. Maine is a rural state and I know that traveling to our offices can present both logistical and financial challenges.



To help overcome those obstacles, I launched our signature **Your Government Your Neighborhood** outreach program in June 2013. Every other week members of my staff in Maine travel to different towns – ensuring that all 16 counties are served each month - to hold constituent office hours for local residents.

Over the past eleven months my work in Washington has been largely shaped by the four committees that I serve on: Armed Services,

Intelligence, Budget, and Rules. These appointments allow me to engage on issues important to Maine and help craft legislation before it comes to the Senate floor. On the Armed Services Committee I work with my colleagues to honor our obligations to members of our armed forces both past and present, as well as ensure the continued strength, efficiency, and sustainability of our military. On the Intelligence Committee I work to effectively mitigate security threats facing our country while also establishing measures to guarantee that the privacy rights of U.S. citizens are protected. On the Budget Committee, I am working to ensure that necessary spending is tempered with fiscal responsibility, and my position on the Rules Committee allows me to push for procedural reforms that remove institutional inefficiencies and help move the country forward.

I am tremendously grateful for the opportunity to serve you and determined to keep you informed of my activities in Maine and Washington. As always, I welcome any thoughts, questions, or concerns that you may have. You can visit my website at <http://www.king.senate.gov> and provide your input there, or call our toll free in state line at **1-800-432-1599**. In addition, our local numbers are as follows: Augusta (207) 622-8292, Presque Isle (207)

764-5124, and Scarborough (207) 883-1588, and Washington D.C. (202) 224-5344.

Sincerely,

ANGUS S. KING, JR  
UNITED STATES SENATOR



Dear Friend,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well. It is an honor to represent you in Congress and a pleasure to update you on the work I am doing in Maine and Washington.

You are probably aware that Washington is a very challenging place to get anything done these days. The partisan climate has kept many important issues from being addressed and even led to a shutdown of the federal government. Worst of all, it has created uncertainty for Maine families and the economy. It's the last thing we need. Over the next year, I will continue pressing Congressional leaders to bring the focus back to helping people rather than advancing ideologies.

As difficult as it's been, though, there are areas where I have been able to make progress on needed policy reforms. One has been support for local food producers. For decades now, federal agriculture policy has only benefited huge farms and commodity crops, not the kind of the diverse family farms we have in Maine. It's time for that to change. With small federal changes, we can capitalize on the huge economic potential of the local food movement. I've introduced the Local Farms, Food, and Jobs Act to make

some of those changes, and have been pleased to see many of these reforms gain bipartisan support.

Another issue is helping veterans who were sexually assaulted during their service. I've introduced the Ruth Moore Act—named after a Maine veteran who struggled for 23 years to get disability benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs after she was sexually assaulted while in the military. The bill would help veterans like Ruth get the assistance they need to recover from the debilitating trauma they suffered while serving the country. The bill passed the House and now awaits consideration in the Senate.

While policy in Washington is important, so is the work my staff and I do here in Maine. My office keeps close connections to Maine communities and their leaders to make sure we're doing all we can to help them succeed. This work might include providing letters of support for federal grant applications, getting answers from federal agencies, or bringing national officials to our state to raise awareness about the good things being done here.

We also work with hundreds of constituents who have issues with federal agencies and programs. Not everyone knows that you can call your Member of Congress for this

kind of thing, but it's an essential part of my responsibilities and my commitment to the people I serve. Members of my staff are experts on issues ranging from veterans benefits and IRS questions to Social Security problems and passport inquiries. They can help you navigate the process, communicate with federal agencies, and, in certain circumstances, facilitate the expediting of claims. If there is an area where you need assistance, I encourage you to call my Portland office at (207) 774-5019 or go to my website, [www.pingree.house.gov](http://www.pingree.house.gov).

Again, it's a privilege to serve you in Congress. Please stay in touch.

Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress



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The Doris L. Young Scholarship was established in 1982 to award worthy students from China a scholarship to help with their college education. Applications are available at the China Town Office and on the web at [www.china.govoffice.com](http://www.china.govoffice.com). The following students were awarded a \$350 scholarship for the 2012-2013 school year.

Ashley Alberts	Logan A Merrithew
Kristen Alberts	Hannah Peabody
Tyler Belanger	Michaela Petrone
Charles Boyle	Wayne Pitre
Nathaniel Britten	Travis Pitre
Zachary Carey	Tabatha Plourde
Jaime Constanzer	Megan Porter
Caleb Fletcher	Jennifer Prescott
Sarah Fletcher	Elizabeth Preston
Zelda Flisiuk	Michael G Raffia
Krystina Foote	Lauren Richardson
Zachary Forbes	Julie Riordan
Jake Gagne	James O Riordan
Keri Gagne	Renee Robilliard
Ann C Garrity	Simon Rollins
John Garrity	Sasha Rumpf
Courtney Gee	Samuel Seekins
Jason Blaine Goggin	Brittany Sharpe
Jason Wyman Grotton	Stephanie McLellan Smith
Stacy Gunning	Michael Anthony Stango
Johanna Harvey	Tara Elyse Trask
Samuel Jandreau	Andrea Vernon
Drew Leeman	Ross Vernon
Erika Loubier	Katherine Watson
Janelle Lyford	Christian Wilkens

Please remember the Doris L. Young scholarship is available to qualified students in good standing during all four years of college. Application deadline is May 1st, and you must reapply every year. This is only available to residents of China.

Dear Citizens of the Town of China,

This past year we continued moving forward on the District's Educational Vision where we are working to have ALL LEARNERS leaving our schools prepared to be successful in today's society. This means that our graduates will be proficient in our curriculum, will be complex thinkers (able to comprehend, analyze, and use knowledge), and will be reflective, self directed, and collaborative learners/workers. We would welcome the opportunity to come to your communities and talk about RSU 18's we are doing this work one student at a time. One of this past year's highlights that I wanted to share with you and

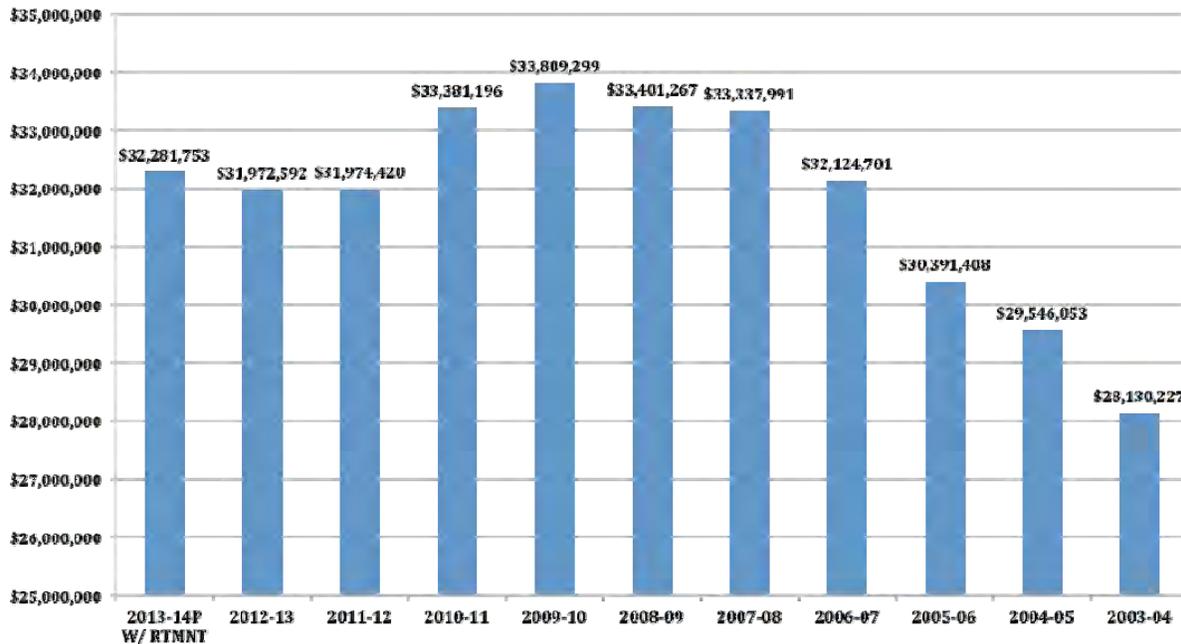
am extremely proud of is our District's graduation rate. The four-year cohort graduation rate for Messalonskee High School was 94.5% in 2013, an increase over 2012's rate of 90.7% and 2011's rate of 90.2%! A tremendous amount of effort by both students and staff is necessary to make this graduation rate so high.

As we begin 2014, the brunt of the economic recession seems to be behind us and the United States economy has been leading this recovery through 2013. During this extended timeframe, the RSU 18 Board of Directors, School Administration and School Staff have all worked hard to prepare responsible and responsive school budgets. For the past three years the

school budget has remained basically flat at \$32 million dollars (see attached). This year's school budget was up slightly due to the fact that Maine State Employees' Retirement costs for teachers were shifted from the state budget to local school district budgets. Without this additional cost for RSU 18 (\$425,000), the school budget would have been \$118,000 less than the previous year. For 2012-13, Maine's average cost to educate a student was \$11,582. For RSU 18, this cost was \$1,589 less per student at \$9,993. (In 2009-10, RSU 18's costs were \$931 less per student).

We are now busily preparing the budgets for the next school year and will again work hard to prepare a fiscally

### RSU 18 Budget History



responsible budget, but also one that provides a good quality education for our Learners.

This past year on November 7<sup>th</sup>, the second annual RSU 18 Employee Recognition Day was held. This day ended with a reception for staff that was held at the High School where employees and their families came to take a few moments to relax, celebrate, and enjoy themselves. Students pitched in to help decorate, to make employee thank yous and to make this day even more special!

Your Schools are led by a very capable and dedicated Board

of Directors who devote many hours of service for the students, families and residents of Belgrade, China, Oakland, Rome, and Sidney. They do a wonderful job, and if you are out and about and happen to see them, please remember to thank them for their many hours of service on your behalf.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Sincerely,  
Gary N. Smith  
Superintendent of Schools

**Board of Directors:**

- Chair Laura Tracy (Oakland)
- Vice Chair Elwood Ellis (China)
- Robert Bennett (China)
- Lora Downing (Sidney)
- Leonard LeGrand (Rome)
- Dodie Leighton (Oakland)
- Mary-Anne LeMarre (Oakland)
- Cathy Mckelway (Belgrade)
- Kerri Oliver (Sidney)
- Rebecca Seel (Belgrade)



China Middle School Boys Varsity Coach Garrity instructs his team during a time out.

To The Residents of China, Maine:

The thoughtful and careful leveraging of our resources and support for Erskine Academy made us a high performing school in 2012-13. The combined influence and efforts of our teachers, students, parents, and alumni has established for our school the sixth highest graduation rate (nearly 98% of our students graduate in four years) and one of the lowest dropout rates in the state. This achievement, along with our students' three-year average scores on state mathematics and reading tests, has earned our school the letter grade "B" in the first year of Maine's school performance grading system program, a grade not typical of most schools in our region.

A private school serving a public purpose, with 571 students in grades nine through twelve, Erskine is the second largest town academy in Maine and the only one to serve a completely voluntary student body exclusively on a school choice basis. As has been the case historically, 97% of our students come primarily from eight sending towns; a small number, which now includes 13 international students, attend on a private basis. Therefore, our students come from primarily humble, hard-working backgrounds and circumstances to experience a school program that blends traditional values

with contemporary programs and modern methods to become the most academically and personally prepared young people in the region.

The activities pursued by of our students and staff this past year are testimony to the vibrancy of the school community:

- Thirteen courses taught here for college credit by a first-class teaching corps has resulted in nearly two-thirds of seniors earning credits for a considerable savings in college tuition.
- The addition of the "Jobs for Maine Graduates" program teaches essential work seeking, training, and employment skills.
- Eighty-seven percent of the Class of 2013 is accepted into some form of higher education, many to the most selective colleges in the nation.
- A competitive robotics class and club were added and funded primarily by grants and financial gifts from our friends and alumni.
- For a third time, we brought nearly 250 area sixth graders to our school for a program of early exposure to high school designed to build their confidence for doing high school work.
- Our students have done a great deal of good, contributing literally thousands of hours of

community service and raising a similar amount in dollars to aid those in need from nearby and afar, as far as Costa Rica, in fact.

- A 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk to Cure Breast Cancer Walk, with nearly 100% of our student body participating, raised in excess of \$3000 for the Maine General Breast Care Center.

This year, as we do every ten years, we engaged a new cycle of accreditation through the "New England Association of Secondary Schools," not only to earn quality assurance from this nationally respected organization, but to further improve our school and the student experience. Our process began with an intensive study of all major programs and operations and a reaffirmation of the school's long-held traditional values. Placing equal value on **scholarship, leadership, stewardship and relationships**, we have articulated a vision of academic success for all students; created a climate that is safe, supportive, and hospitable to education; and cultivated responsible leadership and civic-mindedness in our young people.

We enthusiastically welcome and educate a substantial number of China's high schoolers. The China families who have entrusted us to educate and care for their

children these many years, energizes, encourages, and strengthens our resolves to provide the highest quality educational program possible and the conditions to inspire our students to their highest potential in school, at work, and within their communities. We are grateful for your confidence in and support for Erskine Academy.

Sincerely,



Michael McQuarrie  
Headmaster



Erskine sophomore Mallory Chamberlain and junior Marissa Chamberlain are preparing to defend against Gardiner in a recent game.



Erskine athletes Stephanie Doe (on floor), Marissa Chamberlain and Taylor Boucher fight for the ball against MCI.

# Committee and Community Reports



ALBERT CHURCH BROWN MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The Albert Church Brown Memorial Library is located at 35 Main Street in China Village and is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon year-round (except for Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Day and Independence Day when they fall on a library day). We welcome everyone who would like to check out books, magazines or tapes, use one of our five computers or just look around an old building. For people who want to borrow from us, there is no charge for library cards, resident or non-resident. Computer use is also free, and printing or copying is only 10 cents a page (to help cover the cost of paper and ink). Our wi-fi lets people with laptops use them between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. from the bench in the front yard or from their vehicles, whether the library is open or not.

A knitting group meets for about two hours every Tuesday afternoon, open to novice as well as experienced knitters and to other hand-crafters who enjoy working in congenial company. The library's book discussion group meets one Sunday afternoon every month from November through May; the current year's list of dates and books is available at the library, and new members are always welcome.

During the period between July 1, 2012, and June 30,

2013, the library hosted a variety of special programs for area young people and adults. For young people, a teen writers' group in the summer of 2012 drew a small but enthusiastic audience, and children's story times were offered in the summer of 2013. For adults, a representative from the Penobscot Marine Museum got lots of audience participation when he showed old postcards of China and nearby towns in August 2012; two ladies from Old Fort Western demonstrated spinning in October; and retired game warden turned writer John Ford filled our upstairs meeting room to capacity in April 2013. If anyone hasn't already read his entertaining memoir, Suddenly, the Cider Didn't taste So Good, we have a copy available to lend.



Speaking of game wardens and good books, we have all four of Paul Doiron's mysteries starring fictional Maine game warden Mike Bowditch, and plan to keep on buying the series as fast as Mr. Doiron writes. Other popular mystery and suspense authors with whom we make a special effort to keep up include Lee Child, Sue Grafton, Craig Johnson, William Kent

Krueger, Archer Mayor, James Patterson, Louise Penny and Victoria Thompson. Gentler writers with many fans here include Barbara Delinsky, Kristin Hannah, Jodi Picoult, Nora Roberts, Susan Wiggs, and recently Beth Hoffman and Beth Kendrick. If some of these names ring a favorable bell, please stop in and see whether we have a book you've not yet read. You'll be joining several hundred other people who borrow from us, some weekly, some once in a while, to the point where we lend out around 4,000 items, mostly books, in a typical year. During the 2012-13 fiscal year, there was a total of 1,704 visits to the library

For each of the last two years, the library has helped support operations by raffling a donated hand-made quilt and selling pre-Christmas poinsettias. We are grateful to many people from China and from out of town who have responded generously, and to those who have given gifts of money, books or other materials to add to our collection. Books that we do not need are offered for sale (at bargain prices so that seller and buyer both benefit) or passed on to other organizations.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Grow  
Librarian

The South China Library is open ten hours each week and is staffed primarily by volunteers. In 2012-2013 our patrons made 2,061 visits to the library and 254 households had South China Library cards. The library is supported by the Town of

available from any computer. Visit our website [www.southchinalibrary.org](http://www.southchinalibrary.org) and click on Online Catalog to search for your favorite author or books. Our card holders can download free e-books and audiobooks from the Maine State Library. Visit

programs presented by authors, illustrators, a magician, and educators from the L.C. Bates museum. This program was supported in part by the Oak Grove School Foundation.



The Youth Book Club for students ages 8 – 12 meets monthly for activities, snacks, and discussion. The students choose the books and plan the activities. This year we added a teen reading group for ages 13 – 15. Our Book Club for adults met each month for refreshments and lively discussion. New members are welcome anytime.

China, proceeds from our book sales, and donations from individuals. **Funding from the Town of China supports our children's programs and the purchase of new books, and helps with our heating costs.**

the library for more information.

The 2013 Summer Reading Program theme was "Dig Into Reading." Weekly attendance ranged from 20 to 50 children. All enjoyed

Thank you to our many volunteers, from teens to retirees, for making every library visit enjoyable. For more information about volunteering, please call Librarian Cheryl Baker at 445-2956.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jean Dempster, President

The library collection includes 11,172 volumes of which 6,089 are for adult or young adults and 5,083 are for children. We have 350 audiobooks on tape or CD and a collection of over 300 movies. The library accepts donations of books and movies. Items not added to the collection are sold at book sales.

Our catalog is online and



**State Law requires** all dogs over the age of 6 months be registered. You must provide a current rabies certificate when licensing your dog. If your pet has been spayed or neutered, a copy of the certificate must be provided to the clerk when registering. The fee for altered animals is \$6.00 and unaltered \$11.00.

**Proper ID can prevent your pet from going to the pound!** Numerous dogs are taken to the Humane Society in Augusta because of lack of identification. If a dog is at large and has its tags on its collar, the clerk at the town office can look up the tag number and the Animal Control Officer will be able to return the dog directly to its owner. If your pet is lost, please notify the town office. If someone finds a lost pet they will usually contact the town office and animal control.

To report a lost or found animal in China, you can call the Town Office at 445-2014

**Complaints – 2013**

Dogs at Large	22
Stray Cats	28
Dog Bites	2
Aggressive dogs	3
Missing Dog	1
Rooster at Large	1
Goats in road	1
Cat bite	1
Welfare Check	7
Loose horses and cows	4
Injured Dog	1
Skunk bit dog	1
Summons	2

Respectfully submitted,  
Julie Finley  
Deputy Clerk

**Top 5 dog names in China:**

5. Tucker
4. Molly
3. Buddy
2. Lilly
1. Maggie



Nanci and Jake Rodrigue and their dogs, Tala and Nova, are out enjoying China Lake

**ACO Contact Numbers:**

Peter A. Nerber  
530-0948

Peter E. Nerber  
624-2786

Nerber Home #  
993-2225

(If no answer, please leave a message)

**What do dog licenses pay for?**

Your dog licensing fees support:

- Local Animal Control Officers and State Humane Agents
- Investigation of animal cruelty complaints and enforcement of animal welfare laws
- Compliance with rabies vaccination of dogs
- Care for sick and injured stray animals

*"First to Serve ~ 1799"*



The Kennebec County Sheriff's Office continues to proudly serve the citizens of Kennebec County. The Sheriff's Office has a long history of service, dating back to 1799. Our agency serves many functions in the communities of Kennebec County. In addition to rural patrol, the Law Enforcement Division provides many regional assets to our communities including Drug Investigations, K-9, Dive Team, Accident Reconstruction and the Special Response Team.

In 2013, Deputy Sheriffs responded to a total of 34,398 calls for service. We answered (656) calls for service involving theft; (764) motor vehicle accidents with (8) reconstructions; (736) alarms; (319) domestic violence; (286) 911 hang-ups; (158) assaults; (177) K-9 calls and (731) providing assistance to other agencies. The Sheriff's patrol

division conducted (385) school safety visits and made 7,273 vehicle stops.

During the past year, our Correctional Facility managed 3,152 inmates. The offenses committed by defendants included everything from Burglaries to Homicides. Substance abuse and the proper treatment of citizens with mental illness continue to be two primary concerns at the Correctional Facility. Despite significant fiscal challenges, the CARA program continues to operate, serving as the only state-wide substance abuse treatment program.

Inmates at the Kennebec County Correctional Facility are required to work. Inmates that are considered to be a risk to the community work inside the facility cleaning and cooking, while others are supervised on outside projects. For every two days worked, one day is reduced from their sentence, resulting in a \$697,594 bed day savings to the citizens of Kennebec County. Throughout 2013, inmates worked 23,810 community service hours, valued at approximately \$178,576. Our inmates raised

46,448 pounds of produce for the inmate kitchen and area food pantries in 2013.

We are committed to providing innovative programs to reduce crimes, assist victims, and to provide enhanced public safety. I acknowledge the ever-growing opiate addiction problem and have committed to partnerships at the Federal, State and Local levels to combat this problem. Our approach is aggressive enforcement, education and treatment for those afflicted.

I will provide the 122,150 citizens of Kennebec County with progressive and professional Law Enforcement and Correctional Services. I welcome any comments or suggestions which improve our service to the citizens of Kennebec County.

Respectfully submitted,  
Randall A. Liberty  
Sheriff, Kennebec County

***Dial 9-1-1 in case of an emergency***

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Dear Friends,

It's been a whirlwind of a year! The District Attorney's Office has seen big changes but the quality of the work and commitment to justice has stayed as strong as ever.

While I respect and honor those who have served the District Attorney's Office in the past, I can not imagine a more dedicated and intelligent group of people than those with whom I have the pleasure to work. I encourage you to visit us in our offices in Augusta, Waterville, and Skowhegan. While I could write glowing pages about each person in the office, I want to at least be sure to introduce you to our new Deputy District Attorney, Fernand LaRochelle. Fern is the former Chief of the Criminal Unit at the Office of the Attorney General. His wisdom, experience, and patience influence everything we do. We are all grateful for the opportunity to work with him!

The focus of the Office this year has been "Smart on Crime." We strive to turn around first time and low level offenders while putting the most dangerous criminals in jail for as long as possible. Here are some examples:

One of the first decisions I made was to allow the US Attorney's Office to prosecute

pharmacy robberies. These robberies were at epidemic proportions in our counties and a tougher approach was clearly needed. Longer sentences are possible at the federal level than the state level. I am glad to see that the number of pharmacy robberies has plunged. When law enforcement works together the results are more successful.



After the jury trial conviction of Havier Olmo for Class A, Aggravated Drug Trafficking in oxycodone, the Office passionately sought the longest sentence possible, concluding that his extensive list of priors made rehabilitation unlikely. The judge agreed and sentenced him to 10 years in prison, none of it suspended.

In contrast, Christopher Knight had a long list of burglaries (most outside the statute of limitations) but had never before been convicted of a crime. After "the team" at the co-occurring disorders court ("CODC") concluded he was worth the risk of trying to rehabilitate, I agreed to a "good" sentence of county jail with a "bad" state prison

sentence hanging over his head. In general, I'm not in favor of short state prison sentences as this time can teach people to be better criminals. If we can use an intensive alternative program like the CODC (which requires weekly meetings with Justice Mills, counseling, drug screening and employment or school attendance) to turn defendants into productive, law-abiding citizens, then we have been successful. Not to mention that, even with the intensity of the CODC, it is still less expensive for taxpayers than the cost of incarceration.

Speaking of alternative sentencing, the Veterans' Court in Kennebec County is thriving. It has grown to over twice the size it was back in January of 2013. I learned about veterans' courts when I was in the legislature, sponsoring a bill for our own veterans' court in Maine. Any of you who have watched the MPBN broadcast of A Matter of Duty, fully understands the impact this court has had on the lives of veterans. Being a part of this amazing program has shown me the true meaning of criminal justice.

Here are some alternative programs our office is pursuing with community partners: 1) a new alternative program for first time OUI's with a BAC of under 1.0 in Kennebec County; 2) a new alternative program for drug related crimes in Somerset

County; 3) a new group trial in high lethality cases. At local nonprofits, attorneys, and others working to bring justice to the people of Kennebec and Somerset counties.

focused on high lethality domestic violence cases in Somerset County; 4) a new use of Restorative Justice in sentencing when requested by victims; and 5) a continued support of the alternative sentencing program in Kennebec County for those serving less than 10 days in jail. I am indebted to numerous community partners for making all this possible for the people of Kennebec and Somerset counties.

Our most serious and heartbreaking cases continue to be our child sexual assault cases. These always create a dilemma as it can be difficult for the child to testify in Court, but we want to pursue the longest prison sentence possible.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maeghan Maloney  
District Attorney  
Kennebec and Somerset counties

We have taken a hard stance against domestic violence which has increased our success of victims appearing at

It is a privilege and an honor to work with you. Every day I am in awe of the hardworking people in our towns and cities, law enforcement, the Courts,



Stanley Hill Road resident Larry Brown stopped by the town office to share the medals he received for his service to our country. Thank you Larry and thank you all who have served our country!

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We want to again express our deep appreciation to George Studley who stepped down in April after serving as fire chief for the past 36 years. He was responsible for many improvements to our station and equipment during this period. We honored him at our annual dinner where he also received a legislative sentiment and a plaque from the Town in recognition of the incredible amount of service he provided over his past 46 years with the Department. We are pleased to report that he has agreed to stay active by serving as our Assistant Chief.

During the past year, the China Village Volunteer Fire Department responded to 70 calls that included eight structure fires in town, five wild land/brush fires, 16 vehicle accidents, 10 downed wires or trees, five fire alarms, two fuel leaks, one smoke investigation and nine miscellaneous service calls. In addition, the Department provided six assists to China Rescue and responded to eight mutual aid requests in neighboring towns.

Our best news of the year came when we were awarded a FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant to replace all eight of our nearly obsolete self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). This allowed us to purchase eight new Scott Air-Pak 75 Model 4.5 SCBAs with 45 minute carbon fiber cylinders, eight

spare cylinders and eight mounting brackets. The grant was for \$49,200 with FEMA covering 95% of the cost and the Town only having to provide a 5% match of \$2,460. This represents a significant savings to China taxpayers and these much lighter weight units are greatly appreciated by our interior attack fire fighters.



We had also requested federal funds to purchase a new combination pumper/tanker to replace a 1973 International reserve pumper and a 1988 GMC tanker that does not meet current fire standards because the converted milk tank is not baffled. Unfortunately, this request was again denied so our members recently felt it necessary to expend all the money in our fundraising account to contract to purchase a used 1990 Ford Tanker/Pumper with a diesel engine and automatic transmission, a 1,250 gallon per minute pump and 2,000

gallon tank. This vehicle was commercially built for fire service and was still being used by the Morton Fire Department in western New York State. The replacement vehicle arrived and had a considerable amount of equipment on the truck because New York was combining two departments into one. If you have been reading about the cost of comparable new fire trucks being purchased by neighboring communities, you will hopefully realize that our actions represent another significant savings to taxpayers.

Our major fundraising activity is our annual chicken barbecue that is usually held the first Saturday of July. We hope you will keep this exceptional noon-time meal in mind as we will surely need to replenish this fund that is used for special projects and unexpected expenses not covered by our Town Operating Account.

I would also like to call your attention to the fact there have recently been fatal fires in Maine where working smoke detectors might have saved lives. Since we were fortunate to receive a donation of several smoke detectors, China Village residents can receive one installed in their home for free. Call us at 968-2266, leave a message and we will return your call promptly to arrange installation. You may also e-mail us at

cvvfd@roadrunner.com. We currently have 20 active members but our average age is creeping up to a higher than desirable number so we would definitely like to recruit some younger members. If you have any interest in possibly becoming a firefighter, I encourage you to visit with us at any of our meetings that are always held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 P.M in the Village Station at 30 Causeway Road. You can also learn more about us by visiting our China Village Volunteer Fire Department Facebook page that went live in October and has already received 144 likes.

I want to close by offering my sincere thanks to all our members for their dedicated service to the Town, and to the

members of China Rescue and the South China and Weeks Mills Fire Departments who work so closely with us on emergency responses and fire prevention activities. I also want to acknowledge that we greatly appreciate our neighboring departments who provide mutual aid whenever we call them to assist with major fires.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Timothy Theriault  
 Fire Chief



Members of the China Village Fire Department (L-R) Bob Batteese and Chief Tim Theriault

- Department members:**
- Timothy Theriault
  - Robert Batteese
  - Kevin Maroon
  - William Rancourt
  - George Studley
  - Dale Worster
  - Ben Loubier
  - Scott Adams
  - Edward Brownell
  - Keith Waye
  - Erasmo Gonzalez
  - Joe Labbe
  - Mike Brown
  - Ron Morrell
  - Chris Sylvester
  - Danny McKinnis
  - Matt Adams
  - Sarah Batteese
  - Bob Hall
  - Stephanie Casella



China Village Fire Department's 1990 Tanker Pumper acquired in February 2014 from Morton New York Fire Department

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It is my pleasure to provide you with the following report on behalf of the South China Volunteer Fire Department.

From July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 the South China Volunteer Fire Department responded to 58 alarms. This is a slight decrease from last year. They break down by type as follows: 6 structure, 5 downed wires/trees in road, 2 vehicle, 28 auto accidents, 9 unfounded/false alarms, 4 mutual aid to neighboring towns for structure fires and other incidents, 5 smoke/odor investigation, 7 wildland, 1 Landing Zone for Lifelight, 1 fuel leak, and 1 miscellaneous.

Somerset County's PSAP (Public Safety Answering Point) answers our 911 calls, and the Waterville Communications Center provides dispatching services. This partnership continues to run very smoothly, and we are very happy with the service we receive. We would all like to

save money where we can prudently and safely do so, but quality dispatch services are absolutely essential to public safety, and are not the place to skimp. We are in a very good place, and I am pleased that the Selectmen have listened to the advice of the Chiefs and renewed the contract that will keep us there. On a related note, there has not been much activity of late concerning a move by the State to reduce the number of PSAPs that operate in the State. Hopefully it is dead. Such an unwise move would result in each of these centers covering a much larger area, and if past experience is any guide, at a greater cost to the taxpayers. Experience has shown us that the more local these services, the better, so any such move is not a positive direction for us.

As I note every year, State regulations continue to make it difficult for small town volunteer fire departments such as ours to stay in business and provide for the

needs of our citizens. There are huge differences between small, all volunteer, departments like ours and those in the larger towns and cities that are paid, and often have at least some full time staff. However, most of the rules that the State requires us to meet, do not recognize that difference. Please, as you talk with our elected representatives, urge them to address this problem, and fix the regulations to remove this burden from volunteer fire departments.

Our monthly in-house training program continues to be well attended and is working well. Many thanks to our volunteer instructors.

We again conducted a very successful fire prevention program at the China school (s) during Fire Prevention Week (our 27th annual). Thanks to Cindy Sienkbiel for her leadership and to all the volunteers from the Town's three fire departments who helped make this a success. Thanks also to principal Carl Gartley and his staff for their support of this program. We feel it helps to prevent fires.

We continued the practice of joint meetings with the China Village and Weeks Mills departments. At our meetings we discuss joint operations, training, and equipment purchases. These meetings help us to provide better and more coordinated fire protection services to the



town.

regular operational budget.

According to our plan, last year we replaced six of our eight, 25 year old self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). Our major project this year was to complete the plan by replacing the last two. By wearing an SCBA, our trained firefighters are able to breath and work in smoke and other deadly atmospheres to safely carry out their firefighting and rescue duties. We now have a full complement of this essential fire equipment.

We held our 34rd annual Fireman's Auction in July and we thank the townspeople for their donations of goods and money and their bids at this fun event and fund raiser. We save up and use these funds for projects such as our recent purchase of Tanker 52, and to support unexpected expenses that are not covered in our



I am also the Town Forest Fire Warden for China. Fire permits are required for **all open burning year round**. They are available from me, George Studley, and at the Town Office, during normal business hours, Monday through Saturday. Restrictions will apply from time to time depending on the fire danger.

We currently have 24 active members. Any member of the community that would like to join us should contact any department member concerning sponsorship. If you are unable to give your time as an active member you can still help by bidding at our annual auction or simply making a cash donation at any time.

I would like to close by expressing my thanks to all the members of the Department for the countless hours they volunteer every year to help their neighbors and keep our community safe.

Respectfully submitted,  
Richard E. Morse  
Fire Chief



**Department members:**

- Richard Morse
- Robert Dowe
- Robert Cargill
- Donald Dowe
- Shawn Reed
- Glen Morse
- Mike Rocque
- Bill Bickford
- Peter Rocque
- Larry Barden
- Cindy Senkbeil
- Fred Glidden
- Hans Arp
- Shayne Cargill
- Sheldon Goodine
- Martin Britten
- Dean Sheaff
- Webb Shaw
- Shawn Stevens
- Steven Morse

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On behalf of the members of the Weeks Mills Volunteer Fire Department, we wish to thank the citizens of the Town of China for their continued support at our annual town meeting. Without your continuing support we would not be able to provide the level of fire protection that is necessary to protect your town. This year we held our first annual fireman's boot drive during Labor Day weekend. We received a substantial amount of donations that will assist us in our purchase of two thermal imaging cameras. Many thanks to Craig & Alice Kramer for their generous donation.

This year we were able to upgrade our water tanker and reconfigure our pay load so we now have a reliable and safe fire truck able to transport water to any fire scene. The department contracted the repairs to SM Fabrication. Thank you Steve and Chuck for a job well done. We continue to train on a monthly basis in order to comply with the many rules and regulations mandated by the State. Chiefs from the surrounding towns met with the governor this past year to discuss the never ending amount of paper work that is being mandated by the state. Governor LePage was very concerned with our complaints and sympathetic and promised he would look into the matter to try and reduce or eliminate some of

the redundant paper work.

This year we applied for a fire grant from homeland security for two thermal imaging cameras which will assist us in finding hot spots during and after fires. This allows us to keep damages at a minimum, saving unnecessary tear downs of ceilings, walls etc. We continue to meet with the other departments in town on a quarterly basis to discuss fire suppression, equipment needs and goals for the future. Waterville Communications, our current dispatching facility, also hosts a quarterly meeting for all the departments they serve, to keep us informed as to what they expect from us and to hear any concerns we have of them.

I would like to thank all of our members for the countless hours they invest in the course of the year helping to maintain equipment, training, building maintenance, testing of gear and response to fire calls. Last year we responded to 48 calls consisting of structure, mutual aid, chimney fires, rescue assist, life flight assist, traffic control, down power lines, auto and truck accidents.

Please remember to change the batteries in your smoke detectors. It is a proven fact that they do save lives. We

continue to hold our monthly meetings on the first Thursday of each month at 7pm our door is always open for new members. Come join us for coffee and donuts and meet the crew.

Have a safe and happy summer and please remember if you should need our services - **GET OUT & STAY OUT & DIAL 911.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Tom Stephenson Chief

- Department members:**
- Greg Althenn
  - Bill Bickford
  - Norman Black
  - Kevin Freeman
  - Kevin Grant
  - David Herard
  - Kate Herard
  - Jeff McLellan
  - Tom Michaud
  - George Oliver
  - Webb Shaw
  - Sally Sproul
  - Chuck Stephenson
  - Bill Van Wickler
  - Al Wenzel
  - Adam Zimbura

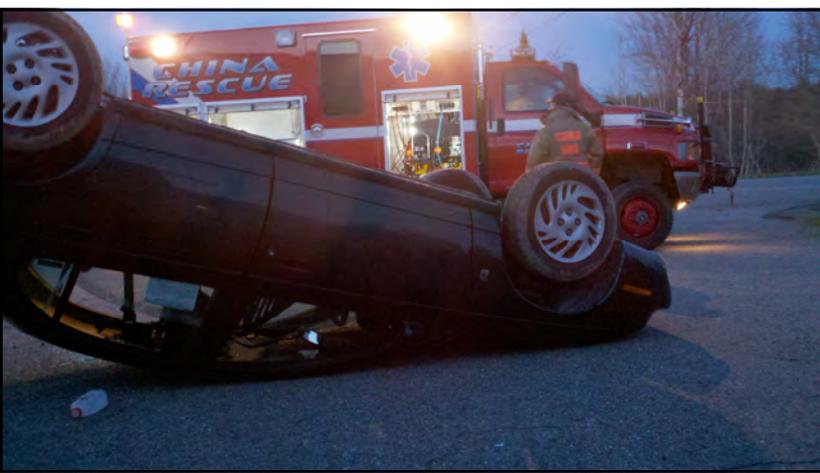
Dear Citizens,

My name is Erasmo Gonzalez. The three previous years I served the town as the part time Police Officer, while volunteering with China Rescue and China Village Fire. Now, I have left behind law enforcement to proudly serve as the Chief for China Rescue.

China Rescue is an all volunteer, licensed first responder that is permitted to the paramedic level. We have 10 dedicated members. Our members balance their employment and family need against the need to respond to nearly 300 requests for service per year. Some examples of our requests for service include coverage for football games, ill/injured people, ice/water rescue, vehicle accidents, extrication and many more. In the event a patient needs transportation

to a hospital, we use Delta with China's Fire Ambulance. In the most severe cases, we use Life Flight's helicopter to take patients.

Departments, China Police, Delta, Life Flight, State Police, Kennebec County Sheriff's, Game Wardens and mutual aid partners that surround



China Rescue answered the call for mutual aid to a neighboring town to extricate a patient from a vehicle involved in an accident.

My focus for this year is to provide all our members additional training, focus on recruitment, make the most of our budget and continue the great relationships we have

China.

***New to China Rescue.*** - We are beginning a list of people who are medically dependant on power. In the event of a power failure, we can arrange for a Rescue member to check on your well-being. For more information, contact information is listed at the end of this report

***How can you help?***

- **Have reflective address signs.** First responders have trouble finding homes quickly when addresses are not well marked along the road and visible from either direction. Is your mailbox clearly marked? Solution: Purchase a custom reflective sign at the town office, for as low as \$10 for a single sided sign and \$15 for to make a double sided sign.



China Rescue truck

• **Yield to Emergency Vehicles.** Be active in teaching our newest drivers about being alert for Emergency Vehicles.

• **Recruitment.** Know anyone that would be willing help our community? Contact us for more information on how to get started.

• **Donate.** For those who feel compelled to support our vision, you can donate to China Rescue at PO Box 6300, China Village, ME

04926, or stop by the Town Office.

If you have any suggestions on how we can serve our community better, please contact us at:

[ChinaMeRescue@gmail.com](mailto:ChinaMeRescue@gmail.com) or PO Box 6300, China Village, ME 04926.

Respectfully submitted,  
Erasmus Gonzalez  
Chief, China Rescue

**Department members:**

- Erasmo Gonzalez
- David Herard
- Webb Shaw
- Julie Chavez
- Joe Labbe
- Tim Theriault
- Danny McKinnis
- Ben Loubier
- Patricia Glidden
- Thomas Alfieri



Game Wardens request assistance for a large scale search. China Rescue, China Fire and China Police answer the call



It seemed to me to be important to provide citizens in China with the principles of emergency management as originally developed by the Emergency Management Institute of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and adopted by state, county, and municipal government.

### What is Emergency Management?



*These Principles of Emergency Management were adopted in 2007 by a work group of emergency managers and educators chartered by the FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI). For more information on education and research in emergency management, at <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/edu/>*

### Definition, Vision, Mission and Principles

#### Definition

Emergency management is the managerial function charged with creating the framework within which communities reduce vulnerability to hazards and cope with disasters.

#### Vision

Emergency management seeks

to promote safer, less vulnerable communities with the capacity to cope with hazards and disasters.

#### Mission

Emergency management protects communities by coordinating and integrating all activities necessary to build, sustain, and improve the capability to mitigate against, prepare for, respond to, and recover from threatened or actual natural disasters, acts of terrorism, or other man-made disasters.

#### Principles

Emergency management must be:

- **Integrated** : emergency managers ensure unity of effort among all levels of government and all elements of a community.
- **Collaborative** : emergency managers create and sustain broad and sincere relationships among individuals and organizations to encourage trust, advocate a team atmosphere, build consensus, and facilitate communication.
- **Coordinated** : emergency managers synchronize the activities of all relevant stakeholders to achieve a common purpose.
- **Flexible**: emergency managers use creative and innovative approaches in solving disaster challenges.
- **Professional**: emergency managers value a science and knowledge-based approach based on education, training, experience, ethical practice, public stewardship and continuous improvement.
- **Comprehensive**: emergency managers consider and take into account all hazards, all phases, all stakeholders and all impacts relevant to disasters.
- **Progressive** : emergency managers anticipate future disasters and take preventive and preparatory measures to build disaster-resistant and disaster-resilient communities.
- **Risk-driven** : emergency managers use sound risk management principles (hazard identification, risk analysis, and impact analysis) in assigning priorities and resources.

How are we doing in China?  
We will be working with the  
Maine Emergency

Management Agency in resources and personnel for coordinated ways to ensure proper emergency that we have proper training management. Progress has and certifications relative to been made in many areas, emergency preparedness though much more has to be circumstances. Though at completed over time for times progress toward a fully respective emergencies. implementable plan seems Patience, with proper financial slow, China is resolutely resources, will prove to be a moving in the right direction valuable ingredient. to have proper capital

Respectfully submitted,  
 Ron Morrell, Chairperson  
 Emergency Preparedness  
 Committee  
 info@chinamaine.org

**Build a Disaster Supply Kit**

A disaster supplies kit is simply a collection of basic items your household may need in the event of an emergency.

Try to assemble your kit well in advance of an emergency. You may have to evacuate at a moment's notice and take essentials with you. You will probably not have time to search for the supplies you need or shop for them.

You may need to survive on your own after an emergency. This means having your own [food](#), [water](#) and other [supplies](#) in sufficient quantity to last for at least 72 hours. Local officials and relief workers will be on the scene after a disaster but they cannot reach everyone immediately. You could get help in hours or it might take days.

Additionally, basic services such as electricity, gas, water, sewage treatment and telephones may be cut off for days or even a week, or longer. Your supplies kit should contain items to help you manage during these outages

Visit <http://www.ready.gov/document/family-supply-list> for a suggested list for a disaster supply kit.

Delta is pleased to be able to continue providing superior quality emergency Paramedic response to the people of your community and to support your First Response Rescue at no cost to the community.

As a not-for-profit organization, we fund our operations solely by reimbursement for patient calls directly from the patient and the patient's insurance policy. This is possible in large part due to our economy of scale. We write off approximately 28% of our care annually as charitable giving to the uninsured and underinsured and support of special community events.

In 2013, we responded to 278 **911**-calls. Of these, 22 calls were for assistance from patients who did not require hospital care. These patients were evaluated by our paramedics and received no invoice. Additionally, we also serve your community by regularly providing non-

emergency care and transfer services for patients as well as standby for fire calls.

Our average response times, the time between our receipt of the call and our arrival, for delivery of paramedic care was 15.24 minutes for emergencies.



Paramedic care is the highest level of Pre-Hospital care available. Our Paramedics exceed State Standards for recertification and respond with the latest medical technology available including 12 lead EKG and pharmaceutical interventions. Our care is reviewed in our Continuing Quality Improvement (CQI) program, which is recognized as a leading process in Maine.

Our support for your Rescue Services includes the offer of continuing medical/rescue education and on scene replacement of used medical supplies at no cost.

As always, if we can assist you with a project or answer any questions you may have, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We thank you for the opportunity to serve the people of China.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy A. Beals  
Executive Director

Bill McKenna  
Director of Community Relations  
(207) 861-4251  
bmckenna@deltaambulance.org



Lifeflight of Maine responds to a call in China

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Cemetery lots are for sale in the China Village Extension, Branch Mills, Dirigo Friends, Deer Hill and Pleasant View Ridge Cemeteries. All purchases must be made through the Town Office. Contact Julie Finley ([julie@chinamaine.org](mailto:julie@chinamaine.org)) for information. All lots are priced at \$500.00. Some lots are double lots and must be purchased that way.

Chadwick Hill Cemetery is not a Town Cemetery. For information on this cemetery please call Richard Grimshaw at 441-5019.

If you have any question or concerns about the cemeteries in China, please contact one of the members of the Cemetery committee or the town office.

Horace Stevens 445-4312  
Richard Norton 660-6165  
[djnorton207@gmail.com](mailto:djnorton207@gmail.com)

Harold Charles 968-2298  
[chinacharles@fairpoint.net](mailto:chinacharles@fairpoint.net)

Julie Finley 445-2014  
[julie@chinamaine.org](mailto:julie@chinamaine.org)

Elwood Ellis 968-2507  
[bluesbro@roadrunner.com](mailto:bluesbro@roadrunner.com)

Daniel L'Heureux 445-2014  
[danl@chinamaine.org](mailto:danl@chinamaine.org)

A map of cemetery locations in China is available on our web site: [China.govoffice.com](http://China.govoffice.com)

If you are interested in genealogy you may contact Kelly Grotton at [kelly@chinamaine.org](mailto:kelly@chinamaine.org).

The Talbot Cemetery was established in China in the early 1800's. The location of the cemetery has been somewhat obscure for many years. As a project for his Eagle Scout rank, Madison Bodine, Boy Scout Troop 479, organized the cleaning of the Talbot Cemetery and created a trail with signage to aid in locating the remote cemetery.

The hard work by Madison and Troop 479 on this project has ensured that others will have the opportunity to find and visit this historic site.

Thank you Madison for your hard work and dedication to your community!



Madison Bodine's  
Eagle Scout Project  
Talbot Cemetery



With \$110 million dollars in taxable shorefront property around China Lake people of the town have a huge financial interest in water quality. Why is that? It has been well documented that water quality and shorefront property values are linked. A sustained decline in water quality will lead to a drop in shorefront property values. With limited sources of revenue, if shorefront property values drop taxes on off lake property would need to be raised. The Town of China has been at the fore front of lake protection going back to the founding days of the China Lake



Conservation Corp member Paul Read installing the new China Lake map at the Head of China Lake

Restoration Program and the China Region Lakes Alliance. Through seed money from the Town of China and local, state, and federal grants nearly \$1 million dollars has been spent on lake restoration and water quality improvement. This money has gone to erosion control projects, buffer strip improvement projects, fire road culvert projects, and invasive plant protection. Yet for the last 3 years we have seen declining water quality. Why could this be? The answer is multifaceted and may include shorter duration of ice cover on the lake and warmer summers. Importantly, we think, part of the answer may involve the cessation of an aggressive fall drawdown in lake water levels. Through volunteer dam management a fairly aggressive fall drawdown was done from the early 1990's

until 2003. In 2003 the controversy over water levels in the lake put a stop to an extended fall draw down. We were unsure how much of an impact an extended fall drawdown had on phosphorus levels within the lake. Perhaps it had a greater positive effect on water quality than we believed

In the spring of 2012 the Kennebec Water District hired Bjorn Lake of Kleinshmidt consulting to examine the lake and ways to address water quality. This thorough and informative report is available through the town and also on the China Lake Association website, [chinalakeassociation.org](http://chinalakeassociation.org). One of the observations in the report was that a well-timed more extensive fall draw down of lake water levels could

remove and extra 440 pounds of phosphorus from the lake annually! This is a substantial number given the annual erosion control projects the CRLA rarely stops more than 100 pounds of phosphorus from entering the lake. The price of the fall draw downs-free!

**2013 Conservation Corp members:**

- Grace Kilian
- Paul Read
- Joseph Travis

To change the water level order from the current fall draw down of 2 feet to the proposed 3 feet and change the timing of the draw down to coincide with peak

phosphorus levels in the lake required appealing to the Department of Environmental Protection. I am happy to report that the DEP has viewed the request favorably and hopefully a more extensive draw down will take place in the fall of 2014.

What plans are in place to further address water quality? Re-introduction of alewife into China Lake may prove beneficial since we have seen tremendous improvements in the water quality of Three Mile and Webber Ponds with the runs of alewives. One of the important ongoing CRLA projects is to clear out Seward Mills Stream that connects Webber Pond to Three Mile Pond to allow better alewife migration. Getting alewife into China on their own rather than trapping and trucking to the lake is a more complex project than was alewife re-introduction in Webber Pond. There was only one dam blocking alewife runs into Webber Pond. There are five dams along the China Lake Outlet Stream. Another option to address water quality in China Lake is to do an alum treatment of the north end of the lake. Bjorn Lake believes a

partial treatment may be enough to stop the season algae blooms in the entire lake. The cost of this partial treatment would be \$250-\$500,000. At this point funding sources for dam removal, fishways, and alum treatment is uncertain and a more extensive dialog would have to take place before action in one direction or the other takes place.

As usual the CRLA sponsored the Courtesy Boat Inspection Program and did a wide range of erosion control projects in the Town of China. I am happy to report that the Youth Conservation Corp plus a number of our boat inspectors provided a lot of manpower working on the trail system in the town owned Thurston Park.

Without the continued support of the people of China we would not be able to continue the work that we do on your behalf. Thank you.

Respectfully,  
Jim Hart, president  
China Region Lakes Alliance

**2013 Courtesy Boat Inspectors**

- Jade Canak
- Luke Peabody
- Jakob Church
- Hallee Breton
- Julia White
- Tyler Rollis
- Mani Reynolds
- Joshua Reed
- Maxwell Pacholski
- Leticia Moll
- Andrew Grady
- Mackenzie Gayer
- Madison Furst
- Erik Dodge
- Edward Casey
- Hayden Fowle
- Damon Bailey
- Mitchel Gosselin
- Brittney Ibbitson
- Morgan Fowle

LakeSmart is a program that offers **FREE** opportunities for homeowners to learn how to manage their home and yard to protect the water quality of their lake. The goal of LakeSmart is to change the increasingly common suburban landscaping practices around lakes to more natural, lake-friendly environments. Contact the CRLA for more information on this program at 968-2856 or by email at [david.landry@yahoo.com](mailto:david.landry@yahoo.com)

The Thurston Park Committee continued to implement the plan approved by the Select Board in December 2010. Thanks to a grant from the Maine Trails Program, many enhancements to the park were made in 2013.

**Walking Trails.** Four trails for non-motorized use were cleared and marked on the west side of the Yorktown Road. These trails create a series of loops that take hikers, skiers, people on snowshoes, mountain bikers, birders and others from the northern end of the park into the southwestern corner and back through the central portion of the 390 acre park.

the Maine Conservation Corps) in order to protect the soft ground at the end of the main bridge. The bog bridges will help minimize any



water, poor drainage and erosion. Under the Maine Trails Program Grant, a local contractor was able to correct many of these problems along the Yorktown Road and part of the eastern loop. In addition, volunteer crews spent many man-hours clearing brush, limbs and fallen trees along these trails to allow better access to construction equipment as well as recreational vehicles. Additional work is needed on portions of the eastern loop.

**Foot Bridges.** The Maine Conservation Corp built an excellent foot bridge across an area of standing water and muck that prevented crossing along the southern boundary of the park. The bridge makes it possible to travel through the southwestern area of the park that was previously relatively inaccessible. In addition, crews on loan from the Youth Conservation Corp and the Courtesy Boat Inspectors were able to build a bog bridge across a wet area nearer the center of the park. The bog bridge allowed the construction of a trail that would bisect the main southwest loop while protecting the wet area from repeated damage by hikers. The YCC and CBI crews also built bog bridging at the end of the main bridge (built by

environmental impact from hikers and other non-motorized uses.

**Multi use Trails.** The park has approximately 2.5 miles of multi-use trails that are open to snowmobiles, ATVs and other recreational vehicles as well as foot traffic. These trails were in very poor condition with lots of standing

**Parking.** As part of the construction work done under the trails grant, a small parking area was developed just inside the northern boundary of the park. This area can accommodate approximately six vehicles. In addition, an area large enough for one (or perhaps two with a tight squeeze) handicap vehicles was developed just outside the northern gate to allow handicap access. Another area north of Yorktown Brook has been designated as a location for



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one or two larger vehicles such as school buses or horse trailers.

**Signs.** A number of metal informational signs have been made by a local sign maker using grant funds. These signs will be used to inform park users when they are about to enter or leave the park, which trails are designated as non-motorized use only and where there are designated parking areas.

Wooden Trail signs have been carved by a local wood carver. These rustic signs will be placed at trail intersections to help users identify their location on the trail maps.

Two large carved wooden signs were also prepared by the local wood carver to



welcome visitors to the park. One will be placed along the Yorktown Road just before the parking area at the northern end. The other will be placed on the Yorktown Road at the southern boundary of the park.

**Gates.** Gates have been installed inside the northern boundary of the park and at the southern boundary. The gates are designed so that snowmobiles, ATVs and other recreational vehicles may pass through but road vehicles are excluded.

**Kiosks.** Two informational kiosks have been built using grant funds. These kiosks will be installed at the parking lot on the north end and at a central location in the park from which trails fan out through the park.

**Trail Maps.** Thanks to the grant, the Thurston Park Committee was able to contract with a firm that was able to take the GPS data gathered on the park trails and convert it to a professional looking map that would be suitable for mounting on the display boards of the informational kiosks. This map will also be the basis for small maps that will be available for users to pick up at the town office or from one of the kiosks.

**Volunteers Wanted.** There is still much to be done. There are signs to be installed, additional trails to clear on the west side, more repair work needed on the eastern side, a picnic area to layout and other

recreational opportunities to plan. There are public events being planned including a grand opening and a trail walk/run event and there is more fund raising to do. Anyone who is interested in being part of this exciting community development activity is encouraged to



contact the Town Manager, Dan L'Heureux or the committee chair, Bill Seekins.

**Information.** For more information contact committee chair, Bill Seekins at 968-2605.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bill Seekins  
Chair



All of the recreation programs offered in the town are run by volunteers, and we remain appreciative of their constant efforts. Programs partially supported by the town include youth baseball and softball, basketball, football cheering, basketball cheering, field hockey, football, soccer, adult softball and the Fun Run. These programs continue to have an amazing number of participating athletes. Thank you to all the volunteers who donate their time to make sure these programs are still available to all residents. If you are interested in becoming involved with any of these programs, please contact the town office and we can provide you with the name and contact information of the

person in charge of the respective programs.

We continue to maintain the facilities and support the athletic offerings by stretching taxpayer dollars to the limit. Routine maintenance includes ball field mowing, tree trimming, field maintenance and annually bringing in ball field mix for the base paths. The youth league has a field day every spring and performs routine maintenance on the fields including rolling the fields to get the bumps out. The field roller is donated annually by local contractor Robin Tobey. Kennebec County inmates also provide labor for projects at the fields. If all of these projects had to

be paid for instead of completed with volunteer hours, our budget would be much higher.

Suggestions or comments may be left at the town office.

Respectfully submitted,  
Becky Hapgood  
Recreation Committee Member



3rd and 4th grade China Rec Basketball boys team warms up before their game.

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Back on July 1, 2012 the Town began enforcing the new State-wide building code called the **Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code (MUBEC)**. This Law impacts new residential construction including any new single family or duplex home (except for log homes and manufactured homes), or any new addition to an existing residence including room expansions, foundations, as well as other heated spaces, and also accessory buildings (i.e. garages) more than 600 square feet. Additionally, all commercial buildings and any multifamily construction are subject to the MUBEC. An independent **Third Party Inspector (TPI)** must be hired at the owner's expense. The TPI gathers project information into a construction file and forwards a "Notice to Proceed" to the Town. At this point the local building permit can be issued. The TPI then conducts a series of inspections ensuring compliance with both construction and energy efficiency standards based upon the 2009 International Residential Code (IRC) and the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC), respectively. Once the project is complete the TPI forwards the construction file and a "Notice of Completion" to the Town. When that file and notice are received the Town issues a "Certificate of Occupancy" for that project.

Please know this process lengthens the time it takes to

issue a local permit since the TPI must conduct a preliminary review of the building plans, and often meets with the builder. Once the MUBEC requirements are satisfied, the TPI must produce his Notice to Proceed before the Town can issue its building permit. This review process can take even longer if the project involves any Shoreland District, non-conforming structures, or the State's 30% Shoreland expansion rule. This rule states that any structure, or portion of a structure, less than 100 feet from the water cannot be expanded more than 30% of the floor area and volume as the structure existed on January 1, 1989.

If you know what you want to build, start the conversation with the Town as early as possible to review local permitting requirements. Then choose a TPI to help you meet the MUBEC. Think ahead and be prepared to make decisions about your project in consultation with your TPI.

**The Central Maine Power Company (CMP) moved forward with its Maine Power Reliability Program (MPRP)** approved by the Planning Board in August of 2011. The scope of CMP's 1.4 billion dollar MPRP will upgrade 350 miles of transmission lines within CMP's corridor affecting Maine communities from Orrington to New

Hampshire's border. CMP will build a new set of 345-kilovolt towers within its existing corridor. Although timber harvesting in the corridor was finished in 2012 the MPRP construction phase began in the spring of 2013. Work in CMP's corridor along the Pleasant View Ridge Road, the Alder Parker Road, and the Weeks Mills Road and Kidder Road, were most visible last year. It is anticipated that the MPRP will continue in 2014 and be completed in 2015.

Enforcement activities in 2013 included handling dangerous buildings, automobile graveyards and junkyards, and building starts without the property owners having the permits properly in-place before work started. Last year the Town used legal resources to take action on a dangerous building where the health, safety and welfare of the occupants were at risk; other unoccupied but dangerous buildings are reviewed and in some cases the owners have worked with the Town to immediately secure the premises, but ultimately will remove the building from their property. An Administrative Consent Agreement may be reached between the Town and the property owner, and this is the step immediately before the Town takes legal action that results in filing a complaint. In the case of automobile graveyards, the Law states that no more than two (2) motor vehicles that are

unregistered and uninspected household appliances, can be on your property. This furniture; discarded, scrap means that a motor vehicle and junked lumber; and old must be registered and or scrap copper, brass, rope, inspected in order to be rags, batteries, paper trash, exempted from the Law. rubber debris, waste and all Regarding junkyards, the Law scrap iron, steel and other provides a description of what scrap ferrous and nonferrous “junk” is considered to be. material.” Finally, starting a This list includes: “discarded, building project without worn-out or junked plumbing, proper permitting falls into heating supplies, electronic or the category of an after-the- industrial equipment, fact permit; however,

sometimes when a project has been started and permitting becomes problematic, an Administrative Consent Agreement may be considered prior to the filing of a land use complaint.

The table below represents those permits issued from 2004 through 2013.

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
<b>Building permits issued:</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>210</b>
New single family homes	3	15	2	16	15	13	23	24	25	28
Manufactured homes	5	10	4	11	8	12	21	14	22	18
Additions and Expansions	26	16	22	25	16	29	18	29	35	25
Accessory garages, sheds, etc.	20	71	71	49	57	48	83	59	63	78
Decks and Patios	20	44	53	30	44	21	39	27	21	33
Renovations	5	7	15	6	9	5	5	8	9	8
Other (pools, ramps, etc.)	21	13	18	19	23	10	22	11	16	20
Demolition	10	9	9	2	5	1	7	7	7	-
<b>CEO permits &amp; notices received:</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>52</b>
Timber Harvesting	22	29	27	21	28	23	13	17	22	21
Piers or docks	2	4	1	7	0	1	6	5	8	5
Signs	10	16	19	22	8	12	10	13	11	7
Road Construction	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Filling and/or earth moving	9	12	3	13	10	10	13	12	11	11
Wells	11	6	4	10	13	6	13	8	9	8
Other	0	1	2	1	0	1	1	1	1	0
<b>Plumbing permits issued:</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>152</b>
Internal plumbing	36	50	38	67	55	47	68	83	88	89
External plumbing (Septic Systems)	23	35	21	38	33	30	49	52	55	63

**During 2013 there were 120 building permits issued, representing a decrease of 35% from the 185 permits issued in 2012.** Of those 120 permits, notably only 3 were new stick-built single family residences (similar to the number seen in 2011 at only 2); of the new stick-built homes constructed in 2013, two were brand new and one was a new home

replacing one that was torn down. Five manufactured homes came into Town last year, but one was a replacement of an older mobile home. Statistics last year show a sharp drop in the number of permits for both accessory buildings (down 72%) and decks (down by almost 55%). Compared to 2012, in 2013 more permits were issued for “other”

projects such as ramps, pools and especially lean-to expansions to existing accessory structures. Also, of the 120 building permits issued last year, nearly 20% (that is, 22 new projects) were subject to the new **Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code (MUBEC).**

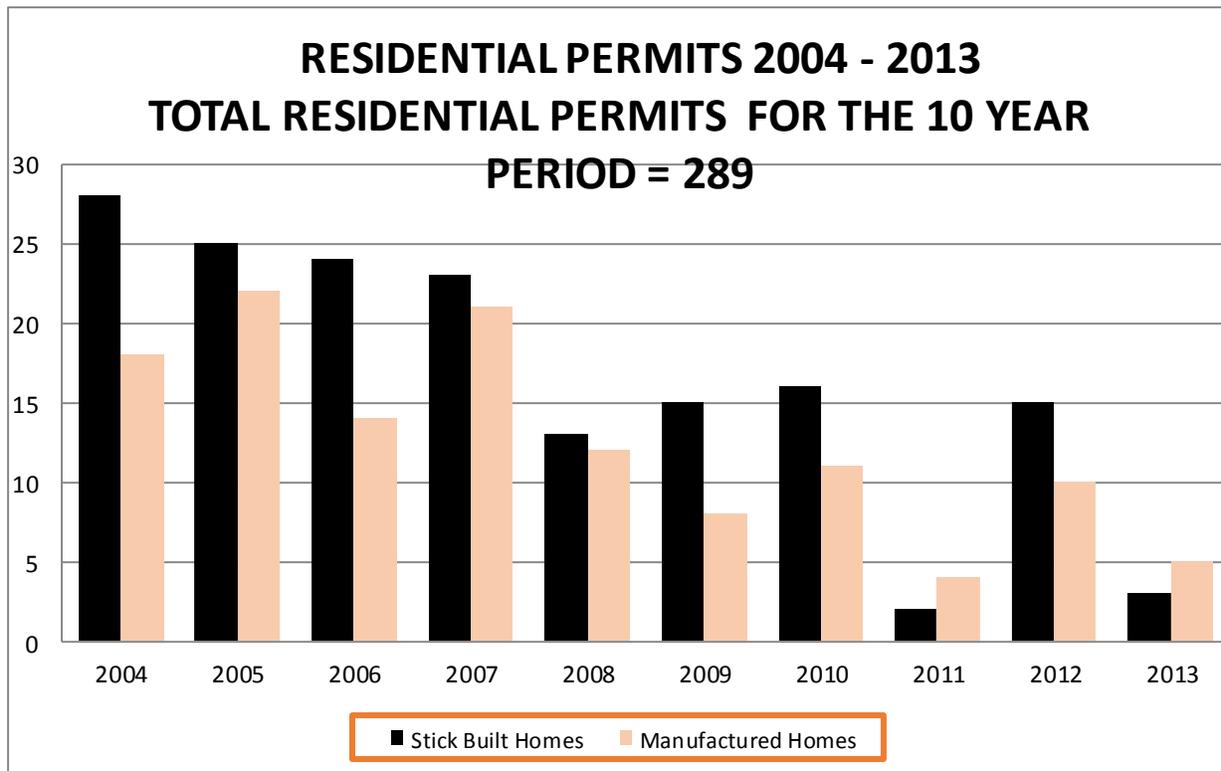
The table shows that **over the**

ten (10) year period from 2004 to 2013 a total of 289 permits were issued for new residences including stick-built and manufactured homes (annual average about 29 per year). This number is somewhat down from the previous ten-year period in which 328 new home permits were issued; this is a drop over the previous 10-year period of about 12%. Of course, in 2003 there were 32 new stick-built single family housing starts, while last year there were only 3 new stick-built homes constructed in Town). As reported last year, one reason for the 2012 increase in new stick-built homes may have had something to do with the

MUBEC's July 1, 2012 start date. Many people applied for residential building permits prior to that date possibly to avoid the MUBEC. The U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's national statistics show a 12.2% increase in new housing starts from December 2012 to December 2013 (Source: **Table 1. New Privately-Owned Housing Units Authorized in Permit-Issuing Places**). Finally, we know that 96 new house lots were approved through subdivisions between 2006 and 2009. There were no subdivisions in 2010; in 2011 there was only one new lot created by subdivision

amendment; in 2012 the only subdivision activity was the division of (and subsequent amendment to) the China Mall Subdivision in which the Fieldstone Quikstop was split away from the China Mini-Mall. In 2013 there was only one subdivision, an after-the-fact division of land involving Central Maine Power Company off Route 3 (where a new power substation is proposed to be built). To date there remain dozens of approved house lots that still have not been built upon.

See the chart below for new residential permits for the ten-year period between 2004 and 2013.



Of the 120 building permits issued last year, there were eleven (11) “after-the-fact” permits. The China Land Development Code requires landowners (their agents or contractors) obtain building and plumbing permits before work starts on a project. After-the-fact permit fees are expensive and cost three to ten times the standard fee. **If you are uncertain about whether or not a building project requires a permit please call, e-mail, or stop by the Town Office and find out.** For a complete review of the China Land Development Code go to the Town’s website at [www.china.govoffice.com](http://www.china.govoffice.com).

Another 54 permits and Notices of Intent were issued in 2013 for signs, filling and earth-moving activities, well installations, and timber harvests. This was a decrease of 20.6% from 2012 numbers. In fact, almost all CEO permits were down last year except those for new well installations which increased from 6 to 11. Finally, in 2013 the Local Plumbing Inspector issued 59 plumbing permits, about a 30% decrease over the 85 plumbing permits issued in 2012. This is attributed to the reduction of new housing starts especially regarding new septic system installations. Finally, there were 3 notices received for new “home occupations” in 2013 that were for home-based businesses including a work office for a home maintenance and repair business, a munitions casting

enterprise, and a notice for a vendor selling home-grown produce.

**Please know a permit is required for all new construction, expansion or improvement of principal or accessory structures that creates a new building footprint; increases of volume (such as dormers, enclosed deck space, etc.); and increases in a structure’s height.** Permits are also required for improvements to replace existing portions of a structure (e.g. rooms, decks, sheds, etc.) and renovations and conversions (e.g. basement renovations and other space conversions). Also, above-ground and in-ground swimming pools (even decks around a pool) require a permit. Permits are also needed for Quonset-hut-style “cover-its”. Finally, installing a new, replacement or expanded portion of a shorefront dock requires a permit. No dock should be in the water more than seven (7) months per year without approvals from the local Planning Board and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. **Only those projects involving “normal maintenance” do not require permits (e.g. replacing doors and windows, siding, roof materials, etc.)**

The CEO interacts daily with local residents, prospective property purchasers, real-

estate agents, businesses, engineers, surveyors, attorneys, etc. and is also a resource to provide information on China’s Land Development Code. In day-to-day business, and working directly with the Planning Board, the CEO helps people with the permitting process and required paperwork.

In closing, I wish to express my gratitude to everyone supporting the Town’s efforts to enforce the China Land Development Code. I am fortunate in having held the title of Code Enforcement Officer in China for the last 19 years.

Respectfully submitted,  
Scott A. Pierz  
Code Enforcement Officer  
Local Plumbing Inspector



During 2013 the China Planning Board reviewed twelve (12) Conditional Use Permits for business related activities. All 12 of these permits were approved. The Planning Board also reviewed three (3) Amendments to previously approved Conditional Use permits. All 3 of the Amendments were approved. We also had one (1) application for an (AFTER – THE- FACT) Subdivision review which also required a Public Hearing be held, this was approved. We had one (1) Timber Harvest application in a Resource Protection District that was also approved. Reference below are the seventeen (17) approved applications that were acted upon by your Planning Board during 2013.

**Conditional Use Permits**

**Conditional Use Permit Application #01-02262013 by Monte Sylvester d/b/a S&T Service, Inc.** regarding the display and sale of pre-constructed accessory buildings supplied by New England Rent-to-Own, LLC at the location of 847 Route 3 in China, Maine. (February 26, 2013)

**Conditional Use Permit Application #02-05142013 by Kyle Pierce d/b/a Administrative Business Services** regarding the conduct of activities associated with a business office at the location of 241 Route 3 in China, Maine.

(May 14, 2013)

**Conditional Use Permit Application #03-05142013 by Maurice Haskell d/b/a M.A. Haskell Fuel Company LLC** regarding the conduct of a commercial use involving retail sales of home heating fuels, and servicing of plumbing and heating equipment at the location of 1166 Route 3 in China, Maine. (May 14, 2013)

**Conditional Use Permit Application #04-05142013 by Beth Mason d/b/a Beth’s Family Hair Salon** regarding the conduct of an additional commercial use, **Dock Guys LLC**, to display and market marine equipment at the location of 9 Pond Hill Road in China, Maine. (May 14, 2013)

**Conditional Use Permit Application # 05 - 06252013 by Thomas and Anita Whittaker d/b/a Whitt’s Garment Works** regarding a new 18’ by 28’ expansion of an existing commercial use at 12 Old Windsor Road in China, Maine. (June 25, 2013)

**Conditional Use Permit Application # 06 - 06252013 by Keith Knowles d/b/a Knowles Mechanical, Inc.** regarding the conduct of an industrial/commercial use at 1097 Route 3 in China, Maine. (June 25, 2013)

**Conditional Use Permit Application #07-08272013 by the Thurston Park II Committee on behalf of the Town of China** to

perform earth-moving activities in excess of 100 cubic yards of material necessary to rehabilitate the existing trail system within Thurston Park in China, Maine. (September 10, 2013)

**Conditional Use Permit Application # 08 - 09242013 by Debra Pomelow d/b/a Olde Thyme Primitives** regarding the conduct of a retail sales business at the location of the former China Gen’l Store at 9 Main Street in China, Maine. (September 24, 2013)

**Conditional Use Permit Application # 09 - 09242013 by Nichole Grassi d/b/a “De-Tails” Salon for Pets** regarding the conduct of a pet grooming business at the location of 1092 Lakeview Drive in China, Maine. (September 24, 2013)

**Conditional Use Permit Application #10-10082013 by Maurice “Pete” Haskell d/b/a M.A. Haskell Fuel Company, LLC** regarding the conduct of a commercial retail business (including accessory storage), as well as professional office space, at the location of the former Taylor Ski Shop of 1160 Route 3 in China, Maine. (October 8, 2013)

**Conditional Use Permit Application #11-10082013 by Thadius Barber d/b/a Barber Investments LLC** regarding earth-moving activities in excess of 100 cubic yards to remove the underground fuel storage tanks and paving the parking

apron at the site of the former Market & Deli at the location of 306 Route 3 in China, Maine. (October 8, 2013)

**Conditional use Permit Application #12-11122013 by Thadius Baber d/b/a Barber Investments LLC** regarding the conduct of a commercial use a/k/a **Dollar Deals** at the location of the former Market and Deli at 306 Route 3 in China, Maine. (November 12, 2013)

**Amendments to Conditional Use Permits**

**Amendment to the site plan approved October 23, 2012 regarding Conditional Use Permit Application #06-07172012 by Thadius Barber d/b/a Barber Investments LLC** involving the expansion of the Fieldstone QuikStop convenience store and operation of a Dunkin' Donuts franchise at the intersection of Route 3 and Route 32 North in China, Maine. (September 10, 2013)

**Amendment to Conditional Use Permit #06-07172012 for Thadius Barber d/b/a Barber Investments LLC** regarding dredging of one of the State Stormwater Detention Ponds at the location of the China Mall Subdivision located at 16 Vassalboro Road in China, Maine. (October 29, 2013)

**Amendment to Conditional Use Permit #12-11122013 for Thadius Barber (Barber Investments LLC) d/b/a**

**Dollar Deals** and involving a revised parking and traffic flow site plan prepared by E.S. Coffin Engineering at the location of the former Market & Deli at 306 Route 3 in China, Maine.

**Subdivision Review**

**Approved an after-the-fact subdivision proposal presented by TRC Solutions on behalf of the Central Maine Power Company** involving the division of a previously approved subdivided property of Paul Page dated September 6, 1989 and located along the Route 3 corridor. (Public hearing November 26, 2013)

**Timber Harvest Application**

Approved a **timber harvest application by Daniel Micue on behalf of his wife, Colleen Micue**, to harvest timber in a Resource Protection District along the Bog Brook Road in China, Maine. **July 23, 2013**

**Ordinance, Policy and Procedure Reviews**

Conditional Use Review Criteria, including review of sample Site Plan Review Ordinances: City of Bath and Town of Richmond, and review the Model Site Plan

Review Handbook. Our intent is to re-write the 15 point Criteria for our Conditional Use Permit application and to have it ready for placement to the Towns warrant for the June 2014 vote. (February to April 2013).

Planning Board Procedures and Policy (June 25, 2013)

Review Maine Municipal Association communication on Findings-of-Fact (July 9, 2013)

Discussion on Robert's Rules of Order, quorum requirements, conduct of public hearings, etc. (September 24, 2013)

**Training**

Four members of the Planning Board attended a training session sponsored and presented by the attorneys from the Maine Municipal Association. This training took place at the Black Bear Inn in Old Town. Some of topics covered were Conflict of Interest, Legal rights, State Statues, documentation, public's right to know (Release of Information Act) along with the taking of minutes of meetings. (March 13, 2013)

The Planning Board continues to adhere to protocols including: (1) specific timetables for submitting applications and information; (2) thorough reviews resulting in the determination of "findings-of-fact" regarding the conditional use review criteria for commercial-related

business activities; and (3) consideration of the need for public hearings especially to consider the concerns of abutting land owners about developments adjacent to them.

All meetings are open to the public, and the Planning Board encourages people to attend and participate in their local government. Meetings are held every second and fourth Tuesday of the month, convening at seven (7) PM in the Town Office Meeting Room. For further

information, please call the Town Office or contact the China CEO.

**Planning Board staffing.** With the re-election of Kyle Pierce, James Wilkens and Frank Soares along with Ronald Breton, Toni Wall and Milton Dudley, the Planning Board has stayed intact for another year. In closing, I would like to thank our CEO Scott Pierz for his expertise and assistance in helping the Planning Board, our secretary Tracy Cunningham for her fine work and the Town Manager and his staff for the much appreciated support

they render to the Planning Board.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Ronald R. Breton, District 4, Chairman  
 James Wilkens, District 1  
 Toni Wall, District 2  
 Kyle Pierce, District 3  
 Milton Dudley, At Large  
 Frank Soares, Alternate- At-Large



Two eagles as captured by a trail camera in China.

The Staff, General Assembly, and the 24 member communities of the Kennebec Regional Development Authority are pleased to present this annual report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013.

**Financial Overview**

KRDA/FirstPark ended the fiscal year well within our planned operating budget showing \$164,812 of revenue over expenditures. Annual revenue distributions to member communities totaled \$241,560. We reduced our long term debt principal by \$219,310. This amount includes the additional principal payments being made on our note held by Camden National Bank - which will reduce the term. At this point, we are on target to completely pay off our long term debt in approximately eight years. The total long-term debt for the organization stands at approximately \$2,064,649. For investments, we have five CD's and a money market account at the Maine State Credit Union totaling \$200,512; a savings account with TD Bank totaling \$240,000 and; a CD with Skowhegan National Bank totaling \$77,500. These cash allocations represent



designated funds toward a small operating reserve and a growing infrastructure reserve which will be utilized to help pay the costs of future infrastructure development when the work is needed within FirstPark and help minimize future borrowing for that purpose. We project adequate cash flow for operations and debt service through the coming fiscal year without additional borrowing.

committee, chaired by Kathryn Ruth, Town of Pittsfield, we are redeveloping our lead generating process. The Executive Director is also actively engaged in building alliances with other organizations, DECD, educational institutions, and municipal officials – all which were outlined in the strategic plan. This reinforces a greater regional orientation in our processes and procedures.

The reorganization that occurred in the previous year has had a dramatic and positive effect on our annual budgeting and governance process.

**Operations Overview**

During FY 2012-2013, the organization engaged a new Executive Director, Brad Jackson, with a strong regional economic development background. He has picked up where the previous Director left off regarding the strategic planning process. The organization now has two effective standing committees that are advising and assisting the staff on forward operations. Through the planning committee, chaired by Mike Roy, City of Waterville, we are developing a capital/facility plan. Through the marketing

**From the Director's Desk....**

On the marketing front, we engaged the services of Brad Research Consulting International (Montreal, Canada) for lead generation. This refocuses the organizations efforts from print/place marketing to regional networking. This process will place us in front of senior level decision makers within the firms to tell our story about the competitive advantages of Central Maine. In the fall of 2013, I anticipate we will begin our first outreach – meeting with firms in Atlantic Canada. In May we brought our first lead to the region

and we await the outcome of have begun a business explore additional  
 their investment decision visitation program with relationships with developers  
 (\$35 million and 150 jobs). regional firms in the IT, bio/ who may provide build out  
 For this we established a "Red medical, and metal fabrication solutions for forthcoming  
 Carpet" program and clusters. This may lead to leads into FirstPark. Finally,  
 recommend working closely regional business expansion I am scheduling myself to  
 with the Mid Maine Chamber opportunities and attend selectmen's/council  
 of Commerce on bringing out opportunities to leverage State meetings, to talk about what  
 the Communities Centers of and Federal funding. I we're doing.  
 influence for future leads continue to leverage the  
 brought to the Kennebec services of CBRE The Boulos  
 Valley. In order to strengthen Company - who were Respectfully submitted,  
 the regional networks that instrumental in providing Brad Jackson  
 would be essential in our several solutions to the needs  
 business attraction efforts I of our above lead. I intend to Executive Director

## History of Firstpark

<p>FirstPark is an economic development project of the Kennebec Regional Development Authority (KRDA). KRDA was formed as a successor organization to The People of the Kennebec, itself a consortium of civic and community-minded organizations whose members included the Chambers of Commerce, economical development organizations, local businesses, banks, hospitals and educational institutions.</p> <p>The common ground that gave impetus to The People of the</p>	<p>Kennebec, and later KRDA, was regional economic development and job creation. With state leadership, the building of a series of "Super Parks" was identified as a critical step to facilitate business attraction. A competitive, state-wide grant application process ultimately led to Oakland as the site selected for the first Super Park – a 285 acre parcel now known as FirstPark. The original projection was for up to 3,000 new jobs to be generated from business relocation/investment in FirstPark. This projection was over a</p>	<p>20-year period. Target industries include technology, information processing &amp; storage, high-end service sectors, and alternative energy. Such specialization minimizes competition from traditional industrial parks in the area and most importantly will provide the diversity, stability and vitality so critical to the sustained economic growth of the area.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>~ information from www.firstpark.com</i></p>
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The Transfer Station is open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is located at 191 Alder Park Road.

The China Transfer Station is managed by Elwin Higgins. It is also staffed by Mary Adams, Timothy Grotton, and Scott Meader.



Bundles of recycled plastic

All residents and camp owners who enter the transfer station **must** have a China Transfer Station Sticker. Stickers expire annually. To obtain your new sticker, please stop by the town office during regular business hours.

Kitchen pails (for composting) are available for \$3.00 at the Transfer Station and the Town Office. It is estimated that 25% of an average household's waste is kitchen scraps and yard waste. Composting this material can reduce the amount of garbage in your home!



Kitchen pail

**Recycling Plastics**

Town of China Recycling Center accepts virtually all types of household plastics in our recycling program. Upon approaching the Recycling Building, the second bay of the building houses barrels (which are labeled on the fronts) for the collection of plastics to include the following:

***Please look for the corresponding triangle with a number on the underside of your plastic container.***

**# 2 N A T U R A L PLASTIC:** Examples are clear milk jugs, clear windshield washer jugs etc. Please remove caps.

**# 2 C O L O R E D PLASTIC:** Examples are solid white milk jugs, laundry detergent jugs, solid colored hair product bottles, plastic coffee cans etc. (again, look for the triangle with the number 2 on the bottom). Please remove caps.

**# 1 C L E A R BOTTLES:** In this container we are looking to collect clear bottles only! The bottle should not have any tint to it, hence clear. The bottle must have a number 1 inside a triangle on the bottom. We are not collecting #1 clear plastic "clam shell" type food containers

in this barrel. Those we mix with the #3-#7 plastic. Please remove caps.

**#3-#7 PLASTICS:** This container can have any plastic numbered from 3 to 7 or reasonably sized non-numbered plastics. All plastic caps and covers can go here! Other examples are medicine bottles (that are not marked #2), clear & colored food containers, yogurt cups, cottage cheese and butter containers, toys without metal or electronic pieces etc.

**Cardboard recycling**

**is now**

**mandatory!!**

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	<b><u>2013</u></b>	<b><u>2012</u></b>	<b><u>2011</u></b>
Metal	69.26	48.98 ton	61.24 ton
Cardboard	132.94	125.72 ton	134.434 ton
Mixed paper	42.32 ton	42.66 ton	57.28 ton
Newspaper	42.22 ton	27.62 ton	34.08 ton
#2 Plastic	11.3 ton	11.06 ton	10.899 ton
#1 Plastic	2.58 ton	1.29 ton	2.87 ton
#3-#7 Plastic	6.25 ton	6.45 ton	8.80 ton
Rigid Plastic	6.05 ton	17.32 ton	9.1 ton
Plastic bags	1.85 ton	4.49 ton	1.60 ton
Tin cans	0.58 ton	7.28 ton	14.06 ton
Asphalt shingles	53.85 ton	51.57 ton	54.92 ton
Tires	406	566	609
Glass/porcelain	9.29 ton	14.41 ton	14.06 ton
Waste oil	1577 gal	2150 gal	1344 gal
Compost	100.7 ton	47.81 ton	68.74 ton
Brush	118 ton	116.15 ton	124.49 ton
Demo wood	106.57 ton	113.61 ton	110.49 ton
Crushed & recycled asphalt, cement, and shingles	58.28 ton	59.47 ton	62.15 ton

	<b><u>Schools</u></b>		
	<b><u>2013</u></b>	<b><u>2012</u></b>	<b><u>2011</u></b>
RSU #18	5.3 ton	3.56 ton	3.71 ton
Palermo	0.21 ton	.85 ton	.60 ton

	<b><u>Universal Waste -Recycled Electronics</u></b>		
	<b><u>2013</u></b>	<b><u>2012</u></b>	<b><u>2011</u></b>
TV's and monitors	369 units	949 units	570 units
Computers &Peripherals	70 units	92 units	107 units
Pcb ballast	38 units	32 units	14 units
Misc. Electronics	402 lbs.		

	<b><u>Municipal Solid Waste Transferred Out</u></b>		
	<b><u>2013</u></b>	<b><u>2012</u></b>	<b><u>2011</u></b>
Perc	1404.48 ton	1334.38 ton	1620.59 ton

	<b><u>Mixed CDD (construction demolition debris) transferred</u></b>		
	<b><u>2013</u></b>	<b><u>2012</u></b>	<b><u>2011</u></b>
Waste Management	161.5 ton	142.97 ton	276.85 ton

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Finley

Deputy Clerk

China's road system consists of 43.66 miles of town owned roads and 32.17 miles of State owned roads. All work done on town roads is done according to a master plan that is reviewed, revised, and deliberated on annually by members of the Road Committee. The town has benefited a great deal from the collective career experience of members of the Road Committee and town Highway Department; careers of people on the Road Committee that were directly involved with road surface composition testing, new construction, reconstruction, paving, or grading of roads all over the State of Maine. It is not uncommon for Dick Norton and Milford Thomas to oversee actual road reconstruction projects while in progress. They often meet the paving crews at 6:30 am and leave the road site at dusk. It is a distinct pleasure working with them. Though Dick has moved out of town, he continues to contribute as much as possible. Dale Peabody has joined the Highway Committee and has superior institutional knowledge. Dale works for the MDOT and is a great addition to the "brain trust". He brings with him many years of experience dealing with highway systems and materials management.

The China Highway Department has three town employees, Gary Cummings, Shawn Reed and Brandon Bailey. The relatively strong

condition of the roads in China is to a good extent a result of the efforts of these extremely professional, hardworking, capable, and dedicated employees. In China, there is not a better combination of volunteers and employees that I know of, and I would like to express personal thanks for their combined contributions.

The town traditionally has a schedule of reconstruction and resurfacing for the upcoming summer and fall seasons. A comprehensive review of the relative condition of all roads was completed in the spring of 2013 with newly purchased road surface maintenance software to make the road assessment project easier and more productive. The highway department staff and Road Commissioner and a member of the Highway Committee have taken a class in the use of the new software and in the new road classification terminology. The final product has prepared the town for long term highway capital planning projects in the most effective and economical manner possible.

The tentative paving plan for the upcoming 2014 paving season includes reconstruction and resurfacing of an additional mile of the Dirigo Road, and resurfacing on some of the following roads: Hanson Road 1 mile, Wing Road and Lane Road, and the Shuman Road. There will be ditching, culvert

replacement, and shoulder work included in the reconstruction and resurfacing projects. In addition to the town projects, the MDOT will engage in Light Capital Pavement projects on the following roads/highways:

- **2014** Route 3 Beginning at the Windsor Road and extending easterly 6.69 miles to 1.33 miles east of the China-Palermo town line.
- **2014** Route 32 Beginning at Route 3 and extending easterly 10.32 miles
- **2015** Route 202 Beginning .05 miles north of Chamberlain Way and extending northerly 8.67 miles

Over time highway maintenance component costs have risen quite rapidly. Costs associated with work done on roads are directly related to the cost of petroleum products. Paving, roadside mowing, sanding/salting/plowing of roads, the cost of sand and salt, and the cost of contracted services have trended upward over the past several years. If we do not accordingly allocate the appropriate funds to offset these cost increases, the safety of the traveling public will be compromised over time. The town receives sufficient revenues from associated highway related sources to be able to accommodate the increases. These sources are the excise taxes residents pay

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on motor vehicles and the State aid for capital road improvement payments received annually.

I sincerely hope all residents feel free to provide the town office with feedback; your input is appreciated. Public health, safety, and welfare continue to be of utmost concern in all projects undertaken.

In closing, it seems to me to be very important to maintain the infrastructure of a town and to proceed with appropriate design and quality work. More important to China specifically, over two thirds of working residents travel out of town to work all hours of the day and night.

Moreover, we have over ten buses traveling on our roads during school days. Our goal may seem costly in the short term; however, with appropriate and comprehensive design approaches to road construction and efficient and effective proven methods of winter road maintenance, a town can realize the least expensive approach when incorporated into a long term strategy. Safety, and therefore quality of work, demands an appropriate level of funding.

Respectfully submitted,  
Daniel J. L'Heureux  
Road Commissioner

P.S. Digressing, it seemed to me to be important to note

something about winter road maintenance and China's effort to more efficiently and effectively manage the effort to maintain safe roads during the winter months. You will note some information on the following pages relating to 1. The Pros and Cons of Sand on Ice and Snowpack, 2. Rock Salt scatter pattern when pre-wet with calcium chloride compared to a scatter pattern without being pre-wet with calcium chloride and 3. A cost comparison between a sand/salt dry mix application, a dry salt application, and a pre-wetted salt application on roads. You will also note in the comparative analyses in #3 that the sand/salt cost is \$100 per ton and that cost is broken down into various drivers of that cost estimate.



(L-R) Jesus Cisneros of the U.S. Small Business Administration, Julie Pardini of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Debra Couture of the Maine Emergency Management Agency and Dan L'Heureux, Town Manager pose after their meeting on storm damage from December 2013.



*This picture was taken in March after a season of spreading sand on a hill. Sand remains on the road and roadsides. A catch basin at the bottom of the hill empties into a wetland.*

Many highway departments apply sand on snow and ice covered roads to increase friction and improve road safety. Yet, significant friction increases occur in only a few situations. This article will describe those situations and the affects of sand on the environment.

### Environmental Concerns

Agencies tend to spread sand many times throughout the winter months. Sand is expensive. It also can create large debris deposits on roadways. Environmental concerns dictate that sand be swept up each spring. Sweeping sand also picks up other debris and various compounds. Agencies must dispose of the material as a solid waste.

Sweeping picks up only a small percent of the total sand applied during a typical winter. The rest remains in the environment, much of it in catch basins or on or around roadways. Sand retained in catch basins should be periodically removed. This material, too, must be disposed of as solid waste. (A pending New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services fact sheet will address disposal of street sweepings and catch basin materials.)

Much of the sand not retained in catch basins stays in drainage pipes, decreasing their capacity. The rest is carried to outfalls, becoming sediment in ditches and water bodies.

Some of the sand on roadsides ends up in the ground, diminishing soil quality. Much of it becomes sediment, in many instances carried into streams, rivers, ponds, or lakes.

*Road Business, Fall 2001, Vol. 16, No. 3*

### Study Results

Studies show that the effects of sanding are temporary, whether spread dry or prewetted. Abrasives do little to improve driving conditions on roads with high traffic volume. When dry sand is spread, 30% of it immediately scatters. Over time cars usually displace most of the remaining sand. As few as 8 to 12 vehicles can sweep it from snow covered highway surfaces. Even with light traffic, friction gained from dry sand is quickly diminished.

University of Iowa (UI) researchers have drawn conclusions about methods to prewet abrasives with a chemical deicing brine. One method is to prewet abrasives in the stockpile to prevent their freezing. Such prewetting has little effect on the ability of the abrasives to remain on the pavement surface when delivered.

Some agencies prewet abrasives while loading trucks. Researchers found no evidence that such prewetting increases abrasives staying on the road surface.

The final prewetting method is to add about 10 gallons of sodium chloride or calcium chloride brine per ton of abrasives at the truck spinner or tailgate. Studies indicate that prewetting salt and other solid chemicals helps to keep them on the road surface when first delivered. It is less clear that prewetting helps it to stay there. The researchers drew the same conclusions for sand.

In summary, none of the prewetting methods appears to help sand stay on roads.

### Recommended Practices

The UI study examined abrasive use on Iowa county roads. The researcher concluded that sand has varying levels of effectiveness on different classes of roads. He recommended the following changes in practice, which are summarized in Table I.

- **High Speed Urban Roads.** For urban streets with posted speed limits above 30 mph, there is no significant value in placing abrasives. Research recommends plowing and applying chemicals to achieve bare pavement.

- **Low Speed Urban Roads.** For urban streets with posted speed limits less than 30 mph, there is less abrasive dispersion. Abrasives should be limited to parts of the road where motorists must brake, accelerate, or maneuver. Even then, abrasives should be applied only when it will likely take a long time to provide bare pavement.
- **Urban Intersections.** Urban intersections are relatively low-speed traffic locations. Abrasives could be placed if needed. However, they should be used only when an intersection might be snow or ice-covered beyond a normal period.
- **Rural Roads.** Both paved and gravel roads can expect to see high-speed traffic. Abrasives will not stay on the road for any reasonable amount of time. Abrasives should be applied on hills and curves only on low-speed low-volume roads. Paved rural roads should be plowed and chemical applied to achieve bare pavement. The recommended gravel rural roads approach should be simply to groom the snow pack.
- **Rural Intersections.** Again, gravel versus paved roads must be considered. An intersection should be considered "paved" only if all intersecting roads are paved. Road segments where motorists must stop or yield are low-speed traffic locations. Abrasives could be placed if needed. The preferred approach for paved roads is to plow and apply chemicals to achieve bare pavement. On gravel parts of intersections, abrasives may be applied over that part of the road where speeds less than 30 mph are expected.

Sand remaining on gravel roads after spring thaw is a poor wearing course material. Some New Hampshire road managers report significant friction increases from spreading crushed aggregate on gravel hills and curves. Several have successfully used 5/8-inch minus aggregate. In addition to safer roads in the winter, these are better wearing course materials after the spring thaw. Following the UI recommendations above, managers should consider such material at gravel road intersections.

Sand-salt mixtures help keep the sand from freezing. A 10:1 mixture, 10 parts sand to one part salt, is usually more than sufficient to prevent freezing.

Mixtures with sufficient salt will melt ice and snowpack. Sand melts no snow or ice. The amount of melting depends on the amount of salt applied per unit area. For example, studies have shown that agencies should apply at least 300 pounds per road mile to melt ice or hard snow pack at temperatures just below freezing. For a 1:1 or 50%-50% mix, the agency must spread 300 pounds of salt per mile of sand to apply the necessary salt. Sand to salt mixes of 2:1 require 600 pounds per mile of sand to spread enough salt. Higher ratios require even more sand.

As established above, sand is useful only in certain situations, and often adversely affects the environment. It is expensive to spread, pick up, and dispose of. With only a few exceptions, the best winter operations practice to provide safe roads is to plow and apply chemicals to achieve bare pavement. For gravel road hills, curves, and intersections, spreading crushed aggregate appears to be a good alternative to sand.

*Beth Terney, UNH T2 Center Project Assistant, contributed to this article.*

Sources:

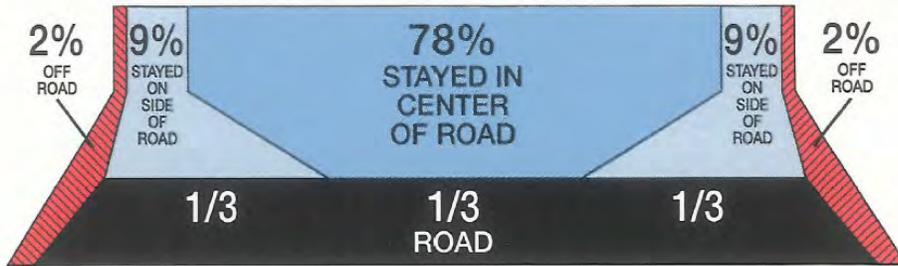
- "Dry Sand on Winter Roads Provides Little Benefit." *Technology News*, Jan-Feb 2001, 4-5.
- "Saving Money and the Environment." Federal Highway Administration, June 2001. <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/wwinter/roads/vr/CS092.htm>.
- Nixon, Wilfrid A. "The Use of Abrasives in Winter Maintenance: Final Report of Project TR 424." March 2001. <http://www.sicop.net/Abrasives%20report.pdf>, June 2001.

**Table 1**  
**Recommended Abrasives Applications**

Road Type	Use of Dry Abrasives
High Speed Urban Roads	Inappropriate
Low Speed Urban Roads	Only in certain locations, and when snow pack will persist
Urban Intersections	Only when snow pack will persist
Rural Roads, Paved	Inappropriate
Rural Roads, Gravel	Only on low speed sections (perhaps hills and curves)
Rural Intersections	Only on low speed approach length of gravel roads

**CALCIUM CHLORIDE HELPS ROCK SALT STAY WHERE IT'S NEEDED**

**Typical Scatter: Rock Salt Pre-wetted With Calcium Chloride (32%)**



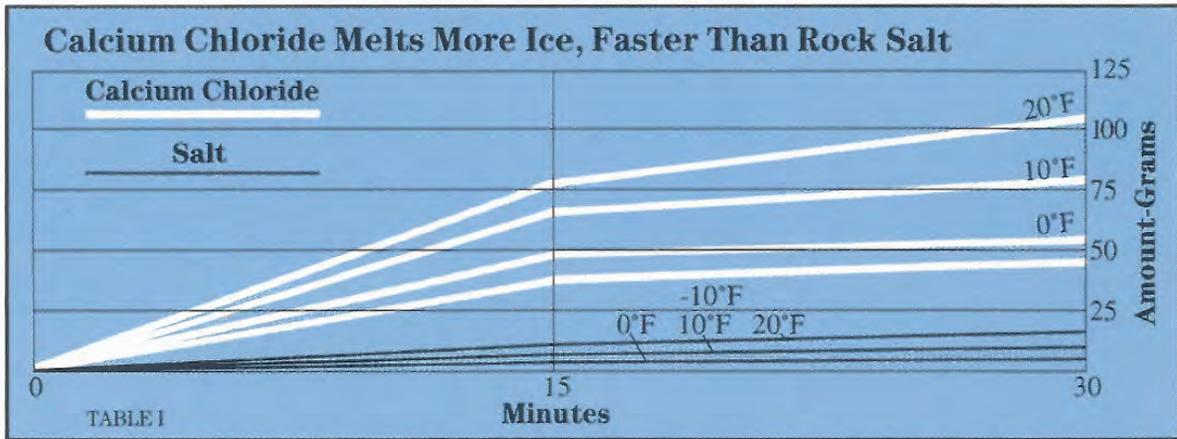
When spread down the center of the road, 96% of the rock salt pre-wetted with calcium chloride stayed on the road and 78% stayed in the center of the road.<sup>2</sup>

**Typical Scatter: Rock Salt**



When spread down the center of the road, only 70% of the rock salt stayed on the road, with a smaller percentage, 46% staying in the center.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup>Based on the results of the Michigan Department of Transportation test.



Calcium chloride melts up to eight times as much ice as does rock salt alone.<sup>1</sup> (Within the first 30 minutes at 20°F (-7°C) following application) The lines at the top of this graph show the amount of ice melted by calcium chloride at 20°F (-7°C), 10°F (-12°C), 0°F (-18°C) and -10°F (-23°C) after 15 and 30 minutes. The lines at the bottom show the small amount of ice melted by rock salt alone at the same temperatures during the same time period. As the graph shows, calcium chloride clearly outperforms rock salt at any temperature.

<sup>1</sup>Based on the results from the University of Minnesota test.

**COST DIFFERENCE: SAND/SALT DRY SALT PRE-WETTED SALT**

Two lane, paved road four miles in length:

**SAND/SALT Mix**

1<sup>st</sup> time out 1500# times 4 = 6000#

2<sup>nd</sup> time out 1000# times 4 = 4000#

3<sup>rd</sup> time out 500# times 4 = 2000#

4<sup>th</sup> time out 2000# times 4 = 8000#

Total Sand/Salt mix spread 20,000# or 10 ton [6.67 cu.yds.]

Sand/Salt total cost: **\$100.00 per ton**, \*10 = \$1000.00 or **\$250.00 per mile**

Where does the \$100.00 sand cost come from? I'm glad you asked.

- Purchase
- Hauling
- Mixing with salt, (this will vary from stock-pile to Hot Loads)
- Stock – piling
- Sweeping
- Ditching
- Catch basin cleaning
- Environmental impact on water and air
- Disposal

Cost per mile difference:	Sand/salt mix	\$1000.00 / 4 = \$250.00
	Dry salt	\$120.00 / 4 = \$30.00
	Pre-wetted salt	\$107.50 / 4 = \$26.88

**DRY SALT ONLY**

1<sup>ST</sup> time out 500# times 4 = 2000#

2<sup>nd</sup> time out 300# times 4 = 1200#

3<sup>rd</sup> time out 300# times 4 = 1200#

4<sup>th</sup> time out 400# times 4 = 1600#

Total salt spread 6000# or 3 tons [3 cu.yds.]

Salt cost: **\$40.00 per ton**, \*3 = \$120.00 or **\$30.00 per mile**

**Pre-wetting Salt with 32% Liquid Calcium Chloride****Pre-wetting will allow for 25% less salt use**

1<sup>st</sup> time out 325# times 4 = 1300#

2<sup>nd</sup> time out 225# times 4 = 900#

3<sup>rd</sup> time out 225# times 4 = 900#

4<sup>th</sup> time out 300# times 4 = 1200#

Total pre-wetted salt spread 4300# or 2.15 tons [2.15 cu.yds.]

Salt cost: **\$40.00 per ton** \*2.15 tons = \$86.00

32% liquid Calcium Chloride cost: **\$1.00 per gallon** \*21.5 gallons = 21.50

Total pre-wetted salt and calcium cost: 86.00 + 21.50 = **\$107.50** or **\$26.88 per mile.**

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China's Town Clerk and Deputy Clerks are primarily responsible for the care and preservation of municipal records. The clerks record China's births, deaths and marriages as well as records of appointments and oaths. Other duties include issuing hunting and fishing licenses; registering ATVs, boats, snowmobiles, motor vehicles and dogs; assisting with genealogy requests; conducting elections and related functions and many, many other duties as they arise.

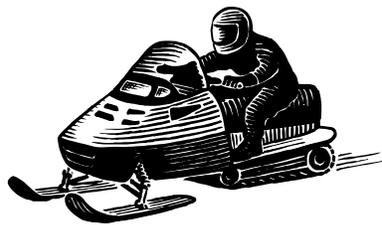
The following pages contain the records of deaths and marriages from July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013. A new law took effect in September 2010 that now affects information published in the town report and how people can obtain copies of birth, death and marriage records. Names of babies may no longer be listed in the town report. Also, in order to obtain a copy of a record, you must now show identification and proof of a direct legitimate right to the record. A certified copy of a record is \$15 and any additional copies of that same

record purchased at that time are \$6 each.

The Town Clerk recorded 45 births for the time period July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rebecca Hapgood  
Town Clerk

If you are interested in genealogy, please contact Deputy Clerk, Kelly Grotton. She is an expert in researching China's records. There is a fee for research. Please contact her at (207) 445-2014 or by email at [kelly@chinamaine.org](mailto:kelly@chinamaine.org).



Neil Dodge	July 2, 2012
James Dodge	July 13, 2012
James Tobey	July 28, 2012
William Moore	August 3, 2012
John Szala	August 12, 2012
Lawrence Wing	August 26, 2012
Robert Babb	September 21, 2012
Vernon Spoden	September 27, 2012
Milton Farrington	October 7, 2012
George Haiss	October 10, 2012
Helen Laverdiere	October 10, 2012
Mabel Breton	November 18, 2012
Clarence Thurston	November 19, 2012
Zita Caballero	November 20, 2012
Ferne Boivin	November 26, 2012
Justin Smith	December 4, 2012
Joseph Berkall	December 5, 2012
Lionel Mathieu	December 14, 2012
Charles Low	January 3, 2013
Faith Ames	January 15, 2013
Harvey Orr	January 23, 2013
Pamela Sears	January 23, 2013
Helen Prosser	January 28, 2013
Dianne Lane	February 18, 2013
Warren Eldridge	February 28, 2013
Tamara Jetton	March 22, 2013
Juilette Jackson	April 16, 2013
Richard Starkey	April 21, 2013
Ruth Sharrow	April 26, 2013
Kenneth Henderson	May 15, 2013
Carol Nixon	June 9, 2013
Dean James	June 17, 2013
Langdon Richards	June 17, 2013
Susan Willette	June 24, 2013



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Michael J. Sayers	Nicole A. McCluskey	July 7, 2012
Hans R. Metten	Nicole M. Elsasser	July 15, 2012
Jeremy D. Lee	Marie A. McIntyre	August 4, 2012
Herman Ouellette	Diana L. Mayo	August 9, 2012
Thomas M. Sturtevant	Joyce A. Galea	August 9, 2012
Gregory P. Schmidt	Datherine E. O'Hara	August 11, 2012
Christopher M. Booher	Sheila D. Blais	August 11, 2012
Todd R. Rancourt	Shelby-Lee A. Slaughter	August 18, 2012
Shawn W. Barnes	Trisha A. Chase	August 18, 2012
Peter J. Gervais	Jennifer P. McLaughlin	August 18, 2012
Travis S. Hill	Lindsay M. Smith	August 25, 2012
Lucas H. Adams	Jessica P. Richardson	August 25, 2012
Michael P. Kibbin	Allison L. Prindall	September 8, 2012
Joshua C. Crommett	Amy L. Wooley	September 15, 2012
James C. Exner	Shauna E. Lessard	September 15, 2012
Dwane V. Blomerth	Carolyn S. Bridges	September 22, 2012
Michael L. Brown	Alicia M. Mancuso	September 22, 2012
Michael A. Estes	Tamra J. Davis	September 30, 2012
Stuart A. Cole	Valerie D. Fisher	October 27, 2012
Steven L. Wilson	Alicia R. Gidney	November 10, 2012
Jon C. Read	Mary N. Vogel	April 27, 2013
Bradley M. Cook	Kristie A. Babb	May 18, 2013
Vincent M. Varinelli	Melinda J. Welsch	May 25, 2013
Roseanne M. Hoad	Sara J. Stevens	May 25, 2013
Guy C. Wilson	Carol A. Welch	May 31, 2013
Mathew L. Bowers	Kayla R. Bronson	June 2, 2013
Joseph P. Page	Adriana M. Love	June 8, 2013
Mark K. Perry	Crystal L. Byers	June 8, 2013
Derek N. Granquist	Danielle L. Brown	June 22, 2013
David T. Belanger	Amber L. Allen	June 29, 2013
Gregory W. Rice	Danielle N. Armstrong	June 29, 2013
Peter L. Rocque	Amy L. Lagassie	June 30, 2013



For most of the following programs, the application must be submitted to the Assessors' Agent by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Applications and additional information are available at the town office or at [www.china.govoffice.com](http://www.china.govoffice.com) in *Assessing* under the *Town Departments* section of the web site.

**2014 Homestead Exemption** – If you did not file for the Homestead Exemption in 2013 or prior years, you must apply prior to April 1, 2014 to be eligible in 2014. If you have been receiving the homestead application in the past, you **do not** need to reapply unless your home ownership status has changed. **\*\*Note** - The Governor has proposed a change to this exemption. More information can be found at [www.maine.gov](http://www.maine.gov).

**Veteran Exemption for Real Estate Taxes** – If you are aged 62 or older, or an un-remarried spouse of a deceased veteran who would have been 62 by April 1, 2014; you or your deceased spouse served during a federally recognized war period; or if you are a veteran who receives federal funds for total disability, and you have a

primary residence in China, you may be eligible for the veteran's exemption

**Landowner Tax Relief Programs** – There are three programs for which you might be eligible. The programs are: The Maine Tree Growth Tax Law, Farm Classification Law, and The Open Space Tax Law. As the laws for these programs are quite detailed, please contact the assessors' agent at 445-2014 for more information.

**Ownership and Address Updates Requested** – To avoid errors in tax billing, please notify the Town Office when selling or transferring any property. Also, please notify the staff of any change in your mailing address.

**Programs Directly Administered Through the State:**

**State of Maine Business Personal Property Tax Reimbursement** – If you purchased or transferred taxable business property to a Maine location after April 1, 1995, you may be eligible for the Maine Property Tax Reimbursement Program (BETR). **\*\*Note** - The

Governor has proposed a change to this exemption. More information can be found at [www.maine.gov](http://www.maine.gov).

**Maine Residents Property Tax and Rent Refund Program** – The Maine Residents Property Tax and Rent Refund "Circuitbreaker" Program has been repealed as part of the enacted state budget for claims beginning on or after August 1, 2013. The Circuitbreaker Program has been replaced by a refundable Property Tax Fairness Credit that can be claimed on the Maine Individual Income Tax Form.

The new credit will be available beginning in **January, 2014** on the 2013 Maine Individual Income Tax Form 1040ME. A worksheet will be included with Form 1040ME to calculate the amount of the credit.

China's Assessing Agent is **William Van Tuinen**.

All correspondence should be directed to [kelly@chinamaine.org](mailto:kelly@chinamaine.org) or by phone at (207) 445-2014.

UNPAID REAL ESTATE TAXES

Act	Name	Year	Principal Due	Year	Principal Due
367	Adams, Barbara, Heirs of	2012	\$ 334.56	2011	\$ 82.21**
2977	Althenn, Daniel H	2012	\$ 702.33	2011	\$ 683.06
189	Althenn, Russell C & Patricia	2012	\$ 264.45*		
188	Althenn, Russell C & Patricia A	2012	\$ 377.61*		
728	Arp, Hans & Tamara	2012	\$ 600.24		
269	Audet, Donald & Linda	2012	\$ 1,735.53**	2011	\$ 1,663.99*
3340	Austin, James P	2012	\$ 235.60*		
1415	Banden, Timothy K & Susan G	2012	\$ 6,854.79		
636	Barber, Thadius	2012	\$ 5,789.61*	2011	\$ 5,601.33*
696	Barber, Thadius	2012	\$ 3,234.90*	2011	\$ 3,129.70*
2832	Barber, Thadius	2012	\$ 292.74*		
1942	Basford, Susan Lynn	2012	\$ 456.33		
1314	Beaulieu, Roland J	2012	\$ 2,017.20		
549	Bickford, William H & Annette M	2012	\$ 4,143.87*		
2695	Bickford, William H & Annette M	2012	\$ 440.34*		
3422	Bickford, William H & Annette M	2012	\$ 296.43*		
3621	Bickford, William H & Annette M	2012	\$ 1,052.88*		
3192	Boynton, Daniel W Jr & Melanie	2012	\$ 431.73	2011	\$ 417.69
359	Boynton, Peter H & Pauline A	2012	\$ 380.43		

\* paid in full

\*\* partial payment

Act	Name	Year	Principal Due	Year	Principal Due
2553	Bragg, Kellie L	2012	\$ 785.97	2011	\$ 621.83
1715	Bragg, Rebecca L	2012	\$ 1,407.12	2011	\$ 1,361.36
1567	Branch Mills Flour and Grain	2012	\$ 975.39 **	2011	\$ 943.67 *
3276	Breton, Shawn R	2012	\$ 1,012.29 *	2011	\$ 979.37 *
		2010	\$ 995.83 *		
1713	Carey, John	2012	\$ 296.43 *		
1714	Carey, John	2012	\$ 937.26 *		
1037	Cargill, C Robert & Margaret	2012	\$ 1,244.05		
1869	Carll, Pauline M	2012	\$ 19.68 *	2011	\$ 19.04 *
		2010	\$ 38.72 *		
1039	Cates, Stephen C & Emily Z	2012	\$ 230.01		
581	Chabot, Gaetan P	2012	\$ 242.80 *		
1719	Columbia, Laurie L	2012	\$ 1,645.74	2011	\$ 1,592.22
615	Cook, Michael O	2012	\$ 679.42 *		
612	Cook, Steven P & Paula E	2012	\$ 953.25 *	2011	\$ 922.25 *
1546	Coombs, Stephen H & Christine	2012	\$ 12.30 *		
1955	Crockett, Jeffrey M	2012	\$ 539.97	2011	\$ 641.41 *
2717	Cunningham, Matthew J & Angela Mae	2012	\$ 627.30 **	2011	\$ 606.90 *

\* paid in full

\*\* partial payment

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Act	Name	Year	Principal Due	Year	Principal Due
2857	Cunningham, Shawn D & Patty J	2012	\$ 1,310.01 **		
2517	Curtis, Fred & Terry	2012	\$ 985.23	2011	\$ 953.19 *
2884	Cyrus, John P & Deborah L	2012	\$ 187.05 *		
2394	Daigneault, Darrin	2012	\$ 1,416.95		
3384	Davis, Bernard E	2012	\$ 9.11 *		
824	DeMaio, Janice D & Paul A, Jr	2012	\$ 2,034.42	2011	\$ 1,939.63 *
286	Dennison, Betty Jo	2012	\$ 467.40	2011	\$ 50.94 *
1386	Dillenbeck, John S	2012	\$ 2,147.58	2011	\$ 2,077.74 *
1457	Dixon, June	2012	\$ 1,250.91 *		
1580	Downie, Jon M & Franklin A	2012	\$ 1,186.95	2011	\$ 1,148.35 *
572	Dupont, David Jr	2012	\$ 824.10 **	2011	\$ 797.30 *
2324	Epick, Alexander	2012	\$ 7.38	2011	\$ 7.14
454	Estes, Duane C & Tina M	2012	\$ 1,098.39	2011	\$ 1,062.67 *
1903	Estes, Duane S Heirs Of	2012	\$ 1,445.25		
3411	Farrington, Carleton B	2012	\$ 393.60		
708	Farris, Judith	2012	\$ 54.13 *		
659	Ferraiolo Corp	2012	\$ 454.48 *		
706	Ferran, Joshua	2012	\$ 87.33 *		
868	Ferran, Joshua	2012	\$ 164.82 *		

\* paid in full      \*\* partial payment

Act	Name	Year	Principal Due	Year	Principal Due
2431	Fjeldheim, Heidi	2012	\$ 792.12 *		
2429	Fletcher, John L & Alice M	2012	\$ 327.18	2011	\$ 361.76 *
2882	Fletcher, John L Sr & Alice M	2012	\$ 790.89	2011	\$ 765.17 *
3365	Fletcher, Timothy W Sr & Jane A	2012	\$ 2,384.97 *		
2883	French, Ivan A & Vicki S	2012	\$ 817.95		
993	French, Steven E & Karen K	2012	\$ 366.54	2011	\$ 354.62 *
2689	Gallant, Heather	2012	\$ 1,367.76 *		
1084	Glidden, George N	2012	\$ 1,655.58	2011	\$ 1,601.74 *
3580	Glidden, Jesse K	2012	\$ 156.21	2011	\$ 75.56 *
3211	Glidden, Jesse N	2012	\$ 1,057.80	2011	\$ 511.70 *
1332	Glidden, Mahlon S Heirs of	2012	\$ 271.83	2011	\$ 131.49 *
1712	Grant, Scott A	2012	\$ 687.57	2011	\$ 784.21 **
100	Gunning, Georgia A	2012	\$ 1,538.73 **		
2176	Haiss, William C Jr	2012	\$ 1,950.31 *		
1148	Haskell and Sons Trucking, LLC	2012	\$ 143.98		
163	Haskell Gravel Pits LLC	2012	\$ 64.41		
1797	Haskell Gravel Pits LLC	2012	\$ 45.47		
613	Haskell, Dusty L & Pamela M	2012	\$ 906.51		
3035	Haskell, Dusty L & Pamela M	2012	\$ 177.45		

\* paid in full

\*\* partial payment

UNPAID REAL ESTATE TAXES

Act	Name	Year	Principal Due	Year	Principal Due
3448	Haskell, Dusty L & Pamela M	2012	\$ 266.49		
1005	Haskell, Gary L & Katherine	2012	\$ 1,451.40	2011	\$ 1,404.20 *
3500	Hersey, Joyce & Herbert	2012	\$ 477.24		
2249	Hicks, Richard & Kammy	2012	\$ 2,318.55	2011	\$ 1,254.02 *
594	Hisler, Colleen E & Randolph A	2012	\$ 809.34 **		
595	Hisler, Colleen E & Randolph A	2012	\$ 335.79 **		
600	Holway, Harry L & Megan	2012	\$ 2,478.45	2011	\$ 2,397.85
3057	Jackson, George E & Pamela A	2012	\$ 1,610.07 *	2011	\$ 1,438.71 *
1572	Keene, Josie M & John R	2012	\$ 383.76	2011	\$ 371.28 *
3154	Kibbin, Stephen	2012	\$ 1,066.41	2011	\$ 456.36 *
2182	Krummel, Philip S & Gina D	2012	\$ 676.50 *		
3082	Kwecien, Walter R & Priscilla J	2012	\$ 415.74		
1775	L C G M Family Trust	2012	\$ 521.52 *		
2697	Leclerc, Michelle M	2012	\$ 458.79		
1514	Lee, Barry & Melinda	2012	\$ 902.76		
2820	Lee, Robert E Jr	2012	\$ 743.04 *		
2887	Lemar, Peter & Grace	2012	\$ 830.51		
1085	Letourneau, A Lorraine & J	2012	\$ 1,038.73		
1639	Levesque, William & Kathy	2012	\$ 536.28	2011	\$ 600.95 *

\* paid in full

\*\* partial payment

Act	Name	Year	Principal Due	Year	Principal Due
2159	Litchfield, Jonathan	2012	\$ 1,218.93		
3460	Lord, Delmont	2012	\$ 30.75	2011	\$ 29.75 *
2171	MacDonald, Bruce F	2012	\$ 1,672.80	2011	\$ 1,618.40 *
2790	Madore, Frances & Michael D	2012	\$ 2,381.28 *		
1101	Marois, Michael J	2012	\$ 324.72		
3166	Mason, James A	2012	\$ 142.12 *		
2263	Mason, Joseph H & Cheryl	2012	\$ 1,915.11 *		
1358	Mayo, Ronald Timothy	2012	\$ 1,142.67 **		
2523	McKeil, Carl C	2012	\$ 1,964.31		
2521	McKeil, John	2012	\$ 195.57	2011	\$ 189.21
2641	McPhee, Vicki J	2012	\$ 814.26 *	2011	\$ 270.75 *
871	Meador, Sandra Jean	2012	\$ 163.65 *		
285	Merrill, Clayton Sr	2012	\$ 47.97		
40	Moore, Daniel L & Dwayne L	2012	\$ 656.82	2011	\$ 635.46 *
2676	Moynahan, Michael M	2012	\$ 110.70		
2341	Nale, Linda L	2012	\$ 1,548.57		
1394	O'Connor Association	2012	\$ 836.40	2011	\$ 809.20 *
1395	O'Connor Association	2012	\$ 1,623.60	2011	\$ 1,570.80 *
2697	Ogden, Austin G Jr & Lynda H			2011	\$ 203.80 *

\* paid in full

\*\* partial payment

UNPAID REAL ESTATE TAXES

Act	Name	Year	Principal Due	Year	Principal Due
57	Oyler, George M & Diane L	2012	\$ 1,073.79 *		
687	Page, Joseph TIP	2012	\$ 526.44 *		
1002	Page, Keith A & Dorothy	2012	\$ 458.79	2011	\$ 443.87 *
1357	Parsons, Marcus & Diana	2012	\$ 369.00	2011	\$ 357.00 *
3672	Pelkey, Morgan	2012	\$ 413.28		
1764	Pellerin, Mark J & Stephanie L	2012	\$ 687.57 *	2011	\$ 546.21 *
482	Pinkham, David	2012	\$ 2,257.05 *	2011	\$ 1,091.82 *
1966	Plourde, Daniel R	2012	\$ 3,649.11 *		
2712	Plummer, Jeffery	2012	\$ 305.04		
1938	Poulin, Kevin L & Jennifer C	2012	\$ 1,522.12 *		
472	Quimby, Janet	2012	\$ 1,086.09	2011	\$ 1,050.77 *
3190	Redmond, Michael J	2012	\$ 26.99 *		
268	Reed, Diane	2012	\$ 1,202.94	2011	\$ 1,163.82 *
1276	Rice, Donald Kevin	2012	\$ 2,039.34	2011	\$ 1,973.02 *
3517	Riley, Brianna	2012	\$ 239.85		
3104	Risbara, Peter P	2012	\$ 441.57 *		
3159	Roderick, Michael G	2012	\$ 167.92 *		
961	Rodrigue, Nanci L & Jacob S	2012	\$ 1,718.31		
1363	Rountree, Gail	2012	\$ 520.29		

\* paid in full

\*\* partial payment

Act	Name	Year	Principal Due	Year	Principal Due
3462	Rountree, Gail	2012	\$ 107.01		
2397	Roy, Andrew J & Linda J	2012	\$ 1,289.04		
102	Severance, Alice	2012	\$ 532.59		
477	Severance, Alice	2012	\$ 1,885.63		
3094	Shaw, Ann T	2012	\$ 509.22 *	2011	\$ 492.66 *
1009	Shorey, Joanne Heirs of	2012	\$ 348.91 *		
2631	Small, Michael A & Linda C	2012	\$ 344.40	2011	\$ 332.01 *
1727	Snow, Jennifer	2012	\$ 2,077.47 **	2011	\$ 2,069.41 *
3258	Snow, Michael & Annette	2012	\$ 3,718.29 *		
3515	St. Laurent, Leon A			2011	\$ 617.61 *
3515	St. Laurent, Leon A, Heirs of	2012	\$ 761.37		
98	Strout, Gloria, Pers Rep	2012	\$ 1,792.11		
316	Suga, Linda C	2012	\$ 339.48	2011	\$ 164.22 *
1828	Tenney, Rhonda J	2012	\$ 915.73 *		
2692	Theriault, Norma J	2012	\$ 1,164.81	2011	\$ 1,126.93 *
3517	Tillson, Kevin E			2011	\$ 232.05 *
2943	Tracy, Tara	2012	\$ 156.21		
2459	Tucker, Daniel J & Lucy L	2012	\$ 2,254.59 *		
3252	Turner, Ken P	2012	\$ 2,035.65		

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Act	Name	Year	Principal Due	Year	Principal Due
2313	Turner, Susan	2012	\$ 941.56 *		
2726	Vanwickler, Pam & William	2012	\$ 577.82 *		
1858	Venuti, James J	2012	\$ 2,103.30		
1859	Venuti, James J	2012	\$ 108.97		
2663	Vortriede, Valerie	2012	\$ 1,816.71	2011	\$ 1,464.43 *
2718	W W Properties, Inc	2012	\$ 4,386.18	2011	\$ 4,243.54 *
3411	W W Properties, Inc			2011	\$ 380.80 *
592	Willey, Marion	2012	\$ 128.06 *		
3312	York, Chris & Renee	2012	\$ 110.70	2011	\$ 107.10 *

\* paid in full      \*\* partial payment



Chain saw carver Ron Carlson poses with one of his fabulous creations—an eagle.

UNPAID PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES

Act	Name	Year	Principal Due	Year	Principal Due
129	B & P Garage	2012	\$ 309.96 *		
224	Central Machine Inc	2012	\$ 1,225.62 **		
463	Central Maine Trading	2012	\$ 14.76		
286	D & B Logging	2010	\$ 907.50	2009	\$ 862.50
		2008	\$ 765.00 **		
110	Dirigo Machine, Inc.	2012	\$ 124.23	2011	\$ 337.96
		2010	\$ 343.64	2009	\$ 326.60
		2008	\$ 284.58	2007	\$ 517.70
		2006	\$ 567.60	2005	\$ 707.36 **
181	Fieldstone Quick Stop	2012	\$ 460.02	2011	\$ 445.06 **
448	Fred and Larry's Disposal Service	2012	\$ 30.75	2011	\$ 29.75
409	Glidden, Jesse	2012	\$ 214.02		
469	Green Bean Coffee Shop	2012	\$ 30.75		
440	Hayes Recycling	2012	\$ 30.75		
438	Imaginations Day Care	2012	\$ 30.75 *		
326	J&J Builders	2012	\$ 61.50		
409	Jessie Glidden Auto Repair	2011	\$ 103.53		
248	Legacy Home Improvement	2012	\$ 45.51 *		
466	Maxcim Enterprises LLC	2012	\$ 30.75		
63	Ouellette Sand & Gravel Inc	2012	\$ 2,381.28	2011	\$ 196.35

\* paid in full

\*\* partial payment

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Act	Name	Year	Principal Due	Year	Principal Due
231	P & M Driving School	2012	\$ 73.80		
425	Primiano Tile Company	2012	\$ 30.75 *		
403	Richard's Redemption and Variety	2012	\$ 20.91	2011	\$ 20.23
348	ROCNET Data Designs	2012	\$ 35.67	2011	\$ 17.25 **
234	South China Auto Detailing	2012	\$ 34.44	2011	\$ 33.32
		2010	\$ 20.03 **		
337	Tender Care Pet Grooming	2012	\$ 12.30	2011	\$ 11.90
42	The Market & Deli	2011	\$ 529.55		
452	T-Mobile Northeast, LLC	2012	\$ 179.58	2011	\$ 173.74
338	Tom Jones Soil Testing & Septic	2012	\$ 12.30		
422	Top of the Line Drywall	2012	\$ 12.30	2011	\$ 11.90
382	Tropical Sensations 2 Tanning Salon	2012	\$ 157.44		
303	Wildwood Guns	2012	\$ 6.15 *		
268	Windy Ridge Farm	2012	\$ 635.91		

\* paid in full

\*\* partial payment

**Real Estate**

<b>Taxpayer</b>	<b>Amount of Abatement</b>
TD Bank, N.A.	\$1,001.98
Clifford A. Randall	\$49.98
David A. Giampetruzzi	\$71.40
The David O. Holyoke Revocable Trust	\$544.89
James and Stephanie Clark	\$254.61
Claudette Wentworth	\$73.80
William and Kathy Levesque	\$84.87
Kevin Tillson	\$239.85

**Personal Property**

<b>Taxpayer</b>	<b>Amount of Abatement</b>
China Village Tanning	\$83.64
Conway Cost Controls	\$30.75
Wilson's Construction & Landscaping	\$62.09
Wilson's Construction & Landscaping	\$59.50



Sheldon Bumps and his grandson, Chase, are participating in the Youth Fishing Derby during China Community Days 2013.

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The China Budget Committee was created by action taken on a warrant article during the 1947 Town Meeting. At that time, the residents voted to formalize a seven-member committee that would be elected annually at future town meetings. In June 2006, the ordinance was amended to require elections during the November written ballot. A listing of the districts and current membership is provided later in this report.

The Budget Committee originally reviewed the recommendations of both the Select Board and the China School Committee. However, the 2007 School Administrative Reorganization Law changed the process for approving what is now the RSU #18 budget so the committee only reviews the municipal revenues and expenditures. This has greatly reduced the committee's workload.

All meetings are open to the public and anyone with suggestions is welcome to attend or make their feelings known to individual members. While the members of the committee are generally not financial experts, they come from a wide range of professions to volunteer their experience for the benefit of the entire town. During their deliberations, the group examines past year expenditures, anticipates trends for both the coming year and the long term future,

looks at projected revenues and then relies on a healthy dose of common sense to make recommendations on the next year's spending requests.

The Budget Committee met four times in 2013 and once again this year to review the 2014-2015 Municipal Budget. The members agreed that economic times were still difficult for many citizens, and were pleased to see that there were no new initiatives and only a few articles with small increases. The Committee therefore supported the Select Board's position on all but two warrant articles for the March 22nd Business Meeting. On Article 11, the members voted to adjust the funding mechanism for China Rescue by lowering the amount recommended to be taken from taxation by \$3,000 thereby lowering their total budget to \$16,000. This action was taken because for the past several years China Rescue has only expended about 80% of their approved budgets. During this same timeframe, they have amassed nearly \$21,000 in their Rescue Reserve account. Since the Select Board has already indicated they would authorize additional expenditures from reserves if needed for state mandated equipment or training, the Committee felt comfortable recommending this small change to lower total municipal costs.

The Committee went in the

opposite direction by recommending an increase of \$1,250 in funding for Article 23 for Social Service and Non-Profit Agencies. The members voted to add \$250 for Family Violence bringing their total to \$2,000 which is still less than half of what they requested. The Committee also voted to restore the \$1,000 that has been appropriated since 2005 for the Healthy Hearts Program at the China Conference Center Gym. This program allows citizens to obtain year round exercise walking three mornings a week. The Committee noted that in spite of these two increases, the total amount of \$12,863 is still less than the \$13,658 appropriated for this warrant article this past year.

The revised Budget Committee Ordinance established four districts from which four members must be selected while the Chairperson, Secretary and one additional member must be elected from the town at-large. Each member serves a two-year term and current membership is as follows:

Chairperson: From the town at-large: **Robert Batteese**  
Term expires 2015

Secretary : From the town at-large: **Timothy Theriault**  
Term expires 2014

Member at-large: **Jonathan Vogel** Term expires 2014

District 1: **Gregory Pizzo**  
Term Expires 2015

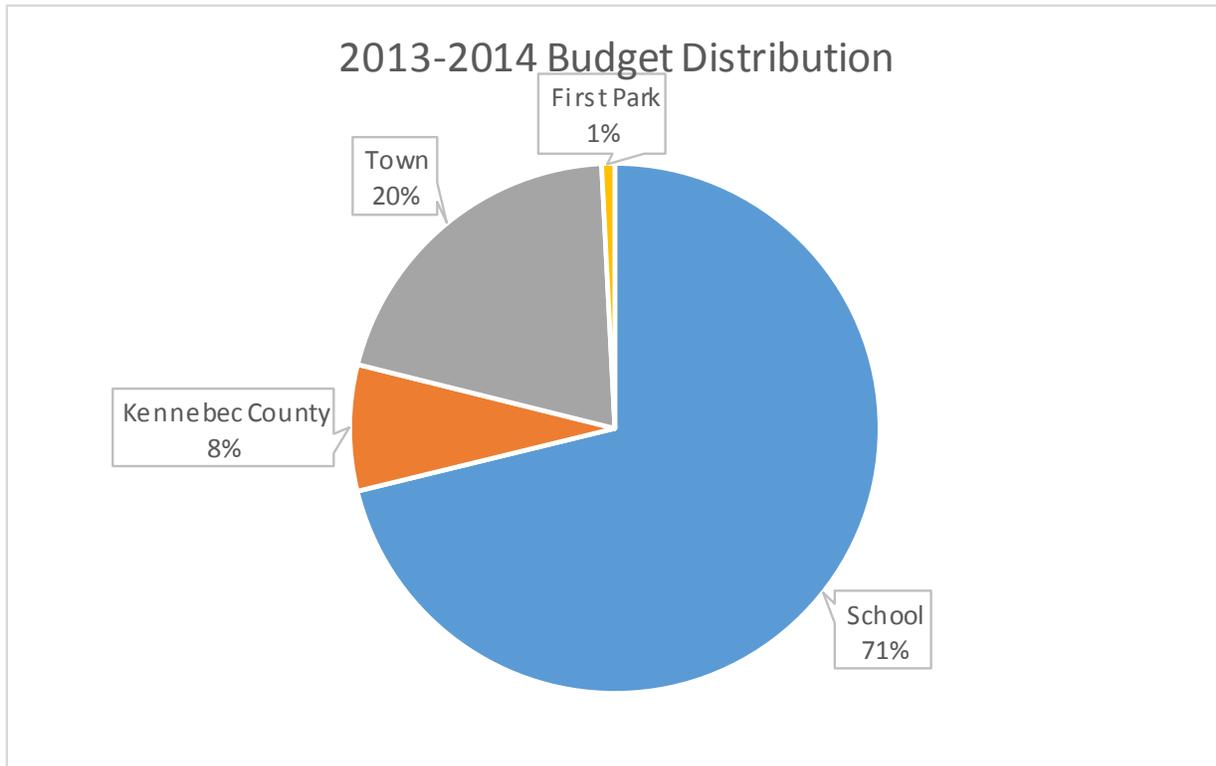
District 2: **Charles Plumer**  
Term Expires 2014

District 3: **Sheryl Peavey**  
Term Expires 2015

District 4: **Frederick  
Glidden** Term Expires 2014

In closing, I want to express my appreciation to all the members for their dedicated service to our community.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robert I. Batteese, Jr.  
Chairperson



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The information below shows expenditures paid to elected officials and employees. The auditor's report follows and shows how much money, if any, was left in each article with associated monetary adjustments. Amounts carried over to designated and undesignated fund balances are also shown. A complete copy of the audit is kept in the town office for public inspection.



Adams, Mary Kay	\$ 29,845.00	Jorgensen, Alison	\$ 322.50
Arp, Hans B	\$ 72.00	Kaufmann, William P	\$ 110.00
Austin, Joann C	\$ 700.00	Lennon-Danforth, Diane	\$ 637.38
Batteese, Rosalie A	\$ 571.54	L'Heureux, Daniel J	\$ 76,782.73
Belanger, Irene L	\$ 700.00	Love, Sue E	\$ 27.05
Bickford, William H	\$ 279.00	Loveland, Donna	\$ 159.55
Breton, Ronald R	\$ 475.00	MacDonald, Paul	\$ 700.00
Britten, Traci Lee	\$ 232.18	Meader, Scott D	\$ 8,283.36
Brown, Simeon B	\$ 885.00	Moore, George A Sr	\$ 5,390.31
Chamberlain, Jennifer L	\$ 20,753.50	Pelkey, Aileen M	\$ 227.93
Cummings, Gary L	\$ 40,041.74	Pierce, Kyle P	\$ 350.00
Cunningham, Tracy A	\$ 1,637.56	Pierz, Scott A	\$ 53,888.90
Daskoski, Deborah J	\$ 13,131.28	Putnam, Roger A III	\$ 103.83
Dudley, Milton F	\$ 400.00	Reed, Shawn A	\$ 38,413.96
Finley, Julie A	\$ 29,866.85	Rhoades, Kevin A	\$ 23,831.87
Fitzgerald, Shirley J	\$ 68.38	Soares, Francis C III	\$ 300.00
Foote, Peter	\$ 700.00	Spoden, Dawn F	\$ 105.55
Gonzalez, Erasmo	\$ 7,756.06	Thompson, Richard B Jr	\$ 200.00
Grotton, Kelly M	\$ 30,865.71	Tilton, Gail F	\$ 68.38
Hapgood, Rebecca J	\$ 44,546.64	Wall, Toni G	\$ 300.00
Hayden, Frederic A	\$ 1,471.00	Wentworth, Martha J	\$ 162.08
Higgins, Elwin	\$ 35,283.80	Wight, Theresa L	\$ 136.76
Hughes, Steven R	\$ 700.00	Wilkins, James	\$ 225.00
Jandreau, Christian M	\$ 135.00		



## Independent Auditors' Report

**To the Board of Selectmen**

**Town of China**

**China, Maine**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of China, Maine, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2013, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

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

### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

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

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

**Opinions**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of China, Maine, as of June 30, 2013, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

**Other Matters**

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

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of China, Maine's financial statements as a whole. The Combining and Individual Fund Statements and Other Schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements. The Combining and Individual Fund Financial Statements and Other Schedules are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

*Purdy Powers and Company*

Professional Association

As management of the Town of China, Maine, we offer readers of the Town's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Town for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013. The Town's financial performance is discussed and analyzed within the context of the accompanying financial statements and disclosures following this section.

**Financial Highlights**

- The Town's assets exceeded liabilities by approximately \$5.3 million as of June 30, 2013, compared to approximately \$4.6 million as of June 30, 2012.
- The Town's governmental funds General Fund Balance was \$1.7 million as of June 30, 2013, compared to \$1.2 million as of June 30, 2012.

**Overview of the Financial Statements**

The Management's Discussion and Analysis introduces the Town's basic financial statements. The basic financial statements include three components: (1) government-wide financial statements, (2) fund financial statements, and (3) notes to the financial statements. The Town also includes in this report supplemental information to the basic financial statements.

It should be noted here that management is only commenting on the financial condition of the municipal budget. Included in some of the financial information in these statements are numbers that reflect a former association between the town and school budgets. At this time the schools in China are part of a Regional School Unit #18.

**Government-wide Financial Statements**

The government-wide financial statements include a Statement of Net Position and a Statement of Activities. These statements provide information about the activities of the Town as a whole and present both a long-term and short-term view of the Town's finances. Financial reporting at this level is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies.

The Statement of Net Position includes all assets and liabilities, with the difference reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in the Town's net position is one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. Evaluation of the overall economic health requires other non-financial factors, such as changes in the Town's property tax base and the condition of the Town's roads, as well as many others.

The Statement of Activities reports the current year change in net position. This statement includes all of the current year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

Governmental activities: Most of the Town's basic services are reported here, including public works, general administration, public safety and solid waste operations. Taxes, fees, fines, and state and federal grants finance most of these activities.

**Fund Financial Statements**

A fund is an accountability unit used to maintain control over resources segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Town uses funds to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance related laws and regulations. Within the basic financial statements, fund financial statements focus on the Town's most significant funds rather than the Town as a whole. Major funds are separately reported while all others are combined into a single, aggregated presentation. Individual fund data for nonmajor funds is provided in the form of combining statements in a later section of this report.

**The Town has the following fund types:**

- Governmental funds are reported in the fund financial statements and encompass essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, the focus is different with fund statements reporting short-term fiscal accountability focusing on the use of spendable resources during the year and balances of spendable resources available at the end of the year. Since the government-wide focus includes the long-term view, comparisons between these two perspectives may provide insight into the long-term impact of short-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to the government-wide statements to assist in understanding the differences between these two perspectives.

**Notes to the Financial Statements**

The accompanying notes to the financial statements provide information essential to a full understanding of the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements begin immediately following the basic financial statements.

Financial Analysis of the Town as a Whole - Government-wide Financial Statements

The following schedule is a summary of the statement of net position for the years ended June 30, 2013 and 2012:

**Governmental Activities**

	<b><u>2013</u></b>	<b><u>2012</u></b>	<b><u>Change</u></b>
Current and other assets	\$ 3,411,045	\$ 3,116,181	\$ 294,864
Capital assets	<u>2,736,801</u>	<u>2,564,169</u>	<u>172,632</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>6,147,846</b>	<b>5,680,350</b>	<b>467,496</b>
Long-term liabilities	503,445	576,423	(72,978)
Other liabilities	<u>393,330</u>	<u>481,600</u>	<u>(88,270)</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>896,775</b>	<b>1,058,023</b>	<b>(161,248)</b>
Invested in capital assets,			
net of related debt	2,213,417	1,940,363	273,054
Restricted	897,292	833,144	64,148
Unrestricted	<u>2,140,362</u>	<u>1,848,820</u>	<u>291,542</u>
<b>Net Position</b>	<b><u>\$ 5,251,071</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 4,622,327</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 628,744</u></b>

There continues to be an increase in the net asset position of the town as has been the case in the last several years. This is indicative of a town in relatively good financial health and one with a consistent long term perspective. The focus on the long term has served the town well as the Select Board and administration have been conservative and responsible in fiscal stewardship. China is a growing municipality; growth has to be managed and understood from a perspective that there will be service demands from residents as this growth continues. The ability to provide the added services demanded, if planned for, will be dependent on the town's relative financial position going forward.

The Select Board manages the town's finances through the Town Manager. The Board manages by involving strategic and operational components. Periodic review of the progress on each component continues throughout the year and has been a tradition for many years. Strategically, the finances are managed to accommodate the changes in the economy and the resulting changes in expenses and revenues. Operationally, the Select Board attempts to put in place some clear financial goals, policies, and tools to implement the strategic plan.

The Select Board is aware that any statement about the net financial position of the town necessarily should have a complimentary statement about other factors indicative of a healthy community financially. The town's property tax base is a stable one, the town's roads, culverts, and ditches are in good condition, and stationary and rolling equipment are also in good condition. The town's buildings are periodically inspected and are all in good condition.

The following schedule is a summary of the statement of activities for the years ended June 30, 2013 and 2012:

	<u><b>Governmental Activities</b></u>		
	<u><b>2013</b></u>	<u><b>2012</b></u>	<u><b>Change</b></u>
Revenues:			
Program revenues:			
Charges for services	\$ 134,065	\$ 146,608	\$ (12,543)
Operating grants and contributions	79,059	81,581	(2,522)
General revenues			
Taxes	5,725,503	5,484,259	241,244
Intergovernmental	350,890	500,421	(149,531)
Investment	76,683	5,493	71,190
All others	<u>48,293</u>	<u>148,220</u>	<u>(99,927)</u>
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>6,414,493</b>	<b>6,366,582</b>	<b>47,911</b>
Expenses:			
Administration	764,396	755,815	8,581
Protection	162,327	239,952	(77,625)
Public works	546,476	610,456	(63,980)
Solid waste operations	271,815	335,329	(63,514)
Community services	105,653	89,693	15,960
Education	3,433,346	3,407,415	25,931
Recreation	20,630	24,225	(3,595)
County tax	369,587	365,820	3,767
Interest on long-term debt	1,747	2,807	(1,060)
Capital outlay	<u>109,772</u>	<u>8,440</u>	<u>101,332</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>5,785,749</u></b>	<b><u>5,839,952</u></b>	<b><u>(54,203)</u></b>
<b>Change in Net Position</b>	<b><u>\$ 628,744</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 526,630</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 102,114</u></b>

The town's basic functions are grouped and reported in the above multi-year reporting numbers. You will note in the revenue numbers that there might be some sensitivity about the shift in the sources of revenues away from intergovernmental to other sources. Specifically, the stability of the source of funds from State revenue sharing is questionable. The town will need to have a conversation about the sources of revenues and the reliability of each source over the longer term.

In the expense numbers you will note overall, the actual expenses were under budget for the year ending June 30, 2013. The town continues to look for additional efficiencies in all departmental budgets. The change in the net fiscal position is a positive one contributing to a healthier fund balance.

Digressing, it is understood that growing municipalities like China need to be focused strategically to anticipate fluctuations in the economy and also to understand that the demands of residents in this growth oriented town will need additional staff and capital considerations over time to accommodate that growth. A Brookings Institution report, Charting Maine's Future, notes that in municipalities with populations between 2,500 and 6,500, the residents begin to demand more services from their respective towns. Additional police, fire, and recreational offerings are a few of the examples. To oblige those demands, a municipality necessarily has to anticipate the needs and build additional capacity into its staff and infrastructure. The alternative is to not be prepared with all the accompanying issues.

**Financial Analysis of the Town's Funds - Fund Financial Statements**

**Governmental funds.** The focus of the Town of China, Maine's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the Town's financing requirements. In particular, unreserved fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

As of the end of the current fiscal year, the Town of China, Maine governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances at June 30, 2013 of \$3.1 million. Approximately 31% of this total constitutes unreserved and undesignated fund balance, which is available for spending at the government's discretion.

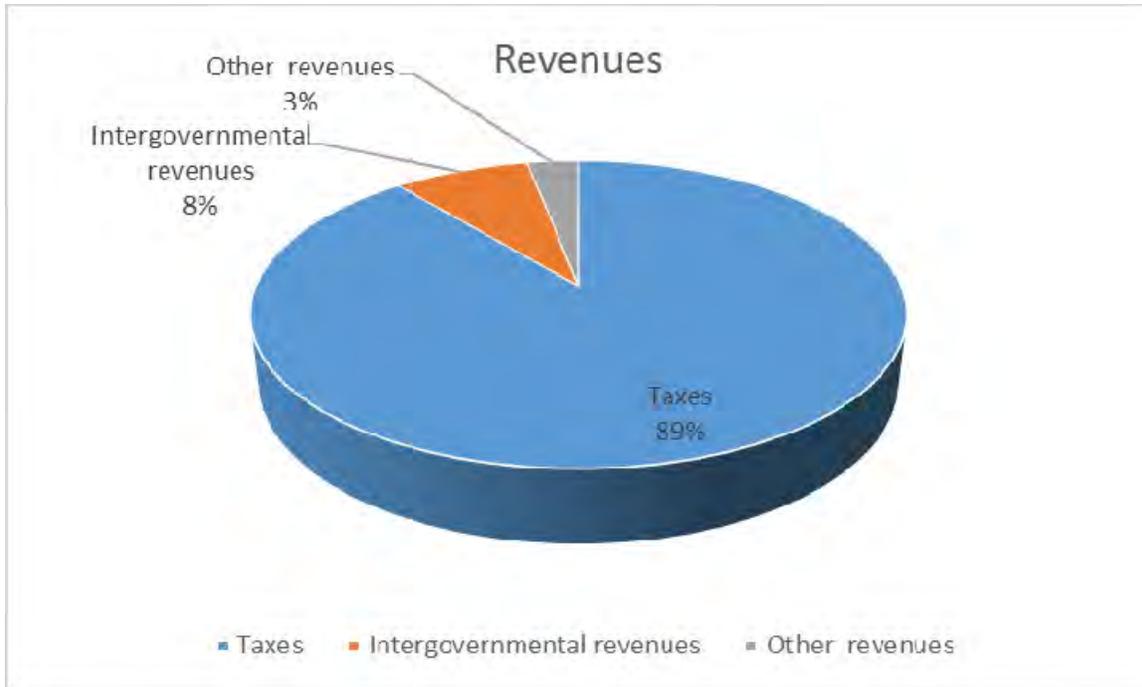
The town has been diligent in trying to hold to a standard of having a balance in the undesignated fund equal to two month's gross expenditures. With due diligence the Select Board has managed to increase the undesignated fund balance to a more desirable level and very close to the standard. Going forward, it appears that by the end of the 2013-14 fiscal year, the standard will have been met.

China has a relatively low debt obligation. In the near future it seems that that the town will continue operations without additional debt obligations. The healthy undesignated/unrestricted fund balance will also relieve pressures to incur additional debt obligations.

The general fund is the central operating fund of the Town of China, Maine. At the end of the current fiscal year the unassigned fund balance of the general fund was \$915,966. As a measure of the general fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare both unreserved fund balance and total fund balance to total fund expenditures.

This comparison of unreserved and total fund balances focuses on one of China's most significant funds and reflects on a trend in general fund equity and therefore liquidity. The comparison is also significant when considering reserve fund balances in that several of the capital needs in the future are anticipated by a healthy reserve or unrestricted fund balance, allowing for accommodation of planned and unexpected circumstances by use of these funds if needed. Moreover, China has very little long term indebtedness reflecting strong general fund equity. Stewardship of taxpayer funds is very important to the town officials and officers.

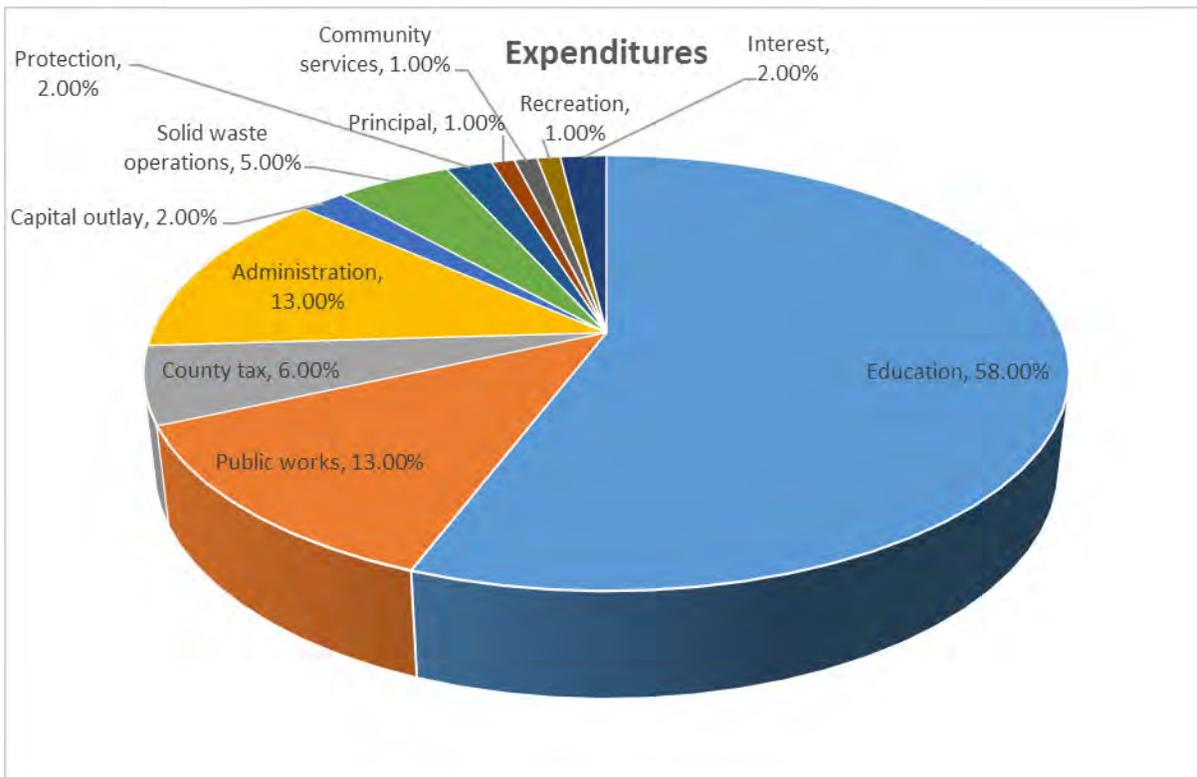
The Town's general fund operating fund revenues were as follows:



The revenue distribution reflected in the chart above reflects a high dependency on property tax revenues. It is important to note that the town's property tax base is relatively stable. Revenue growth limitations have always been a concern of small communities, including China. Intergovernmental revenues are subject to downward adjustment during tough economic times. It looks as though the State economy is improving and therefore the outlook is a little brighter than it was over the last few years.

Other revenues will necessarily need to be considered more seriously if intergovernmental revenues and taxes are not available to accommodate circumstances. Preferably it would be good to have a more diverse group of revenue sources balanced progressively away from taxes and intergovernmental revenues and toward revenues based on the premise that those who create expenses should pay for those expenses.

The Town's general fund operating fund expenditures were as follows:



The distribution of expenditures over time has been consistent, the largest operating fund expenditures, education, public works, administration, transfer station, and the county budgeted numbers equaling approximately ninety percent of the total. China's capital outlay is also significant in that a town must manage the capital infrastructure proactively. If not, there will be a tendency to incur indebtedness or for the infrastructure to deteriorate. Resource allocation equitably is important yet very difficult as some expenses drive a budget more than others.

**General Fund Budgetary Highlights**

The general fund revenues from certain sources have been unreliable over the last few years, e.g. State revenue sharing distributions. The strengthening of the national and State of Maine economies are encouraging. Some of the larger general fund revenues are derived from property taxes, intergovernmental revenues, excise taxes, Planning Board and CEO fees and transfer station fees.

Though relatively stable over time these revenues will not be able to sustain growth over time by themselves. There may need to be a conversation about how to increase revenues outside of the property tax to be able to accommodate growth of the town.

The general fund expenses have also remained relatively flat over the past three or four years corresponding to the national and State of Maine economic circumstances. It will be increasingly difficult to "hold the line" as we move forward as we attempt to compensate for some of the delayed operational maintenance of infrastructure. Long term liabilities remain very low and therefore do not obligate the town to high fixed debt payments annually.

**Capital Assets**

China’s capital assets increased eight percent over the previous year. In the past year the town needed to purchase plowing equipment to complete the plowing for the winter season after a plowing contract was terminated. Traditionally the capital planning process is coordinated with the annual operations budget, allowing for the regular assessment of capital needs as well as the update of a rolling intermediate and long term capital plan. Cash allocations to a capital reserve account in the fund balance are done annually to accommodate capital needs.

**Long Term Liabilities**

China has a very low amount of long term liabilities. It does not appear that there will be any additional indebtedness over the near term. The town has a significant undesignated/unrestricted fund balance that will accommodate the small capital needs or unforeseen capital needs in the near term.

**Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets and Rates**

Local, state, and national economic conditions seem to be improving, though slowly. We are anticipating revenues to be stable or to increase slightly. Expenses will be relatively flat except that health insurance premiums and wages will need to be accommodated. Two autonomous budgets could impact the municipal mil rate, the County budget and the RSU#18 budget. The Select Board does not have any authority in those areas of governance.

Central Maine Power Company’s Maine Power Reliability Program should add to the town’s taxable valuation over the next two years. CMP is upgrading power lines throughout the state and they are working in China at this time. The increased taxable values will serve to stabilize the town’s mil rate.

**Contacting the Town's Financial Management**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers, and creditors with a general overview of the Town's finances and to show the Town's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Town Office at 445-2014 and ask for the Town Manager. Citizens are welcomed to visit with the appropriate staff on any financial matters.

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Variance Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
<b>Revenues</b>				
Taxes:				
Property taxes	\$ 4,985,827	\$ 4,985,827	\$ 5,075,157	\$ 89,330
Excise taxes	683,500	683,500	710,111	26,611
Interest and costs on taxes	24,000	24,000	30,235	6,235
<b>Total Taxes</b>	<u>5,693,327</u>	<u>5,693,327</u>	<u>5,815,503</u>	<u>122,176</u>
Intergovernmental:				
State revenue sharing	200,000	200,000	239,164	39,164
Road assistance	62,000	62,000	62,724	724
Homestead reimbursement	80,264	80,264	80,264	-
Education	-	-	-	-
Tax reimbursements and relief	4,186	4,186	11,237	7,051
General assistance	3,000	3,000	-	(3,000)
Efficiency Maine grant	-	-	20,225	20,225
RSU debt and capital lease funding	100,155	100,155	100,155	-
<b>Total Intergovernmental</b>	<u>449,605</u>	<u>449,605</u>	<u>513,769</u>	<u>64,164</u>
Other Revenues:				
Interest on investments	15,000	15,000	6,571	(8,429)
Permits and fees	46,000	46,000	67,852	21,852
Miscellaneous revenues	13,150	13,150	27,796	14,646
Solid waste revenues	72,000	72,000	66,213	(5,787)
<b>Total Other Revenues</b>	<u>146,150</u>	<u>146,150</u>	<u>168,432</u>	<u>22,282</u>
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<u>6,289,082</u>	<u>6,289,082</u>	<u>6,497,704</u>	<u>208,622</u>

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Variance Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Administration:				
Administrative payroll costs	\$ 359,283	\$ 359,283	\$ 357,272	\$ 2,011
Administrative expenses	107,300	107,300	107,538	(238)
Planning Board expenses	8,200	8,200	5,983	2,217
Association dues	11,517	11,517	11,394	123
Assessing	47,500	47,500	21,614	25,886
Computer costs	20,000	20,000	19,930	70
Legal services	11,500	11,500	11,500	-
Insurance and benefits	226,089	226,089	208,125	17,964
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>791,389</b>	<b>791,389</b>	<b>743,356</b>	<b>48,033</b>
Protection:				
Constable services	23,092	23,092	14,917	8,175
Fire departments	65,700	65,700	56,908	8,792
China rescue squad	17,000	17,000	10,499	6,501
Health officer	1,020	1,020	460	560
E-911	19,000	19,000	19,000	-
Dispatching	25,000	25,000	21,919	3,081
Emergency services insurance	15,332	15,332	12,062	3,270
<b>Total Protection</b>	<b>166,144</b>	<b>166,144</b>	<b>135,765</b>	<b>30,379</b>
Public Works:				
Road maintenance	658,182	658,182	658,182	-
Street signs	2,500	2,500	2,184	316
Street lights	7,000	7,000	6,230	770
Cemeteries	20,000	20,000	24,534	(4,534)
<b>Total Public Works</b>	<b>687,682</b>	<b>687,682</b>	<b>691,130</b>	<b>(3,448)</b>
<b>Solid Waste Operations</b>	<b>279,965</b>	<b>279,965</b>	<b>277,357</b>	<b>2,608</b>

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Variance Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
<b>Expenditures - continued</b>				
Community Services:				
General assistance	\$ 14,500	\$ 14,500	\$ 19,782	\$ (5,282)
Social service agencies	15,575	15,575	15,575	-
China Historical Society	6,000	6,000	5,961	39
South China Library	4,500	4,500	4,500	-
K.V. Humane Society	6,882	6,882	6,882	-
Memorial Day/Veteran's markers	3,200	3,200	3,200	-
<b>Total Community Services</b>	<b>50,657</b>	<b>50,657</b>	<b>55,900</b>	<b>(5,243)</b>
Education:				
RSU Assessment	3,584,011	3,584,011	3,459,011	125,000
Capital lease obligations	84,389	84,389	84,389	-
<b>Total Education</b>	<b>3,668,400</b>	<b>3,668,400</b>	<b>3,543,400</b>	<b>125,000</b>
Recreation:				
General recreation	20,950	20,950	16,875	4,075
China community days	2,500	2,500	2,500	-
<b>Total Recreation</b>	<b>23,450</b>	<b>23,450</b>	<b>19,375</b>	<b>4,075</b>
<b>Total County Tax</b>	<b>402,846</b>	<b>402,846</b>	<b>403,861</b>	<b>(1,015)</b>
Debt service:				
Principal	32,766	32,766	32,367	399
Interest	-	-	4,097	(4,097)
<b>Total Debt Service</b>	<b>32,766</b>	<b>32,766</b>	<b>36,464</b>	<b>(3,698)</b>

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance
	Original	Final	(Budgetary Basis)	Positive (Negative)
<b>Expenditures - continued</b>				
Special Projects:				
Equipment replacement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
One Room School House	-	-	152	(152)
Oakland Super Park	39,035	39,035	38,515	520
Contingency	45,000	45,000	45,000	-
Project Learning Tree	-	-	31	(31)
Grant expenses	50,000	50,000	-	50,000
<b>Total Special Projects</b>	<u>134,035</u>	<u>134,035</u>	<u>83,698</u>	<u>50,337</u>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<u>6,237,334</u>	<u>6,237,334</u>	<u>5,990,306</u>	<u>247,028</u>
<b>Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</b>	51,748	51,748	507,398	455,650
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>				
Operating transfers out	(26,200)	(26,200)	(26,200)	-
Transfer to assigned fund balances	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	-
Utilization of unassigned fund balance	142,200	142,200	-	(142,200)
<b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>	<u>66,000</u>	<u>66,000</u>	<u>(76,200)</u>	<u>(142,200)</u>
<b>Revenues and Other Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Uses</b>	\$ 117,748	\$ 117,748	431,198	\$ 313,450
Budgetary fund balance at beginning of year			<u>837,708</u>	
<b>Budgetary Fund Balance at End of Year</b>			<u>\$ 1,268,906</u>	
<b>Valuation</b>				
Real estate			\$ 397,236,000	
Personal property			<u>8,115,800</u>	
<b>Total Valuation</b>			<u>\$ 405,351,800</u>	
<b>Assessment</b>				
Valuation x Rate - \$405,351,800 x 0.01230		\$ 4,985,827		
Supplemental taxes		<u>5,177</u>		
<b>Total Assessment Charged to Collector</b>			\$ 4,991,004	
<b>Collections and Credits</b>				
Cash collections		\$ 4,920,647		
Tax abatements & adjustments		<u>5,449</u>		
<b>Total Collections and Credits</b>			<u>4,926,096</u>	
<b>2013 Taxes Receivable - June 30, 2013</b>			<u>\$ 64,908</u>	

LD #1 (Enacted 2005); MUNICIPAL SPENDING LIMITATIONS COMPONENT

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Municipal officials continue to attempt to make local budgets more transparent and therefore easier to understand. Policy makers, voters, and taxpayers should be able to discern the financial health of local governments. There are initiatives underway whereby municipal budgets will be obligated to include a standardized chart of accounts so that comparative analyses can be made more easily between municipalities with similar demographics. With these attempts to simplify things there remain other factors that persist in imposing confusing systems on local governments; LD#1 seems to be one of those complicated systems.

Overview: The goal of LD#1 was to: focus attention on the year-to-year growth of the property tax commitment that relates to municipal spending; create a formula that is flexible to the needs of each municipality and allows for the growth in property tax commitment over time; makes certain that the municipality’s legislative body is aware of the proposed limitation on the growth in commitment; authorizes the local legislative body to exceed the limit in response to special financial circumstances or increase the limit as a home rule decision; and to provide an opportunity for the electorate to challenge the decision of a town to exceed or increase the growth allowance.

There are three steps in calculating a municipality’s “property tax levy limit.” First, calculate the property tax levy that is being limited by this system, called the core municipal commitment and originally established for the 2006 budget and adjusted to date by growth factors. Second, calculate the “growth factor,” which is a percentage of allowable growth that is applied to the adjusted core commitment. Third, adjust the established limit, if necessary, by a net new funds calculation and or by a proposed change in response to special circumstances.

For China the calculation of the municipal spending limitation is as follows:

Core Municipal Commitment	\$1,218,026.00
(Multiplied by Growth Limitation Factor 1.0220)	
Allowable Growth Subtotal	\$1,317,635.00
Deductions (Net New Funding)	
Increases and Decreases in State Subsidies**	\$105,807.00
Increase by Home Rule Authority	
Insurance & Winter Road Maintenance Cost**	
	<hr/>
Property Tax Levy Limit (Core Going Forward)	\$1,423,442.00

\*\* Extraordinary circumstances outside the control of the municipal legislative body: insurance, projected reduced State subsidies to China, e.g. reductions to Revenue Sharing, Tree Growth, Local Road Assistance, and the BETR program, and the assessment from FirstPark. The Maine State Legislature, as this document goes to print, been contemplating a further and substantial reduction in Revenue Sharing to municipalities. This is the sole reason for having a Warrant Article on the ballot addressing the LD#1 property Levy Limit.

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**Town of China**  
**Warrant for the Annual Town Business Meeting**

To Julie Finley, a resident of the Town of China, County of Kennebec and State of Maine:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of China qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to assemble at the China Middle School in said Town of China on Saturday, the 22<sup>rd</sup> day of March, A.D. 2014 at 9:00 o'clock in the morning to elect a moderator to preside at said meeting and to vote on town issues.

Article 1. To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.

Article 2. Shall the town entertain a presentation up to 5 minutes each from the **China Comprehensive Plan Thurston Park II Committee** and the **China Library Feasibility Committee** representatives regarding the progress of proposed implementation of the China Comprehensive Plan as it relates to each respective Committee?

Select Board Recommends: YES

Article 3. Shall the Town entertain a presentation up to 5 minutes from **FIRSTPARK** representatives?

Select Board Recommends: YES

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to exceed the property tax levy limit of \$1,317,634.99 established for China by State Law (**LD#1**) in the event that the municipal budget approved under the following articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than the current property tax levy limit. (The request is driven by extraordinary circumstances outside the control of the municipal legislative body; in this particular case, the potential reduction in the traditional and expected State subsidies (Revenue Sharing, Homestead Exemptions, Excise Taxes on Commercial Vehicles, and the BETE program) to China.) The amount noted above will be the new core municipal commitment going forward.

Select Board Recommends: YES

Budget Committee Recommends: YES

Article 5. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Administration** and **Administration Other** expenses.

Select Board Recommends: **Administration** \$373,150

**Administration Other** \$103,900

Budget Committee Recommends: **Administration** \$373,150

**Administration Other** \$103,900

Article 6. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Planning Board Expenses, Maine Municipal Association Dues, Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce Dues**, and the **Kennebec Valley Council of Governments**; any remaining balance in the Planning Board budget at the

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end of the fiscal year to lapse to a Planning Board Account of the Reserve Fund, the funds in which may be used upon a majority vote of a quorum of the Select Board for Planning Board Operations; said Planning Board Account to be capped at \$8,000.

Select Board Recommends:	<b>Planning Board Expenses</b>	\$2,363
	<b>Maine Municipal Association Dues</b>	\$4,800
	<b>Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce Dues</b>	\$600
	<b>Kennebec Valley Council of Governments</b>	\$6,917
Budget Committee Recommends:	<b>Planning Board Expenses</b>	\$2,363
	<b>Maine Municipal Association Dues</b>	\$4,800
	<b>Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce Dues</b>	\$600
	<b>Kennebec Valley Council of Governments</b>	\$6,917

Article 7. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and or appropriate for the **Municipal Capital and Equipment Account of the Reserve Fund** (established for the purpose of major capital repairs and purchasing and/or repairing vehicles to be used for snow plowing, grading, transfer station operations, and other public purposes), the funds in which may be used upon a majority vote of a quorum of the Select Board, and these appropriated funds to be combined with the funds presently in said Reserve Fund (\$92,968 as of 06/30/2013) and to be designated Municipal Capital and Equipment Account of the Reserve Fund (said purpose noted above).

Select Board Recommends:	\$75,000
	(\$15,000 from Unassigned Fund Balance)
Budget Committee Recommends:	\$75,000
	(\$15,000 from Unassigned Fund Balance)

Article 8. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Contracted **Assessing and Legal Services**; any remaining balance in the legal budget the end of the fiscal year to lapse into the Legal Account of the Reserve Fund, the funds in which may be used upon a majority vote of a quorum of the Select Board for legal services.

Select Board Recommends:	<b>Assessing Services</b>	\$47,500
	<b>Legal Services</b>	\$12,500
Budget Committee Recommends:	<b>Assessing Services</b>	\$47,500
	<b>Legal Services</b>	\$12,500

Article 9. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise or appropriate for **Computer Hardware and Software** for the Town Office.

Select Board Recommends:	\$23,000
Budget Committee Recommends:	\$23,000

Article 10. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Police Services** and **Animal Control Officer Services** to include supplies and vehicle maintenance in support of services.

Select Board Recommends: \$25,446  
 Budget Committee Recommends: \$25,446

Article 11. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and or appropriate for the **Volunteer Fire Departments, China Rescue and PSAP (E-911 Call Answering) and Dispatch Services** to be allocated in the following manner; any remaining balance in any department at the end of the fiscal year to lapse into the Reserve Account for the Respective Department/Service in the Reserve Fund, the fund in which may be used upon a majority vote of a quorum of the Select Board; to be used for operating expenses only:

	Amount Requested:	Select Board Recommends:	Budget Committee Recommends:
<b>South China VFD</b>	\$21,000	\$21,000	\$21,000
<b>China Village VFD</b>	\$22,000	\$22,000	\$22,000
<b>Weeks Mills VFD</b>	\$17,204	\$17,204	\$17,204
<b>Weeks Mills VFD Building Reserve</b>	\$5,000	\$5,000 UDFB* SB shall consider Equity Position	\$5,000 UDFB* SB shall consider Equity Position
<b>China Rescue</b>	\$20,000	\$13,000 \$6,000 from Rescue Reserve	\$10,000 \$6,000 from Rescue Reserve
<b>PSAP/E-911 Calls</b>	\$19,500	\$19,500	\$19,500
<b>Dispatching Service</b>	\$26,500	\$26,500	\$26,500
<b>Totals:</b>	\$131,204	\$130,204	\$127,204

\* from Undesignated Fund Balance

Article 12. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Fire Department Capital Equipment Account of the Reserve Fund**, the funds in which may be used upon a majority vote of a quorum of the Select Board for fire departments' capital purchases or major capital repairs, e.g. SCBA Equipment, Capital Improvements/Repairs to Vehicles, etc.; the Select Board shall require equity positions associated with capital expenditures, singularly or collectively above \$2,500.

Select Board Recommends: \$6,000  
 Budget Committee Recommends: \$6,000

Article 13. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Insurance and Unemployment Compensation Premiums and Emergency Services Insurance.**

Select Board Recommends: **Insurance and Unemployment**  
**Compensation Premiums** \$239,245  
**Emergency Services Insurance** \$15,982

Budget Committee Recommends: **Insurance and Unemployment**  
**Compensation Premiums** \$239,245  
**Emergency Services Insurance** \$15,982

Article 14. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and or appropriate for **payment on the debt (principal & interest) incurred on the purchase of the Town’s China Rescue Vehicle.**

Select Board Recommends: \$17,000  
(\$5,000 from Unassigned Fund Balance)

Budget Committee Recommends: \$17,000  
(\$5,000 from Unassigned Fund Balance)

Article 15. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Solid Waste Disposal/China Transfer Station Operations.**

Select Board Recommends: \$281,528  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$281,528

Article 16. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Road Maintenance**; highways, bridges & gravel roads, paving, and winter road maintenance and to further authorize the Select Board to expend a portion of the appropriated/raised amount prior to the beginning of the 2014/2015 fiscal year or carry-forward remaining amounts as of 06/30/2014 as they deem to be in the best interest of the Town of China.

Select Board Recommends: \$698,012  
(\$59,000 from highway grant & \$639,012 from excise taxes)

Budget Committee Recommends: \$698,012  
(\$59,000 from highway grant & \$639,012 from excise taxes)

Article 17. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Street Signs and Street Lights** (monthly/annual CMP kw/hr. fees).

Select Board Recommends: **Street Signs** \$2,500  
**Street Lights** \$7,000

Budget Committee Recommends: **Street Signs** \$2,500  
**Street Lights** \$7,000

Article 18. To see if the Town will vote to earmark the balance, after administration expenses, of the **Snowmobile Registration Tax Refund** from the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to the China Four Seasons Club. The cost allocated to administration is not to exceed \$3.00 per snowmobile.

Board Recommends: YES

Budget Committee Recommends: YES

Article 19. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Recreation** and to have any remaining balance in the current budget lapse into the Recreation Account of the Reserve Fund, the funds in which may be used upon a majority vote of a quorum of the Select Board for Recreational Capital Needs/Activities/Programs said Recreation Account to be capped at \$15,000.

Select Board Recommends:                 \$22,950  
Budget Committee Recommends:         \$22,950

Article 20. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Welfare Account**.

Board Recommends:                         \$14,500  
Budget Committee Recommends:         \$14,500

Article 21. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **China Historical Society** toward the cost of utilities and repairs for the Old Town Meeting House and for Historical Society Outreach Programs.

Board Recommends:                         \$6,000  
Budget Committee Recommends:         \$6,000

Article 22. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **South China Library and the Albert Church Brown Library**.

Select Board Recommends:  
                   **South China Library**                         \$4,500  
                   **Albert Church Brown Library**             \$100  
 Budget Committee Recommends:  
                   **South China Library**                         \$4,500  
                   **Albert Church Brown Library**             \$100

Article 23. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the following **Social Service and Non-Profit Agencies**:

	Select Board Recommends:	Budget Committee Recommends:
Family Violence	\$1,750	\$2,000
KVCAP Demand Response Transport	\$0	\$0
Spectrum Generations	\$2,276	\$2,276
Kennebec Behavioral Health	\$2,000	\$2,000
Children’s Center	\$1,500	\$1,500
Sexual Assault Crisis & Support	\$1,437	\$1,437
Waterville Boys & Girls Club	\$1,000	\$1,000
Hospice Volunteers of Waterville Area	\$1,650	\$1,650
Healthy Hearts	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$1,000</u>
	\$11,613	\$12,863

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Article 24. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Kennebec Valley Humane Society**.

Select Board Recommends: \$6,982  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$6,982

Article 25. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the purpose of maintaining **Cemeteries** and **for Memorial Day and Veterans Grave Marker expenses**; said money for grave marker expenses to be divided equally between the China and South China Legion Posts and to further authorize the Select Board to repurchase and resell Cemetery lots within existing cemeteries as they deem to be in the best interest of the Town of China, said authority to continue unless rescinded by voters.

Select Board Recommends:	<b>Cemeteries</b>	\$23,000
	<b>Grave Marker Expenses</b>	\$950
Budget Committee Recommends:	<b>Cemeteries</b>	\$23,000
	<b>Grave Marker Expenses</b>	\$950

Article 26. To see if the Town will vote to establish two (2) **Tax Payment Due Dates** to be September 30, 2014 and March 31, 2015 and to charge an **Interest Rate** of seven percent (7.0%) per annum after each tax payment due date, with interest to be calculated daily at the rate of 0.00019178082 for each day or fraction thereof that each payment is overdue; and to further see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to sell and convey by Warranty Deed or Quit Claim Deed tax acquired properties and to execute Waiver of Foreclosure documents as determined to be in the best interests of the Town of China, said authority to continue unless rescinded by voters, and to further authorize the tax collector or treasurer to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. Section 506.

Select Board Recommends: YES  
Budget Committee Recommends: YES

Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Unassigned Fund Balance an amount not to exceed \$55,000 for the purpose of using these funds as the required **matching funds in successful Grant Applications** and to further authorize the Selectmen to apply for and accept funds from the State of Maine, Federal Government, and any other duly authorized authority.

Select Board Recommends: YES  
Budget Committee Recommends: YES

Article 28. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Lake Restoration** expenses and to further authorize the Select Board to expend a portion of the raised/appropriated amount prior to the beginning of the 2014/2015 fiscal year as they deem to be in the best interest of the Town of China. (Any proposed expenditure to advance an interest in real property is to have prior Select Board approval.)

Select Board Recommends: \$30,000  
 Budget Committee Recommends: \$30,000

Article 29. To see if the Town will appropriate an amount not to exceed \$45,000 from the overlay and or unassigned fund balance to serve as a **Contingency Fund** to be spent by the Select Board on unanticipated expenses and emergencies and to avoid overdrafts that may occur during this fiscal year.

Select Board Recommends: YES  
 Budget Committee Recommends: YES

Article 30. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise and or appropriate for the purpose of funding **China Community Days** events and to allow any remaining balance to lapse into the China Community Days account of the reserve fund at the end of the fiscal year; the funds in which may be used upon a majority vote of a quorum of the Select Board, and said appropriation to become available in the current fiscal budget year.

Select Board Recommends: \$2,500  
 (From Unassigned Fund Balance)  
 Budget Committee Recommends: \$2,500  
 (From Unassigned Fund Balance)

Article 31. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$2,700 from Unassigned Fund Balance for the purpose of preserving the **Historical Records** in the Town of China.

Select Board Recommends: YES  
 Budget Committee Recommends: YES

Article 32. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate an amount not to exceed \$1072 for the purpose of compensating the **Town Health Officer** for services provided.

Select Board Recommends: YES  
 Budget Committee Recommends: YES

Article 33. To see what sum the Town will vote to appropriate from Unassigned Fund Balance for the purpose of adding to the **Unfunded Accrued Compensated Balance Reserve Account in the Fund Balance/ Designated Fund Balance** to finance the unfunded accrued compensated balances of the Town.

Select Board Recommends: \$5,000 (From Unassigned Fund Balance)  
 Budget Committee Recommends: \$5,000 (From Unassigned Fund Balance)

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Given under our hands this 24<sup>th</sup> day of February, AD 2014

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Peter G. Foote - Chairman

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Amber McAllister

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Irene L. Belanger

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Paul E. MacDonald

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Joann C. Austin

Warrant for Annual Town Business Meeting - March 22, 2014





Elwin Higgins—23 years of service



Shawn Reed—11 years of full-time service and 3 plus additional years of part-time service prior to full-time status.



Welcome to the family—Tim Grotton  
6 months of service as a Transfer Station  
Attendant



Jennifer Chamberlain— over 1 year of  
service

We are here to provide the best service  
to you!

**Town Office 445-2014**

Open Monday-Friday 7:30-4 Saturday 8-11

Fax for insurance 445-3208

[www.china.govoffice.com](http://www.china.govoffice.com)

General email address: info@chinamaine.org

**Transfer Station 445-3033**

Open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 7-5

Must have a valid sticker or pass to enter!

**China Middle School 445-1500**

**China Primary School 445-1550**

[www.rsu18.org](http://www.rsu18.org)

**RSU 18 Superintendent's Office 465-7384**

[www.rsu18.org](http://www.rsu18.org)

**China Post Office 445-2230**

**China Village Post Office 968-2623**

**China Food Pantry 968-2421**

The Town Office and Transfer Station now accept **credit and debit cards**. There are **fees associated** with any card use.

**Real estate taxes can be paid online. Please use the link below.**  
**<https://payments.andro-pay.com/Default.aspx?customerid=25>**

