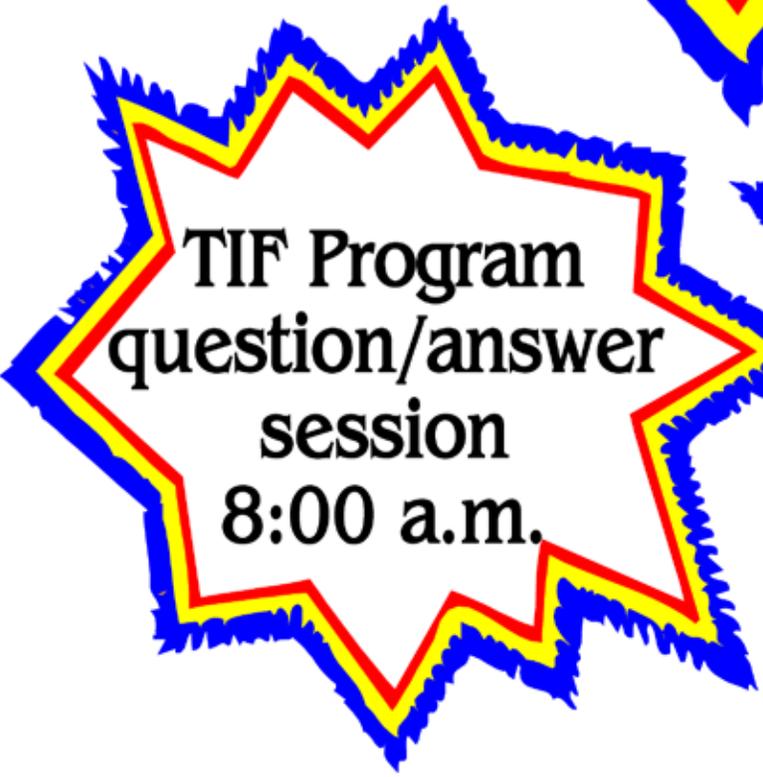


Annual Report
Of the Municipal Officers
of the Town of China, Maine
for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014

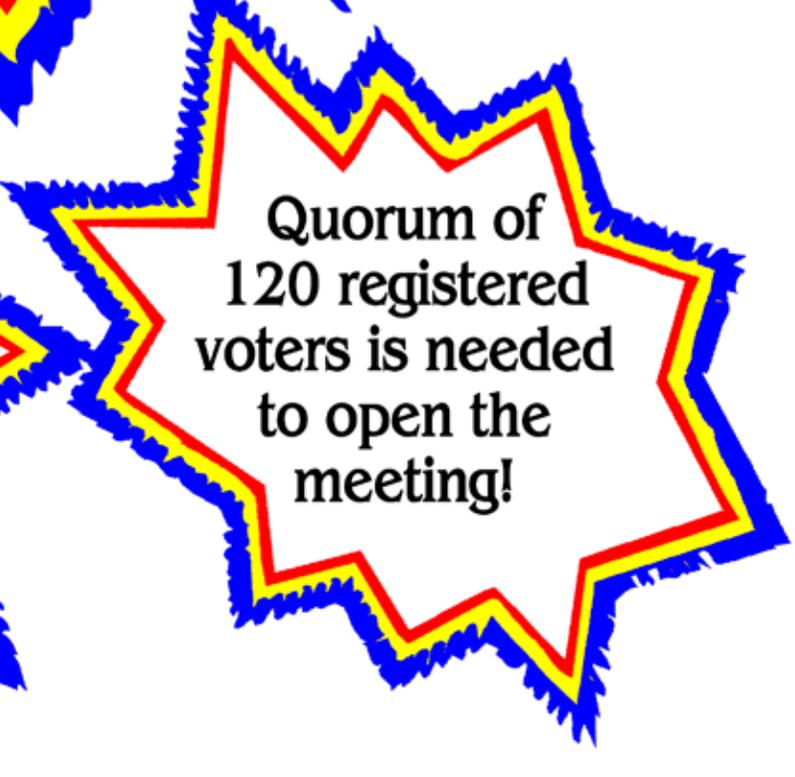


**Annual Town
Business Meeting**

**Saturday,
March 21, 2015
9:00 a.m.
China Middle School**



**TIF Program
question/answer
session
8:00 a.m.**



**Quorum of
120 registered
voters is needed
to open the
meeting!**

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The Jaws of Life as demonstrated by a member of China Rescue
at China Community Days 2014

Dedication

We are pleased to dedicate this year's town report to Irene L. Belanger.

The Town of China has been the home to Irene Belanger and her husband Joseph a.k.a. "Val" since at least 1969 when they purchased property and built a home at 119 Ingraham Road. Irene and Val are very devoted to their family having seven children (Deborah, Tom, Billy, Jeff, Susan, Val and Maurice), fifteen grand-children and four great grand-children.

While Irene's two main careers paths involved the real estate and motherhood vocations, she has devoted exhaustive energy to the benefit of others. You will note from the listing below that she is devoted to and passionate about China and therefore has contributed many, many volunteer hours, serving on:

- The Recreation Committee for many years
- The Planning Board for approximately 15 years
- The Select Board for many years
- The Four Seasons Club for many years
- The Health and Wellness Clinic staff
- The Volunteer Drivers Group, driving residents to doctor appointments and shopping
- The Boy Scouts Council 479 (Cub Scouts) Den Mother – 7 Year Merit Award
- The Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee
- The Lake Access Committee
- The Thurston Park Committee
- The Economic and Community Development Committee
- The Transfer Station Committee – Recycling Coordinator
- The Kennebec Valley Council of Governments, Board Vice-President representing China, etc.



Irene L. Belanger

In the real estate vocation Irene engaged at many levels. She:

- Was a past State Real Estate Commissioner
- Taught Adult Education in Augusta and Gardiner
- Taught Real Estate and Law in a Degree Program at Mid-State College
- Was a member of the State and National Board of REALTORS for over 30 years
- Was a local Board Realtor of the Year three times
- Was State Realtor of the Year once
- Lobbied for property rights and other housing issues in Washington, D.C.
- Lobbied for property rights and other housing issues in the State Legislature

Irene and Val like to spend time during the summer and fall months at their summer camp in Madrid, Maine. Irene also likes to read, cook and engage in a variety of craft work. We are thankful for their positive energy.

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

It is with utmost sincerity and professional respect that I submit to you the Annual Report of the Town of China for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014

The purpose of an Annual Report is to inform citizens/voters of the financial condition of the town at the close of any given fiscal year and to report on the operational aspects of the various town departments over the most recent fiscal year. The town of China financial statements 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. As State and municipal budgets remain tight, it seemed to me to be important to continue to report on China's financial condition in most of this year's report.

The financial statements reflect a trend of a continually improving financial condition. Long term debt could be eliminated in the next year and unrestricted reserves are at recommended and expected levels that should sustain the town during unpredictable but unfortunate fiscal circumstances. 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, an additional indication 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 administration 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.

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 continues to be questionable. The town will need to have a conversation about the sources of revenues and the reliability of each source over the longer term; not doing so will ultimately leave the town to depend solely on property taxation as the major source of funds. In the expense numbers overall, the actual expenses were under budget for the year ending June 30, 2014. 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'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.

As of the end of the current fiscal year, the Town of China governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances at June 30, 2014 of \$2.9 million. Approximately 41% 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/unassigned fund equal to two to three month's net expenditures or 10% of annual gross expenditures. The balance has been guided by public finance criteria obtained from many sources, Standard & Poor's, the Maine Municipal Bond Bank, the Maine Municipal Association, and Moody's Investor Service. With due diligence, the Select Board has managed to increase the undesignated/unassigned fund balance to a more desirable level and very close to the standard. Going forward, it appears that by the end of the 2014-15 fiscal year, the standard will have been met.

China has a relatively low debt obligation. In the near future it seems that the town will continue operations without additional debt obligations. The healthy undesignated/unassigned fund balance and fund balance reserve accounts 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 undesignated/unassigned fund balance of the general fund was \$1,185,373. 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. Although it looks like the State economy is improving, the current administration is not favorably disposed to keeping long-standing agreements in place that would maintain traditional levels of intergovernmental sources of revenues. 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 property taxes and intergovernmental revenues and toward revenues based on the premise that those who create expenses should pay for those expenses (user fees).

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 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 balance has increased year-to-year by a significant amount, indicative of a strong liquidity position and the ability of town officials to implement timely and sound financial and operational decisions that are responsive and relational to economic and fiscal demands. Capital assets are maintained in a strong condition and have been increasing over time. Long-term debt obligations are minimal. The financial management of the town is a major factor in the assessment of the town's financial condition and it has been strong management with low risk preferences.

Capital Assets: Capital assets net of depreciation continue to increase though slowly. Capital assets are kept in good to excellent condition. The town's infrastructure is in good condition and is maintained on a scheduled basis over an 8-10 year period. It is annually reviewed and updated. Over the next year it is anticipated that one heavy duty tandem axle truck with associated plowing equipment will be replaced with a new vehicle and plowing equipment. A stable and robust public works budget has enabled the town to maintain and to improve infrastructure over time. Reserve accounts in the fund balance are maintained and therefore available for capital asset maintenance and purchase without additional indebtedness.

Long Term Liabilities: Long-term liabilities continue to decrease and therefore be a smaller part of the overall obligations of the town. An excellent liquidity position with reserve accounts are indicative of this trend to continue. It does not seem likely that there will be, in the foreseeable future, that there will be a circumstance that will demand a change in this best management practice of reducing long-term liabilities.

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets and Rates: Currently, a significant increase in the education budget is anticipated. Even though the town also anticipates significant additional revenues resulting from increased valuations in town, it is not possible to offset the large increase in education expenses with that additional tax revenue from increased valuations. The result of the education increase is anticipated to affect an increase in the tax rate by one mil. The municipal and county budgets are not expected to have any impact on the mil rate. The education budget remains the largest obligation of the town and is the largest significant driver of the mil rate. The education budget is produced by an independent RSU#18 (Regional School Unit) based in Oakland, Maine. "School Choice" for grades 8-12 and town busing contributes a significant cost to the town in educational obligations. It seems that this will continue into the future.

Digressing, a few of the forces that will drive action by the town in the short term will include the following:

1. A Tax Increment Financing Program resulting from the CMP upgrade to the powerline in China;
2. The possibility of a significant reduction in the intergovernmental revenues coming from the State; and
3. The expiration of a twenty year contractual agreement with 186 other municipalities in the disposal of municipal solid waste.

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 excesses.

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, Bill, Gary, Shawn R., Brandon, Mary, Tim and Shawn E. 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 School Board, 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



China Middle School Cheerleaders participate at a recent playoff game at Erskine Academy.

Directory of Municipal Services

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

info@chinamaine.org



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

William Najpauer

(207) 445-3540

Monday - Friday 7:30 am - 4:00 pm

bill@chinamaine.org

Assessors' Agent

William Van Tuinen

(207) 445-2014

Available by appointment

assessor@chinamaine.org



Elected Officials

Select Board

(Three members are elected in November of even number years while two are elected in the odd numbered years. Nomination papers are available in August. The five members can reside anywhere in China.)

- Joann C. Austin (2016) - Chair ~ jaustin@chinamaine.org
- Irene L. Belanger (2015) ~ ibelanger@chinamaine.org
- Neil Farrington (2016) ~ nfarrington@chinamaine.org
- Robert MacFarland (2016) ~ bmacfarland@chinamaine.org
- Amber McAllister (2015) ~ amcallister@chinamaine.org

Planning Board

(Six members are elected to serve a two year term. Depending upon the position, some require residency in the District they serve. Nomination papers are available in August.)

- District 1 - James Wilkens (2015) ~ jwilkens@chinamaine.org
- District 2 - Toni Wall (2016) - Chair ~ twall@chinamaine.org
- District 3 - Milton Dudley (2015) ~ mdudley@chinamaine.org
- District 4 - Michelle Bourque (2016) ~ mbourque@chinamaine.org
- At-Large - Francis (Frank) Soares III (2016) ~ fsoares@chinamaine.org
- Alternate At-Large - Ronald Breton (2015) ~ rbreton@chinaamine.org

China's RSU #18 Directors

(Two member serve for three year terms. Members can reside anywhere in China. Nomination papers are available in August of the applicable year.)

- Robert Bennett (2016) ~ ngbobme@hotmail.com
- Elwood Ellis (2015) ~ bluesbro@roadrunner.com

Budget Committee

(Seven members are elected to serve a two year term. Depending upon the position, some require residency in the District they serve. Nomination papers are available in August.)

- Chairman - Robert Batteese (2015) ~ rbatteese@chinamaine.org
- Secretary - Albert Althenn (2016) ~ aalthenn@chinamaine.org
- District 1 - Gregory Pizzo (2015) ~ gpizzo@chinamaine.org
- District 2 - Thomas Rumpf (2016) ~ trumpf@chinamaine.org
- District 3 - Sheryl Peavey (2015) ~ speavey@chinamaine.org
- District 4 - Timothy Basham (2016) ~ tbasham@chinamaine.org
- At-Large - Jonathan Vogel (2016) ~ jvogel@chinamaine.org



Appointed Officials

Appeals Board

- Spencer Aitel (2019) ~ none
- Virginia Davis (2016) ~ ggpitney@gmail.com
- Michael Gee (2017) ~ michaelgee77@yahoo.com
- Anthony Pileggi (2018) ~ ampileggi@fairpoint.net
- Robert Fischer (2018) ~ bobfischer@fairpoint.net



Board of Assessment Review

- Harold Charles (2017) ~ chinacharles@roadrunner.com
- Sharon Johnson (2016) ~ smj@fairpoint.net
- Dale Peabody (2015) ~ dpeabody22163@roadrunner.com
- Anthony Pileggi - Alt (2016) ~ ampileggi@fairpoint.net
- Dwaine Drummond - Alt (2015) ~ dbdrummond@roadrunner.com

The following committee appointments are through June 30, 2015.

Capital Investment Committee

- Daniel L'Heureux ~ danl@chinamaine.org
- Irene Belanger ~ ibelanger@chinamaine.org

Cemetery Committee

- Julie Finley ~ julie@chinamaine.org
- H. Richard Norton ~ djnorton207@gmail.com
- Harold Charles ~ chinacharles@roadrunner.com
- Horace Stevens ~ none
- Daniel L'Heureux ~ danl@chinamaine.org
- Elwood Ellis ~ bluesbro@roadrunner.com

Economic & Community Development Committee

- Irene L. Belanger ~ ilbhome@fairpoint.net
- Kyle Pierce ~ kpierce.a.b.s@gmail.com
- Nanci Rodrigue ~ ndorrian@roadrunner.com
- Donald Bassett ~ none
- Sonya Porter-Burrill ~ sporterburrill@krisinsurance.com
- Daniel L'Heureux ~ danl@chinamaine.org
- Carlaine Bovio ~ carlaine@fairpoint.net
- Joann C. Austin ~ jaustin@chinamaine.org
- Jason Fredette ~ jfredette4@gmail.com
- Lucas Adams ~ none

If you are interested in serving on a committee, please let us know by sending us an email, calling or stopping by the office.

Appointed Officials

Emergency Preparedness Committee

- Ronald Morrell ~ ronmorrell28@gmail.com
- Stephen Nichols ~ stephen.nichols351@gmail.com
- Francis Soares ~ crossbowme@gmail.com
- Harold Charles ~ chinacharles@roadrunner.com
- Daniel L'Heureux ~ danl@chinamaine.org
- William Rancourt ~ none

Enhanced 9-1-1 Committee

- Kelly Grotton ~ kelly@chinamaine.org
- Daniel L'Heureux ~ danl@chinamaine.org
- Tom Stephenson ~ tomandmrss@aol.com
- Richard Morse ~ danddmorse@fairpoint.net
- Timothy Theriault ~ tstheriault@gmail.com



Enhanced Library and Community Service Committee

- Jonathan Vogel ~ jvogelmail@gmail.com
- Joann C. Austin ~ jaustin@chinamaine.org
- Daniel L'Heureux ~ danl@chinamaine.org
- Kathy Brownell ~ gryphon@fairpoint.net
- Catherine McCormac ~ katy.mccormac@gmail.com
- Cheryl Baker ~ cbaker@fairpoint.net
- Carole Johnson ~ none
- Louisa Barnhart ~ none
- Robin Sabattus ~ rlasab@myfairpoint.net
- Thomas Parent ~ none
- Naomi Homan ~ naomihoman@gmail.com
- Elwood Ellis ~ bluesbro@roadrunner.com

Facilities Committee

- Daniel L'Heureux ~ danl@chinamaine.org



Forestry Committee

- Daniel L'Heureux ~ danl@chinamaine.org
- Elaine Philbrook ~ ephilbrook@rsu18.org
- Anita Smith ~ tasmith@fairpoint.net
- Tim Basham ~ bashamtree@fairpoint.net
- Leslie R. French ~ none

Appointed Officials

Historical Preservation Committee

- Dwaine Drummond ~ dwaine.drummond@us.army.mil
- Irene Belanger ~ ibelanger@chinamaine.org
- Kelly Grotton ~ kelly@chinamaine.org
- Daniel L'Heureux ~ danl@chinamaine.org
- Carlaine Bovio ~ carlaine@fairpoint.net



Historical Society Committee

- Harold Charles ~ chinacharles@roadrunner.com
- Sueann Charles ~ none
- Neil Farrington ~ nfarrington@chinamaine.org
- Dale Fegel Jr ~ dalefegel2@gmail.com
- Kelly Grotton ~ kelly@chinamaine.org
- Ronald Morrell ~ ronmorrell28@gmail.com
- Robert Bennett ~ ngbobme@hotmail.com

Implementation Committee

- Daniel L'Heureux ~ danl@chinamaine.org
- Irene L. Belanger ~ ibelanger@chinamaine.org
- Carlaine Bovio ~ carlaine@fairpoint.net
- Virginia Davis ~ ggpitney@gmail.com
- Joann Austin ~ jaustin@chinamaine.org
- Jamie Pitney ~ jpitney@preti.com
- Larry Rancourt ~ lrdr@fairpoint.net
- Scott Rollins ~ srollins1@roadrunner.com
- Francis (Frank) Soares III ~ crossbowme@gmail.com
- Carrol White III ~ cswhite3@roadrunner.com
- Kyle Pierce ~ kpierce.a.b.s@gmail.com

KRDA

- Roger Poulin ~ none
- Joann Austin ~ jaustin@chinamaine.org



Open Space Committee

- Joann C. Austin ~ jaustin@chinamaine.org
- Irene L. Belanger ~ ibelanger@chinamaine.org
- Daniel L'Heureux ~ danl@chinamaine.org
- Kyle McLaggan ~ kmclaggan@yahoo.com
- Jamie Pitney ~ jpitney@preti.com
- William Seekins ~ seekins@fairpoint.net
- Sheri Wilkens ~ wilkensgroup@gmail.com
- Francis (Frank) Soares III ~ crossbowme@gmail.com

Appointed Officials

Recreation Committee

- Rosalie Batteese ~ dbatteese@yahoo.com
- Rebecca Theriault ~ trtheriault@roadrunner.com
- Alton Hawk ~ aimees.pappy@gmail.com
- Rebecca Hapgood ~ becky@chinamaine.org
- Hope Shorey ~ hopeshorey@yahoo.com



Road Committee

- Frederick Anderson ~ none
- Milford Thomas ~ none
- Dale Peabody ~ dpeabody22163@roadrunner.com
- H. Richard Norton ~ djnorton207@gmail.com

Tax Increment Financing Committee

- Stephen Nichols ~ stephen.nichols351@gmail.com
- Daniel L'Heureux ~ danl@chinamaine.org
- Joann C. Austin ~ jaustin@chinamaine.org
- Irene L. Belanger ~ ibelanger@chinamaine.org
- Kyle Pierce ~ kpierce.a.b.s@gmail.com

Thurston Park II Committee

- Joann C. Austin ~ jaustin@chinamaine.org
- Rosalie Batteese ~ dbatteese@yahoo.com
- Irene L. Belanger ~ ibelanger@chinamaine.org
- James Booth ~ none
- Phillip DeMaynadier ~ phillip.demaynadier@maine.gov
- Leslie R. French ~ none
- William Seekins ~ seekins@fairpoint.net
- Judy Stone ~ jstone@colby.edu
- Timothy Theriault ~ tstheriault@gmail.com
- Trevy Bumps ~ pssrocket@gmail.com
- Kyle McLaggan ~ kmclaggan@yahoo.com
- Kevin McLaggan ~ kmclaggan@yahoo.com
- James Revil ~ jrevil28@gmail.com



Wetlands Committee

- Victor Montminy ~ none
- Joann C. Austin ~ jaustin@chinamaine.org
- Virginia Davis ~ ggpitney@gmail.com
- Irma Simon ~ none
- John Henniges ~ john@jmhfin.net
- David Simpson ~ none

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, Deputy Tax Collector and Deputy Treasurer Phone: 445-2014 email: becky@chinamaine.org
William Najpauer	Code Enforcement Officer & Plumbing Inspector Phone: 445-3540 email: bill@chinamaine.org
Christian Jandreau	Health Officer Phone: 445-2014 email: healthofficer@chinamaine.org
Peter A. Nerber	Animal Control Officer Phone: 993-2225
Peter E. Nerber	Animal Control Officer Phone: 993-2225
Neil Farrington	Co-Recycling Coordinator
Irene L. Belanger	Co-Recycling Coordinator
Timothy Theriault	Chief, China Village Volunteer Fire Department Phone: 968-2641 email: cvbfd@roadrunner.com
Thomas Stephenson	Chief, Weeks Mills Volunteer Fire Department Phone: 445-2514 email: tomandmres@aol.com
Richard Morse	Chief, South China Volunteer Fire Department & Fire Warden Phone: 445-2948 email: danddmorse@fairpoint.net
George Studley	Deputy Fire Warden Phone: 968-2949



Legislative Delegation

State Senate District 24

Senator Roger Katz
3 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04330
Phone: 287-1505 or 485-2394
senroger.katz@legislature.maine.gov

State House District 55

Representative Timothy Theriault
2 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04330
Phone: 287-1400 or 649-4434
timothy.theriault@legislature.maine.gov

U. S. Senator Susan Collins

413 Dirksen Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone (207) 622-8414

U.S. Senator Angus King

359 Dirksen Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone (202) 224-5344

U. S. Representative Chellie Pingree

1st District (representing China)
2162 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone (202) 225-6116

U. S. Representative Bruce Poliquin

2nd District
426 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-6306

Senate District 24

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

This is now my third term in the Maine Senate. I am so grateful for the trust you've placed in me and I will continue to do my best to represent the citizens of China and the entire state.

Even as we continue to come out of the recession, we face some stubborn and daunting issues here in Maine, including the reality that we have the highest median age in the country. How do we deal with the challenge of an aging population? How can we continue to provide excellent state services to our people without putting more pressure on local property taxes? How can we prepare our students (young and old) for the high – paying, high – demand jobs of the future? What can we do to help lower energy costs for Maine people and businesses? How can we ensure a welfare safety net for the most vulnerable among us while at the same time making sure that we are encouraging self-sufficiency? What can we do to attract more young workers and entrepreneurs to our state?



The questions are easy to ask. Finding the answers is a more difficult. This is where you come in! I am hoping that many of you will reach out to me during the course of the legislative session with your ideas and thoughts on the budget and other bills we are facing.

The Governor's budget proposes some fundamental reform to our tax structure, most of which I think makes great sense. However, parts of it could end up placing further burdens on the Town of China and its property taxpayers. What do you think? Let me know by contacting me at 287-1505 or rkatz@lipmankatz.com. Your input will help me do a better job.

Again, my humble and sincere thanks for allowing me to represent you in Augusta.

Best,

Roger Katz
State Senator

House District 55

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

First, I would like to thank the residents of China for electing me as your State Representative. It is a responsibility to be taken very seriously and I look forward to the legislative session in Augusta.

Legislative leadership has appointed me to serve on the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee. On this panel, the other members and I will oversee these issues regarding these topics. I intend to work for the people of our community and the state to ensure the safety of Maine's citizens through my work in this committee.



I was elected to the Maine Legislature on the promise to represent you, the people of District 79. To do this, I will be seeking your input regularly and want to hear from you with your comments and concerns. Please call me anytime at (207) 968-2641 or email at

Tim.Theriault@legislature.maine.gov to keep me updated on those concerns. If you would like to be added to my email update list, you can do so by emailing me directly with your request.

Thank you again, for giving me the honor of serving you in Augusta!



(L-R): Senator Roget Katz and Representative Tim Theriault pose after a recent Select Board meeting.

Sincerely,

Tim Theriault
State Representative
1210 Lakeview Drive
China, ME 04358
Home Phone: (207) 968-2641
Tim.Theriault@legislature.maine.gov

United States Senator

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

U. S. House of Representatives

Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well. It's an honor to represent you in Congress. Thank you for the chance to update you on my work there and in Maine.

Like many here at home, I find the current partisan environment in Washington and Congress to be very frustrating. Attempts to take away people's health care, weaken environmental protections, and stoke controversy have been put ahead of more meaningful work to create jobs, help people through tough times, and give our children a better future.

Still, I have tried to find opportunities to work on issues where my colleagues across the aisle and I can find agreement. As a member of the minority party, I'm very proud that these efforts have earned several legislative victories that benefit the people of our state.

One of the most significant was passage of a Farm Bill containing many reforms I introduced to help the kind of small, diversified, family farms that we have here in Maine. These included more funding to help these farms meet the growing demand for healthy local food, as well as better insurance to fit their needs and helping SNAP recipients use benefits at farmers markets.

Another bill I introduced was signed into law, initiating a study of the York River to see if it is a good candidate for the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers program. The classification would help protect this important natural resource while potentially bringing more visitors to the area and an increased amount of federal investment for its conservation. As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, I've worked to secure other investments for the state as well, including \$20 million to replace a crumbling, unhealthy and outdated tribal school in Washington County.

But not all the work I do is from Washington. My offices in Portland and Waterville assist hundreds of constituents every year who have issues with federal agencies and programs—veterans benefits, Social Security, and passports among them. If you have a problem where I might be of assistance, I encourage you to call (207) 774-5019. My staff and I welcome the opportunity to serve you.

Again, it's a pleasure to represent you in Congress. Please keep in touch.

Best wishes,

Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress

Doris L. Young Scholarships

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. The following students were awarded a \$350 scholarship for the 2013-2014 school year.

Kristen Alberts	Grace Kilian
Tyler Belanger	Erika Loubier
Aaron Bengtson	Evan Matteson
Hallee Breton	Kelly McCormac
Ethan Bronson	Logan Merrithew
Jaime Constanzer	Sonja Morse
Treva deMaynadier	Ross Osborne
Corey Eastup	Hannah Peabody
Lydia Fletcher	Michaela Petrone
Caleb Fletcher	Travis L. Pitre
Sarah Fletcher	Jennifer Prescott
Zachary Forbes	Morgan Prescott
Keri Gagne	Michael Raffia
Jake Gagne	James Riordan
John Garrity	Julie Riordan
Alyssa Gartley	Simon Rollins
Jason Goggin	Brittany Sharpe
Sarah Golden	Ryley Thompson
Jason Grotton	Kelcy Thompson
Stacy Ann Gunning	Cameron Tibbetts
Amelia Jackson	Thomas White
Joshua Jandreau	Katherine Wight

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 China residents.

Regional School Unit #18

Dear Citizens of the Town of China:

It has been another busy year for your Schools and our work of preparing ALL LEARNERS to be prepared for success in life after high school whatever their path may be remains. This means that graduates are proficient in our curriculums, are complex thinkers, and are reflective, self-directed, and collaborative learners/workers. These are all skills crucial for being successful in today's world. These efforts are aligned with RSU 18's Vision and Strategic Plan, and in line with Maine's Proficiency Based Education Law enacted in 2012.

Beginning in 2018, Maine learners graduating from Public High Schools must graduate proficient in the Maine Learning Results. Maine's Learning Results consists of eight curriculum areas: English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science & Technology, Social Studies, Visual and Performing Arts, Health Education, World and Career and Development. Graduates must also demonstrate the Guiding Principles of the Maine Learning Results requiring and Effective Self-Directed Learners, Creative Problem Solvers, Involved Citizens, and Informed Thinkers.



Members of China's track team awaiting their events last Spring.

RSU 18 is well along the path of implementing a Proficiency Based Learning system and meeting the requirements of Maine's Proficiency Based Graduation requirements. We have steadfastly followed RSU 18's Vision and Strategic Plan, and a key component of the plan centers on the principle of continuous improvement: learning from the work we are doing and leveraging these learnings to improve. In that vein, RSU 18 will be holding a 2015 planning session involving District stakeholders with the purpose of looking at our Vision and Strategic Plan, Maine's Proficiency Graduation Requirements, and our Proficiency Based Learning System in order to hear inputs and perspectives on how to continue improving this work. This information will help guide our work over the next few years.

Another area where we have been working centers around the development of a Teacher and Leader (Administrator) Growth and Development system. Hiring, developing, and retaining the best possible teachers and leaders is crucial to RSU 18 being the best education system it can be. A Committee of teachers and leaders from all Schools in the District has been working on this since the Fall of 2013. Plans are to begin piloting this System beginning in January 2015, receiving state approval of the System in June 2015, and implementing the System beginning with the 2015-16

Regional School Unit #18

school year. This Growth and Development System is aligned with RSU 18's Vision and Strategic Plan and Maine's Effective Teacher & Leaders' Law.

As I write this letter work is underway preparing the school funding plan for the 2015-16 school year. It is always a delicate balance of meeting the needs of learners, providing the right levels of supports and services to support this learning, and keeping the Schools in good shape and safe. In 2012-13 the latest year that data is available, 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. We will work hard to bring forward a budget that meets the needs of our learners while also being fiscally responsible to the communities of RSU 18.

Your Schools are led by a very capable and dedicated Board of Directors who devote many hours of service for the learners, 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



China Middle School's varsity basketball team at a recent game at Erskine Academy.
Team members (L-R): Nick Cates, Sage Hapgood-Belanger,
Jacob Mortimer and Tony Jacobs.

Erskine Academy

Dear Friends of Erskine Academy:

Erskine Academy's past year has been an enterprising one of school improvement and increased and accelerated student achievement.

In October, we concluded our intensive, eighteen-month self-study component of the New England Association of Secondary Schools' (NEASC) accreditation process, culminating in a three-day visit by a ten-member committee assigned to appraise our school and program relative to fifteen quality standards. Through this voluntary endeavor, we sought to earn quality assurance from this nationally respected organization and to further improve our school and the student experience. Although the Commission's action and final report will not be issued until late-February 2015, the visiting committee has recommended continued accreditation for Erskine Academy without conditions.

Through the accreditation process, it was affirmed that Erskine Academy is true to its mission and its long-held traditional values. Additionally, we were commended for: our remarkable range of programming offered to a wide range of student abilities and needs from special education to gifted and talented; our well-maintained physical plant; our carefully cultivated, distinctive, and healthy school culture; and our commitment to the success of every student. Areas identified for development or enhancement within our strategic plan will include: professional and leadership development for the faculty; ongoing analysis of student work and achievement data; a schedule for regular curriculum review and revision; and expanding and more fully integrating the International Student Program.



Marissa Chamberlain (23) congratulates her sister
Mallory (15) on scoring a goal

The thoughtful and careful leveraging of our resources and support for Erskine Academy made us a high performing school in 2012-13 and again in 2013-14. The combined influence and efforts of our teachers, students, and families has established for our school the fifth highest graduation rate 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 have earned our school the letter grade "B" in both years of Maine's school performance grading system program.

A private school serving a public purpose, with 588 students in grades nine through twelve,

Erskine is the second largest town academy in Maine and one of few to serve a voluntary student body exclusively on a school choice basis. As has been the case historically, 97 % of our students come primarily from eight tuition-paying towns. A smaller but growing number, which now includes 13 international students, attend on a private basis at their own expense. Therefore, our

Erskine Academy

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.

A sampling of the activities pursued by of our students and staff this past year is testimony to the vibrancy of the Erskine Academy community:

- Nineteen courses are taught for college credit by our first-class teaching corps, resulting in nearly two-thirds of the graduating class earning credits while in high school and at a considerable savings in college tuition.
- A flourishing “Jobs for Maine Graduates” program teaches essential work seeking, training, and employment skills.
- We have become a “MELMAC Education Foundation” school, which supports our efforts to increase students’ aspirations for higher education and to adopt best practices to improve college access for our students.
- Eighty-seven percent of the Class of 2013 and 2014 is accepted into some form of higher education, many to the most selective colleges in the nation.
- A competitive robotics class and club continue to be funded primarily by grants and financial gifts from our friends and alumni.
- For a fourth 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 and Haiti, in fact.
- A 6th Annual Walk to Cure Breast Cancer, with nearly 100% of our student body participating, raised in excess of \$3000 for the Maine General Breast Care Center.

Pursuing excellence and our mission is a continuous and unyielding work in progress. With accreditation now complete, our institutional strengths are affirmed and a school improvement plan has been informed. We will transition and transform with confidence that we are doing our very best for our students, providing high quality educational experiences and the conditions to inspire them to their highest potential in school, at work, and within their communities.

We are grateful to our students, families, and sending communities for their confidence in and support for Erskine Academy. Together, we create a school and heritage that adheres to what we know is right and good for our young people, while preparing them for quality living founded on scholarship, leadership, stewardship, and relationships.

Sincerely,

Michael McQuarrie
Headmaster

Albert Church Brown Memorial Library

Trustees of the Albert Church Brown Memorial Library continued to expand services and improve facilities during the fiscal year from July 2013 through June 2014. In addition to lending books and magazines and offering free computer and wi-fi use to area residents, year-round and summer, the trustees provided free public programs and superintended ongoing building renovations. The library is open, with all area residents welcome, from 2 to 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and from 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays; wi-fi is available indoors and outdoors from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week.

A variety of programs were offered throughout the year. Attendees heard from Maine authors Susan Poulin, whose book *Finding Your Inner Moose* is hilarious; Don Lord, author of *The Gentle Revolutionaries*, a historical work on missionaries in Siam (now Thailand); and Katherine Silva, whose most recent book is *Night Time*. Christine Deasy answered gardening questions; conservation biologist Geri Verstein spoke about coyotes in Maine; trustee Randy Downer led an early morning bird walk through the village; and Christi Holmes shared stories of her "Deva" 2,181-mile Appalachian Trail hike. The trustees are grateful to the Oak-Grove Foundation for a grant supporting a separate series of children's science and reading programs which continued into the



offered throughout the year. authors Susan Poulin, whose book is hilarious; Don Lord, author of a historical work on missionaries and Katherine Silva, whose most recent book is *Night Time*. The library now has *Deasy of Johnny's* Selected questions; conservation biologist Geri Verstein spoke about coyotes in Maine; trustee Randy Downer led an early morning bird walk through the Holmes shared stories of her Trail hike. The trustees are Foundation for a grant supporting science and reading programs current fiscal year.

In the fall of 2013 the outside of the building was repainted using anonymously donated paint and volunteer labor: students from Erskine Academy, the Kennebec County sheriff's department's inmate work crew, members of the library board of trustees and friends and neighbors all pitched in. The front step was leveled and interior painting was completed in the front hall by our volunteers. The Albert Church Brown Library is supported by donations as well as income from an endowment fund. Fund-raising events included a cookie sale at China Days; a yard and book sale; a quilt raffle; the annual poinsettia sale, with the poinsettias delivered at our holiday open house (which looks as though it will become an annual event); and an annual appeal to local residents.

Library trustees have met repeatedly with the town wide library committee, seeking to improve service to the entire community (and surrounding area) and to increase coordination with our friends at the South China library. On our level, the knitting group met weekly; a craft group began meeting on Thursday afternoons to make varied handicrafts, with sale proceeds benefiting the library; and the book group continued to meet monthly from September through May. A total of 1,682 people visited the library.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Grow, Librarian

South China Library

The South China Library is open ten hours each week and is staffed primarily by volunteers. In 2013-2014 our patrons made 1,860 visits to the library and 263 households had South China Library cards. The library is supported by fundraisers and book sales, donations from individuals, and the town of China. South China Library is the oldest continuously operating library in Maine, established in 1830. The library became a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation in 1912.

The library collection includes more than 11,000 books. We also have over 300 audiobooks 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 available from any computer. Visit our website www.southchinalibrary.org and click on Online Catalog to find your favorite author or books. Card holders can download free e-books and audiobooks from the Maine State Library. Visit the library for more information.



A young patron inspects a lizard as the crowd watches.



Mr. Harley poses with his fans after a concert at the library.

In 2014, Cheryl Baker retired from her Librarian duties, although she continues to be an active volunteer. Thank you, Cheryl, for your years of service. Our new Librarian is Naomi Homan, recently retired from Erskine Academy. Please stop in to welcome Naomi in her new role.

Free programs offered to our community include:

- Summer Reading Program, coordinated by Katie Bailey. The 2014 theme was Science. Attendance ranged from 15 – 50 children each week for programs presented by authors, musicians, educators, and a magician. Thank you to the Oak Grove School

South China Library

Foundation for supporting summer reading!

- 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.
- Book Club for adults meets each month for refreshments and lively discussion. New members are welcome anytime, contact Cheryl at 445-2956 for more information.

Thank you to our many volunteers, from teens to retirees, for making every library visit enjoyable. For more information about volunteering, please stop in at the library and talk to Librarian Naomi Homan.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Dempster, President
South China Public Library Association



Young library patrons work on an activity during the summer of 2014.

Library Hours:

Wednesday
10:00 a.m. – Noon
and 3:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Saturday
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Phone: 445-3094
Located on Village St.
in South China

www.southchinalibrary.org

Animal Control

State Law requires all dogs over the age of 6 months to 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 Kennebec Valley Humane Society! 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, 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.

ACO Contact Numbers:

Peter A. Nerber	530-0948
Peter E. Nerber	505-0981
Nerber Home #	993-2225 (if no answer, leave a message)

Complaints – 2014

Dogs at Large	43
Stray Cats	39
Dog Bites	2
Aggressive dogs	2
Missing Dog	1
Chickens at Large	4
Goats in road	5
Cat bite	1
Welfare Check	13
Loose horses and cows	4
Injured Dog	1
Unlicensed Dog reminder	30
Rabbit at Large	1



Respectfully submitted,

Julie Finley
Deputy Clerk

Kennebec County Sheriff's Office

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 our County. In addition to rural patrol, the Law Enforcement Division provides many regional assets to our communities including Drug Investigations, K-9, Dive Team, Sex Offender Registry, Veterans Advocacy, Accident Reconstruction and the Special Response Team.

In 2014, Deputy Sheriffs responded to a total of 34,224 calls for service. We answered (506) calls for service involving theft; (866) motor vehicle accidents; (687) alarms; (279) domestic violence; (242) 911 hang-ups; (118) assaults; (129) K-9 calls and (502) providing assistance to other agencies. The Sheriff's patrol division conducted (297) school safety visits and made 2,211 vehicle stops.

During the past year, our Correctional Facility managed 3,328 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 \$529,042 bed day savings to the citizens of Kennebec County. Throughout 2014, inmates worked 14,646 community service hours, valued at approximately \$109,842. Our inmates raised 39,835 pounds of produce for the inmate kitchen and area food pantries in 2014.

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 121,164 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

China Village Volunteer Fire Department

During the past year, the China Village Volunteer Fire Department responded to 70 calls that included seven structure fires in town, four wild land/brush fires, two vehicle fires, 15 vehicle accidents, seven downed wires or trees, six fire alarms, one fuel leak, three smoke or odor investigations and 11 miscellaneous service calls. In addition, the Department provided five assists to China Rescue and responded to nine mutual aid requests in neighboring towns.

Last year we reported that we had been unsuccessful in obtaining a grant to replace a 1988 GMC tanker that did not meet current fire standards because the converted milk tank was not baffled. We further explained that we were in the process of emptying our fundraising account to purchase a used Ford 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 had just become a surplus vehicle due to consolidation of two fire districts in upper New York State. We were pleased to take delivery of the vehicle in February, but found that like all used vehicles some repairs were needed. In addition, we had to get the truck lettered and some new firefighting equipment had to be purchased. Once those activities were completed, we kept busy conducting several training sessions so members could become fully familiar with its operation. We now feel very comfortable that this purchase represented an extremely valuable upgrade to our department. 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 significant savings to taxpayers.

Our major fundraising activity is our annual chicken barbecue that is usually held the first Saturday of July. We especially want to thank everyone who turned out this past year as it was the first time in several years that we sold out our 350 meals. We look forward to being as successful again this year and hope you will



keep this exceptional noon-time meal in mind as we continue to replenish our department fund that is used for special projects and unexpected expenses not covered by our Town Operating Account. Also, please keep an eye open for some public breakfasts and suppers that we may be holding this spring.

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

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
- Stephen Labbe
- Joe Mason

China Village Volunteer Fire Department

arrange installation. You may also e-mail us at cvvfd@roadrunner.com.

We were pleased to add two new members to our roster but we also lost one who moved out of state. That leaves us with 21 active members whose average age is much higher than desirable. We therefore 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 2013 and has already received 535 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



Junior firefighters Thomas and Benjamin Labbe help to make sure the firetruck is clean and ready to respond.

South China Volunteer Fire Department

Dear Citizens of the Town of China,

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 105 alarms. This is nearly twice as many as last year. They break down by type as follows: 3 structure, 4 Chimney 15 downed wires/trees in road, 4 vehicle, 20 auto accidents, 12 unfounded/false alarms, 5 mutual aid to neighboring towns for structure fires and other incidents, 2 smoke/odor investigation, 4 wildland, 1 Landing Zone for Lifeflight, 2 fuel leak/spill, and 1 CO alarm.

We currently have 23 active members.

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. I am pleased that the Selectmen have listened to the advice of the Chiefs and renewed the contract, this time for a 3 year period. 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, Maine Department of Labor 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 held several hands-on training sessions and participated in joint tanker operations training with China Village, Weeks Mills, and Albion Fire. This was held at the head of the lake and was very successful.

Department members:

- Richard Morse
- Robert Dowe
- Robert Cargill
- Donald Dowe
- Shawn Reed
- Glen Morse
- Mike Rocque
- Bill Bickford
- Nelson Glidden
- Larry Barden
- Cindy Senkbeil
- Fred Glidden
- Hans Arp
- JJ Wentoworth
- Sheldon Goodine
- Martin Britten
- Dean Sheaff
- Webb Shaw
- Shawn Stevens
- Kelly Keezer
- Greg Althenn
- Shayne Cargill
- Justen Quimby

South China Volunteer Fire Department

We again conducted a very successful fire prevention program at the China Schools during Fire Prevention Week (our 28th annual). Thanks to Cindy Senkbiel 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, Weeks Mills and China Rescue departments. At our meetings we discuss current issues, joint operations, training, and equipment purchases. These meetings help us to provide better and more coordinated fire protection services to the town.

We replaced the pump in the station with a compressed air priming system. It is very simple to operate and works extremely well. We use the pump to fill our trucks from our fire pond.

With the help of a State grant, we upgraded all the lights in the station this year to the latest high efficiency type. We are told that it will reduce our electric bill, and it certainly makes the station much brighter in the



Engine 33

primer on the station with a compressed air priming system. It is very simple to operate and works extremely well. We use the pump to fill our trucks from our

State grant, we upgraded all the lights in the station this year to the latest high efficiency type. We are told that it will reduce our electric bill, and it certainly makes the station much brighter in the

This year we entered into a joint purchase with China Village, Weeks Mills, China Rescue, and Albion Fire. Sharing the cost equally, we purchased a state of the art, Fit Testing Machine for all to use. At least one member of each department is trained in its use and can administer the test. The unit is housed with the China Village Volunteer Fire Department. The Maine Department of Labor requires that each firefighter certified to enter an atmosphere that is Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health (ie. smoke, gasses, etc) must have his respirator mask fit tested annually to ensure that it fits properly and does not leak. In the past we relied on a neighboring town for this service, but they were no longer able to do it for us.

We had to replace the furnace at our fire station this year. During it's annual cleaning and inspection, the technician discovered a hole in the heat chamber and it had to be condemned. The old one was installed when we built the station and was 35 years old so it was time. The new one is much more efficient than the old one.

We held our 35th 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 regular operational budget.

South China Volunteer Fire Department

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.

Any member of the community who 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



South China Volunteer Fire Department's response vehicles on display

Weeks Mills Volunteer Fire Department

On behalf of the members of the Weeks Mills Fire Department, we wish to thank the Citizens of the Town of China for their continuing support of the Towns' Fire Departments. Your continuous support at our Annual Town Meetings allows us to serve the community with a high level of fire protection.

We held our 2nd annual boot drive over Labor Day weekend and I am happy to report that it was a huge success. With the donations from last year, added to this year's donations, we were able to purchase a State of the Art Thermal Imaging Camera. This valuable piece of equipment will assist us in not only fighting fires but also help us identify HOT SPOTS in a dwelling, cutting down on unnecessary tear downs for proper extinguishment of fires. This unit allows the operator to size up the fire and deploy interior teams to the main fire area. The camera will allow us to fight and extinguish fires in a much safer manner.

We continue to meet with South China, China Village and China Rescue, holding round table discussions on equipment needs, training and future purchases. This allows us to better serve the Town with the best possible equipment and joint fire fighting needs and concerns.

Last year we responded to 34 calls, down from the previous year by 15%. The breakdown is as follows: 5 structure, 19 auto accidents, 2 wildfires, 2 chimney, 3 false alarms, 2 rescue assist, 1 mutual aid. I wish to thank all of our members for the countless hours they invest during the course of the year, maintaining our equipment, building and responding to calls.

Please remember to change the batteries in you smoke detectors twice a year. We hear all the time how they save lives. REMEMBER IF YOU NEED OUR ASSISTANCE, GET OUT, STAY OUT AND CALL 911.

Weeks Mills V.F.D. meets on the first Thursday of the month @ 7:00 pm. Our door is always open for new members. Please come to a meeting, meet the personnel, enjoy coffee and donuts and meet our members.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Stephenson, Chief

Department members:

- Greg Althenn
- Bill Bickford
- Norman Black
- Kevin Freeman
- Kevin Grant
- David Herard
- Kate Herard
- Tom Michaud
- George Oliver
- Webb Shaw
- Sally Sproul
- Chuck Stephenson
- Bill Van Wickler
- Al Wenzel
- Adam Zimbura
- Cameron Clark



Practice makes perfect - Members of the Weeks Mills Fire Department are shown at a training session.

China Rescue

Drivers injured in traumatic vehicle accidents, a frightened mother with sick children, a loved one experiencing cardiac arrest or our elderly folks who have fallen, these are just a few of the people who look for help from dedicated volunteer members of China Rescue.

China Rescue answers more than 255 calls throughout the area every year, and remains on call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. We work together with the China Fire Departments, Delta Ambulance (our patient transporting agency), Maine EMS, Life Flight of Maine and all area hospitals. China Rescue is a paramedic-licensed first responder team that comes to your aid first, when precious minutes count.

To continue high quality free emergency medical care members have provided residents and visitors since 1982, we depend on the continued good will of donors and the commitment from volunteers who come to us from all walks of life and every corner of the region. JOIN our team as a supporter or volunteer. Be part of a tradition of excellent emergency care.

Department members:

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

If you are interested in more information, contact China Rescue Chief of Service David Herard at chinamerescue@gmail.com.

Respectfully submitted,

David Herard
Chief of Service



China Rescue's rig as it participated in China's Memorial Day parade

Emergency Preparedness Committee

The national Incident Management System, protocol of the Federal Emergency management Agency, provides the foundation needed to ensure that people can work together when our communities need us the most. This system integrates “best practices” into a comprehensive, standardized framework that is flexible enough to be applicable across the full spectrum of potential incidents, regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity. Moreover, NIMS allows us to work together to prepare for, prevent, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of major incidents.

The proper preparedness for these types of emergencies is achieved and maintained through a continuous cycle of planning, organizing, training, equipping, exercising, evaluating, and taking corrective action. Preparedness facilitates efficient and effective emergency management and incident response activities.

How are we doing in China? We will be working with the Maine Emergency Management Agency in coordinated ways to ensure that we have proper training and certifications relative to emergency preparedness circumstances. Though at times progress toward a fully implementable plan seems slow, China is resolutely moving in the right direction to have proper capital resources and personnel for proper emergency management. Progress has been made in many areas, though much more has to be completed over time for respective emergencies. The Town of China will ultimately need to have an overarching command structure in place to effectively handle most all of the anticipated types of emergencies. Patience, with proper financial resources, will prove to be a valuable ingredient.

Municipalities may respond to various emergencies. The relatively less complex emergencies are traditionally responded to for the most part by personnel from local fire departments and rescue. They are also managed at the “local” level and handled in an efficient manner. In China we have a very robust and effective and responsive group of volunteer fire department and rescue personnel. We are eternally grateful for their professionalism and ability to handle local emergency situations. The respective entities in China are hereby noted and thanked for their collective efforts in being prepared for emergency situations; the China Village Volunteer Fire Department; the South China Volunteer Fire Department; the Weeks Mills Volunteer Fire Department; and China Rescue, Inc. We also extend appreciation to the City of Waterville Hazmat Team and also those who have volunteered on a personal basis in past emergency circumstances.

We recently welcomed Stephen Nichols and Bill Rancourt to the Emergency Preparedness Committee. They bring a wealth of experience from their history and work relating to emergency services. The town is always in need of more trained and dedicated volunteers, please consider joining the effort to make certain the town is always prepared for any emergency.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Morrell, Chairperson
China Emergency Preparedness Committee



Delta Ambulance

Delta Ambulance, founded in 1972, is the leading provider of high quality, compassionate emergency services and medical transportation in central Maine. Our superior training, experience and state-of-the-art medical technologies set us apart from other ambulance services. We are pleased to be able to provide emergency Paramedic response and care 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 continue to 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, underinsured and in support of special community events.

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 continues to include 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,

Timothy A Beals, Executive Director
Bill McKenna, Director of Community Relations
207.861.4251
B.McKenna@DeltaAmbulance.org



One of Delta's rigs as it leaves the new Maine General Medical Center Campus on moving day. *Photo by Joe Phelan (KJ)*

Cemetery Committee

There are 31 cemeteries in the Town of China. Although there are a few private cemeteries, most are maintained by the town with a budget in 2014 of only \$22,900. Included in this amount is an annual appropriation for veterans' markers and American flags.

A map of cemetery locations in China is available on our web site: www.china.govoffice.com

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 at julie@chinamaine.org for information.

All lots are priced at \$500. 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.

If you are interested in genealogy, you may contact Kelly Grotton at kelly@chinamaine.org

The cemetery fence at Branch Mills Cemetery will be sandblasted and painted this year. One section has been completed. Progress on the remainder of the fence will continue as the weather permits.

There has been discussion by the Cemetery Committee about removing the tomb at Branch Mills Cemetery and China Village Cemetery. They are no longer used and are becoming unsafe. If anyone has any objection or would like to suggest other options, please contact the town office during regular business hours at 445-2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Finley, Cemetery Committee member



Newly restored fence at the Branch Mills Cemetery.

China Region Lakes Alliance

Dear Friends,

This letter contains the China Region Lakes Alliance's Annual Report, which summarizes the conservation and water quality protection activities undertaken in 2014. The CRLA has been working steadily to protect our valuable Lakes and waterways in Vassalboro, China, and the surrounding communities since 1995.

Among the highlights of 2014 was the veritable absence of an algae bloom in Webber Pond and a continuing water quality improvement trend in Three Mile Pond. This remarkable achievement is absolutely splendid news and coincides unequivocally with the restoration of the sea-run alewife fishery in these lakes. As you know, CRLA was instrumental in their restoration to Three Mile Pond. Now, CRLA is spearheading these restoration activity to China Lake so that our community and posterity can enjoy clean water and a cold water fishery.

The mechanism by which alewife improve water quality is related to their metabolic uptake of nutrients whereby billions of juvenile alewife consume food (i.e. carbon, nitrogen, and phosphorus) and essential export it upon their egress from the lake. This removes phosphorus from the water column, which deprives plankton and algae of these same nutrients; hence eutrophication is precluded and the lake it cleaner.

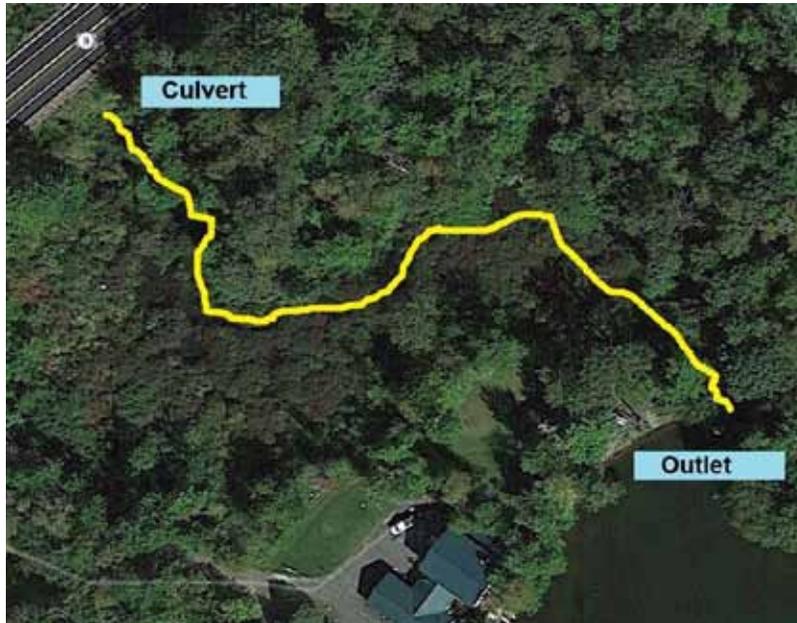
Going forward, CRLA has a comprehensive plan to restore sea run fish passageway along the eight mile stretch of the Outlet Stream into China Lake. All of the six dam owners on the Outlet Stream have shown support and cooperation for fish passage and CRLA is engaging engineering firms to develop plans that are agreeable to each of them. It will take time and substantial funding to reach our goal of 'unfettered fish passage into China Lake by December 31, 2018'. In the meantime, the Maine Department of Marine Resources stocked 21,000 adult alewife into China Lake in the Spring of 2014.

In addition, CRLA managed the Courtesy Boat Inspection program and the Youth Conservation Corp. They each experienced another very good season with 18 area high school age students providing services for ecological protection of natural resources. The CBI staffed all 4 public boat launches in the area and inspected hundreds of boats and trailers for invasive plants (i.e. milfoil) on weekends and holidays prior to their launching. A series of photographs of the projects are appended. CRLA wishes to extend its sincere appreciation to the Town of China for its foresight, fortitude, and support.

Jim Hart, CRLA President

China Region Lakes Alliance

Three Mile Pond - Overview of Seaward Mills Stream outlet at Route 3 and lake. In stream clearing work to removal invasive dogwood trees in the stream to help restore anadromous fish passage.

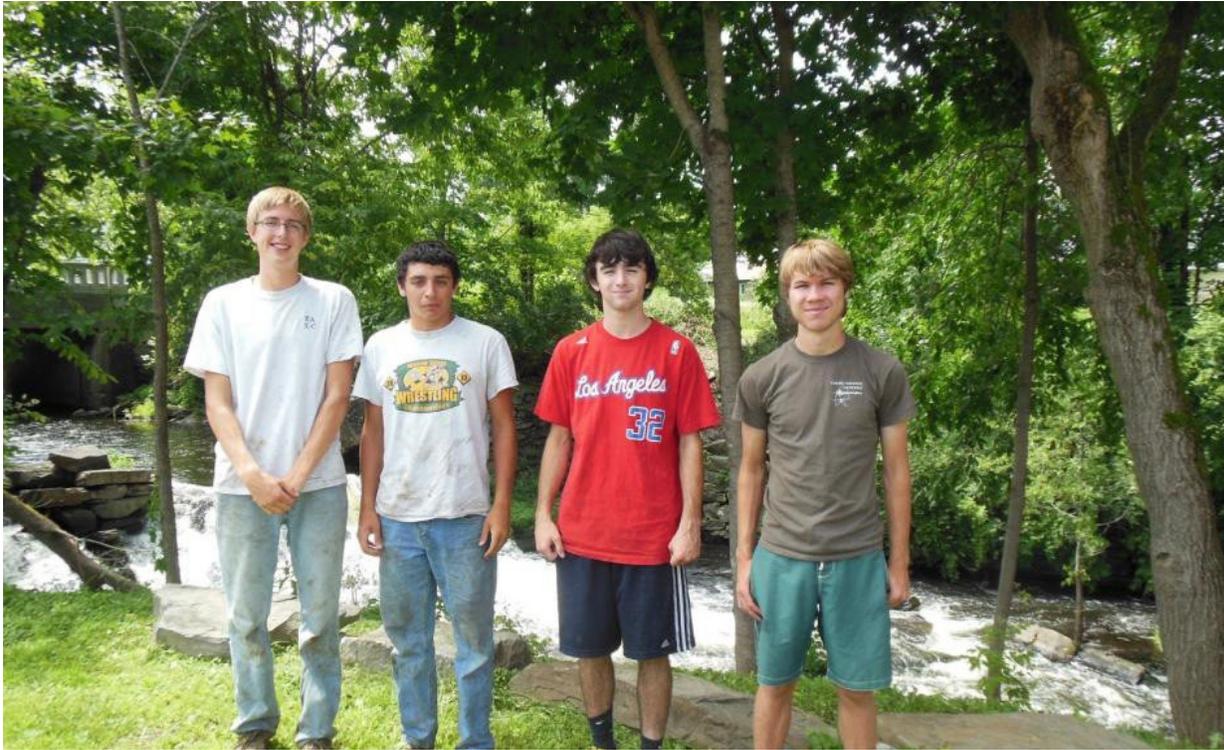


CRLA YCC crew packing up the truck at the Box Mill dam site on the Outlet Stream.



China Region Lakes Alliance

Before brush clearing at the Box Mill dam site on the Outlet Stream by YCC
(see background on opposite side of stream).



After brush clearing at the Box Mill dam site on the Outlet Stream by YCC (see background on opposite side of stream). CRLA YCC devoted 110 man-hours onsite in preparation for nature like fishway.



Sheepscot Valley Conservation Association

The Sheepscot Valley Conservation Association is an accredited land trust and advocacy group that has worked with many conservation-minded landowners to protect 15 miles of riverfront and more than 3,700 acres of working farms, forests and important habitat in over 50 conservation properties, including seven preserves open to the public for low-impact recreation like hiking, snowshoeing, hunting and fishing.

SVCA has joined with neighboring land trusts in a number of collaborative conservation projects including the 12 Rivers Conservation Initiative, a group of 10 local land trusts seeking to accelerate conservation of the forested landscape from the Kennebec to the St. George to achieve a network of conserved lands that protects the Midcoast's ecosystems and ensures multiple human benefits for generations to come.

At the end of 2014 we received a generous gift of 78 acres in Whitefield with frontage on Weary Pond. The property lies within the Stearns Brook sub-watershed of the Sheepscot River that flows into Little Dyer Pond and Dyer Long Pond. Donor Ann Marie Maguire wants to protect this portion of her property from development and provide opportunities for forestry and non-motorized recreation. We are so very grateful to Ann Marie for her generosity.

Our programs this past year focused on meaningful citizen science projects that our members could contribute to on a regular basis. We built on this idea by partnering with Hidden Valley Nature Center to offer an educational program ("Kids Outside Doing Science") to Whitefield elementary schools, hands-on, long-term Nature Center that can be carried forward year after year. Volunteers are helping with this SVCA citizen science duck box and Sheepscot monitoring programs. This year through a new Partnership with the Maine Coastal Observing Alliance, we expanded our 21-year-monitoring program into the Sheepscot River Estuary, collecting samples at five estuary locations during late summer and early fall.



In addition to helping teach local fourth graders in the "Kids Outside Doing Science" program with HVNC, educator and naturalist Lynne Flaccus opened windows to nature for folks of all ages who joined her in 2014 to explore the watershed, including walks on the new trail at SVCA's Stetser Preserve and paddles down the Sheepscot. We also held two well-attended migratory fish day events to explore how our rivers connect to the Gulf of Maine and how important these connections are for the migratory fish that depend on the Sheepscot River.

Sheepscot Valley Conservation Association

SVCA also launched our flash walk program, giving quick notice when we know the weather and/or circumstances will be just right. There are many ways to join the fun, including meeting new people who share an interest in conservation, the outdoors, and outdoor recreation, including opportunities to assist in trail maintenance, preserve stewardship, easement monitoring and other volunteer activities. In 2015, SVCA will explore the connections between art and nature. Stay tuned to our website and Facebook page for more info. It promises to be a fun and exciting year!

We hope you will get a chance to attend an event or visit one of the SVCA's seven public preserves:

Marsh River Preserve, in Newcastle, with over one mile of frontage on the Marsh River and two miles of trails including an interpretive trail;

Griggs Preserve, in Newcastle, with two miles of trails through hilly woodlands;

Bass Falls Preserve, in Alna, with one mile of Sheepscot River frontage and three miles of trails;

Stetser Preserve, in Jefferson, with 150 wooded acres and 3 miles of trails including a new interpretive trail;

Trout Brook Preserve, in Alna, protecting over 4,200 feet of the brook, frontage on the Sheepscot, with just about two miles of trails including a new interpretive trail;

Whitefield Salmon Preserve, along the confluence of the west branch and the main stem of the Sheepscot, with nearly two miles of trails;

Palermo Preserve, with one mile of interpretive trail, on the upper stretch of the Sheepscot.

The Association deeply appreciates the support it receives from the people in the Sheepscot watershed.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Patton
Executive Director
Sheepscot Valley Conservation Association
624 Sheepscot Road
Newcastle, ME, 04553
(207) 586-5616
svca@sheepscot.org
www.sheepscot.org
www.facebook.com/sheepscot

Thurston Park

Once again, the Thurston Park Committee was busy in 2014. We celebrated a milestone in the development of the park and moved forward toward the next round of improvements. Here are some of the highlights:

Grand Opening Celebration: On May 31, the public was invited to a grand opening ceremony for the new trail system. Approximately 60 people came for the ceremony and/or to try out some of the new trails. The Director of the Maine Trails Grant Program, Mick Rogers, told the group how impressed he was with the improvements since his first visit to the park three years earlier. (The Maine Trails Grant supported much of the trail work that was done.)

Erskine Day of Caring: On what has become an annual event, between 25 and 30 Erskine Academy students and staff spent a day doing trail work at the park. They were able to cut back and remove brush along the Old Yorktown Road, fill some wet areas on the Partridge Trail with gravel and install some of the many posts needed for trail signs and boundary markers.

Adult Volunteer Work Day: Later in the summer, we organized a work day for community volunteers.

The 'day' actually day on both Sunday. One took charge improvements Trail. This back branches along the trail, about 150 feet start where other tall plants the trail. They to remove small caused a trip blazed the trail blue paint recommended by the Maine Trails Program.



A newly constructed bridge on a trail in Thurston Park.

extended all Saturday and family group of making on the Moose included cutting and bushes weed wacking of trail at the goldenrod and had filled in were also able stumps that hazard and using the light

Another family took charge of improvements on the Partridge Trail. They were able to complete the 'tread work' on the northeast end of the trail by moving gravel with wheelbarrows and packing it in ruts.

Another pair of workers cut out the final section of the Monument Trail and blazed it with the blue marking paint. They were also able to install the boundary marker signs where the Monument Trail meets the park boundary near the northeast corner. This pair also worked on stump removal on portions of the Moose Trail and Rufus Jones Trail and completed the trail blazing on those portions.

Boy Scout Construction Project: Just prior to the grand opening ceremony the China Boy Scouts

Thurston Park

constructed and installed two information kiosks. The kiosks are roofed and have display boards on both sides. One side has a hinged lexan cover to protect it from the elements.

Lunder New Naturalist Program: The committee has begun a project with the China Middle School under the Lunder New Naturalist Program. It is a program to help kids develop a better connection with the natural environment. The kids have been to the park and are now making informational signs explaining some of the things they encountered on the trail. They will be installing the signs as part of a nature trail in the spring.

Link to the China 4 Seasons Club: The Thurston Park Committee now has a committee member who acts as a liaison between the two groups. The two groups are planning on cooperating on trail projects in the future. The 4 Seasons Club has been included in the Maine Trails Grant Application as an outdoor safety education provider.

Other Work: Committee members also spent time installing additional sign posts and signs as well as making improvements to the kiosks. Map boxes were constructed and attached to both kiosks. Large trail maps were also installed in each kiosk.

Grant Application: At the opening ceremony, Mick Rogers encouraged the Thurston Park Committee to apply for another Maine Trails Program Grant. He told committee members that the program offered a smaller grant program that would fit well with the next phase of work in the park. As a result, the Committee prepared an application for a \$5000 Maine Trails Program Safety and Education Grant. The grant awards were to be determined in February.

Volunteers: The Thurston Park Committee is always looking for additional volunteers to help with trail work, fund raising or to serve on the committee itself. Interested persons are encouraged to contact the town office and ask about opportunities to help out.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Seekins,
Chair



One of the wetland areas in Thurston Park.

Recreation Committee

2014 was a good year for the Recreation Committee. We contracted with a new field maintenance firm. Our fields are beginning to look better. We want to thank all the teams and leaders for their continued support in keeping the fields viable for each sport. We worked diligently with both Scott Pierz and Bill Najpauer, Code Enforcement Officer and we now have a well for irrigation and non-drinkable water for the snack shack. We still need to build a pump house and get a hose reel apparatus for the irrigation and piping and plumbing for the lines. That will be bid out this Spring.

All of the recreation programs offered in the town are run, staffed and maintained by volunteers, and we acknowledge their dedicated efforts continue to maintain a high level of participation by the youth of China. Programs supported by the town include youth baseball and softball, basketball, football, cheering, field hockey, soccer, adult softball and the Fun Run. If you are interested in becoming involved with any of these programs, please contact the town office and we can provide you the name and contact information of the person in charge of the respective programs.

Respectfully submitted,

Dolly Batteese
Chair



Top: Pre-K soccer participants are shown learning the art of the throw-in.



Left: 6th graders Bryce Goff and Nathan Howell members the co-ed 4th - 6th soccer team. Both boys have been regular participants in the rec programs for many years.

Code Enforcement

The Town of China is subject to the Maine Uniform Building Energy Code (MUBEC) which impacts both residential and commercial structures including new buildings, addition, renovations, and foundations. Permits are required for the following: new construction; expansion or improvement of principal or accessory structures that creates a new building footprint; increases of volume such as dormers and enclosed deck spaces; increases in a structures height; garages and sheds; renovations; additions; above and in-ground pools; docks; plumbing and subsurface wastewater disposal systems and the replacement of buildings or structures.

Please remember that activities within the shoreland zone are subject to a variety of performance standards designed to protect water quality. The Code Enforcement Office should be contacted prior to performing any construction, expansions earth moving, clearing or development. You may contact me at 207-445-3540 or at bill@chinamaine.org with any questions and I will be glad to assist you with any of your construction, ordinance or permit inquiries.

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
Building Permits Issued:	117	120	185	194	158	177	139	218	183	191
New single family homes	6	3	15	2	16	15	13	23	24	25
Manufactured homes	8	5	10	4	11	8	12	21	14	22
Additions & expansions	12	26	16	22	25	16	29	18	29	35
Accessory garages, sheds etc.	36	20	71	71	49	57	48	83	59	63
Decks & patios	18	20	44	53	30	44	21	39	27	21
Renovations	15	5	7	15	6	9	5	5	8	9
Other (pools, ramps etc.)	9	21	13	18	19	23	10	22	11	16
Demolition	13	10	9	9	2	5	1	7	7	7
CEO permits & notices:	33	54	68	57	75	60	43	56	56	62
Timber harvesting	7	22	29	27	21	28	23	13	17	22
Piers or docks	4	2	4	1	7	0	1	6	5	8
Signs	9	10	16	19	22	8	12	10	13	11
Road Construction	2	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Filling/earth moving	4	9	12	3	13	10	10	13	12	11
Wells	6	11	6	4	10	13	6	13	8	9
Other	1	0	1	2	1	0	1	1	1	1
Plumbing permits:	46	59	85	59	105	88	77	117	135	143
Internal plumbing	24	36	50	38	67	55	47	68	83	88
External plumbing (septic systems)	22	23	35	21	38	33	30	49	52	55

Code Enforcement

Construction and new housing activity is trending close to the activity in 2013 except for a few areas. New single family housing, manufactured housing and garage/shed permits are up slightly as compared to 2013, however, overall permit activity has declined. It may take more time for permit activity to reach our 10-year average of 168 annual permits and 14 new single family residential dwellings.

I would like to express my pleasure at working for the Town of China and look forward to answering questions about zoning or permit requirements.

Respectfully submitted,

William Najpauer
Code Enforcement Officer
Local Plumbing Inspector



Bill Najpauer

Planning Board

During 2014, the Planning Board reviewed and approved five Conditional Use Permit Applications for commercial related activities and also reviewed and approved subdivision plan amendments for two existing subdivision plans.

The Board also discussed possible ordinance changes and explored ways to make the application review process more efficient and user friendly.

The Planning Board continues to adhere to protocols including:

1. Specific timetables for submitting applications.
2. Thorough reviews resulting in the determination of “finds-of-fact” regarding conditional use review criteria for commercial-related activities.
3. Consideration of the need for public hearings especially to consider the concerns of abutting land owners to proposed new development.

Anyone planning a project that will require a conditional use permit or subdivision plan approval from the Planning Board is encouraged to contact the Code Enforcement Officer as early as possible in their development planning process, to discuss ordinance requirements and application procedures.

The Planning Board requests that anyone wishing to be placed on the agenda submit their application a minimum of at least 7-days prior to meeting. Applications should be submitted to the Code Enforcement Officer.

The Planning Board would like to thank the following members for their service to the Planning Board and the Citizens of China: Ron Breton, who served as the chairperson and helped the Board navigate several complicated application reviews. His expertise and patience will be missed by his fellow Board members. Kyle Pierce, who served on the Board for many years and helped the Board to improve the application and review process. Special thanks are extended to Scott Pierz who assisted the Planning Board over his 19 years as China’s Code Enforcement Officer.

The Board would also like to welcome new Planning Board Member Michele Bourque and hope she enjoys her tenure on the Board.

All meetings of the Planning Board are open to the public. The meetings are scheduled for the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month and begin at 6:30 pm. in the Town Office Meeting Room. Please contact the Code Enforcement Officer to confirm the meeting schedule.

Respectfully submitted,
Toni Wall, District 2 (Chairperson)
James Wilkens, District 1
Vacant, District 3
Michelle Bourque, District 4
Milton Dudley, At Large
Frank Soares, Alternate-At Large

FirstPark

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, 2014.

Financial Overview

KRDA/FirstPark ended the fiscal year within our planned operating budget showing \$84,472 of revenue over expenditures. Annual revenue distributions to member communities totaled \$241,560. We reduced our long term debt principal by \$242,581. This amount includes the additional principal payments being made on our note held by Camden National Bank. These additional payments will continue to reduce the term of the note. At this point, we are still on target to completely pay off our long term debt in approximately seven years. The total long-term debt for the organization stands at approximately \$1,834,369. For investments, we have five CD's and a money market account at the Maine State Credit Union totaling \$202,326; a savings account with TD Bank totaling \$244,609 and; a CD with Skowhegan National Bank totaling \$187,658. 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.

Operations Overview

During FY 2013-2014, the organization effectively operated under the previous year's administrative changes. The marketing and planning committees were decisively engaged in the policy development and strategic planning for the project – FirstPark. The marketing committee, chaired by Kathryn Ruth, Town of Pittsfield, adopted a networking approach to reach targeted firms in the industry segments that make sense for the state and the region. Through CBRE we are using a similar network approach to identify interested developers who would be required to provide building solutions for are intended leads. KRDA assisted the state (Maine International Trade Center) with securing federal funds for foreign direct investment with the intent that we will be able to access a portion of these funds to augment our travel budget. This promising goodwill should provide substantial upside in the coming years. The planning committee, chaired by Mike Roy, City of Waterville, reviewed the capital/facility plan and costs for building out the balance of the park and discussed the telephony status with Fairpoint. The effort going forward will slowly gravitate to a regional posture which will be overseen by the planning committee. In view of this we financially assisted the Central Maine Growth Council's efforts to apply for the Foreign Trade Zone Alternative Site framework. The organization will be actively exploring identifying and securing additional forms of revenue to place the organization in a position to compete with other regions in the US and beyond.

From the Director's Desk...

The services of Research Consulting International (Montreal, Canada) our lead generator have been exceptional in support of our networking approach. This process placed us in front of twenty five senior level ("C-level") decision makers within the firms to tell our story about the competitive advantages of Central Maine. In October of 2013, we began our first outreach into the Maritimes

FirstPark

(calling over 300 firms and targeting seven firms to meet with). In the winter of 2013-2014 we called on over 400 firms in the Route 128 corridor in MA – which yielded zero (0) firms to meet with. This suggests that KRDA may yield better results focusing on foreign direct investment (FDI). In the early spring we shifted our focus on the Montreal – Ottawa region (again calling on over 400 firms and finding 9 firms to meet with). From this sortie we succeed in obtaining our first investment from an ICT firm out of Montreal. In the late spring, we leveraged the state’s planned trade mission to the UK to call on nine firms. Many of the firms we connected with remain viable candidates for a future investment decision into Central Maine. We have intentionally targeted small emerging firms that are planning their first phased expansion into the US and the North East. Around this effort we have built a technical assistance team – from accounting to visas – to help hand hold these firms into the region. I intend to explore additional relationships with developers who may provide build out solutions for these forthcoming leads into FirstPark. Finally, I am scheduling myself to attend selectmen’s/council meetings, to talk about what we’re doing or to listen to ideas.

Respectfully submitted,

Brad Jackson
Executive Director
KRDA/FirstPark



Helen Mosher (center) is the recipient of China’s Boston Post Cane.
Mrs. Mosher turned 99 in September 2014.

Transfer Station's Solid Waste Future

Of current times, managing municipal solid waste in small communities has been a challenging and costly endeavor. China's waste management budget is the third largest budget item, one that could potentially increase during a period of tightening municipal and state budgets. It therefore appears obligatory for residents, elected officials and management to consider designing new or changing existing solid waste management practices that will address ways to offset projected cost increases.

Throughout history growing waste volume and complexity have been the pattern. These factors continue to inform us that disposal methods have needed to be changed to accommodate the volume growth and complexity of waste. For instance, not too long ago we had a landfill and groundwater protection was not at the top of a priority list. Growth in waste generation, it seems, will always be a concern. Fast forwarding and we now have Federal and State sponsored programs regulating what can be disposed of and how it is to be handled.

Success: While many costs associated with the processing of municipal waste have increased over the last several years, the transfer station budget has decreased from nine years ago. Transportation costs and "tipping fees" (charges per ton for processing) for municipal waste have increased significantly. The offset to all the increases has been your willingness to embrace the streamlined and very successful recycling initiative we have implemented over the last decade at the transfer station. Recycled products not only produce substantial income by being sold in the commodities markets, they also decrease expenses by removing from the traditional waste stream much product we would be charged over \$75.00 per ton for processing if not recycled. Recycling saves your tax dollars. Thank you for your efforts to recycle.

Trends: Although China has enjoyed successes in the control of the costs of operation with rising volumes and complex regulations, it seems to be important to continually consider improvements in effective and efficient disposal of municipal solid waste. Indeed, if we do not want to experience rapidly increasing costs of disposal, it might be essential to make informed choices about the future operations at the China transfer station. An example of the decisions to be made relates to the town's current relationship with other municipalities disposing of MSW at the waste to energy Penobscot Energy Recovery Corporation plant in Orrington, Maine.

China is one of 187 communities that dispose of municipal solid waste at the Penobscot Energy Recovery Corporation (PERC) waste-to-energy facility in Orrington, Maine under a 30 year contract. That contract expires in 2018. At this point it does not look like PERC will be an affordable disposal option beyond 2018; from projected loss of important revenues to inability to cut costs as waste quantities decline to major upcoming maintenance needs, etc. The Municipal Review Committee, Inc., an organization representing the 187 municipalities using PERC for waste disposal, is in the process of planning for the development of a state-of-the art integrated solid waste management system which would process members' solid waste consistent with the State's solid waste hierarchy and in a way that maximizes recycling and useful processing of waste into products such as biofuels. The State's Solid Waste Management Policy (M.R.S.A. Title 38 §2101) hierarchy from highest priority to lowest priority is Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Compost, Incineration, and Landfilling. Municipalities could face significant increases in disposal costs of

Transfer Station's Solid Waste Future

waste under certain scenarios post 2018. Please know that there are many conversations taking place on the subject of waste disposal and that it has the heightened attention of municipalities, corporations and the Maine Legislature.

Proposed changes to an existing program could be controversial, potentially divisive, and if done properly, time consuming. Changes at the China transfer station have been gradual and over a long period of time. Nevertheless, the changes are controversial to some residents who would like to have continued with the landfill concept or with just throwing most everything in the hopper when China changed to a transfer station. Changes are in the plans ahead and we hope to keep you informed as those plans unfold. Kindly rest assured that your town officials and administration have effectiveness and efficiency as the two highest priorities in any changes they may pursue. We are happy to respond to any of your questions or concerns. Thank YOU for all the consideration...

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel L'Heureux, Town Manager

Compost

Composting is nature's way of recycling organics.

When you compost, you convert vegetable scraps, leaves, grass clippings and other materials into a nutrient rich soil material. You can use finished compost in your garden and around shrubs or other plants to help them grow. Composting also reduces the amount of materials that need to be disposed of, reducing those related costs.

Processing and Beneficial Use

Processing reduces the volume of materials to be landfilled and can create products such as fuel oils and steam for electricity generation. Beneficial use means the reuse of solid waste as a substitute for raw material in manufacturing, as construction material or fill, as a fuel, or as an agronomic soil amendment.

Waste-To-Energy

Waste-to-Energy facilities accept our solid waste and combust it at very high temperatures, producing heat that is used to convert water into steam. The steam is used to run turbines that generate electricity. Scrubbers, filters, and other pollution control equipment reduce pollutants released during the incineration process. Ash and other residues from this process are landfilled. Over 37% of Maine's garbage was combusted in 2013.

Excerpted from www.maine.gov/dep/sustainability/sw-hierarchy

Transfer Station

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.

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

Compost Bins are available for \$48.00 at 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!

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 have labels 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 NATURAL PLASTIC: Examples are clear milk jugs, clear windshield washer jugs etc. Please remove caps.

#2 COLORED 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 CLEAR 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.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Finley
Deputy Clerk

Transfer Station

Pay as you Throw Analyses –

1300 tons currently going to PERC

Estimate additional 30% recycling with pay as you throw policy – 390 tons additional recycling

Net tons going to PERC 910 tons or 1,820,000 lbs

Average revenue per ton of recycling for recent month \$100/ton

Estimated weight per bag of trash (pay per throw) 30 lbs – on the high side of experience

Fee from bags sold		
1,820,000 lbs/30 lbs = 60,666 # bags X \$1.50/bag =	\$	90,999.00
Revenue from estimated additional recycled tons		
390 tons @ \$100/ton =	\$	39,000.00
Expense Reduction from Diversion from PERC		
390 tons @ \$75.00/ton =	\$	29,250.00
Cost to produce recycled tonnage (baling) @ \$45/ton		
390 tons @ \$45/ton =	\$	-17,550.00
	\$	141,699.00
 Transfer Station Budget		 \$ 274,019.00
Revenues Increase/Expense Decrease (analyses above)		<u>\$ 141,699.00</u>
	\$	132,320.00 Net Cost

\$141,699.00 = .37 mil off the tax bill if pay per bag is instituted.

Residents/taxpayers would have to be assured that the increased revenues or decreased expenses are going to be directly applied to the budget process and benefit them. The Select Board would have to provide clarity as to having these funds directly reduce the Transfer Station budget.



Road Commissioner

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, re-construction, paving, or grading of roads all over the State of Maine. It was not uncommon for Dick Norton and Milford Thomas to oversee actual road reconstruction projects while in progress. They often met the paving crews at 6:30 am and left the road site at dusk. It was a distinct pleasure working with them. Dick has moved out of town though 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 I know of, and I would like to express personal thanks for their combined contributions.

The town traditionally reconstructs and upcoming summer and comprehensive review of all roads was completed with newly purchased road software to make the project easier and more periodic basis there will be condition assessments gathered will be uploaded data base. The highway and Road Commissioner Highway Committee had 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.



Paving on the Shuman Road in 2014

has a schedule of resurfacing for the fall seasons. A the relative condition in the spring of 2013 surface maintenance road assessment productive. On a comprehensive road and the information into the software department staff and a member of the taken a class in the use of

The tentative paving plan for the upcoming 2014 paving season includes reconstruction and resurfacing of an additional (final) mile of the Dirigo Road, and possible resurfacing on some of the following roads: Hanson Road, an additional 1 mile, Maple Ridge Road, Old Route #137, Parmenter Terrace, and Parmenter Hill 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 Paving or Highway Preservation Paving projects

Road Commissioner

on the following roads/highways over the next year: 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. For the last several years we have been going behind in our resurfacing program; traditionally we have resurfaced roads after 8-9 years and recently slid back to the 10-11 year schedule. At this time the State and nation have witnessed some significant and deserved relief from high petroleum prices. Hopefully we are able to “catch up” on the schedule as the town receives sufficient revenues from associated highway related sources to be able to accommodate the schedule at lower asphalt pricing. These sources are the excise taxes residents pay 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. Furthermore, we have over thirteen 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.

Pros and Cons of Sand on Ice and Snowpack



University of New Hampshire Technology Transfer Center

Kingsbury Hall ~ 33 College Road ~ Durham, NH 03824-3591

(603) 862-2826 or (800) 423-0060 (NH) ~ Fax (603) 862-2364 ~ t2.center@unh.edu

Pros and Cons of Sand on Ice and Snowpack



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.

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.)

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.

Pros and Cons of Sand on Ice and Snowpack

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.

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

Pros and Cons of Sand on Ice and Snowpack

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.

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

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

Pros and Cons of Sand on Ice and Snowpack

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////////winter/roadsvr/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.

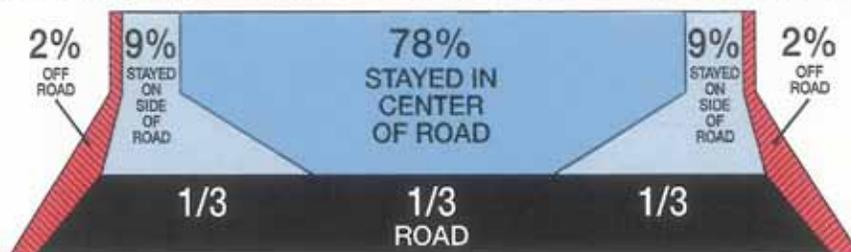


One of the town's plow trucks as it exits the sand/salt shed during a storm

Rock Salt Scatter Pattern

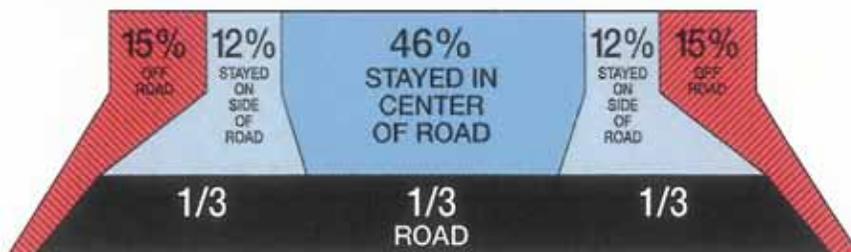
CALCIUM CHLORIDE HELPS ROCK SALT STAY WHERE IT'S NEEDED

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.²

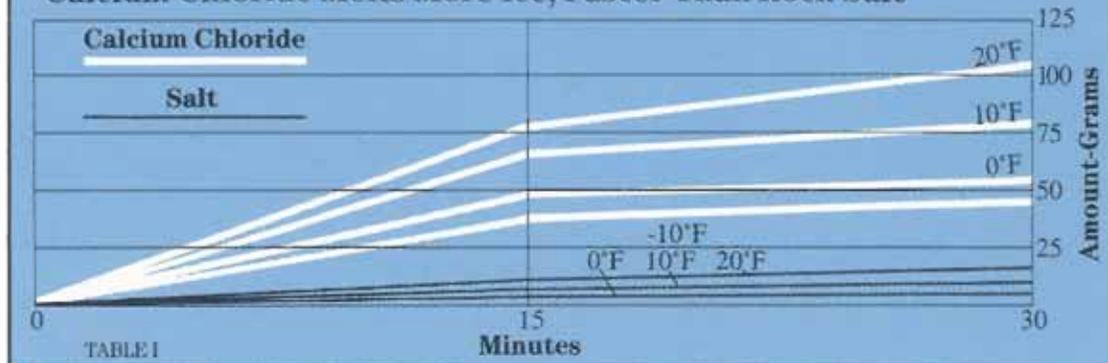
Typical Scatter: Rock Salt



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.²

²Based on the results of the Michigan Department of Transportation test.

Calcium Chloride Melts More Ice, Faster Than Rock Salt



Calcium chloride melts up to eight times as much ice as does rock salt alone.¹ (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.

¹Based on the results from the University of Minnesota test.

Cost Comparison

Two lane, paved road four miles in length:

SAND/SALT Mix

1st time out 1500# times 4 = 6000#

2nd time out 1000# times 4 = 4000#

3rd time out 500# times 4 = 2000#

4th 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

Cost Comparison

1ST time out 500# times 4 = 2000#

2nd time out 300# times 4 = 1200#

3rd time out 300# times 4 = 1200#

4th 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

1st time out 325# times 4 = 1300#

2nd time out 225# times 4 = 900#

3rd time out 225# times 4 = 900#

4th 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.**

Town Clerk

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. Many of the new records are being kept electronically through the State of Maine's DAVE system. As of this writing, we are issuing current death and birth records via the electronic system. Marriages are not yet kept electronically. Other duties include issuing hunting and fishing licenses; registering ATVs, snowmobiles, boats, motor vehicles, trailers, and dogs; assisting with genealogy requests; conducting elections and related functions; administering and recording oaths and many, many other duties as they arise.

The following pages contain the records of deaths and marriages from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014. As a note, the Town Clerk recorded 39 births for this time period.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Hapgood, Town Clerk



Emma Robertson tries to tag a runner out while playing first base for Erskine Academy.

Marriages

Rachel N. Bosse	Michelle S. Taylor	July 13, 2013
Crystal J. Reeves	Jonathan I. Austin	July 13, 2013
Bonnie R. Biller	Bradford R. Taylor	July 27, 2013
Jennifer S. Warren	Timothy W. Weeks	July 27, 2013
Daniel W. Haiss	Amanda J. Potter	August 10, 2013
Roy J. French	Hope A. French	August 25, 2013
Brittani D. Dumont	Joshua C. Niederer	August 31, 2013
Christopher L. Carter	Rebecca J. Szabo	August 31, 2013
Brian K. Dodge	Jeannine M. Bosse	September 14, 2013
Danielle F. Izzicuppo	Gerrod D. Carson	September 14, 2013
Deborah L. Crabtree	Jonathan D. Cota	September 14, 2013
Justin S. Beeler	John R. Selmer	October 8, 2013
Stephen C. Hannan	Brittney E. Grover	October 12, 2013
Erasmus Gonzalez	Julie A. Castner	October 27, 2013
Mark A. Gambino	Anastasia Zanet	November 3, 2013
William T. Bucklin	Katherine M. Wesscott	November 9, 2013
Matthew T. Emmons	Sheryl L. Peavey	December 4, 2013
Robert F. O'Connor	Linda A. Silvia	December 21, 2013
Frances J. LaPointe	Catherine M. Heil	December 28, 2013
Sheree A. Doherty	Jason M. Buotte	December 31, 2013
Joseph A. Doyon	Lyudmyla L. Kretinina	January 10, 2014
Caryn A. McLean	Jay A. Godin	February 22, 2014
Frannie K. Lyons	Jeremy C. Alexander	April 18, 2014
Amy M. Knowlton	Roscoe A. Driscoll	May 17, 2014
Melissa J. Ashe	Richard K. Martin, Jr	May 24, 2014
Shayne R. Cargill	Tamee J. Coitrone	May 24, 2014
Julia M. Olszewski	Joshua E. Jubelirer	May 29, 2014
Tammy L. Poulin	Christopher J. Cruciotti	May 24, 2014
Tyson J. LaVerdiere	Stephanie A. Malloy	June 14, 2014
Brittany L. Gardiner	Jayson D. Dunn	June 28, 2014
Tandaway M. Cunningham	Devin S. Gagnon	June 28, 2014

Deaths

Dorothy Clifford	August 4, 2013
Pauline York	August 16, 2013
Calvin Carney	August 21, 2013
John Wescott	August 30, 2013
Elsie Dupont	September 2, 2013
Charles Lowe	October 3, 2013
Joseph "Normand" Marois	October 10, 2013
Betty Winters	October 15, 2013
Mary Halkyard	November 15, 2013
Melvin McPhee	November 23, 2013
Viesturs Busmanis	December 1, 2013
Audrey Houghton	December 23, 2013
Dorothy Michaud	January 20, 2014
Jacqueline Varney	January 28, 2014
Harriet Davis	January 31, 2014
Barbara Robinson	February 2, 2014
Arlene Martin	February 11, 2014
Joyce Cowing	February 16, 2014
Linwood "Skip" Baker	February 17, 2014
Carmaleta Farrington	March 1, 2014
Danny Hotham	March 1, 2014
Gertrude Gruhler	March 5, 2014
Jeffrey Lane	March 14, 2014
Sandra Campbell	March 17, 2014
Robert Fletcher	March 24, 2014
Dean Rhoades	April 3, 2014
Maynard Sproul	April 6, 2014
Judith Fletcher	April 7, 2014
Aundria St. Amand	April 18, 2014
Delma Jones	April 21, 2014
Rita Haskell	May 14, 2014
Hilda Brown	June 8, 2014
Thomas Paradis	June 12, 2014

Assessors' Agent

For most of the following programs, the application must be submitted to the Assessors' Agent by April 1st. Applications and additional information are available at the town office or at www.china.govoffice.com in Assessing under the Town Departments section of the web site.

2015 Homestead Exemption – If you did not file for the Homestead Exemption in 2014 or prior years, you must apply prior to April 1, 2015 to be eligible in 2015. If you have filed the homestead exemption 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.

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, 2015; 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.

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. Please see www.maine.gov/revenue for more information.

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

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

Unpaid Taxes

Act	Year	Balance Due	Year	Balance Due	Year	Balance Due
2563	Adams, Matthew S					
	2013	\$ 528.20 *				
2977	Althenn, Daniel H					
	2013	\$ 771.55 *	2012	\$ 790.58 *		
189	Althenn, Russell C & Patricia					
	2013	\$ 325.45 *				
188	Althenn, Russell C & Patricia A					
	2013	\$ 439.62 *				
636	Barber Investments, LLC					
	2013	\$ 1,861.29 *				
696	Barber Investments, LLC					
	2013	\$ 1,911.20 *				
2832	Barber Investments, LLC					
	2013	\$ 237.80 *				
3681	Barber Investments, LLC					
	2013	\$ 1,706.98 *				
3395	Barber, Darlene Marie					
	2013	\$ 351.15 *				
1942	Basford, Susan Lynn					
	2013	\$ 530.39	2012	\$ 369.82 *		
1314	Beaulieu, Roland J					
	2013	\$ 2,145.87 *	2012	\$ 1,141.80 *		
549	Bickford, William H & Annette M					
	2013	\$ 2,183.10 *				
2695	Bickford, William H & Annette M					
	2013	\$ 462.63 *				
3422	Bickford, William H & Annette M					
	2013	\$ 213.31 *				
3621	Bickford, William H & Annette M					
	2013	\$ 628.09 *				
3192	Boynton, Daniel W Jr & Melanie J					
	2013	\$ 520.11 **	2012	\$ 517.65 *		
359	Boynton, Peter H & Pauline A					
	2013	\$ 451.94				
2553	Bragg, Kellie L					
	2013	\$ 924.10 *	2012	\$ 870.72 *		
1715	Bragg, Rebecca L					
	2013	\$ 1,448.31 *	2012	\$ 1,529.58 *		
2731	Bragg, Steven					
	2013	\$ 234.02				
1567	Branch Mills Flour and Grain					
	2013	\$ 1,189.84 **	2012	\$ 1,118.52 *		
986	Brann, Shawn M					
	2013	\$ 166.63 **				

as of 2/10/2015

* - paid in full ** - partial payment

Unpaid Taxes

Act	Year	Balance Due	Year	Balance Due	Year	Balance Due
2154	Brewster, Dorothy	2013	\$ 1,075.31	**		
619	Brown, Hilda	2013	\$ 1,056.18			
2978	Campbell, Jeffrey L & Linda B	2013	\$ 413.31	*		
1039	Cates, Stephen C & Emily Z	2013	\$ 304.43	*	2012	\$ 303.52 *
1410	Clark, Glenn A	2013	\$ 1,495.03	*		
615	Cook, Michael O & Roderick, Michael G	2013	\$ 793.39	**		
1546	Coombs, Stephen H & Christine	2013	\$ 99.46	*		
1955	Crockett, Jeffrey M	2013	\$ 603.70		2012	\$ 629.26 *
2717	Cunningham, Matthew J & Angela Mae	2013	\$ 725.07	**	2012	\$ 734.13 *
2857	Cunningham, Shawn D & Patty J	2013	\$ 1,582.08	**	2012	\$ 589.68 *
2517	Curtis, Fred & Terry	2013	\$ 1,043.11		2012	\$ 1,082.31 *
2394	Daigneault, Darrin	2013	\$ 2,867.11	**		
2666	Danforth, Jean	2013	\$ 200.46	*		
2520	Danforth, William W Lennon-Danforth, Diane	2013	\$ 532.86	*		
3488	Danforth, William W Lennon-Danforth, Diane	2013	\$ 417.49	*		
3384	Davis, Bernard E	2013	\$ 88.38	**		
824	DeMaio, Janice D	2013	\$ 2,445.03	**	2012	\$ 2,078.89 *
286	Dennison, Betty Jo	2013	\$ 544.92		2012	\$ 542.21 *
1386	Dillenbeck, John S	2013	\$ 2,296.18		2012	\$ 2,274.83 *
1580	Downie, Jon M & Franklin A	2013	\$ 1,380.14	**	2012	\$ 1,296.43 *
572	Dupont, David Jr Wing, Donna C	2013	\$ 886.21	**	2012	\$ 938.45 *
2971	Eliau, Mark	2013	\$ 1,265.60	**		

as of 2/10/2015

* - paid in full ** - partial payment

Unpaid Taxes

Act	Year	Balance Due	Year	Balance Due	Year	Balance Due
2324 Epick, Alexander	2013	\$ 7.05	2012	\$ 67.83	2011	\$ 76.68
1903 Estes, Duane S Heirs Of	2013	\$ 1,548.00	2012	\$ 1,562.80 *		
3411 Farrington, Carleton B	2013	\$ 468.59	2012	\$ 472.21 *		
2429 Fletcher, John L & Alice M	2013	\$ 401.76 *	2012	\$ 403.72 *		
2882 Fletcher, John L Sr & Alice M	2013	\$ 844.74	2012	\$ 894.13 *		
3365 Fletcher, Timothy W Sr & Jane A	2013	\$ 2,471.67 **				
2883 French, Ivan A & Vicki S	2013	\$ 854.25 *	2012	\$ 915.92 *		
2863 G.O. Tubing, Inc	2013	\$ 314.02 *				
3400 Galbraith, Mark C	2013	\$ 539.66				
2689 Gallant, Heather	2013	\$ 1,440.49 *				
1084 Glidden, George N	2013	\$ 1,730.26 *	2012	\$ 1,837.00 *		
3211 Glidden, Jesse N	2013	\$ 1,213.86				
3580 Glidden, Jesse N	2013	\$ 223.86	2012	\$ 221.31 *		
1332 Glidden, Mahlon S Heirs of	2013	\$ 353.05	2012	\$ 340.53 *		
1712 Grant, Scott A	2013	\$ 771.09	2012	\$ 793.69	2011	\$ 930.26 **
100 Gunning, Georgia A	2013	\$ 1,600.30 *				
2504 Haiss, Karen	2013	\$ 365.53 *				
1226 Hamilton, Madeline & David & Glenda	2013	\$ 1,802.69 **				
1005 Haskell, Gary L & Katherine	2013	\$ 1,481.96	2012	\$ 645.54 *		
3500 Hersey, Joyce & Herbert	2013	\$ 560.90	2012	\$ 552.35 *		
2249 Hicks, Richard & Kammy	2013	\$ 2,453.86	2012	\$ 1,024.39 *		
594 Hisler, Colleen E & Randolph A	2013	\$ 844.20	2012	\$ 424.48 *		

as of 2/10/2015

* - paid in full ** - partial payment

Unpaid Taxes

Act	Year	Balance Due	Year	Balance Due	Year	Balance Due
595	Hisler, Colleen E & Randolph A	2013	\$ 393.83	2012	\$ 166.35	*
3072	Holyoke, Thomas A, Heirs of	2013	\$ 1,043.11			
1720	Holyoke, Thomas, Heirs of	2013	\$ 768.41			
710	Hoyt, Diane L	2013	\$ 104.73			
2539	Jackson, George E & Pamela A	2013	\$ 303.41			
269	Kringle, Kris Donald f/k/a Audet, Donald & Audet, Linda	2013	\$ 1,908.96	*	2012	\$ 1,764.48 *
3392	Lacasse, Leslie	2013	\$ 316.83			
1514	Lee, Barry & Melinda	2013	\$ 1,366.41	2012	\$ 961.03	*
2820	Lee, Robert E Jr	2013	\$ 910.23			
2887	Lemar, Peter & Grace	2013	\$ 1,789.16	2012	\$ 907.98	*
1085	Letourneau, A Lorraine & J Alfred	2013	\$ 2,403.02	*	2012	\$ 683.58 *
1639	Levesque, William & Kathy	2013	\$ 618.90	2012	\$ 643.10	*
2159	Litchfield, Jonathan	2013	\$ 1,293.10	2012	\$ 1,331.22	
3460	Lord, Delmont	2013	\$ 103.28	*	2012	\$ 91.93 *
2171	MacDonald, Bruce F	2013	\$ 1,810.05	2012	\$ 1,868.22	*
2790	Madore, Frances & Michael D	2013	\$ 2,484.42	*		
3103	Maine Woodland Properties, Inc	2013	\$ 286.13	*		
1101	Marois, Michael J	2013	\$ 456.30	*	2012	\$ 395.08 *
575	Martin, Janice A	2013	\$ 605.94			
3425	Mayo, Jeramy J	2013	\$ 784.63			
1358	Mayo, Ronald Timothy	2013	\$ 1,227.72	**	2012	\$ 96.99 *
841	McCrohan, Micheline M	2013	\$ 1,070.38	*		

as of 2/10/2015

* - paid in full ** - partial payment

Unpaid Taxes

Act	Year	Balance Due	Year	Balance Due	Year	Balance Due
2523	McKeil, Carl C 2013	\$ 2,076.81				
2521	McKeil, John 2013	\$ 190.35	2012	\$ 261.89	2011	\$ 282.46
2696	McKenney, Peter A & Joan L 2013	\$ 639.35 *				
875	Meader, Kevin L & Michael L & Nicholas A 2013	\$ 287.78 *				
285	Merrill, Clayton Sr 2013	\$ 114.90	2012	\$ 109.69		
40	Moore, Daniel L & Dwayne L 2013	\$ 841.29	2012	\$ 746.77 *		
2335	Morton, Amy Life Estate Bovio, Carlaine B Per Rep 2013	\$ 1,927.06				
2676	Moynahan, Michael M Alisch, Margaret Mary 2013	\$ 289.23 *	2012	\$ 172.41 *		
2341	Nale, Linda L 2013	\$ 1,795.75 *	2012	\$ 33.31 *		
1394	O'Connor Association 2013	\$ 884.87	2012	\$ 922.72 *		
1395	O'Connor Association 2013	\$ 1,871.30	2012	\$ 1,734.49 *		
562	Ouellette, Daniel E 2013	\$ 664.05				
563	Ouellette, Daniel E 2013	\$ 483.12				
717	Ouellette, Daniel E 2013	\$ 265.21				
3526	Ouellette, Daniel E 2013	\$ 1,588.01				
57	Oyler, Diane L 2013	\$ 1,143.51 *				
687	Page, Joseph TIP 2013	\$ 1,078.09				
1002	Page, Keith A & Dorothy 2013	\$ 545.59	2012	\$ 539.44 *		
638	Parisien, Karen 2013	\$ 675.55				
2301	Parisien, Karen A 2013	\$ 217.94				
3168	Parisien, Michael A & Karen 2013	\$ 2,337.04 **				
1357	Parsons, Marcus & Diana 2013	\$ 450.37	2012	\$ 459.07 *		

as of 2/10/2015

* - paid in full ** - partial payment

Unpaid Taxes

Act	Year	Balance Due	Year	Balance Due	Year	Balance Due
3672	Pelkey, Morgan					
	2013	\$ 273.26 *	2012	\$ 486.40 *		
2709	Pellerin, Daniel B					
	2013	\$ 313.93				
943	Petty, L Tarn LaMothe, Lisa L					
	2013	\$ 338.63 *				
1966	Plourde, Daniel R					
	2013	\$ 3,685.21 *				
2712	Plummer, Jeffery					
	2013	\$ 422.89	2012	\$ 374.78		
472	Quimby, Janet					
	2013	\$ 1,147.71 **	2012	\$ 1,023.92 *		
268	Reed, Diane					
	2013	\$ 1,336.57 **	2012	\$ 1,359.32 *		
1276	Rice, Donald Kevin					
	2013	\$ 2,356.52	2012	\$ 2,163.20 *		
3517	Riley, Brianna					
	2013	\$ 139.60 *	2012	\$ 304.19 *		
3104	Risbara, Candita M					
	2013	\$ 523.02 *				
961	Rodrigue, Nanci L & Jacob S					
	2013	\$ 1,221.66 **				
2397	Roy, Andrew J & Linda J					
	2013	\$ 1,350.42 *	2012	\$ 1,187.84 *		
1249	Sears, Lisa M & Richard J, II					
	2013	\$ 332.26 *				
2105	Secretary of Housing and Urban Development					
	2013	\$ 586.08 *				
102	Severance, Alice					
	2013	\$ 634.21 **	2012	\$ 353.65 *		
3094	Shaw, Ann T					
	2013	\$ 584.82				
3088	Slaughter, Jason W					
	2013	\$ 274.04 *				
2630	Small, Kathy					
	2013	\$ 575.43 **				
2631	Small, Michael A & Linda C					
	2013	\$ 422.11	2012	\$ 427.59 *		
229	Snell, Elizabeth Jane					
	2013	\$ 521.55 *				
1727	Snow, Jennifer a/k/a Jennifer Whitney					
	2013	\$ 2,119.61	2012	\$ 2,227.60 *		
3515	St. Laurent, Leon A, Heirs of					
	2013	\$ 833.24 **	2012	\$ 877.36 *		

as of 2/10/2015

* - paid in full ** - partial payment

Unpaid Taxes

Act	Year	Balance Due	Year	Balance Due	Year	Balance Due
98	2013	\$ 3,912.31 **				
316	2013	\$ 408.36	2012	\$ 410.30 *		
3057	2013	\$ 86.53 **				
2692	2013	\$ 1,238.45 **	2012	\$ 1,310.37 *		
2943	2013	\$ 181.73	2012	\$ 221.31 *		
3252	2013	\$ 2,311.25 **				
2313	2013	\$ 1,005.06 *				
2560	2013	\$ 619.47 *				
1858	2013	\$ 2,365.91	2012	\$ 2,235.27 *		
1859	2013	\$ 188.99	2012	\$ 171.10 *		
2663	2013	\$ 2,224.32	2012	\$ 1,933.63 *		
2718	2013	\$ 4,585.07	2012	\$ 4,583.28 *		
3012	2013	\$ 606.90 *				
3223	2013	\$ 1,660.41				
119	2013	\$ 1,038.15 *				
1245	2013	\$ 945.05 *				
2995	2013	\$ 921.66 *				
2912	2013	\$ 511.28				
849	2013	\$ 105.40 **				
1953	2013	\$ 326.88 *				
1860	2013	\$ 292.14				
1861	2013	\$ 2,286.80				

as of 2/10/2015

* - paid in full ** - partial payment

Unpaid Taxes

Act	Year	Balance Due	Year	Balance Due	Year	Balance Due
3312 York, Chris & Renee	2013	\$ 183.85	2012	\$ 180.48 *		
2351 Young, Alan D	2013	\$ 247.77				
2348 Young, Alan Duane	2013	\$ 994.50				

Personal Property

Act	Year	Balance Due	Year	Balance Due	Year	Balance Due
129 B & P Garage	2013	\$ 177.66 **				
449 Bernheim, Patricia	2013	\$ 4.23 *				
339 CAMPER TOWN, INC	2013	\$ 14.10 *				
224 Central Machine Inc	2013	\$ 1,748.40	2012	\$ 70.00 *		
463 Central Maine Trading	2013	\$ 14.10	2012	\$ 14.76		
471 China House of Glass Pipes	2013	\$ 35.25				
286 D & B Logging	2010	\$ 907.50	2009	\$ 862.50	2008	\$ 765.00 **
412 Dick Willette	2013	\$ 42.30 *				
110 Dirigo Machine, Inc.	2013	\$ 142.41	2012	\$ 124.23	2011	\$ 337.96
	2010	\$ 343.64	2009	\$ 326.60	2008	\$ 284.58
	2007	\$ 517.70	2006	\$ 567.60	2005	\$ 392.80 **
181 Fieldstone Quick Stop	2013	\$ 390.57 *	2012	\$ 460.02 *	2011	\$ 144.39 *
448 Fred and Larry's Disposal Service	2013	\$ 35.25	2012	\$ 30.75	2011	\$ 29.75
489 G. O. TUBING INC	2013	\$ 260.85 *				
409 Glidden, Jesse	2013	\$ 177.66	2012	\$ 214.02	2011	\$ 103.53 **
294 Innovative Workspace Solutions	2013	\$ 33.84 *				
326 J&J BUILDERS	2013	\$ 70.50	2012	\$ 61.50		
185 KEG Landcare	2013	\$ 19.03 *				

Unpaid Taxes

Act	Year	Balance Due	Year	Balance Due	Year	Balance Due
351	LABELLE FAMILY DAYCARE					
	2013	\$ 15.21				**
248	Legacy Home Improvement					
	2013	\$ 47.09				*
312	MailFinance, Inc					
	2013	\$ 35.25				*
466	Maxcim Enterprises LLC					
	2013	\$ 35.25	2012	\$ 30.75		*
433	Mr. Bubbles Dive Service					
	2013	\$ 63.45				*
309	Neopost USA, Inc					
	2013	\$ 2.82				*
321	NORTHEAST CHAIN & SUPPLY INC					
	2013	\$ 19.03				*
63	Ouellette Sand & Gravel Inc					
	2013	\$ 493.50	2012	\$ 2,381.28	2011	** \$ 196.35 *
231	P & M Driving School					
	2013	\$ 84.60	2012	\$ 73.80		*
425	Primiano Tile Company					
	2013	\$ 17.48				*
403	Richard's Redemption and Variety					
	2013	\$ 21.15	2012	\$ 20.91	2011	* \$ 20.23 *
318	SAFETY-KLEEN SYSTEMS, INC.					
	2013	\$ 0.70				**
282	Shear Techniques					
	2013	\$ 91.65				*
234	South China Auto Detailing					
	2013	\$ 39.48	2012	\$ 34.44	2011	* \$ 33.32 *
	2010	\$ 20.03				*
298	Strout Builders					
	2013	\$ 70.50				
337	TENDER CARE PET GROOMING					
	2013	\$ 14.10	2012	\$ 12.30	2011	\$ 11.90
42	The Market & Deli					
	2011	\$ 529.55				*
452	T-Mobile Northeast, LLC					
	2013	\$ 172.02	2012	\$ 179.58	2011	* \$ 173.74 *
338	TOM JONES SOIL TESTING& SEPTIC					
	2013	\$ 14.10	2012	\$ 12.30		*
382	Tropical Sensations 2 TanningSalon					
	2013	\$ 122.67	2012	\$ 157.44		*
303	Wildwood Guns					
	2013	\$ 7.05				*
268	Windy Ridge Farm					
	2013	\$ 511.83	2012	\$ 635.91		**

Abatements

Real Estate

Taxpayer	Amount of Abatement
Breton, Mabel A, Estate of	\$ 559.77
Sullivan, Patrick D	\$ 394.80
Wentworth, Claludette	\$ 84.60
Marston, Ronald	\$ 141.00
Fournier, Roland and Esther	\$ 439.92
French, Gary and Marcia	\$ 167.79
Finley, Jean A	\$ 1,605.99
Petty, L. Tarn and Lamothe, Lisa L	\$ 115.62
Coston, Timothy and Jennifer	\$ 121.26
Drapeau, Peter	\$ 83.19
Nored, Eric G	\$ 810.75
Hahn, Christopher	\$ 631.68

Personal Property

Taxpayer	Amount of Abatement
Matt Evans Law	\$ 35.25
Bangor Coca-Cola	\$ 314.43
Inergy Propane, LLC	\$ 308.79
William Scotsman, Inc	\$ 42.30

Budget Committee

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 only had to meet two times to review the 2015-2016 Municipal Budget. The members were very pleased to see that the Select Board had closely examined each of the proposed expenditures and recommended small reductions in many of the warrant articles based on past experience and anticipated needs. The Committee also noted many warrant articles were requesting the same level of funding as in previous years and only a few articles were requiring small increases. The Committee therefore felt comfortable in supporting the Select Board's position on all the warrant articles for the March 21st Business Meeting.

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

Budget Committee

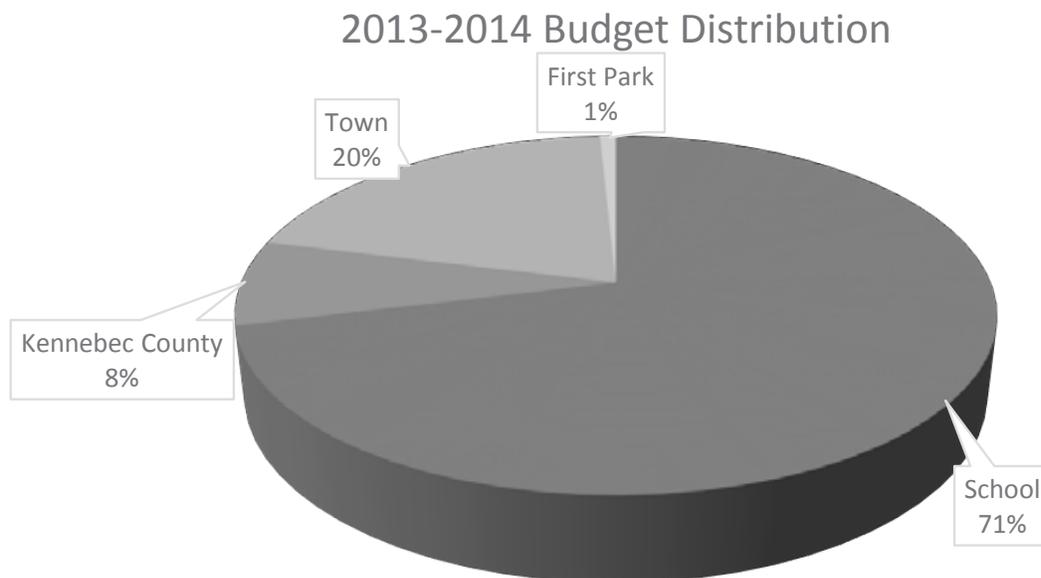
from the town at-large. Each member serves a two-year term and current membership is as follows:

Chairperson from the town at-large:	Robert Batteese - Term expires 2015
Secretary from the town at-large:	Albert Althenn - Term expires 2016
Member at-large:	Jonathan Vogel - Term expires 2016
District 1:	Gregory Pizzo - Term Expires 2015
District 2:	Thomas Rumpf - Term Expires 2016
District 3:	Sheryl Peavey - Term Expires 2015
District 4:	Timothy Basham - Term Expires 2016

In closing, I want to express my appreciation to all the members for their dedicated service to our community. I also want to point out that some of our members have been elected on write-in ballots and do not always have the time to attend all our meetings. If you have any interest in serving on the Budget Committee, please seriously consider taking out nomination papers come the November election.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert I. Batteese, Jr.
Chairperson



Remembrance - Mr. Charles H. Plumer



The Select Board and administration/town office wish to acknowledge Mr. Charles H. Plumer in this Town Report. Charlie made commitments to improve the Town of China in many ways; he served on the Select Board, the Budget Committee and on the Highway Committee for many years.

Mr. Plumer was a numbers guy, had opinions about many issues, and probably best described as someone who looked at the town's treasury as the peoples' money and that it therefore should be spent wisely. Charlie will be missed.

Born in Bangor, Maine on October 24, 1945, the son of Kenneth and Evelyn Plumer, he was a graduate of Bangor High School. He studied electrical technology as SMVTI and Higgins Classical Institute. Charlie worked for many years for Verizon, formerly New England Telephone and Telegraph Company. He leaves his wife, Connie Plumer; a son Andrew and daughter-in-law Emily Leue of Massachusetts, and two grandchildren, Alexander and Morgan.

Municipal Expenditures

The information below shows expenditures paid to elected official and employees. The auditor's report follows and shows how much moeny, 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	\$ 31,450.47	Jandreau, Christian M	\$ 930.00
Austin, Joann C	\$ 700.00	Lennon-Danforth, Diane	\$ 162.89
Bailey, Branden A	\$ 21,253.32	L'Heureux, Daniel J	\$ 77,127.54
Batteese, Rosalie A	\$ 314.03	Loubier, Benjamin K	\$ 1,825.68
Belanger, Irene L	\$ 700.00	MacDonald, Paul	\$ 700.00
Bickford, William H	\$ 330.00	McAllister, Amber	\$ 700.00
Breton, Ronald R	\$ 475.00	Meador, Scott D	\$ 27,182.21
Britten, Traci Lee	\$ 448.25	Moore, George A Sr	\$ 7,872.66
Brown, Simeon B	\$ 546.00	Nerber, Peter A	\$ 992.00
Chamberlain, Jennifer L	\$ 31,463.49	Nerber, Peter E	\$ 1,432.00
Cowing, Anthony S	\$ 13,540.00	Pelkey, Aileen M	\$ 32.11
Cummings, Gary L	\$ 42,482.96	Pierce, Kyle P	\$ 425.00
Cunningham, Tracy A	\$ 1,510.65	Pierz, Scott A	\$ 52,869.07
Dudley, Milton F	\$ 425.00	Putnam, Roger A III	\$ 55.72
Finley, Julie A	\$ 29,634.78	Reed, Shawn A	\$ 44,554.79
Fitzgerald, Shirley J	\$ 106.37	Rhoades, Kevin A	\$ 1,151.17
Foote, Peter	\$ 700.00	Shaw, Richard L Jr	\$ 91.46
Gonzalez, Erasmo	\$ 3,347.08	Soares, Francis C III	\$ 400.00
Grotton, Kelly M	\$ 32,873.81	Spoden, Dawn F	\$ 448.25
Grotton, Timothy E	\$ 17,513.82	Thompson, Richard B Jr	\$ 200.00
Hapgood, Rebecca J	\$ 44,021.16	Wall, Toni G	\$ 375.00
Higgins, Elwin	\$ 18,888.45	Wilkens, James	\$ 275.00

Auditors' Report & Financials



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, 2014, 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 from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including 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.



Auditors' Report & Financials

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, 2014, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

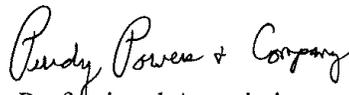
Required Supplementary Information

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.

Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of China, Maine's basic financial statements. The introductory section, combining and individual nonmajor financial 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 nonmajor fund financial statements 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. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.


Professional Association

Portland, Maine
November 25, 2014

Auditors' Report & Financials

Management's Discussion and Analysis

Town of China, Maine

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, 2014. 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 \$5.7 million as of June 30, 2014, compared to approximately \$5.3 million as of June 30, 2013.
- The Town's governmental funds General Fund Balance was \$1.9 million as of June 30, 2014, compared to \$1.7 million as of June 30, 2013.

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.

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.

Auditors' Report & Financials

Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued

Town of China, Maine

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.

Auditors' Report & Financials

Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued

Town of China, Maine

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, 2014 and 2013:

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>		
	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>Change</u>
Current and other assets	\$ 3,699,582	\$ 3,411,045	\$ 288,537
Capital assets	<u>2,803,543</u>	<u>2,736,801</u>	<u>66,742</u>
Total Assets	6,503,125	6,147,846	355,279
Long-term liabilities	408,931	503,445	(94,514)
Other liabilities	<u>353,271</u>	<u>393,330</u>	<u>(40,059)</u>
Total Liabilities	762,202	896,775	(134,573)
Net investment in capital assets	2,375,466	2,213,417	162,049
Restricted	976,163	897,292	78,871
Unrestricted	<u>2,389,294</u>	<u>2,140,362</u>	<u>248,932</u>
Net Position	<u>\$ 5,740,923</u>	<u>\$ 5,251,071</u>	<u>\$ 489,852</u>

You note here in the government-wide financial statements that the long-term trend of increases in current and capital assets and decreases in all liabilities continues. The year to year increase in assets and decreases in liabilities reflects a conservative operations policy relating to assets and liabilities. This trend is indicative of town voters and policy makers agreeing that good financial health is important and building on existing conditions is an affirmation of that message.

Though there are additional indicators of good financial health like a stable tax base and the condition of a towns' infrastructure, the government-wide activities reflected above affirm the town's commitment to a healthy financial condition and to a hedge against risk factors that face public and private enterprises.

The Maine economy continues to make progress though it has not attained full recovery. There are uncertainties on whether or not intergovernmental sources of revenue to municipalities will continue at the current reduced levels. The town of China has continued to build assets and reduce long term liabilities over a sustained period of time. It has applied best management practices regarding the net investment in capital assets. A long term perspective has served the town well.

Auditors' Report & Financials

Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued

Town of China, Maine

The following schedule is a summary of the statement of activities for the years ended June 30, 2014 and 2013:

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>		
	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>Change</u>
Revenues:			
Program revenues:			
Charges for services	\$ 124,003	\$ 134,065	\$ (10,062)
Operating grants and contributions	72,760	79,059	(6,299)
General revenues			
Taxes	5,977,936	5,725,503	252,433
Intergovernmental	259,372	350,890	(91,518)
Investment	91,932	76,553	15,379
All others	139,987	48,423	91,564
Total Revenues	<u>6,665,990</u>	<u>6,414,493</u>	<u>251,497</u>
Expenses:			
Administration	816,319	764,396	51,923
Protection	220,617	162,327	58,290
Public works	546,190	546,476	(286)
Solid waste operations	316,334	271,815	44,519
Community services	107,894	105,653	2,241
Education	3,677,653	3,433,346	244,307
Recreation	19,522	20,630	(1,108)
County tax	376,046	369,587	6,459
Interest on long-term debt	1,707	1,747	(40)
Capital outlay	93,856	109,772	(15,916)
Total Expenses	<u>6,176,138</u>	<u>5,785,749</u>	<u>390,389</u>
Change in Net Position	<u>\$ 489,852</u>	<u>\$ 628,744</u>	<u>\$ (138,892)</u>

Municipalities have relatively few dependable sources of revenues outside of the property tax. Intergovernmental revenues have been significant until recently. You note above the net change in intergovernmental revenues; a change that ultimately affects the property tax mil rate. There are also uncertainties about whether or not State Revenue Sharing funds will continue at the current levels or be further reduced by the current administration in Augusta and the State Legislature. The town may need to review again the charges for services as an alternative to relieve, though minimally, the pressure for funding municipal government through property taxes.

Auditors' Report & Financials

Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued

Town of China, Maine

Municipal expenses have remained relatively stable for some time. The additional realized expenses in some of the line items above were partly a result of reserve draw-downs or contingency fund disbursements. For some time, the increases in appropriated amounts for expenses by voters have remained, on average, below the inflation rate when considering percentage increases.

Notable above in the numbers is the increase in expenditures for education. The amounts expended for education have been and continue to be the largest portion of the total municipal expenditures. The education expense is the most significant driver of the mil/tax rate in China. The town realizes annually an increase in new valuation and therefore additional tax revenue. However, that revenue was not enough to offset the increase in education expenditures and therefore caused a mil rate increase.

The town has had a purposeful plan to maintain assets in good condition. It has been able to accomplish this without significant indebtedness by allocations to reserve accounts for certain purposes.

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, 2014 of \$2.9 million. Approximately 41% of this total constitutes unreserved and undesignated fund balance, which is available for spending at the government's discretion.

The town officials have been following an unwritten policy of the town to keep a healthy unreserved and undesignated fund balance. That balance has been guided by public finance criteria obtained from many sources, Standard & Poors, the Maine Municipal Bond Bank, the Maine Municipal Association, and Moody's Investor Service. That balance over time has proved to be a strong statement of commitment by town voters and town officials to observe best financial management practices. The total fund balance also contains more specific reserve accounts that can only be spent for certain purposes. These reserve accounts have been closely associated with a capital improvement plan developed several years ago for town consideration.

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 \$1,185,373. 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.

Many credit rating agencies provide unbiased and reliable opinions as to the likelihood that an entity will repay its debt obligations on time and in full. The likelihood of repayment and outlook into the future of the ability to pay off obligations are what credit rating agencies base their rating categories on

Auditors' Report & Financials

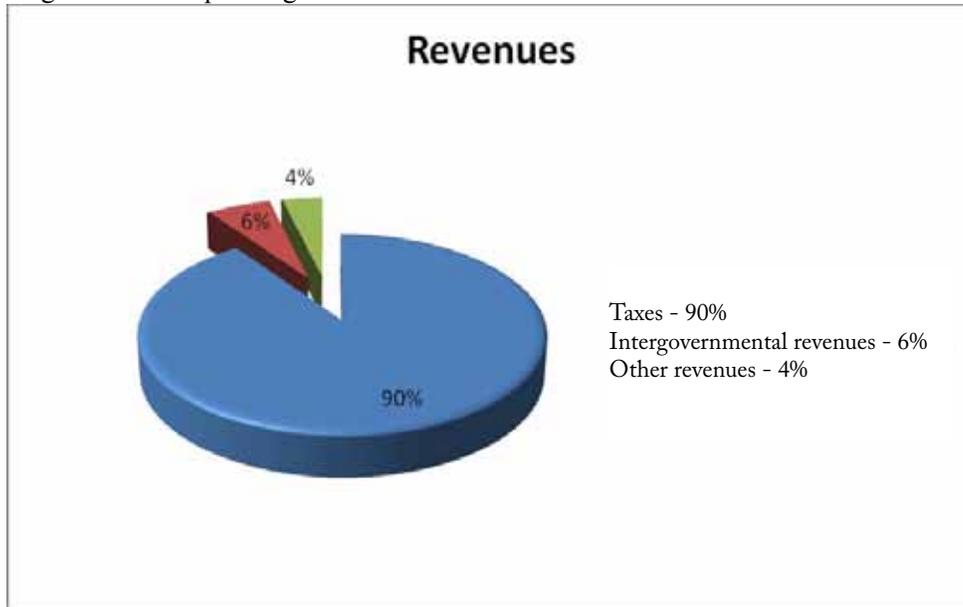
Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued

Town of China, Maine

when assessing an entity's financial strength and creditworthiness. The town of China maintains a healthy unassigned fund balance, a good measure of the general fund's liquidity position.

The unreserved fund balance is approximately equal to two month's gross municipal expenditures. It, along with current revenues, enables the town to operate smoothly in uncertain economic times. The town has relatively low debt and an extremely high likelihood of paying of all debt obligations in full and on time. The total fund balance of the town is has been increasing over the last few years, the reserve levels linked closely to the town's cash flow needs and the historic volatility of revenues and expenditures through economic cycles. The town's management has historically adhered to these practices. It is ultimately important that the town government is able to implement timely and sound financial and operational decisions that are responsive and relational to economic and fiscal demands.

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



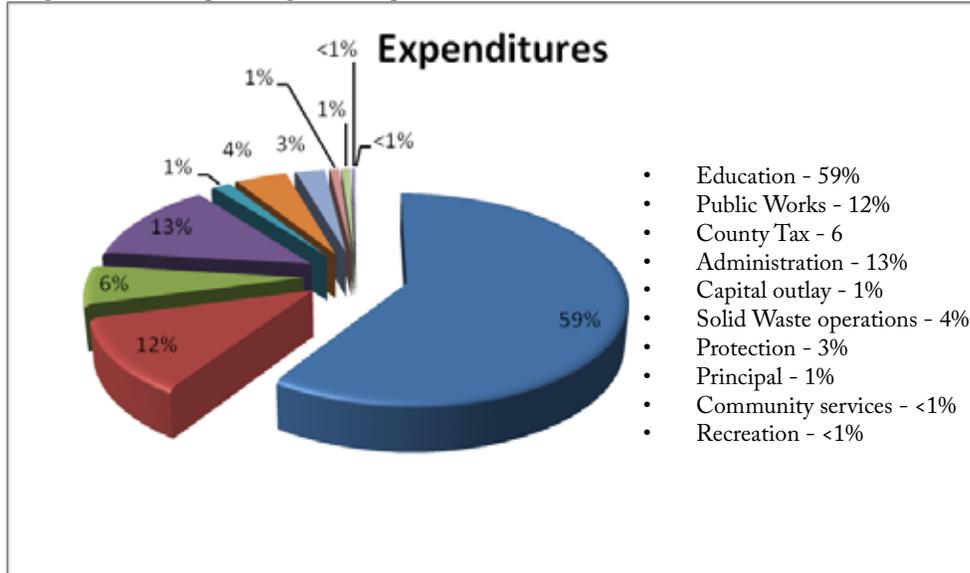
You will note the high dependency on property taxes for the operational funding of the town. The town is aware of the need for additional dependable sources of revenues outside of the property taxes. The tax base, however, has been and is stable. To offset the lack of diverse and stable revenue sources, the town has hedged against historic volatility of revenues and expenditures through economic cycles by maintaining a healthy fund balance, unreserved and unrestricted as well as total fund balance. The town continues to have conversations about additional revenue sources other than the property taxes. It is aware of the possibility of intergovernmental revenues being reduced as a result of the current political environment. The town attempts to hedge against all risk factors that face public and private enterprises, e.g. maintains a strong infrastructure condition and has extremely low debt obligations.

Auditors' Report & Financials

Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued

Town of China, Maine

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



Historical trends in expenditures are reviewed frequently, for both revenues and expenditures. It is a regular endeavor to determine whether expenditures (or revenues) will deviate from the trends. Educational expenses have traditionally been the highest obligations of China. Most, if not all, of the other obligations have increased at or below the inflation rate on average over the last five years. The town maintains a healthy fund balance to hedge against all anticipated risk factors.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The General Fund balance has increased year-to-year by a significant amount, indicative of a strong liquidity position and the ability of town officials to implement timely and sound financial and operational decisions that are responsive and relational to economic and fiscal demands. Capital assets are maintained in a strong condition and have been increasing over time. Long-term debt obligations are minimal. The financial management of the town is a major factor in the assessment of the town's financial condition and it has been strong management with low risk preferences.

Capital Assets

Capital assets net of depreciation continue to increase though slowly. Capital assets are kept in good to excellent condition. The town's infrastructure is in good condition and is maintained on a scheduled basis over an 8-10 year period. It is annually reviewed and updated. Over the next year it is anticipated that one heavy duty tandem axle truck with associated plowing equipment will be replaced with a new vehicle and plowing equipment. A stable and robust public works budget has enabled the town to maintain and to improve infrastructure over time. Reserve accounts in the fund balance are maintained and therefore available for capital asset maintenance and purchase without additional indebtedness.

Auditors' Report & Financials

Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued

Town of China, Maine

Long Term Liabilities

Long-term liabilities continue to decrease and therefore be a smaller part of the overall obligations of the town. An excellent liquidity position with reserve accounts are indicative of this trend to continue. It does not seem likely that there will be, in the foreseeable future, that there will be a circumstance that will demand a change in this best management practice of reducing long-term liabilities.

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets and Rates

At this time a significant increase in the education budget is anticipated. Even though the town also anticipates significant additional revenues resulting from increased valuations in town, it is not possible to offset the large increase in education expenses with that additional tax revenue from increased valuations. The result of the education increase is anticipated to affect an increase in the tax rate by one mil. The municipal and county budgets are not expected to have any impact on the mil rate. The education budget remains the largest obligation of the town and is the largest significant driver of the mil rate. The education budget is produced by an independent RSU#18 (Regional School Unit) based in Oakland, Maine. "School Choice" for grades 8-12 and town busing contributes a significant cost to the town in educational obligations. It seems that this will continue into the future.

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.

Auditors' Report & Financials

Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance (1 of 4) Budget and Actual - General Fund

Town of China, Maine

For the Year Ended June 30, 2014

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance
	Original	Final	(Budgetary Basis)	Positive (Negative)
Revenues				
Taxes:				
Property taxes	\$ 5,206,811	\$ 5,206,811	\$ 5,118,859	\$ (87,952)
Excise taxes	688,500	688,500	745,364	56,864
Interest and costs on taxes	24,000	24,000	28,713	4,713
Total Taxes	5,919,311	5,919,311	5,892,936	(26,375)
Intergovernmental:				
State revenue sharing	140,000	140,000	156,560	16,560
Road assistance	62,000	62,000	59,096	(2,904)
Homestead reimbursement	90,809	90,809	90,809	-
Tax reimbursements and relief	5,021	5,021	12,004	6,983
General assistance	3,000	3,000	-	(3,000)
RSU debt and capital lease funding	72,514	72,514	72,514	-
Total Intergovernmental	373,344	373,344	390,983	17,639
Other Revenues:				
Interest on investments	10,000	10,000	7,496	(2,504)
Permits and fees	44,500	44,500	47,699	3,199
Miscellaneous revenues	12,950	12,950	78,445	65,495
Solid waste revenues	59,000	59,000	76,305	17,305
Total Other Revenues	126,450	126,450	209,945	83,495
Total Revenues	6,419,105	6,419,105	6,493,864	74,759

Auditors' Report & Financials

Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance (2 of 4) Budget and Actual - General Fund

Town of China, Maine

For the Year Ended June 30, 2014

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Variance Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
Expenditures				
Administration:				
Administrative payroll costs	\$ 366,193	\$ 366,193	\$ 360,511	\$ 5,682
Administrative expenses	108,244	108,244	91,848	16,396
Planning Board expenses	6,053	6,053	4,450	1,603
Association dues	11,617	11,617	11,397	220
Assessing	47,500	47,500	24,816	22,684
Computer costs	23,000	23,000	23,000	-
Legal services	11,500	11,500	11,500	-
Insurance and benefits	236,446	236,446	216,265	20,181
Total Administration	810,553	810,553	743,787	66,766
Protection:				
Constable services	23,248	23,248	12,972	10,276
Fire departments	64,600	64,600	59,709	4,891
China rescue squad	20,000	20,000	20,000	-
Health officer	1,040	1,040	932	108
E-911	19,000	19,000	19,000	-
Dispatching	25,000	25,000	21,894	3,106
Emergency services insurance	15,982	15,982	15,815	167
Total Protection	168,870	168,870	150,322	18,548
Public Works:				
Road maintenance	679,426	679,426	691,242	(11,816)
Street signs	2,500	2,500	1,233	1,267
Street lights	7,000	7,000	6,319	681
Cemeteries	22,000	22,000	18,486	3,514
Total Public Works	710,926	710,926	717,280	(6,354)
Solid Waste Operations	282,100	282,100	280,434	1,666

Auditors' Report & Financials

Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance (3 of 4) Budget and Actual - General Fund

Town of China, Maine

For the Year Ended June 30, 2014

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Variance Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
Expenditures - continued				
Community Services:				
General assistance	\$ 14,500	\$ 14,500	\$ 13,644	\$ 856
Social service agencies	13,658	13,658	13,658	-
China Historical Society	6,000	6,000	6,000	-
South China Library	4,510	4,510	4,500	10
K.V. Humane Society	6,981	6,981	5,161	1,820
Memorial Day/Veteran's markers	950	950	950	-
Total Community Services	<u>46,599</u>	<u>46,599</u>	<u>43,913</u>	<u>2,686</u>
Education:				
RSU Assessment	3,705,989	3,705,989	3,705,989	-
Capital lease obligations	56,749	56,749	56,749	-
Total Education	<u>3,762,738</u>	<u>3,762,738</u>	<u>3,762,738</u>	<u>-</u>
Recreation:				
General recreation	21,950	21,950	15,373	6,577
China community days	2,500	2,500	1,326	1,174
Lake Access Reserve	-	-	-	-
Total Recreation	<u>24,450</u>	<u>24,450</u>	<u>16,699</u>	<u>7,751</u>
Total County Tax	402,046	402,046	402,046	-
Debt service:				
Principal	32,766	32,766	32,766	-
Interest	-	-	-	-
Total Debt Service	<u>32,766</u>	<u>32,766</u>	<u>32,766</u>	<u>-</u>

Auditors' Report & Financials

Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance (4 of 4) Budget and Actual - General Fund

Town of China, Maine

For the Year Ended June 30, 2014

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance
	Original	Final	(Budgetary Basis)	Positive (Negative)
Expenditures - continued				
Special Projects:				
Equipment replacement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
One Room School House	-	-	1,757	(1,757)
Oakland Super Park	38,463	38,463	38,606	(143)
Contingency	45,000	45,000	45,000	-
Grant expenses	55,000	55,000	-	55,000
Total Special Projects	138,463	138,463	85,363	53,100
Total Expenditures	6,379,511	6,379,511	6,235,348	144,163
Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	39,594	39,594	258,516	218,922
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Operating transfers out	(30,000)	(30,000)	(30,000)	-
Transfer to assigned fund balances	(56,000)	(56,000)	(56,000)	-
Utilization of unassigned fund balance	147,200	147,200	-	(147,200)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	61,200	61,200	(86,000)	(147,200)
Revenues and Other Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Uses	\$ 100,794	\$ 100,794	172,516	\$ 71,722
Budgetary fund balance at beginning of year			1,268,906	
Budgetary Fund Balance at End of Year			\$ 1,441,422	

Auditors' Report & Financials

Schedule of Valuation, Assessment and Collection of Taxes

Town of China, Maine

For the Year Ended June 30, 2014

Valuation

Real estate	\$ 362,335,400
Personal property	<u>6,942,000</u>

Total Valuation \$ 369,277,400

Assessment

Valuation x Rate - \$369,277,400 x 0.01410	\$ 5,206,811
Supplemental taxes	<u>2,905</u>

Total Assessment Charged to Collector \$ 5,209,716

Collections and Credits

Cash collections	\$ 5,058,403
Tax abatements & adjustments	<u>5,857</u>

Total Collections and Credits 5,064,260

2014 Taxes Receivable - June 30, 2014 \$ 145,456

Town Meeting

G Q S U F P T X L F S S W J R Z J S G A
 D X Q N Y K X A M C R C A I C Y S Q N H
 Y M T E A S F O X O S R R F J T J S I Y
 A T P C R C D T B E J L R L C B D G R R
 Y E I I E E K H G Q S U A D P N C G E H
 N J A N R P G S F G S L N Q U M I T H Y
 R H T A U I S R T F N H T F B A V G T N
 C E T H E M I E L S C G L V L P I A A U
 Z O S N T E M A R D T D K O L W C I G R
 R F Z P N Y G O B I I W O T X G W I N N
 D Q L D O C T C C S R E G I S T R A R O
 C E S A L N Z U B C I P Y N O G F C M I
 Q X T E U K S J D U O T Z G R E T O V N
 G C R K F N F I R S S U A F R A B D F I
 Z K V F X L N C B S Z I J U Q Y E O X P
 P Q W D Q A T A G I D O N Q Y N N T A O
 E Y L C U C W R T O L V Y E D R P G I T
 S N O I T S E U Q N S I D F S O R C B E
 N E Z I T I C I L B U P T U H S F X I Z
 P Q V N B F B U D G E T I Y M O N E Y W

ANNUAL
 CHAIRS
 CLERK
 DUTY
 FUNDS
 MONEY
 PUBLIC
 RESPECT
 TAXES
 VOTING

BUDGET
 CITIZEN
 COMMUNITY
 FISCAL
 GATHERING
 NEIGHBORS
 QUESTIONS
 RESPONSIBILITY
 USFLAG
 WARRANT

BUSINESS
 CIVIC
 DISCUSSION
 FRIENDS
 MODERATOR
 OPINION
 REGISTRAR
 SNACKS
 VOTER

LD #1 (Enacted 2005); Municipal Spending Limitations Component

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	\$1,423,442.00
(Multiplied by Growth Limitation Factor 1.0346)	
Allowable Growth Subtotal	\$1,472,693.00
Deductions (Net New Funding)	
Increases and Decreases in State Subsidies**	\$ 2,404.00
Increase by Home Rule Authority**	
Property Tax Levy Limit (Core Going Forward)	<u>\$1,475,097.00</u>

** 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, Homestead Exemptions, and the BETR program, and the assessment from FirstPark. The Maine State Legislature, as this document goes to print, has been contemplating a further and substantial reduction in Revenue Sharing and other property tax relief programs to municipalities for 2016/2017. This is the sole reason for having a Warrant Article on the ballot addressing the LD#1 property Levy Limit.

Warrant for Annual Town Business Meeting

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 21st day of March, A.D. 2015 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 five minutes each from the **China Comprehensive Plan Thurston Park II Committee** and the **China Enhanced Library and Community Services 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 five 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 \$1,475,097.00 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 would only be driven by voter approved increases in the proposed budgetary numbers and 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. **Tax Increment Financing:** Shall the voters of the Town of China designate a municipal tax increment financing district pursuant to Title 30-A Chapter 206 of the Maine Revised Statutes to be known as the "Town of China Central Maine Power/China Lake Municipal Development and Tax Increment Financing District" (the District) in accordance with the resolution approved by the Board of Selectmen on February 9, 2015 attached hereto, and adopt the Development Program for such District as presented to the Town Meeting and further to:

Warrant for Annual Town Business Meeting

1. Appropriate the revenues received in FY2015-35 from the Central Maine Power/China Lake Tax Increment Financing District And Development Program into a fund designated as the **Development Program Fund** to be used for projects, loans and/or grants for economic development within the Town as outlined in the Development Program for the District to be expended on such projects at the discretion of the Board of Selectmen, and
2. Authorize the Select Board to make expenditures in the 2015-2016 fiscal year and thereafter from the TIF generated revenues for the following purposes?

Administration:	\$6,000.00
FirstPark:	\$37,923.00
CRLA:	\$15,000.00
China Community Days:	\$2,500.00
Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce Dues:	\$650.00

Description: The proposed Town of China Central Maine Power/China Lake Municipal Development and Tax Increment Financing District (the District) would consist of acres located in four distinct districts, described as follows: the first encompassing Central Maine Power transmission power line corridor, the second includes the causeway, the third includes the area around the Town Office and the fourth includes the South China boat landing. Each of the districts is depicted in the application. The development program for the District proposes to provide financial support to a number of Town economic development projects and programs. The percentage of new taxes to be captured by the Town if the proposed 20-year program is approved is 100% for years 1-20. The proposed TIF Work Plan is attached.

Select Board Recommends: YES
 Budget Committee Recommends: YES

- Article 6. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and of appropriate for **Administration** and **Administration Other** expenses.

Select Board Recommends:	Administration	\$367,427
	Administration Other	\$102,400
Budget Committee Recommends:	Administration	\$367,427
	Administration Other	\$102,400

- Article 7. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and or 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 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

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Operations; said Planning Board Account to be capped at \$8,000.00.

Select Board Recommends:

Planning Board Expenses	\$2,363
Maine Municipal Association Dues	\$4,800
Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce Dues	\$650
Kennebec Valley Council of Governments	\$6,917

Budget Committee Recommends:

Planning Board Expenses	\$2,363
Maine Municipal Association Dues	\$4,800
Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce Dues	\$650
Kennebec Valley Council of Governments	\$6,917

Article 8. 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 (\$135,141 as of 06/30/2014) 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 9. 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:	Assessing Services \$47,500 Legal Services \$12,500
Budget Committee Recommends:	Assessing Services \$47,500 Legal Services \$12,500

Article 10. 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 11. 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.

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Select Board Recommends: \$28,881
 Budget Committee Recommends: \$28,881

Article 12. 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:	
South China VFD	\$21,000	\$21,000		\$21,000	
China Village VFD	\$22,000	\$22,000		\$22,000	
Weeks Mills VFD	\$15,550	\$15,550		\$15,550	
Weeks Mills VFD Building Reserve	\$6,200	\$6,200 UDFB*		\$6,200 UDFB*	
		SB shall consider Equity Position		SB shall consider Equity Position	
China Rescue	\$19,750	\$13,000		\$13,000	
		\$6,000 From Rescue Reserve		\$6,000 From Rescue Reserve	
PSAP/E-911 Calls	\$20,449	\$20,449		\$20,449	
Dispatching Service	\$27,079	\$27,079		\$27,079	
Totals:	\$132,028	\$131,278		\$131,278	
* from Undesignated/Unassigned Fund Balance					

Article 13. 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

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Article 14. 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	\$274,138
	Emergency Services Insurance	\$15,982
Budget Committee Recommends:	Insurance and Unemployment Compensation Premiums	\$274,138
	Emergency Services Insurance	\$15,982

Article 15. 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 16. 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:	\$273,074
Budget Committee Recommends:	\$273,074

Article 17. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and or 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:	\$697,010 (\$54,200 from highway grant & \$642,810 from excise taxes)
Budget Committee Recommends:	\$697,010 (\$54,200 from highway grant & \$642,810 from excise taxes)

Article 18. 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

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Article 19. 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 20. 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: \$23,950
 Budget Committee Recommends: \$23,950

Article 21. 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 22. 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 23. 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	\$3,000
	Albert Church Brown Library	\$3,000
Budget Committee Recommends:	South China Library	\$3,000
	Albert Church Brown Library	\$3,000

Article 24. 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	\$2,000	\$2,000
KVCAP Demand Response Transport	\$545	\$545

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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
The Life Flight Foundation	\$750	\$750
MPBN	\$100	\$100
The Town Line	\$3000	\$3000
American Red Cross	\$500	\$500
	\$16,758	\$16,758

Article 25. 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 26. 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:	Cemeteries	\$23,600
	Grave Marker Expenses	\$950
Budget Committee Recommends:	Cemeteries	\$23,600
	Grave Marker Expenses	\$950

Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to establish two (2) **Tax Payment Due Dates** to be September 30, 2015 and March 31, 2016 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

Warrant for Annual Town Business Meeting

Article 28. 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 29. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and or 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 2015/2016 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 30. 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 31. 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 32. 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

Warrant for Annual Town Business Meeting

Article 33. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate an amount not to exceed \$1,094 for the purpose of compensating the **Town Health Officer** for services provided.

Select Board Recommends: YES
Budget Committee Recommends: YES

Article 34. 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)

Given under our hands this 9th day of February, AD 2015.

by:

Joann C. Austin, Chairperson

Amber McAllister, Selectperson

Irene L. Belanger, Selectperson

Robert MacFarland, Selectperson

Neil Farrington, Selectperson



Town meetings often are called the purest and most democratic form of government -- direct democracy where the town's business is discussed, debated and voted on by members of the community.

*We hope to see you on
March 21st at 9a.m.*



Our town seal was redrawn in 2013 by Tom Whittaker. Our sincere thanks and appreciation goes to Tom for this amazing depiction.



This is the 2014-15 China Middle School Varsity boys team after they won the Sheepscot Valley Athletic Conference championship game vs St. Michael's played at Erskine Academy on February 12, 2015. The final score was 36-24.

Team members are: (front row L-R) Chris Sponsler, Ashton, Thompson, Sage Hapgood-Belanger, Nick Hayden, Austin Dunn, Lucas Anderson and Riley Kunesh (back row L-R) Trent Wharton, Jacob Praul, Jacob Mortimer, Gavin Blanchard, Josh Gower, Tony Jacobs, Nick Cates and Coach Jon Garrity

Important Information

Town Office 445-2014
Open Monday-Friday 7:30-4 Saturday 8-11
Fax for insurance 445-3208
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
RSU 18 Superintendent's Office 465-7384
www.rsu18.org

China Food Pantry 968-2421

China Village Post Office
968-2623

China Post Office
445-2230



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